

# NEWS RELEASE



Berkshire Bank - America's Most Exciting Bank™

## **Berkshire Bank Named in Top 150 Banks**

Pittsfield, MA – August 12, 2011 – Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc., parent company of Berkshire Bank, is the only locally-headquartered bank in western Massachusetts to be named in the *Bank Performance Scorecard Top 150 Banks* published by *Bank Director* magazine. Berkshire was ranked **66** in the nation on the list published in the Third Quarter 2011 edition of *Bank Director*. The criteria utilized by the publication in developing the list included profitability, capital and asset quality. Additionally, according to the article accompanying the list, “Consistency, strong management, a deep understanding of one’s core market and careful risk taking benefited the top place finishers on....the Scorecard.”

“We are proud to be recognized and will continue to work hard at offering our customers quality banking relationships and our shareholders a profitable return on their investment in Berkshire Bank,” commented Michael P. Daly, president and CEO of Berkshire Bank. “We have a seasoned leadership team, and have consistently reported solid core earnings, which have been supported by strong organic growth and sensible bank acquisitions. Even in these challenging economic times, our asset quality metrics continue to be favorable and our capital levels remain strong. We have the financial discipline to continue improving the strength of our company, maintain profitability, and increase shareholder value. On behalf of our entire team, we are pleased to be ranked 66 in the nation by Bank Director.”

The data analyzed included companies that reported 2010 earnings as of April 29, 2011. Sources included analysis by Sandler O’Neill & Partners, SNL Financial, company reports and regulatory filings.

### **About Berkshire Hills Bancorp**

Berkshire Hills Bancorp is the parent of Berkshire Bank, [America’s Most Exciting Bank<sup>SM</sup>](#), with \$4 billion in assets and more than 60 full service branch offices in Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont providing personal and business banking, insurance, and wealth management services. Berkshire Bank provides 100% deposit insurance protection for all deposit accounts, regardless of amount, based on a combination of FDIC insurance and the [Depositors Insurance Fund](#) (DIF). For more information, visit [www.berkshirebank.com](http://www.berkshirebank.com) or call 800-773-5601.

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