

HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA INC  
Form 8-K  
January 12, 2006

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

**Heartland Financial USA, Inc.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**0-24724      42-1405748**

(I.R.S.

( Commission      Employer  
File Number) Identification  
Number)

**1398  
Central  
Avenue,      52001  
Dubuque,  
Iowa**

(Address  
of  
principal      (Zip  
executive      Code)  
offices)

**(563) 589-2100**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2 below):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 8.01 Other Information**

On January 12, 2006 Heartland Financial USA, Inc. (the "Company") announced that it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Bank of the Southwest, a financial institution providing retail and commercial banking services with offices in Phoenix and Tempe, Arizona. A copy of the Company's press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits**

- (a) Financial Statements of Business Acquired.

None.

- (b) Pro Forma Financial Information.

None.

- (c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated January 12, 2006.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**HEARTLAND FINANCIAL USA, INC.**

Date: January 12, 2006

By:

/s/ John K. Schmidt

John K. Schmidt

Executive Vice President, COO and CFO