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BEVERLY ENTERPRISES INC

Form 4

March 16, 2006

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB 3235-0287

OMB APPROVAL

Number: Expires:

January 31, 2005

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obligations

Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

DREHER MELANIE

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

BEVERLY ENTERPRISES INC [BEV]

(Check all applicable)

ONE THOUSAND BEVERLY

(First)

WAY

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

03/14/2006

_X__ Director 10% Owner _ Other (specify Officer (give title

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Street)

(Middle)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Issuer

FORT SMITH, AR 72919

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Ta | ble I - Non | -Derivative Secu | rities | Acquire | ed, Disposed of, o | r Beneficially | Owned |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|--------|------------|--|--|---|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Accordisposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5 | • | (A) or | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
| \$.10 Par Value Common Stock | 03/14/2006 | | A(1) | 24,349.2055 | A | (1) | 24,349.2055 | D | |
| \$.10 Par Value Common Stock | 03/14/2006 | | D(2) | 24,349.2055 | D | \$ 12.5 | 0 | D | |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of or Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 7. Title and Amour Underlying Securit (Instr. 3 and 4) | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| | y | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amo Num Shar |
| PHANTOM STOCK UNITS | (1) | 03/14/2006 | | D | 24,349.2055 | <u>(1)</u> | <u>(1)</u> | \$.10 Par Value Common Stock | 24, |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|
| 1 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| DREHER MELANIE ONE THOUSAND BEVERLY WAY FORT SMITH, AR 72919 | X | | | | | |

Signatures

By: Brenda Boster, by Power of Attorney For: Melanie C. 03/15/2006 Dreher

> **Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- In accordance with the terms of the Merger Agreement entered into by and between Beverly Enterprises, Inc. and Pearl Senior Care, LLC (1) et al. the phantom units deferred under the terms of the Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan (NEDDCP) vested and converted into common stock.
- In accordance with the terms of the Merger Agreement entered into by and between Beverly Enterprises, Inc. and Pearl Senior Care, LLC et al. the stock held by the Reporting Person were disposed of pursuant to the Merger Agreement.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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