

BEVERLY ENTERPRISES INC  
 Form 4  
 March 16, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(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]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**ONE THOUSAND BEVERLY WAY**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/14/2006**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

**FORT SMITH, AR 72919**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
\$.10 Par Value Common Stock	03/14/2006		A <sup>(1)</sup>		24,349.2055	A	12.5
\$.10 Par Value Common Stock	03/14/2006		D <sup>(2)</sup>		24,349.2055	D	\$ 0

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

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(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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of 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 Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount
PHANTOM STOCK UNITS	<u>(1)</u>	03/14/2006		D	24,349.2055	<u>(1)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	\$.10 Par Value Common Stock	24,349.2055

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	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. Dreher 03/15/2006

\_\_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).

(1) 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 phantom units deferred under the terms of the Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan (NEDDCP) vested and converted into common stock.

(2) 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.

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