

BEVERLY ENTERPRISES INC  
 Form 4  
 March 16, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
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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 \*  
 HOWE JOHN P MD

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>		47,372.0723	A	12.5
\$.10 Par Value Common Stock	03/14/2006		D <sup>(2)</sup>		47,372.0723	D	\$ 10,084
\$.10 Par Value Common Stock	03/14/2006		D <sup>(2)</sup>		10,084	D	\$ 0

Stock

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

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**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 Underlying (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 3.64	03/14/2006		D	11,000	(3) 06/02/2013		\$.10 Par Value Common Stock
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 7.81	03/14/2006		D	11,000	(3) 06/01/2012		\$.10 Par Value Common Stock
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 11	03/14/2006		D	10,083	(3) 07/19/2011		\$.10 Par Value Common Stock
PHANTOM STOCK UNITS	(1)	03/14/2006		D	47,372.0723	(1) (1)		\$.10 Par Value Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HOWE JOHN P MD ONE THOUSAND BEVERLY WAY FORT SMITH, AR 72919		X		

## Signatures

By: Brenda Boster, by Power of Attorney For: John P.  
Howe

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).
- 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.
  - (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.
- This option was fully vested and was cancelled in the merger between Beverly Enterprises, Inc. and Pearl Senior Care, LLC (the
- (3) "Merger") in exchange for a cash payment representing the difference between the exercise price of the option and the Merger consideration of \$12.50 per share for the underlying common stock.
  - (4) Represents the difference between the per share exercise price of the option and the per share merger consideration.

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.