

Predictions 2005

East End Residents Have A Go At Predicting The Future



"The hit new reality show for 2005 will be titled "The Hamptons: Undesperate Housewives"

-**Adrien Arpel**, Cosmetics Legend



"A high five for 2005! We will be blessed with a good year for our country by becoming united in our pursuit of freedom, democracy, and caring for all people."

-**Jerry L. Cohen**, Tishman Speyer Properties

"Peering Ahead to 2005... California will set the environmental pace for the nation by subsidizing stem cell research and solar power. Other states will follow. The elections in Iraq and Ukraine will go better than critics had expected. Iraq will end up with a quarrelsome parliament but bit by bit, blast by blast, will gain more stability. Saddam Hussein will die before he can be convicted. Social Security will be partially privatized and Medicare will become more restrictive and thus more controversial. The number of US troops in Iraq will be around 100,000 by the end of the year, a reduction of 30%. Oil prices will peak in terms of real dollars, an all time high price that will never be seen again."



-**Ted Hartley & Dina Merrill**, RKO Chairman & Vice Chairman

Stew: "Britney Spears gets pregnant."

Bonnie: "Britney Spears gets divorced (again)."

Stew: "The dollar weakens and the Euro gets stronger."

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"I predict that George W. Bush will be kidnapped by terrorists who will hold him hostage in an undisclosed "spider hole" and force him to watch Arnold Schwarzenegger's early films. After that Bush will oppose Arnold's bid for amending the Constitution."

-**Alec Baldwin**, Actor



"It will be discovered that because of a secret code in the ISBN number of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*, bookstore computers that scanned the number were counting each sale as 1,000 sales. This discovery will result in the book finally dropping off the bestseller list after two years, and a recount will show that *The Da Vinci Code* was actually on the bestseller list for only three weeks. Something similar will be discovered regarding electronic voting machines all over the country, resulting in a new presidential election. The new president will be Dan Brown."

-**Nelson DeMille**, Author



"The revolution against the income tax by Representative John Linder will succeed."

-**Jonathan Farkas**, Investor



"On a global basis, even for those disappointed by November's presidential election, January's election in Iraq is crucial. If it occurs successfully, creates a reasonable coalition government, and serves as a (quasi) democratic model for the Arab world, many of us would happily eat crow. Locally, the only solution to now year-round traffic problems would be major joint efforts between Southampton and East Hampton town and village governments. Unfortunately, not likely."

-**Ed Bleier**, Director, RealNetworks; Senior Advisor, Warner Brothers

