

*Carolyn Wolf to be Honored May 20 by Phillipsburg Area Chamber of Commerce
Robert A. Pruznick, CEO*

The daughter of three term Bethlehem mayor Earl Shaffer, Carolyn inherited a deep sense of civic responsibility. Educated at Cedar Crest College, she gained not only a degree in Biology but also inspiration for women's leadership roles. When her son Christopher was born with Down syndrome in 1970, she quickly applied her talents and energy to the Warren County Unit of The Arc and assumed the presidency of this parent founded civil rights advocacy group. Not long after, she was hired as one of this nonprofit's early executive directors. Under her guidance, Project First Step, an early intervention program, was developed to provide infant stimulation, parent education, and peer support to families. At a time when intellectual and developmental disability was still poorly understood in American society, this tertiary prevention program was a vital hand of help and hope to bewildered parents. Carolyn also recognized the need for professional family support services and residential programs for adults as a progressive alternate to institutional placement.

Stepping down as CEO in 1985, Kerry returned to the board for a few years before coming back to the agency as Recreation Director. She had wisely involved Christopher in Special Olympics athletic competitions and included him in all manner of family leisure activities, so she was a natural candidate to apply these organizational skills on a broader scale. Carolyn served The Arc another 23 years, training and coaching athletes and improving socialization skills with great passion and innovation. Loving attention to Camp Warren was a hallmark of these productive years as the facility was converted from day to residential capacity. An annual cruise was also offered as Kerry sought to share her family's positive experiences with Chris with others.

During her Arc years, Kerry was the chairperson of the Warren County Human Services Advisory Council and the Transportation Advisory Council to ensure that the needs of individuals with disabilities would not be forgotten. She also represented our county on the New Jersey Department of Education's Parent Advisory Council on the Handicapped.

As a long-term inhabitant of a historical South Main Street home, Kerry has also been active in serving the community she adopted through her marriage to Dr. Frank Wolf, a second generation physician. Kerry was especially dedicated to the Phillipsburg Free Public Library, assisting the process of developing the town library into a full service modern facility as a board member for five years. As part of the Warren Hospital Auxiliary and county Medical Society Alliance, she worked diligently with other physician spouses to raise funds to meet local needs.

In conclusion, Carolyn Wolf has epitomized the role of engaged citizen. She has always applied her exceptional family values, wonderful intelligence, and prodigious vitality to making Warren County, and Phillipsburg in particular, a caring enlightened community. **For ticket information, please call The Arc office at 908-689-7525 and join us in honoring Carolyn Wolf.**

May 21 Membership Meeting Canceled

Please be aware the May 21st Membership Meeting for the purpose of electing new officers to The Arc's Board of Directors, has been canceled.

There is no set date for its reschedule. Once that has been determined, every effort will be made to notify all promptly and effectively, in compliance with The Arc's bylaws.

THE ARC OF WARREN COUNTY

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Disability Resources Fair Set for May 14

Sharing local resources is the theme for a Disability Resources Fair to be held May 14 from 2 to 7 pm at Abilities of Northwest NJ, 264 Rt.31 North.

This event, sponsored by the Warren County Disabilities Advisory Council in conjunction with DAWN Center for Independent Living, Abilities, and The Arc of Warren County, will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), signed into law in July 1990.

Event organizers say the focus of the Disability Resource Fair is to share all the valuable resources available locally to families, students, educators, support coordinators, and people with disabilities. By sharing resources related to post-secondary education, adult services, independent living agencies, recreation, and by offering information related to community agencies and organizations, it is hoped individuals and families will feel more at ease in planning for the future.

For directions and further information, please call Michele at 908-689-1118 or Carmela at 973-625-1940.