

# PEOPLE

## Support group forming for women alcoholics

By RICH JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

An area woman has begun a crusade to help other women deal with the problem of alcoholism. Nina Renzo, of Hunlock Creek, is offering a program for Back Mountain women who want help in dealing with the problem.

Renzo wants to form a local chapter of Women for Sobriety, Inc. WFS is a national organization that is dedicated to a program to help "...all women recover from problem drinking through the discovery of self and encouragement from other women in similar circumstances."

Renzo, who has been part of the program in other states, feels that there is a need for such a program in this area and is looking for women who want to overcome problem drinking.

"I have needed the help of Women for Sobriety and I want to start a positive support group to continue in this area," she said.

Renzo said that WFS is a unique organization in that it is designed specifically for women. "There are a lot of things where women are categorized in the same manner as men and this organization separates the two and has set up a program just for women."

Renzo, first became involved with WFS in Rhode Island when she had an addiction problem. "I found I was having a lot of problems and realized many of them were caused by my use of alcohol. I made a decision to get help and began going to Alcoholics Anonymous," she said. "A.A. helped a lot but it wasn't doing everything for me I felt I needed. I began looking

elsewhere and that is when I heard about Women for Sobriety," she added.

Renzo said that working with other women who have had the same problems has really helped her and now that she has moved to the area with her family, she wants to continue her rehabilitation while also giving other women a chance to change their lives.

"I know that it can be very isolated for some women who have an addiction. This is a way to handle it," she said.

WFS lists a number of purposes, including the belief that acceptance and encouragement are ways of dealing with the problems involved with alcohol addiction.

"We really focus on the idea that 'the past is gone forever' and go about rebuilding a positive self-esteem," said Renzo.

Even though starting a local chapter of the organization will be difficult, Renzo believes that there is a future for such a group in the area.

"I know that it will be hard and I will run into some problems but for women who need some help this will be something that they will depend on."

Renzo is looking for a place to hold monthly meetings of the group. In the meantime she is helping some women over the phone. "I have already had a couple of people call me," she said. "They have helped me as I have tried to help them."

Renzo urges anyone who is interested in the program to call her at 256-7376. She stresses that all calls will be kept in complete anonymity.



### Crake, Mushinski honored as volunteers

Mercy Center Convent Auxiliary recently honored two of its members, Anna Crake, left of Harveys Lake and Anne Mushinski of Hunlock Creek, for years of volunteer service to the auxiliary and Mercy Center, Dallas. The women were honored at a luncheon meeting at Pine Brook Inn, Dallas.

## Farkas appointed director at the Atlanta College of Art

Ofelia Garcia, president of The Atlanta College of Art, the four-year art college in the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, announced three new administrative appointments: John A. Farkas as Director of Enrollment Management, Ann Chamberlain as Director of Development and Teresa Tantillo as Director of Financial Aid.

Mr. Farkas, a Dallas native, came to ACA from Keystone Junior College in Pennsylvania where he was Director of Admissions with responsibilities for Financial Aid since 1985. Previously he served as Director of Counseling and Academic Advising at the same

institution. He received a BS in Secondary Education and an MS in Counselor Education from the University of Scranton.

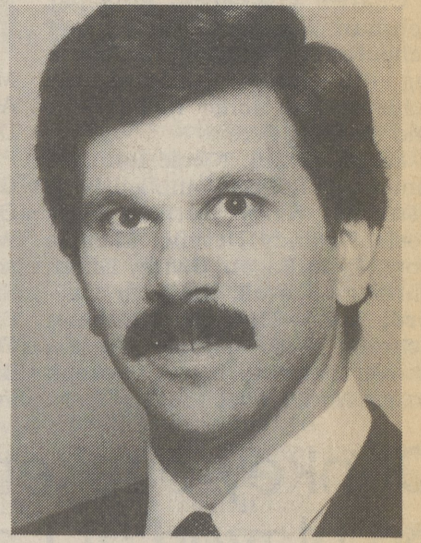
The Atlanta College of Art, founded in 1928, is the oldest private art college in the Southeast, educating generations of the region's finest artists, designers and educators in art. Students come from across the United States and several foreign countries to work toward a four-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, and approximately 2,000 adults and children take community education classes at the college each year.

## Blidner elected fellow in College of Physicians

Martin D. Blidner, vice chief of the medical staff at the Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center and director of rheumatology with the Geisinger Medical Group in Wilkes-Barre, has been elected to Fellowship status in the American College of Physicians. He also serves as director of the Geisinger Medical Group's CareWorks industrial medicine program.

A graduate of the State University of New York at Binghamton with a bachelor of arts degree in chemistry, Blidner earned his medical degree from and was valedictorian at the University of the East-Philippines Medical School and completed the Fifth Pathway Program of the Monmouth Medical Center, Monmouth, New Jersey. He completed an internship program and served as chief internal medicine resident at the Overlook Hospital in Summit, New Jersey, the major teaching affiliate of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In addition, he completed a Fellowship in rheumatology at the College of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark, as well as a mini-residency in occupational medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey at Rutgers.

Blidner is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine and Diplomate of the Ameri-



MARTIN D. BLIDNER

can Board of Internal Medicine subspecialty Rheumatology. A founding Fellow of the American College of Rheumatology, he is a four-time recipient of the American Medical Association's Physician Recognition Award.

Fellowship status in the American College of Physicians is attained through demonstration of academic excellence and professional leadership throughout a physician's career.

Blidner resides in Dallas with his wife, Ragan, and children Elizabeth and Daniel.

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### Dallas holiday card designed by Holeman

Holiday best wishes from the Dallas School Board and the Administration were conveyed this year in a card designed by Dallas Middle School eighth grader Joy Lee Holeman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holeman, Dallas. The design was selected from holiday greeting cards created by the students in Mrs. Nancy Hontz's art classes. Shown receiving the card design from Joy Holeman is Mr. Robert Griffiths, principal of the Dallas Middle School.

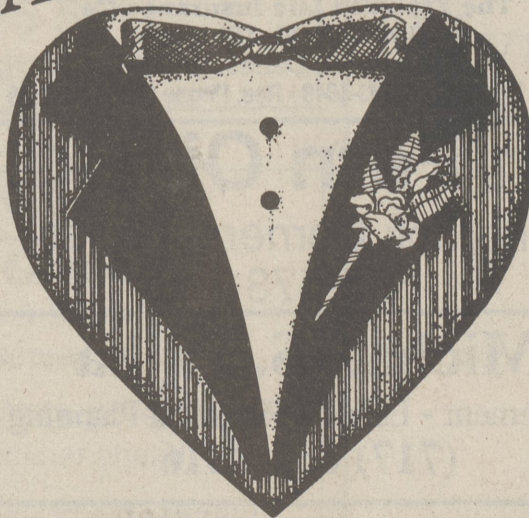


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