

# Computer will give Bridgewater woman access to friends, family & entertainment

MaryLynn Schiavi, Correspondent 4:59 p.m. EST November 27, 2015

## Wish 9: Computer with software and accessories — \$900



(Photo: MARK R. SULLIVAN)

Barbara Pauli is described by her friends and the staff at The Arc of Somerset County as a very social and friendly woman who enjoys a range of activities.

Pauli has lived in a supervised apartment sponsored by the Arc for more than 30 years. She said she appreciates where she lives in because it is conveniently located and within walking distance to stores and other facilities. She also appreciates the support of the staff and friendship of those who live in her building.

The Bridgewater apartment she lives in is managed by The Arc of Somerset County's Residential Services Department which provides services to 118 men and women with intellectual and developmental disabilities in 26 different locations throughout Somerset County.

More than 200 members staff provide support in one of four types of programs based on the level of support and supervision required: Group Homes, Supervised Apartments, Supported Living Programs, and Respite Care Services.

Pauli said she enjoys planning meals and cooking for her friends in the building. She also loves researching new recipes online, but because her computer is very old and barely functioning, she has been unable to engage in some of the things she likes to do.

She also looks forward to playing Candy Crush and keeping in touch with friends and family via e-mail.



Barbara Pauli is a client of the Arc of Somerset County in Bridgewater. She needs a new computer because the one she has is very outdated and is photographed on Tuesday November 10, 2015 (Photo: MARK R. SULLIVAN)

The staff at The Arc of Somerset hope that her wish for a new computer is fulfilled because it will allow her to be more independent and remain socially active.

Pauli said she also enjoys doing latch hook work and jigsaw puzzles as well as listening to music.

She said Christmas is by far her favorite holiday and she's looking forward to spending Thanksgiving with family members in Warren.

Despite the challenges she has lived with, Pauli enjoys the simple things.

"While I don't love the cold," she said, "I do enjoy hearing the plows when the snow starts to pile up and I love listening to the birds chirp on a winter day."

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