| SEC Form 4 | |
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FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

| Check this box if no longer subject to |
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| Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 |
| obligations may continue. See |
| Instruction 1(b). |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OWB APPRC | IVAL |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 |
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| 1. Name and Addres <u>WELCH JOH</u> | 1 0 | 1* | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CARTERS INC</u> [CRI] | | tionship of Reporting Perso all applicable) Director | son(s) to Issuer 10% Owner | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|---|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| (Last) 32 QUASON LA | Last) (First) (Middle) 2 QUASON LANE | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/12/2006 | | Officer (give title below) | Other (specify below) | |
| (Street) HARWICHPOR | Г МА | 02110 | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) | 6. Indiv Line) X | idual or Joint/Group Filing (Form filed by One Report | ing Person | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | | | Form filed by More than C Person | one Reporting | |

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) | | | 4. Securities A Disposed Of (5) | | | Securities Beneficially | Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--|---|------|---|--|---------------|---------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | Code | v | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | | (mour 4) |
| Common Stock | 05/12/2006 | | A | | 1,431(1) | Α | \$62.89 | 12,863 | D | |

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. Transa Code (8) | | of Deriv | Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) rities rsed . 3, 4 | | and 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|-------------|---|---------------------|--|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | | | |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | \$9.88 | | | | | | | (2) | 02/20/2013 | Common Stock | 8,000 | | 8,000 | D | |

Explanation of Responses:

1. These shares were granted pursuant to the Issuer's Amended and Restated 2003 Equity Incentive Plan.

2. These options are time options exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on February 20, 2004.

John R. Welch

** Signature of Reporting Person

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

* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

05/15/2006

Date