

# Former Dairy Farm Transformed

(Continued from Page B14)

place in every room," pointed out Mrs. Schmidt. The family makes good use of them on chilly fall days.

"One of the first things I bought was a ladder," mused Mrs. Schmidt. The 12-foot high ceilings made her stenciling project a challenge. Using her new ladder, she climbed to the top of the kitchen cabinets where she was then able to apply her stencil design to the top edge of the walls from her lofty perch.

The parlor and dining room both feature ornate fireplaces with side cupboards. All of the doors in the house carry the original faux grain finish. Rugs, hand-braided by Mrs. Schmidt's parents, cover some of the refinished pine floors.

The open staircase rises from the grand foyer to the third floor attic. At the second level, a set of side steps goes off from one corner into a bedroom. "We had to buy armoires," explained Mrs. Schmidt. Like most homes of that era, there are no original closets in the bedrooms.

Each of the three bedrooms show the design and handiwork of

spend more than \$100,000 in the grocery store. Saving 15 percent of that means an extra \$15,000 in tax-free income.

Mrs. Schmidt and her daughter. "We did all the window treatments." A quilted wall-hanging featuring wildflowers, hand made by Wendy Schmidt, hangs in the master bedroom. Vintage clothes are draped on the original pegboard in the guest room, and antique dolls, marble-top furniture and collectibles complete the decor.

Just over the threshold and around the corner is "Wendy's place," located in the attached former slave quarters. The furnishings and decor of the spacious three-level home reflect Wendy's love of books. One small volume on the shelves is BRUISED REED. "It was found in the attic," explained Wendy Schmidt. Inscribed on the inside is, "Oak Orchard Sabbath School."

Another hand-braided rug covers a portion of the chestnut floor in the dining area. Wendy's window treatments frame a wonderful pastoral view of the neighbor's dairy cows through the wavy panes of glass.

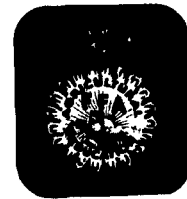
Old editions of the BALTIMORE SUN newspaper dated 1885, were found rolled up, used as insulation around the deep window sills.

One of the most interesting rooms is the kitchen. Most of one wall is devoted to the large fire-

place, which, according to Wendy, was the site of cooking for the main house and for the crews. The original crane is still in the hearth. "I just started collecting harness brasses," added Wendy. Some of her collection decorates the mantel of the fireplace. It may be difficult for visitors to believe that cars were once parked on the original herringbone brick floor. "It used to be a garage."

The tiered porches overlook the vast rows of trees in the family's nursery. Just a few steps out the door, across from the smokehouse, Wendy has established a rock-walled garden. Her mother's herb garden is nearby. And Mrs. Schmidt has only to ring the loud bell outside to summon the family for dinner at the homestead.

Schmidt's Autumn Breeze Nursery is located at 9932 McKinstry Mill Road, New Windsor, Maryland 21776. The business telephone number is (410) 635-2634. For more information about the New Windsor Heritage Committee's Tour of Historic Homes coming on October 3, call (410) 875-2054.



## Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas  
Lancaster Extension  
Home Economist

### Shop Smart: Save Money In The Supermarket

How would you like to pay \$25 for that basket of groceries, instead of \$45 as test shoppers did recently? No, you do not have to win a sweepstakes to realize that 44 percent savings. All you have to do is follow some shopping strategies that will cut your food costs.

The two test shoppers bought basically the same foods. One followed a six-step strategy to reduce food costs; the other did not. The result was that the shopper who was careful spent almost less than one-half the amount spent by the careless shopper.

Although saving 44 percent on your grocery bill may not be possible every shopping trip, most shoppers can regularly save a minimum of 15 percent. All you need to do is invest a little time to examine your current shopping practices and then sharpen your shopping skills. A businesslike approach to food buying can help you use both your time and money more efficiently.

Try these recommended grocery shopping strategies before your next trip to the supermarket:

- \* Know what you want to buy. Plan the shopping trip before you go to the store. Keep records and try to eliminate or cut down on food items that are expensive and not particularly nutritious.

- \* Buy when the price is right. Here, keeping good records really helps. Knowing the regular price of an item lets you know when the item is on sale. But do not buy items you do not need just because they are on sale.

- \* Buy in quantity when the

price is right. When a nonperishable food staple or non-food item goes on sale, stock up on it. Try to set five to ten dollars of your grocery money each week for stocking up on staples on sale. Once you start building a supply of specials at home, shopping trips will be shorter and centered around buying new specials to replenish your stockpile. You will not be forced to buy a lot of items at regular price. Do not try to stock up on perishable items like milk because they may spoil before you can use them.

- \* Compare price and size. Check unit price stickers for the best price. Larger sizes are usually cheaper per food unit...but not always.

- \* Buy the product, not the name. Buying a low-priced, rather than high-priced, brand is an important shopping strategy.

- \* Consider the competition before you shop. Compare advertisements from several stores. Make a list of 10 items that you regularly buy that are featured in the ads, and see which store offers the best prices on those items.

- \* Make a grocery list before you leave home, and stick to it. Make it out according to the layout of the store. This will save you time as you won't have to backtrack to find things on your list.

- \* Use cents off coupons for items on your list.

- \* Don't shop when you are hungry.

Do not be discouraged by the fact that some purchases made using these strategies will involve saving only pennies. The money will add up over time. Over the course of 30 years a family can



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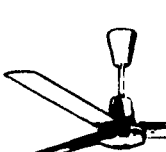
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