

# People

## At The Barn

# It's winter in summer and vice-versa

By ANN DEVLIN  
Staff Correspondent

Pinks, purples, oranges and yellows blend into the snow-covered ground. The red-orange sun dips below the white horizon. Where, you may wonder, is this winter landscape located in the heat of summer?

It's in "The Barn" on Market Street in Lehman. Stranger still, this scene is actually a rug — a hand-woven rag rug.

Dorothy Baker, owner of "The Barn" sells unique, hand-crafted items for the home. The most popular products are hand-woven rag rugs. They come in solid colors, multicolors, and designs — like the "Winter Landscape," mentioned above.

The rugs are custom-made by Dorothy and her helpers. All rugs are cotton or cotton blends and are 30 inches wide by any length you desire. Room size rugs are made by hand-sewing the strips together. The rugs may be either fringed or bound on the ends, and stair carpeting is available.

"We guarantee satisfaction," Dorothy says proudly. When customers order large rugs, Dorothy insists on sending them a foot long sample so the customers can make changes and see what they're getting.

One visit to The Barn will assure you there is more to buy than just rag rugs. The Barn offers an interesting assortment of shag rag rugs, hand-stenciled items, pillows, pottery, placemats, napkins, and candles. The rugs, placemats, and napkins can be custom made to coordinate with each other or with the drapes and wall color of your home.

Dorothy creates her own designs



Dallas Post/Ann Devlin

### Rag rugs

Dorothy Baker, proprietor of The Barn in Lehman, displays some of the rag rugs she sells in her shop.

for the hand-stenciled items. Naomi Nuss, who is "skillfully trained," according to Mrs. Baker, does the stencil cutting and applying. The hand-stenciled rugs are available in designs such as tulips, field flowers, mallard ducks, sandpipers, birds, and wild roses. Mrs. Baker claims the hand-stenciled items have created a lot of interest.

Stencil equipment can be purchased at The Barn for those who are trained in the art of stencil applying. Dorothy is interested in

starting stenciling classes for the public this fall. If interested, call The Barn at 675-4232.

Mrs. Baker's business, which started as just rag rugs almost four years ago, has now blossomed into a home decorator's paradise.

As Dorothy explains, originally The Barn was just a mail-order business. Gradually, however, local people heard about it and now patronize it quite regularly. Most of Dorothy's transactions are still through the mail, as she deals with

out-of-state decorators for the most part. Mrs. Baker's rugs have been shipped as far as Hawaii and Europe.

Items from The Barn have been displayed in out-of-state decorator show houses. More recently, Mrs. Baker participated in the Decorator's Show House in Sutton Hills sponsored by the Junior League of Wilkes-Barre. The Barn exhibited rag rugs in the kitchen, stenciled rugs in the laundry room and rag rugs for the pool house.

From the outside, The Barn looks like a calm, serene country retreat. But actually, there is a lot going on inside. Mrs. Baker receives 30 to 40 requests for literature each day. The paperwork keeps her so busy, she employs anywhere from two to five weavers, depending on how busy they are.

Part of Dorothy's success can be attributed to advertising. She worked in an advertising agency most of her life and realizes the value of an ad. The Barn is advertised in national home decorating publications such as "Colonial Homes" and "Country Living."

The Barn evolved after Dorothy retired from the advertising business.

"I was retired for about two weeks, but couldn't stand it," she said. That's when she was inspired to start weaving rag rugs. Dorothy noticed that rag rugs were popular in home decorating magazines, so she decided to learn how to weave them. Although she had never woven rugs before, she picked up the craft quite readily. She had always been interested in the arts, and has taken art classes and done watercolors in the past.

"Lots of times people have hobbies they can make into small businesses," says Mrs. Baker. "I've

got a lot of satisfaction and pleasure out of this," she adds.

The decor of The Barn reflects Mrs. Baker's home decorating interests. The wooden walls and natural atmosphere of The Barn make a perfect setting for the earthenware pottery and cotton rugs. Dried flowers and woven baskets also blend right into the rustic surroundings.

The setting of The Barn is also ideal for the Baker's other business — Back Mountain Wood Stoves. Mrs. Baker's son, Gary Baker, is

also responsible for the success of both ventures.

Even on vacation, Mrs. Baker can't stop thinking about business. She recently took a trip to France, enjoys her work so much she couldn't help looking for interesting ideas to bring back home. "I found lovely cotton prints on handbags and carry-alls in Southern France," says Dorothy with a glint in her eye.

Who knows what beautiful, unique items will turn up next in The Barn?



Dallas Post/Ann Devlin

### Handmade

Handmade pillows, such as this one displayed by Dorothy Baker, can also be purchased at The Barn.

## Brother and sister graduate

Marine Private First Class Jack Lewis Givens Jr., United States Marine Corps, graduated from recruit training at Parris Island, South Carolina.

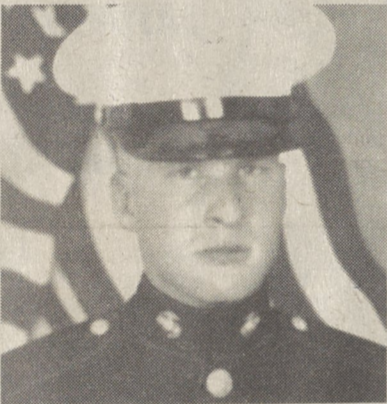
He is the son of Jack L. Givens Sr., and Beverly Ann Stuart Givens, 315 Bunker Hill Road, Kingston Township.

After spending 16 days with his parents, Private Givens has reported to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, for advanced infantry training school and is stationed at 3rd Battalion Sixth Marines.

He is a graduate of Dallas Senior High School Class of 1982. Prior to enlisting in the Marine Corps last January, he was employed by Suburban Publishers, Exeter.

Private Givens, is the grandson of Mrs. Iris Jones Givens, E. Bennett St., Kingston.

Private Givens' sister, Mrs. Charlene Lynnette Givens Ford, has completed the four year course and recently graduated from Valley Forge Christian College, Phoenixville, Pa., with a Bachelor of Science Degree in the Bible. She was



PFC JACK GIVENS



MRS. CHARLENE FORD

also awarded an Evangelical Teachers degree.

Following the commencement, Mrs. Ford was honored at a dinner party hosted by her parents, Jack and Beverly Ann Stuart Givens, Bunker Hill, at Collegeville Inn.

While in college, Mrs. Ford was a member of the Chapel Choir. She is a 1980 graduate of Dallas High School.

Her husband, Laurence Allen Ford, of Indiana, is a 1983 graduate

of Valley Forge Christian College with a Bachelor of Science degree. While a student, he was a member of and traveled with the Concert Choir. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ford are co-leaders in European Outreach Missions and received degrees in Pastoral Ministry.

Mr. and Mrs. Ford celebrated their second wedding anniversary on May 22. At present, they are residing on the college campus.

Mrs. Ford is the granddaughter of Mrs. Iris Jones Givens, E. Bennett St., Kingston.



JEFFREY HIRST, HOLLY PETERS

## Polaroid sponsors contest

Attention, proud parents. Is there a budding Richard Avedon or Margaret Bourke-White at your house?

Polaroid Corporation is looking for the best in children's instant photography for Young Expressions, its third annual photo competition for young people. Boys and girls in kindergarten through 12th grade are eligible, and those whose pictures are selected will receive a new Polaroid instant camera.

The 50 winning photographs will tour children's museums and art centers around the country as part of Polaroid's Young Expressions exhibition.

Judging criteria will be originality, creativity, and visual appeal; subject matter is open. The current exhibit features a variety of themes. Previous winning photographers have climbed trees, poked their cameras down man-holes, and crawled on the ground alongside family pets to get their unusual pictures. Other youngsters relied on tried-and-true subjects, such as sunsets and siblings, but captured them with a warmth and freshness that delighted judges.

Entry deadline for Polaroid's Third Annual Young Expressions' Photo Competition is September 15, 1984. Entries should be taken with a Polaroid camera, (any model), and submissions must include the youngster's name, address, age, telephone number, school and school address on a separate piece of paper. Mail entries to Young Expressions, Polaroid Corporation, 575 Technology Square, Cambridge, MA 02139.

## Engagement announced

Mrs. Phyllis Hiller, Valley View Park, Dallas, announces the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter, Holly Peters to Jeffrey Hirst, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Hirst of Hutchinson, Kansas.

Miss Peters, daughter of David Peters, Tunkhannock, is a graduate of Dallas Senior High School and Temple University with a Bachelors degree in Mathematics. She is presently a Research Assistant working on a Ph.D. in Mathematics at Penn State University, University Park.

Mr. Hirst, a graduate of Kansas University, is presently a Graduate

Assistant also working on a Ph.D. in Mathematics at Penn State University.

The wedding is set for August 18 at Eisenhower Chapel, University Park. The couple will reside in Toftrees Complex, State College.

## Births

The following area residents have announced births recently:

A daughter to BETSY AND MICHAEL TRIBENDIS, RD 5, Box 350AD, Shavertown, on July 6 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

A son to ALLISON AND BRUCE DANOFF, 133 Warden Ave., Trucks-ville, on July 5 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

A son to DEBRA ANN AND KENNETH KERTESZ, 30 Harford Ave., Shavertown, on July 5 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

A daughter of DENISE AND CHRISTOPHER YANCHIK, RD 3, Lot 26, Dallas, on June 29 in NPW Medical Center, Plains Township.

A daughter to REBECCA AND THOMAS PARRY, RD 2, Box 195, Dallas, on June 30 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, Kingston.

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