

## Firewood

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small wood stoves in the homes. All of the energy is kept in the house by insulation in both the walls and the ceiling.

These measures help to keep energy costs very low, according to Hibbard. "I have everything in the home electric. I run the dryer and I cook three meals a day and I use appliances and my electric bill is still only around \$30," she said.

Hibbard said that there is a back-up heating system, but it is very rarely used.

Some of the same features that keep the homes warm in winter also help keep the place cool in the summer. Overhangs over the southern windows keep out the summer sun and if the windows are opened a draft will often form in the residence.

"If you open the house at night there are times that you get enough draft that you get goose bumps," said Hibbard.

Hibbard attributes much of the success in the summer to proper insulation. "Just as the insulation will keep heat in during the winter, it will keep heat out in the summer," she said.

Bill Lowstutter is another happy Firewood Farm homeowner who feels the important feature of the homes is the proper insulation. "That is the primary consideration up here," said Lowstutter. "If you want to make a home energy-efficient then you must first reduce the amount of energy required. To do that you must properly insulate the place," he said.

Lowstutter said that he and his family are quite comfortable in their home and says it is very inexpensive to heat.

Lowstutter has both an active and passive solar heating system. The active system uses a fan to take heat from solar panels and shoot the hot air to the rock storage area underground. The heat then rises to the house.

Lowstutter also has a wood burning stove, but says that it is not used very often. "We haven't used it yet this year," said Lowstutter, "and we usually only use a cord-and-a-half of wood a



**FIREWOOD FOUNDER** - Betsy Hibbard, who along with her husband founded the Firewood Farm development in the 1970's, is shown outside her energy-efficient home there. (Post Photo/Ron Barizek)

year." He added, "As long as the sun is shining, we don't need to do much more to heat the house."

### Land and water also considered

Deeds for property at Firewood Farm include several covenants regarding energy efficiency and proper land use. One prevents property owners from harvesting living trees except for their own use. Another requires that homes be sited for southerly exposure and use passive solar heating technology.

Homes in the development all have at least five acres of land to provide wood for the wood stoves. Hibbard said that a lot of emphasis is put on the water in the development.

"We walked this property for seven years watching where the

rain water goes," said Hibbard. She said the ponds have been built to help conserve rainfall and impound water on the hills.

Hibbard said that developing this type of home wasn't difficult; it just needed a woman's touch. "It is a very simple system developed by a housewife," she said.

"A housewife knows more about a house than the architect who built it because she has to deal with all the architect's mistakes," added Hibbard.

The houses are cost and energy efficient and they are also family oriented, according to Hibbard.

"They are built from a wives' point-of-view because a woman today spends time in the workplace and still has to come home to do the work needed around the house," said Hib-

bard.

She says it only takes a couple of hours to clean the place and added many of the rooms are connected to give a closer feeling. "In some homes the kitchen is isolated so mom is in there working by herself while the rest of the family spends time together in a family room, here the kitchen is open and the family can be a family together," Hibbard said.

### Future developments must change

Hibbard wasn't sure if Firewood Farm was the development style of the future, but she does believe the public will be forced to change the way homes are built.

"We've been subverted in industrialized countries by cheap energy and we have built a lifestyle around it," said Hibbard. "We are going to have a whole lot of adjustments to make and it is going to cost the people," she said.

Hibbard and the other residents of Firewood Farm have already made their adjustments and couldn't be happier with their homes. "We were told that solar homes aren't practical in this climate," said Hibbard. "That just isn't true."

The local market for such homes, however, may not have yet arrived. One area realtor says that solar homes are limited in the area because of the climate.

"Judging by the calls and offers, I have to say that there is somewhat of a limited market for this type of thing," said Carol Poggi of Coldwell Banker.

"The homes in that area are very unique and the residents are very happy there so that says a lot when dealing with something like this," she added.

But Lowstutter said that the climate in this area is viable for a solar home. "People don't really understand how these homes work," said Lowstutter. "If you make the home energy efficient then all you need is for the sun to shine and you will be able to heat the home."

Lowstutter said that most of the homes in the development are designed to capture a lot of energy and the proper insulation "...will do the rest."

## Mundy

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an abortion is an individual decision in a pluralistic society.

"I believe the government should stay out of the private lives of individuals," she stated. "I've been dismayed by the amount of time, money and energy wasted on the subject." Mundy believes the emphasis should be on preventing unwanted pregnancies through birth control and responsible sex.

Mundy said that the question of whether to study and perhaps change Luzerne County's type of government is not a state-level decision. "I have supporters on each side of the question and I do not want to impose my opinion on anyone else," she said.

Mundy takes a definite stand on tax reform. She believes there should be more emphasis placed on an income tax and less on property taxes.

"The local municipalities should be able to regulate a variety of taxes. I don't think there's any question we need local tax reform," Mundy said. She pointed to recent double digit tax increases in some school districts as the result of the failure of tax reform last year.

Asked if the state allocates sufficient funds to education, Mundy questioned whether the money is being spent efficiently. "The state allocation for education is approximately 50% of the state budget, but I'm not sure the money is spent in the right places," she said.

Mundy also feels that the state has been quick to mandate programs for schools, but has not provided funding. She favors making unfunded programs optional for the school districts.

"Early childhood education is so important to the future of children. If the money was channeled properly tax dollars could be saved in the future. Students get to high school and can't do the work. They get discouraged and drop out. Then there is an employment problem."

Mundy also said that environment, education and ethics are three issues very important to her.

"As I go door-to-door I find people are so discouraged about the political process," Mundy said. They want to believe in their officials, she says, but have been given too many reasons to question them.

Mundy does not approve of limiting terms in office. In her opinion, if the taxpayers don't like what their legislators are doing, they should vote them out.

"It may take a two-year term office to learn all the details of the position," Mundy said. "Some of the incumbents stay in office because of the Political Action Committee Funds. There should be a limit on the money contributed and disclosure the activity for which it is used."

Mundy said she is not running just for the money, that she is sacrificing a good position for which she is well paid and enjoys. She believes limiting a term of office could discourage a good person from running again.

"I would never put my party above the needs and desires of the people of the 120th District," Mundy stated. She pointed out that she had resigned as treasurer of the League of Women Voters in order to run for office.

Mundy emphasizes better planning in her concern for the environment, saying that planned growth could preserve open space and avoid pollution problems.

"Do we want to live in an asphalt jungle? What kind of life will we have if there is no clean air or good quality of water. The state planning board can provide guidance and expertise in planning," Mundy said.

"I believe the people are willing to vote for a well-qualified, honest person, willing to discuss issues and try to do something about them."

## Property transfers

Property transfers recorded at the Luzerne County Court House from October 11, 1990 to October 24, 1990. Prices are extrapolated from transfer taxes paid. Money transfers are exempt from tax, so no amounts are shown.

Frances Chioccarello to Hans Moeller, 61-21 75th St., Middle Village, NY, property Bywood Ave., Harveys Lake.

Deidre R. Russo to Hans Moeller, 61-21 75th St., Middle Village, NY, property Bywood Ave., Harveys Lake.

Hans Moeller to Peter Nicoletti, La Grisvolee, 1666 Chemin Des Salles, 0614 Venu, France, property Bywood Ave., 2 parcels, Harveys Lake, \$40,000.

Estate Bertha Pavelko to Catherine Szevin, Three Brooklands, 1000 Palmer Rd., Bronxville, NY, property Lincoln St., Dallas Twp. James Reed Davenport to Wm. R. Banks, 43 Old Grandview, Dallas, property 43 Old Grandview Ave., Dallas Twp., \$80,000.

Robert H. Rovinsky to Dorothy L. Banks, 110 E. Franklin St., Shavertown, property Franklin Ave., 2 parcels, Kingston Twp., \$80,000.

Catherine J. Lloyd to Alan Landis, 78 Summit St., Shavertown, property Harris Hill Rd., Kingston Twp., \$1,500.

J.R.H. Inc. to John E. Halbing III, 23 Idlewood Dr. Haddonfield

Hills, Dallas, property Idlewood Dr., Dallas Twp., \$15,300.

J.R.H. Inc. to John E. Halbing III, 23 Idlewood Dr., Haddonfield Hills, Dallas, property Idlewood Dr., Dallas Twp., \$15,300.

Frederick Honeywell to Carl Gibale Jr. 2401 Chase Rd., Shavertown, property 5.58 acres, Jackson Twp., \$60,000.

Ephraim Kytte to Ellen A. Casterline, 151 Muir Rd., Dallas, property Lincoln Ave., 2 parcels, Dallas.

Andrew Sinco to Daniel Stabulis, 1857 Harmon Dr., Woodlyn, PA, property 2.60 acres, Lehman Twp., \$7,500.

David Boyd Sweinberg to Edward E. Myers, 302 Royal Ave., North Wales, PA, property East Ave., Harveys Lake, \$56,000.

Richard W. Snowden to Jan W. Snowden, 18 Skyview Dr., Dallas, property Skyview Dr., Dallas Twp.

Gary T. McDade to Joan Lee Rovinsky, 20 Sunset St., Dallas, property Sunset Ave., Dallas.

Evelyn Jones to Thomas H. Zimmerman Jr., 24-31 W. Mt. Rd., Plymouth Twp., property Sylvan Ave., Harveys Lake, \$1,895.

Per Atty. in Fact John B. Hibbard to Robert P. Predly, Jr., 49 Clarks Lane, Plains, property 5.48 acres, Firewood Farms, Kingston Twp., \$45,000.

Helen Hunsinger to Richard Metz, RD 1, Box 119, Harveys Lake, property Ash St., Harveys Lake,

\$55,000. T/A Samcar Real Estate Co., to Joseph J. Buczko Jr., 180 Kimberly Lane, Trucksville, property Kimberly Lane, Kingston Twp., \$200,000.

James D. Frey to Sean C. Kelly, 5 Mill St., Lehman, property Mill St., Lehman Twp., \$84,000.

Betty I. Parrish to James Sebastian Wright, RR 1, Box 259A, Dallas, property Ridge Ave., Harveys Lake, \$9,300.

John J. Bunting Jr. to Joseph H. Villa, 358 Bradley Ave., Staten Island, NY, property 3.01 ac. Jackson Twp., \$7,500.

Daniel G. Chorba Jr. to Edward Farrell Jr., RR 4, Box 297F, Dallas, property Twp. Rte. T-708, 8.192 ac. Lake Twp., \$10,000.

James Wm. Haddle Jr. to Pet Care Associates Inc. RD 1, Box 380, Dallas, property 4.5 acres, Rte. 790, Dallas Twp., \$83,860.

David Carl Scott, Gdn. to David Lynn Scott, RD 1, Box 143-D, Harveys Lake, property 2 parcels, Harveys Lake.

Theresa M. Gerald to Frederick Sponenburg, 440 E. Norwegian St., Pottsville, property 1.029 ac. Upper Demunds Rd., Dallas Twp., \$110,000.

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## Dallas Homecoming Queen

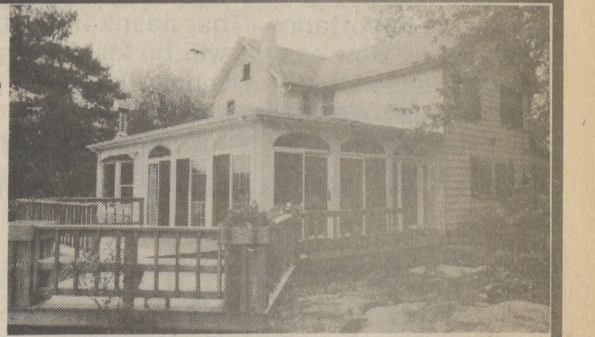
Last year's Homecoming Queen Renee Strauser, center, crowned Dallas' 1990 Homecoming Queen Liza McCafferty at the Hanover-Dallas game last Saturday. Liza was named queen by the vote of the entire student body. (Post Photo/C.M. Denmon)

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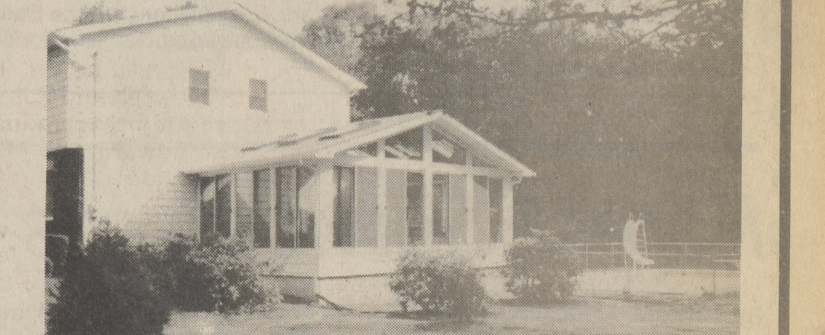
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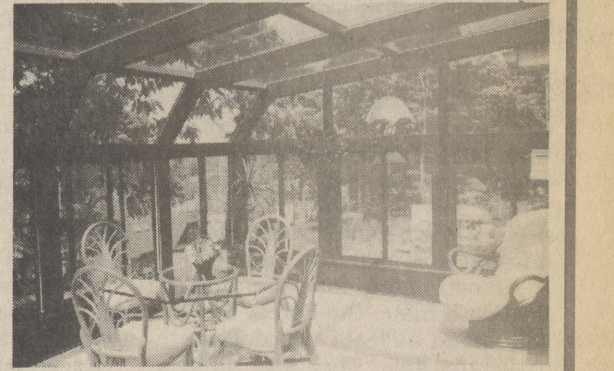


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