Renovated farmhouse wins award

Former tenant house on Schooley Farm has new lease on life

Doug Burak says he'd do it all again, only better. "I'd add some things we forgot, like a swing on the porch," said the winner of the Back Mountain Citizens' Council Home Beautification Award.

Burak, who lives in the home at the intersection of Harris Hill Road and East Center Street in Kingston Township, doesn't take all the credit for the renovations. His father, Dr. William Burak, owns the house and the property surrounding it, and Doug's brother and sister, Greg and Lisa, added their sweat to the project, helping to gut the interior of the 80-year-old farmhouse.

How far did they have to go? "Right down to the studs," Burak said, though he pointed out that the original hardwood floors were saved and refinished.

Originally a tenant house on the Schooley Farm, the home sits on about 2 1/2 acres of land carved from a total plot of 131 acres. Dr. Burak and a partner, Leonard Romanowski, purchased the land in November of 1991, and subdivided it into 29 lots. They could have put as many as 50 homes on the land, but wanted to preserve as much of the rural character of the property as possible.

"We didn't want a high volume development on the land," said Dr. Burak, whose own home in Midway Manor looks over the property. "Our intent was to preserve it as naturally as possible.

The house came with the land, but at first the new owners weren't sure what to do with it. "It was so dilapidated, we thought about razing it," said Dr. Burak. But after a second look, the family decided the house could be renovated.

Work on the farmhouse began in December, 1991 and was pretty much completed by July, 1992. While the basic layout of the existing rooms was retained, a first floor addition houses a new master bedroom, and a bathroom, powder room and mudroom were added to the first floor. Two bed-



ALL FIXED UP - The old tenant house on the former Schooley Farm in Shavertown gained new life when renovated by the Burak family. (Post photo/Charlotte Bartizek)

rooms, a bath and a study that may soon become a nursery are upstairs.

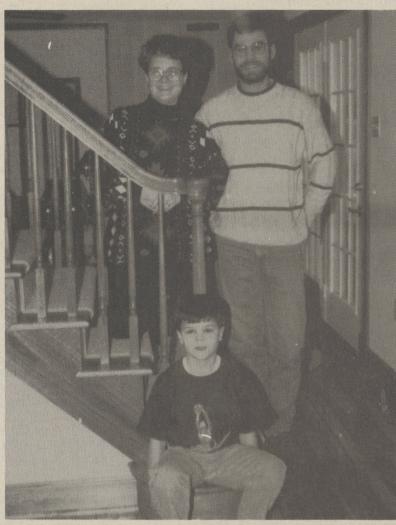
And then there's the garage. "It looked like the Leaning Tower of Pisa," Burak said of the structure that has now been replaced with a usable version.

Burak lives in the house with his wife, Ruth, and her two children, Marc and Francis. But the upstairs may get some use soon, as the Buraks are expecting another child soon.

While the Burak clan did the tearing out, they left most of the construction to Paul Simkulak, a West Wyoming contractor who has done work for Dr. Burak for sev-eral years. Doug Burak added his own touches with tile work on the kitchen floor and island counter.

The family will have some new neighbors soon. Dr. Burak said that final papers for the subdivision will be signed early next month and installation of sewers and underground utilities will begin shortly after. With commitments in hand for four lots, he expects construction to begin on several homes in early spring.

This is the second year of the Home Beautification Award. The Back Mountain Citizens' Council created the contest to honor individuals who improve the appearance of an existing building. Entry forms for the 1993 award will be available soon.

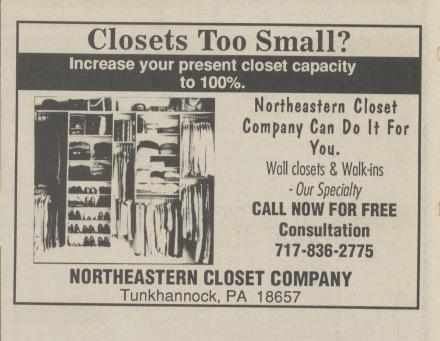


PROUD OWNERS - Doug and Ruth Burak enjoy living in the old tenant house on the former Schooley Farm in Shavertown. They are shown with Ruth's son, Francis. (Post photo/Charlotte Bartizek)



PARRISH TRANSPORTATION Announces Beginning February 7,

Atlantic City Casino Service to **BALLY'S PARK PLACE CASINO** Every Sun., Tues., Thurs. \$21 (Rebates) Purchase Tickets And Leave From these Locations: PICKETT'S CHARGE: 675-4511 (7:30 A.M.) Pickett's Charge Restaurant Open Serving Breakfast at 7:00 A.M. HOLIDAY PANCAKE HOUSE: 288-5528 (8:00 A.M.) PATTE'S SPORTS BAR: 824-8015 (8:30 A.M.) OR CALL 1-800-331-3412 OR 654-7162



"Quality Healthcare for the Entire Family" **Dallas Family Practice**

- · Open 365 days a year
- Convenient office hours, including Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- · Services include venipuncture, x-ray, a staff dietician and much more.

Call for an appointment at 675-2111 and meet our physicians

Thomas M. Campbell, D.O.

Diane A. Lowe, M.D.

Jane E. Durkin, D.O.

Gary Nothstein, D.O.

Irvin Jacobs, M.D.

Sterling and Machell Avenues, Dallas

sediment discharge into a nearby stream.

The filling in of wetlands and other violations noted by DER's Bureau of Dams and Waterways during excavations at the fairgrounds between May, 1991, and July, 1992, have been corrected and the case closed, Carmon said. DER never fined the fair board for these violations.

According to a written statement released by the Luzerne County Soil Conservation District, the fair board was first cited but not fined in 1988 for similar violations, according to Dr. Brian Redmond, chairman of the Soil Conservation District's board and author of the statement.

The Luzerne County Soil Conservation district has been delegated the responsibility for administering erosion and sediment pollution control programs for DER's Bureau of Land

and Water Conservation, according is aware of the volunteer nature of to Peter Menjack of the Soil Conservation District.

"The fair board was given ample opportunity to correct the deficiencies of May, 1991-July, 1992, before we were obligated to turn the site over for enforcement," Redmond wrote.

DER reviewed the entire case with the Fair Board at a meeting Thursday, January 21, and assessed them a fine of \$12,750 for soil erosion and sediment discharge violations, Redmond wrote.

The fines were reduced to \$5,000, contingent upon the Soil Conservation District and DER being allowed to develop a 5-hour training seminar on the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law and its accompanying regulations, to be presented at the State Fair Association meeting in January, break ground for a second 1994.

"The Soil Conservation District said

the fair board and recognizes the public benefit they provide. However, they must recognize that we have obligations...to carry out our delegated' responsibilities in an unbiased fashion," Redmond concluded.

"Despite rumors that the fair's future could be in jeopardy, the Luzerne County Fair will go on as usual," said fair president Ed Kelly. 'We already have some of our entertainment set up. S&S Amusements plans to bring in the largest Ferris wheel in the history of the Back Mountain."

The number of exhibitors nearly doubled from 1991 to 1992, and the board has already sent out nearly 170 books to interested exhibitors, Kelly said.

The Fair Board also plans to exhibitors' building in April, Kelly

named to Who's Who in college

Charnick

Peggy Charnick of Shavertown, has been selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges for 1992 93

A senior liberal studies major at College Misericordia, Charnick has held the positions of president of the Literary Club and co-editor of Honorus.

A member of the Students Honors Association, Charnick has also served as staff writer of The Misericordian, the campus student newspaper and Instress, the campus literary magazine.

Peggy and her husband, Stanley, are the parents of three children. Ellen, Laura and Elizabeth.



Seeing is believing! One look is worth a thousand adjectives! THIS IS A REAL SALE! When you compare the regular price tags with the sale tags during Town & Country's Famous Mid-Winter Sale you'll be amazed at the savings!

Don't pass up this opportunity to acquire the identical pieces you've seen and admired they can now be yours at savings of 20% to 50% and more! During this sale, even custom orders enjoy discounts of 20% to 40% off manufacturers' list prices





0

0

O

It's an incredible sale! Hurry in for the greatest selections!

SAVE ON THESE FAMOUS BRANDS:



Gary R. Barnes, Chief Instructor Kim's Karate of Lehman

Kim's Karate Grand Opening Registration and Sign-up Feb. 15th Rte. 118 Lehman, next to Campus Pizza **\$39.00** Introductory Special

(includes Free uniform)

Open House / Demonstration Saturday Feb. 20th 3:00 P.M.

Member Pan-Am Tang Soo Do Federation, Under the Directorship of International Master Chong Su Kim, 8th Degree Black Belt