

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2004

BUSI

EL native releases children's book

SMITHFIELD, Va. — Historical landmark and theater venue, the Yoder Barn in Newport News, Va., is the subject of a delightful children's picture book written and illustrated by Catherine Celli Kurchinski of Smithfield.

"Hurray for the Yoder Barn!" is a true story about the Yoder family and the dairy business they owned for many years on the Peninsula.

In the story, the barn speaks to the reader and tells the story of its life — from dairy barn to theater venue.

"This is really a story about the value of preserving our history," says Kurchinski, a self-published author and graduate of Christo-

pher Newport University.

"The barn could have been torn down if it hadn't been for the Yoder family and local community who had the foresight to see it moved and restored. Today, this beautiful barn is left standing as a reminder of our past, and it serves the community as a theater venue."

Kurchinski grew up in East Liverpool and attended St. Aloysius Catholic school. She credits her grandmother, Catherine Monasky, and mother, Julanne, for instilling a love of reading at an early age. She won her first poetry contest at age 9.

For more information, visit www.moonpiepress.net.



CATHERINE CELLI KURCHINSKI