

CLARK, SHARON

Local inns getting off the 'best secret' list

By Laura Ackley
General Manager, Buhl Mansion
Guesthouse and Spa

Buhl Mansion Guesthouse & Spa, and Tara - A Country Inn are getting national kudos from industry leaders and travelers alike. Recently Buhl Mansion was named one of the nation's "top 10 most romantic inns" by American Historic Inns, Inc. while Jim and Donna Winner were honored with Pennsylvania Tourism and Lodging Association's 2007 Innkeeper of the Year award.

National media is catching the buzz about these gems. In recent months the inns were featured in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Buffalo and even graced the covers of Inns Magazine and Select Registry guidebook, both with distribution throughout America and Canada.

This national recognition means good things for our valley. Media recognition of the inns puts Mercer County on



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Tara - A Country Inn, in Clark, owned by James E. Winner Jr. and his wife Donna, has become a destination stop for the area along with their Buhl Mansion Guesthouse and Spa which was named one of the nation's top 10 romantic inns.

The Outlook

A community point of view

Laura Ackley, general manager of Buhl Mansion and director of marketing for Tara says, "I'm proud of the economic impact the inns create for the area. We provide about 75 jobs and generate direct and indirect revenue for the county."

A casual survey of the inns' overnight guests estimate a dollar-for-dollar match of room revenue and dollars spent at area golf courses, shops and restaurants.

Tourism is Pennsylvania's

the map for thousands of tourists who may not otherwise visit our area.

second-largest industry. According to the 2007 publication Pennsylvania Tourism: A Multi-Billion Dollar Industry, "If Pennsylvania's travel and tourism industry were to disappear completely, every man, woman, and child currently living in the state would have to spend an additional \$2,070 annually to replace the spending of the state's visitors and their resulting contributions to the state's economy."

Buhl Mansion's day spa and Tara's restaurants offer pampering for area residents. Public tours are offered daily at both historic landmarks. Visit www.WinnerHospitality.com for more information or to read recent press coverage.