## Piggy Bank adds'Down Home,' veggie dishes



The relaxed décor of the Piggy Bank Restaurant in Beacon fits in perfectly with new "Down Home" and vegetarian items, which share the menu with the famous BBQ dishes.





**By Curtis Schmidt** 

If "Down Home Cookin" in a "Down Home" atmosphere brings a smile to your face, then it's time to head on down to Beacon and check out the one and only Piggy Bank Restaurant at 448 Main Street,

The Piggy Bank, famous for its mouth-watering BBQ, has added a whole bunch of American comfort foods, plus several vegetarian treats to satisfy just about everyone. They even have kids' favorites on the "Piglet" menu.

And if you like New Orleans style dishes and creole cooking, that's also on the way for the Piggy Bank.

Don't worry, the BBQ is still the best in the Hudson Valley and is definitely here to stay. They're just adding a little variety.

Owner Doug Berlin has "touched up" the seating area of the former-bank building - renovations that have won a variety of awards. He has added tasteful artwork and painting, but has been careful to retain the inviting relaxed theme of the building. The former bank structure features original brick walls, hardwood floors, old wood tables (some with cuts and notches) and chairs and



The bar in the Piggy Bank Restaurant adds to the relaxed atmosphere and the vault behind the bar houses a wide array of wines.

large windows.

And yes, if you look behind the bar, you will see the doors leading to the vault. In the Piggy Bank, the vault houses a wide variety of great wines to go along with that great cooking.

The Piggy Bank's "Down Home" comfort food dishes start with a Southern Favorite - Chicken Fried Steak with mashed potatoes and gravy and collard greens. Yes, it's batter-dipped and deep fried to pure perfection.

Other comfort food favorites include roast turkey, Mom's Meatloaf (with mashed potatoes and gray), batter-dipped fried chicken, Mandarin Orange Duck and grilled Kielbasa.

The "Down Home" items have even made their way to the Appetizer Menu. One of the favorites here is Catfish Fingers - fresh fillets, batter-dipped and deep fried and served with ranch dressing. They do the same with Fried Okra. Add some great tasting Nachos and Quesadillas and you have the beginning of a great meal - or you can make a meal of appetizers with the Piggy Bank Starter Sampler.

Dough and his staff have also diversified their offerings and now have several vegetarian dishes and an enlarged number of salad selections. walr

Leading off the Vegetarian menu is Vegan Ravioli. Chick this out grilled asparagus and portabella mushrooms, zucchini and tofu in spinach ravioli with vegetables in a roasted tomato broth. The Portabella Po' Boy features grilled Portabella mushrooms with red peppers, onions and mozzarella, served with cole slaw and fresh-cut fries. Veggie chili is also on the menu, along with a Black Bean Veggie Burger.

Special salads include the Portabella mushrooms and spinach with oil and pine nuts and the Goat Cheese Salad with mixed greens and walnuts in vinaigrette dressing.

For the "Piglets," the Piggy Bank serves Chicken Tenders, Ila's Corn dog nuggets, Ellery's macaroni and cheese, Franks and beans and French toast sticks.

Add the new items to the already renowned BBQ ribs and chicken, steaks, fish and pasta, and the Piggy Bank just gave you several more reasons to stop in for a great meal.

The Piggy Bank also offers takeout and catering. Call 838-0028 or visit the web site at www.piggybankrestaurant.com.