

# Northumberland District Sets Banquet

SUNBURY (Northumberland Co.) — The Northumberland County Conservation District's annual awards banquet is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, at the Sunbury Social Club starting at 6:30 p.m.

Agriculture economics professor H. Louis Moore from Penn State University will present a program on his experiences in Poland and Russia while assisting

with the transition from a centrally planned communist economy to a market oriented economy.

Awards will be presented to groups and individuals for the following categories: Conservation Farmer of the Year, Conservation Teacher of the Year, youth conservation organization, scholarships to students, wildlife conservation, and the conservation district patch to area scouts.

A roast beef dinner will precede the award presentations and entertainment. Tickets for the event are \$7.50 each and can be purchased by calling the Northumberland County Conservation District office at (717) 988-4224.

The conservation district also announces they are continuing to take orders in the 1995 tree sale. Buyers can choose from more

than 60 varieties of evergreen trees, ground covers, ornamental trees, fruit trees and berry bushes. Most trees and plants are bare root, although several varieties are potted, such as rhododendrons, azaleas, and holly bushes.

Also being sold are flower and vegetable seed packs, wildflower seeds, and fertilizer tablets. Order forms can be obtained by calling the office at (717) 988-4224 or writing to Northumberland County Conservation District, RR 3 Box 238-C, Sunbury, PA 17801.

Following is a list of awards to be presented:

- Conservation Farmer Of The Year - Stanley Crone, Danville.
- Wildlife Conservation Award - Luke Rebeck, Dornsife.
- C.Q. McWilliams Scholarship - Christina Fatz, Lourdes Regional High School, Atlas.
- Conservation Teacher Of The Year - Mrs. Trina Leshinski, Kulpmont Elementary School, Mt. Carmel.
- Swank Scholarship - Douglas M. Klinger - Line Mountain High

School, Dalmatia.

• Swank Conservation Youth Org. - Junior Girl Scout Troop 455, St. Michael's Church, Sunbury.

• Conservation District Patch Award - 9 Girl Scouts from Junior Girl Scout Troop 80, Mt. Carmel, — Justine Diehl, Valarie Diehl, Tina Facer, Stacy Mensch, Denielle Minnig, Jennifer Minnig, Nicole Peters, Kelly Tarlecki, & Jessie Zarko; 15 Girl Scouts from Junior Girl Scout Troop 455, St. Michael's Church, Sunbury - Kim Baker, Michelle Baney, Susanne Erhardt, Beth Fenstermacher, Nichole Frits, Erin Kerber, Melissa Reinhard, Jennifer Simpson, Amanda Szumigraj, Deanna Tasker, Debra Ann Tasker, Jennifer Tasker, Ashley Taylor, Kara Vargo & Melissa Zack; 1 Boy Scout from Boy Scout Troop 247 in Elysburg - Thomas W. Hoy; 1 Girl Scout from Junior Girl Scout Troop 8, Sunbury - Holly Sulouff; 1 Boy Scout from Boy Scout Troop 306, Herndon - Brooke Shaffer.

## It's Time To Start Transplants

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — At this time of year, it may be tough to think about gardening. However, specialists at the Home and Garden Information Center of the Cooperative Extension Service-University of Maryland at College Park are already thinking ahead and providing information on pertinent topics of the season.

For instance, many gardeners like to get a jump on spring by growing their own vegetable and flower transplants inside. "This is a good way to obtain unusual varieties found only in catalogs," said Ray Bosmans, regional horticulture specialist.

Bosmans recommends starting with a suitable growing medium and plenty of light. Growing mixes made of peat moss, perlite, or vermiculite are ideal. To over-

come low-light problems, transplants can be grown under fluorescent lights to supplement or replace natural light. In order to use artificial light effectively, the light fixture should be about two to three inches above the seedlings and left on for 14 to 16 hours per day.

Seeds should be sowed inside about 5 to 6 weeks before the last frost date. "In central Maryland, the last frost date is May 10, and in warmer areas such as Baltimore City and southern Maryland, the date is April 25," said Bosmans. "In Allegany and Garrett counties, frost can occur as late as May 25."

He recommends conditioning the transplants for the outdoor environment by placing them outside on nice days in a semi-shaded location for a week before trans-

planting.

Maryland residents can get more information on starting transplants and other horticultural subjects from the Home and Garden Information Center at (800) 342-2507. Experts are available to answer questions between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. Recorded information on various horticultural topics can be accessed via touch-tone phone 24 hours a day.



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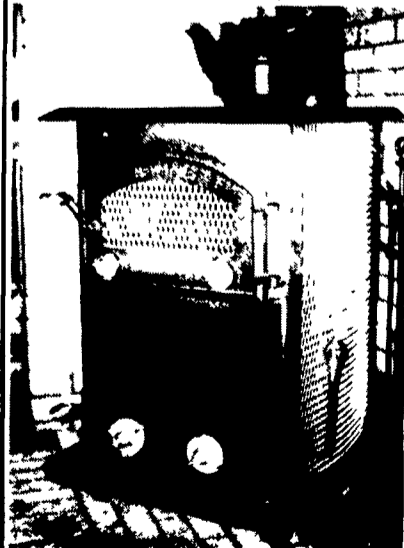
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