Pa. State Grange Honors

(Continued from Page B14)

Perry County Community Grange No.1767, was first with her talk, "The 'Gottas' of Success."

In the 30-years-and-older division, Laura McMillin of Westfield Grange in Lawrence County was first place with her speech, "The Spirit of the Grange."

Following McMillin, Isabelle Myers of Community Grange was second, while Il May McMillin of Westfield Grange was third.

In the Sing-A-Song Contest,

Brian Ebersole of Community Grange No.1767 in Perry County was a two-time winner.

He won first place in the individual competition, and first place in the group catagory, performing in a duo with sister Stacy Ebersole.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Department is the community service project of the Pennsylvania and National Granges.

The Sign-A-Song contest is one of the State Grange's Deaf Activi-

ties Department's outreach programs. The department promotes healthy hearing and works to assist individuals, schools and social agencies serving the deaf community.

In addition to the contest, during the convention the department presented a \$360 donation to the Meadville Public Library toward the purchase of two sets of videotapes concerning deaf and hard of hearing awareness, services offered to the hearing impared, and other educational information on dead issues.

In the individual Sign-A-Song contest, following first-place winner Ebersole was Ila May McMillin of Westfield Grange in Lawrence County, and then Lindsie Bennett of Perry Valley

In the junior division Sign-A-Song, first-place winner was Broock Winger of Scrubgrass Junior Grange in Venango County, followed by Catherine Carberry of Lincoln Junior Grange in Huntingdon County.

Talent Show

The annual State Grange convention also features a talent contest, with the winner qualifying for entry in the national contest.

For the third time, Klaus Schmidt of Hillcrest Grange No.1674 gave the top performance, this time performing Chopin's "Ballade II" to win the talent festival, held Allegheny College Shafer Auditorium.

"I chose Chopin, because I express myself the best through him," Schmidt said. "His music moves my soul. I guess you could say he's my musical soul mate."

Schmidt, who won state-level best of show honors in 1994 and 1996, and took first place honors at the 1996 national convention, is a computer software applications teacher at Missouri University.

He said he enjoys participating in the state Grange Talent Festival.

"The thrill of performing is exhilarating," he said, "and I love to participate in this event."

He said that, of the all the performances he's given, this last one was his most meaningful, because it was the first time that his parents, who traveled from Germany for the competition, saw their son peform in front of an audience.

"My mother said she was moved by it," Schmidt said. "My mother was crying, and I almost did, but I didn't want to show it."

One of the judges, Dr. Robert Copeland, said, "This (event) is excellent because it strengthens families and encourages young people to develop their skills."

Runnerup best of show award recipient was Joann Swaim of Seipstown Grange No.1657 in Lehigh County.

Swaim's performance was a juggling and balancing act. She juggled seven rubber balls as part of the act and then provided an audience-attention catching finish by juggling three stage props while on an unicycle.

Schmidt is to represent the Pennsylvania State Grange at the national convention to be held in November in Greensboro, North Carolina.

meetings.

lecturers.

the Year.

Year.

year.

Awards.

The State Grange

Lecturer Department sponsors the talent con-

test, and also serves to

oversee programming at

local, county and state

During the conven-

tion, the department

also presented awards to

its top local and county

catagory, Nettie Kauff-

man of the Ontelaunce

Grange No.1617 was

Subordinate Lecturer of

In the county Grange

catagory, Betty Lou

Williams of Crawford

County Pomona Grange

No.26 was named

Pomona Lecturer of the

The awards are based on the programs offered

through their respective Granges during the past

Grange Spirit

State Grange also recog-

nizes outstanding

achievements with its Spirit of the Grange

Marth Eversole, state

Isabelle Myers with

the Community Grange,

James Wertz of Broken-

straw Grange, and Brian

Ebersole were all reci-

recognition, National

Grange Ceres Jamie Klenklen of Kansas

attended the convention

and presented a national award to Nicole Blair.

of Perry Valley Junior

In a 'special national

pients of the award.

youth director, pre-

sented the awards.

The Pennsylvania .

In the local Grange

Pansies Prefer Fall

(NAPS)-Do your garden a favor-don't wait until spring to plant pansies. Now in more colors, better colors, and with greater tolerance to cold, pansies are the talk of fall gardening. If planted now, they'll grow to twice the size and produce more flowers than those planted in the spring.

Pansies are surprising coldhardy, easily tolerating temperatures of 15 degrees without damage. Under a cover of snow or mulch, they survive even lower temperatures. All do well in the South, and many varieties are hardy in the Mid-Atlantic, lower New England, the Midwest, and the West Coast. According to Denise Johnson of Ball Seed Company in West Chicago, the hardiest varieties

BUILDINGS

are generally those with small, deep colored blossoms. One of the most cold resistant ones, Baby Bingo, survived the '97-98 winter at Michigan State University.

Another key to hardiness is planting early enough to give plants time to establish their roots before cold weather. To root well, plants need at least three to four weeks in the ground before the first hard freeze. Set transplants 6 to 8 inches apart and mulch after planting.

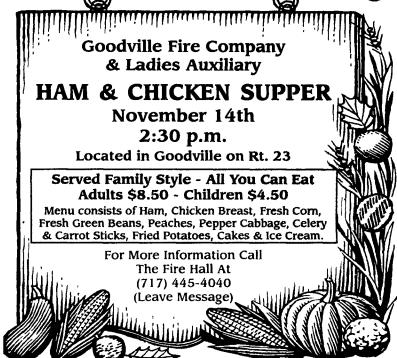
To make lots of flowers, pansies need at leaf six hours of sunlight each day and plenty of nutrition. When planting, work a timed-release fertilizer into the soil. In late winter, reapply

sure to water transplants (in their packs) before planting, and water the planting bed regularly if the weather is dry. Use pansies as companions to

according to label directions. Be

early spring bulbs such as daffodils and tulips. They'll bring evergreen foliage and colors to the bare winter ground. In spring, pansies will be a carpet of color to the bare winter ground. In spring, pansies will be a carpet of color underneath the daffodils and tulips. Finally, as if they needed one merc attribute, a few pansies have a delicate sweet perfume. Sniff before you buy!

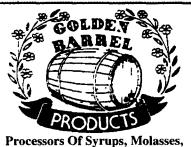
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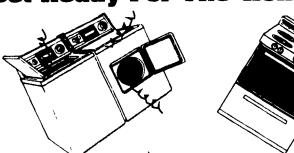
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Grange.

Blair was named the winner of the Super Junior Granger Award, an award that reflects some of the same values as the Grange Spirit of the Grange Award.