

Y ask OU ANSWER

This column is for readers who have questions but don't know who to ask for answers.

"You Ask—You Answer" is for non-cooking questions. When a reader sends in a question, it will be printed in the paper. Readers who know the answer are asked to respond by mailing the answer, which will then be printed in the paper.

Questions and Answers to this column should be addressed to You Ask—You Answer, Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522. Attention: Lou Ann Good.

Or, you may e-mail questions and answers to lgood.eph@lnpnews.com

Please clarify what question you are answering when responding.

Do not send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a reply. If we receive the answer, we will publish it as soon as possible. Please include your phone number because we sometimes need to contact the person to clarify details. We will not publish your phone number unless you request it.

QUESTION — Beth, no last name or address given, wants to know how to sterilize potting soil in the oven before planting vegetable seeds indoors.

QUESTION — Ella Ebersol, 311 Newport Rd., Leola, PA 17540, will pay for the following used books in good condition: "Easy Growth in Reading, Looking Forward," 5th reader, Winstone by Gertrude Hildreth (can't determine where the book was printed), and "Around the Corner," a Ginn Basic Reader by Ginn and Company, copyrighted 1948-1953-1957-1961, Philippines copyright 1949.

QUESTION — Mabel Harnish, Willow St., wants to know how to keep deer

out of her garden in the summer without putting up a fence. Deer have already eaten off some tulips in her flower beds this spring. She saw deer tracks in her flower bed and on plowed ground.

QUESTION — Leon Spory, 730 Roaring Run Rd., Boswell, PA 15531-1946, wants seeds for a pole bean called Lazywife. He believes it is one of the best stringless bean he ever tried and is a good producer. He likes to plant a few seeds with the field corn, which eliminates the need for poles.

QUESTION — Margaret Marshall, Rochester Mills, wants the words to the poem, "Gossip the Barber," which she remembers was in a prose and poetry high school book in the 1940s.

QUESTION — Curtis Weaver, 1396 Creek Rd., Carlisle, PA 17013, has an Enterprize 2092 sausage stuffer and would like to buy a lard strainer basket and plate to fit inside. Anyone have a used one to sell or know where he can buy it new?

QUESTION — C. Faus, Hegins, has some questions about rhubarb stalks. She writes that in the fall, before frost kills the leaves, she harvests rhubarb stalks. The leaves will not feed the roots after they are killed by frost anyway. Some people say the stalks and leaves have poison in them at the that time of the year. Is this true? If so, why don't they have poison in them when harvested before June 21?

QUESTION — M. Nolt, East Earl, wants to know where she can purchase a cast iron 12- or 14-inch pizza pan similar to a Pizza Hut pan.

QUESTION — Nine-year-old Alvin Stoltzfus collects business cards. He would like if people would send a few from their businesses

or a collection of one if they no longer want it. Send to Alvin Stoltzfus, 1195 Mondale Rd., Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505.

QUESTION — Amos Kauffman, 1860 Cambridge Rd., Honeybrook, PA 19344, is looking for a used Kitchen Center Oster mixer for parts. They are no longer manufactured, and the gears are worn in his.

QUESTION — Mary Davis is looking for simple goat milk soap recipe that uses ice cubes.

QUESTION — Ronald Strawbridge, Brogue, wants to know where to purchase cast aluminum name plates, cast on one side only.

QUESTION — Fred Guth, 515 East Freehold Rd., Freehold, N.J., would like information on wooden shallow well handpumps. Likely made of cedar in the the 1800s, they are six or eight feet long in four-inch square sections, bored, threaded, and porcelain-lined, with leather gaskets between sections. Guth's parents had one in use in the late 1920s.

QUESTION — Sam Parker, 2970 Welsh Rd., Mohn-ton, PA 19540, is looking for about 20 feet of greenhouse "8-mil" UV-protected plastic.

QUESTION — Lydia Beiler, Drumore, is looking for an old-fashioned hand-crank meat slicer. Call at (717) 284-4583.

QUESTION — Mike Hartman, 962 Martin Rd., Needmore, PA 17238, would like an owner's manual for an Owatonna 595 roll baler. He would be willing to receive a photocopy, or make a copy himself and return the original.

QUESTION — Gladys Stephens, R.R. 1 Box 1069 Starrucca, PA 18462, is interested in the 1968 Franklin Mint antique car/coin collection. She also collects a variety of things for disabled children.

QUESTION — Winona Homko, P.O. Box 308, 22 N. Spruce Street, Oxford, e-mail winonamjo@aol.com, is looking for information on an old iron bike mounted on a plank marked Everlast Sporting Goods Mfg. Co. in NY, No. G530-3, made in USA. It

was purchased at an Army Depot many years ago.

QUESTION — Shirley Orfanella, 1125 Slate Hill Rd., Quarryville, PA 17566, is looking for "horse ointment" for arthritis.

QUESTION — Ron Smith, 325 N. High St., Duncannon, PA 17020, wonders if there was a dairy named KOPF and Henry in Lancaster County or elsewhere.

QUESTION — Russ Brezler, 314 W. Seventh St., Waynesboro, wants to know of a supplier for axe and axe handles. He will supply patterns.

QUESTION — A reader, who sent no address, wants to know where to find old cards manufactured by Gibson, Cincinnati, Ohio. The seven-day cards have messages written as if the animal wrote the message. The reader has cards numbered 4, 5, 6, and 7. An example of the writing is the number 4 cards with the message: "Betsy Bear is at your door/With get-well #4 wish." Anyone able to help her locate numbers 1, 2, and 3?

QUESTION — A reader needs a set of good beaters to fit a Spatula Smart Black & Decker hand mixer. It is a heavy duty power boost mixer. If you have a set, call (301) 791-9586.

QUESTION — David Simpler, Elkton, Md., writes that he used a product in 1972 call Purge-O-Matic from Stewatt Chemicals to clean soot from oil burners. It worked great, but he doesn't know where to get it now. He doesn't want to use soot sticks, he writes, because it will eat the furnace.

QUESTION — Maggie Keeler and her husband are responsible for obtaining heirloom seeds for a living history farm, The Burr House and Farm in West Virginia. Keeler writes that the 1751 house is the oldest frame structure in the state. The committee has purchased seeds from Landis Valley Farm Museum, but would like to expand the varieties grown through donation, purchase, and seed swapping. They especially would like bean varieties and seeds for other favorite vegetables that have been

passed down through the generations. Send to Burr House and Farm Agriculture Committee, Jefferson Co. Landmarks Commission, c/o Irvan M. Groff, 324 E. First Ave., Charles-town, WV 25414. Or, phone (304) 724-1279.

QUESTION — Donna Truesdell, S. Deerfield, Mass., wants to identify a source for replacement rubber caps for the ends of tension curtain rods. The rods are fine, but the rubber caps have become fragile from sun exposure.

ANSWER — A reader wanted the name of the Ohio vendor that sells wagons. Thanks to Arvillia Keeny, New Freedom, who writes that she believes the vendor is Andy Weaver, 16891 Farmington Rd., West Farmington, Ohio 44491. Phone number is 1-800-882-8799.

ANSWER — Mary Montgomery, Doylestown, had questions about a gardenia plant that hasn't flowered. Arvillia Keeny, New Freedom, writes a plant book that she has teaches that gardenias kept indoors must have high humidity and cool nights (about 62 degrees), along with sunlight. Gardenias thrive in greenhouses. The plants require an acidic soil and also can be successfully grown under artificial lights. Some gardenias bloom in the summer and others are winter bloomers.

ANSWER — Howard Gibson has this solution for Kathleen Salotti who wanted to know how to rid moles from the garden: Place pieces of Wrigley Juice Fruit Gum near the mole holes.

ANSWER — Harriet Tinker, Cockeysville, Md., writes that the hollow tomato variety that Elsie Martin, Hagerstown, Md., is looking for is called Vera Tomato Pepper, and is available from Totally Tomatoes, P.O. Box 1626, Augusta, Ga. 30903-1626. Phone 1-803-663-0016.

ANSWER — A reader wanted to know where to find a 3-inch porcelain light socket. Thanks to Terry Fake who e-mailed that he has one that fits a 3-inch electrical box with 2 3/4-inch mounting holes center to center. Call him at (717) 867-1588.

Medicare Covers Screening Exams For Colorectal Cancer

CAMP HILL (Dauphin Co.) — Men and women more than 50 years of age and covered by Medicare are eligible to receiving screening exams for the country's second leading cause of cancer-related deaths.

Colorectal cancer, or cancer of the colon or rectum, is second only to lung cancer and is most common in men and women age 50 years and older. Having regular screening exams beginning at age 50 could prevent many cases of colorectal cancer. Screening tests can find polyps, which are tiny growths that can become cancerous. And the risk increases with age, with 93 percent of cases

diagnosed in people age 50 or older.

A family history of colorectal cancer or colorectal polyps also increases the risk of developing colorectal cancer. Removing polyps early can prevent cancer. These tests also can find colorectal cancer early, when there may not be any symptoms and when treatment can be most effective.

While early colorectal cancer often may have no symptoms, sometimes symptoms do occur. Symptoms to watch for include blood in or on the stool, a change in bowel habits, stools that are narrower than usual, general stomach discomfort, frequent gas

pains, or weight loss. If you have any of these symptoms, discuss them with your doctor. Only he or she can determine the cause of the symptoms.

If you are 50 or older and are covered by Medicare, you may be eligible to receive the following colorectal cancer screening benefits. There is no minimum age for having a colonoscopy.

- Fecal Occult Blood Test — Covered once every 12 months
- Flexible Sigmoidoscopy — Covered once every 48 months
- Colonoscopy — Covered once every 24 months for those at high risk or once every 10 years, but not within 48 months of a

screening sigmoidoscopy, for those not at high risk for colon cancer

- Barium Enema — Can be performed instead of a colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy

Medicare will pay 100 percent of the cost of the fecal occult blood test. For all other colorectal screening tests, Medicare will pay 80 percent of the approved amount after the yearly Part B deductible. Medicare patients are responsible for the 20 percent coinsurance and any deductible applied.

For flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy, Medicare patients must pay 25 percent of the Medi-

care-approved amount if the test is done in an ambulatory surgical center or hospital outpatient department. If you have a Medicare supplemental or Medigap plan, it may cover your coinsurance and deductible amounts. Check with your supplemental insurer if you are unsure what your secondary plan covers.

If you are 50 or older and have not been screened for colorectal cancer, talk with your doctor about the colorectal screening options that are right for you. For more information on colorectal cancer, contact the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4-CANCER.