

# Y ask OU

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. However, if your question requires someone to mail items to you, you must include your address or phone number for publishing.

**QUESTION** — Dick Her-ring wants to know where to find railroad ties.

**QUESTION** — Jennifer is trying to locate an article that she believes appeared in one of our June issues about a father and son team from the Allentown/Lehigh area who specialize in painting old farmhouses. Anyone know to whom she is referring?

**QUESTION** — Diane Gray, 70 Damascus Rd., Blandon, PA 19510, wants information and bottles from the former Lebanon or Lebanon Valley Dairy.

**QUESTION** — W. Spence Haines, Lansdale, has several push, old-style reel mowers, which she heard may have some value. She asks how she can find out the worth of the mowers.

**QUESTION** — Jean W., Newmanstown, wants to buy the book, "It Happened in the Hills of Kentucky," by John Vogel, copyrighted 1952. Call (717) 949-2846.

**QUESTION** — C. Faus, Hegins, wants to know how to store raw vegetables such as carrots, squash, kohlrabi, and more to store for winter use.

**QUESTION** — Nicolette Wagman, Seven Valleys, is doing research for a book about musical instruments and makers in York County. She wants information and photographs of instruments and their makers from any era. Call her at (717) 428-1856.

**QUESTION** — A reader wants to know what causes swimmers in a farm pond to become itchy the morning after swimming in the pond. It looks like mosquito bites over their bodies and they are very itchy. Can something be done to the pond to eliminate the problem?

**QUESTION** — Shirley Schwoerner, Wysox, writes that some time ago she had clipped an answer in this column from Joyce Raubenstine who told how to make creams from aloe vera. The instructions were unclear, and she asks if someone can tell her the exact amount of aloe vera to use. The directions she has are as follows: To prepare a herb ointment or salve, crush the leaves of the aloe vera and mix with four parts melted fat (lard or shortening) and one part dry white wine. Heat gently for 20 minutes. Cool slightly and strain.

Shirley writes that her husband's chronic back problem was aggravated during haymaking. She rubbed aloe vera leaves on his back, and it helped instantly. He was amazed. It was a sloppy procedure, so they'd like to make the salve if possible.

Shirley adds a bit of humor by writing that she can't boil water without a 3x5 card, "so you can see my problem with the aloe vera (instructions)."

**QUESTION** — Kenneth Wirtz, White Hall, Md., is having trouble finding replacement parts for his electric three-point hitch that is on a 10HP Sears garden tractor purchased in 1977. The parts are no longer available through Sears. The item is Model number 917.253130 electric 3-point hitch. Wirtz would appreciate hearing from someone who no longer uses the part. He doesn't need the complete hitch, just the power assist lift. He is willing to pay a fair price for the item. Call him at (410) 329-2175.

**QUESTION** — Sharon Heller writes that they have 75 acres in Perry County. About half of the acreage is mowed by a neighbor who sells the 1/2 ton mixed hay

rolls for his own profit. She wants to know how to find an average rental for the acreage. What is the best way to advertise the available acreage?

**QUESTION** — A reader wants to know of a person interested in butchering large amounts of ducks weekly. Easy to learn how to do it and good income provided, reader promises. Call (845) 658-3243.

**QUESTION** — Cindy Eshleman, R.3, Box 7957, Jonestown, PA 17038, wants to know what day of the week the Selingsgrove Horse Sale is conducted. Also, she asks, if a sequel was written to "Gone With the Wind" and "Scarlett"? If so, what is the title of the book? Eshleman also wants the May 2003 issue of "Paper Horse." She is willing to pay postage.

**QUESTION** — A. M. Hurst, 135 Hurst Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522, is searching for a Wenger Family History book dated 1727-1959, and with a black cover.

**QUESTION** — Sandra Smith, Spring Mills, would like a copy of instructions for making a daisy afghan. The pattern she had and lost was at least 20 years old. She needs to know how to stitch the daises together.

**QUESTION** — Mike White, Bernville, writes that the last few years, he has a problem with black birds (grackles) after he plants field corn. When the corn first comes up until it is two to three weeks old, the birds either pull out the small plants or tear them off. This year, he had to replant a three-acre field because of the destruction the birds caused. No one else in the area seems to have a problem, but White has witnessed the birds digging and pulling out the corn. It seems the area is hardest hit on the hills where the morning sun first shines. He has tried scarecrows, which only works in a 20-foot area around the scarecrow. Any help or suggestions will be appreciated.

**QUESTION** — The Beilers of 2290 Quarry Rd., Jersey Shore, PA 17740, need to know where to find a cover for a two-quart stainless steel saucepan made by Thermo-Sentinel. The lid may be used. The Beilers also need a cover for a one quart 9-inch frypan made by Flavor Seal.

**QUESTION** — Harriet Newlin, 1287 Ridge Rd., Grantville, PA 17028, wants names and addresses of Amish families who serve meals in their homes.

**QUESTION** — Brendan Barnes, Cochranville, wants to buy used boxes to pack peppers, tomatoes, and corn for auction. Call

him at (610) 593-6337.

**QUESTION** — Ed Owensby, 17495 Meadow Drive, Bridgeville, DE 19933, wants to know where to purchase a drive belt for a Shopcraft/Tradesman 14-inch bandsaw, model number T7060, part number BMTJL 14030. It is 1/4 inch thick by 8 1/2 inches.

**QUESTION** — Donald Casner, 155 Casner Lane, Lewistown, PA 17044, would like to know where to find a type of sweet corn cutter that is turned like a crank. He saw it publicized on R7D-TV.

**QUESTION** — Arlene Demimler is looking for small, stuffed goats or a pattern for making them. Write to her at 29 Edison Rd., Palmyra, PA 17078, or call (717) 838-9094.

**QUESTION** — A reader with a growing family is interested in buying good, used 2-quart jars, regular or widemouth. Please call (717) 445-4149.

**QUESTION** — LaKee Christman, Greencastle, wants to know if there are any places that buy and slaughter tame rabbits in the Franklin County area.

**QUESTION** — Marie Hixson, Crystal Spring, wants to know how to grow wild rice. They live on a farm with some wet areas that she believes would be suitable for growing rice. Anyone know where she can find information?

**QUESTION** — Warren Glidewell, Bloomsburg, wants to know where to find Flemish giant rabbits in a fawn color.

**QUESTION** — To the reader who wants to buy a used, size 6 cast iron skillet in good condition. You must include an address or phone number so the person who has it can contact you.

**QUESTION** — Eugene Maute, 327 Asbury Ave., Elkins Park, PA 19027 wants to know who sells thick, clear, flexible plastic sheeting like that used to make seat covers. Maute wants to buy several yards.

**QUESTION** — C. Gutshall, Carlisle, is looking for proper cleaning instructions for printed cotton seed sacks made in the 1940s. She also would like a Web site address that offers information on older cotton and burlap feed sacks.

**ANSWER** — A Waynesboro reader writes that it sounds like the problem with the red beets that a reader had written about can be attributed to a leaf miner, which make little trails with worms. The leaves turn brown and die. The Waynesboro reader writes that leaf miners are especially bad this year. Her garden book recommends spraying with Ortho

Malathion, which you can purchase at garden centers. It works for her. She had problems in previous years, and has been spraying for it the past several years. She doesn't use a sprayer, but mixes a gallon of the mixture in a sprinkling can and sprinkles it over the row.

**ANSWER** — Marion Capp wanted to know the name and address of the artist who paints scenery on the sides of barns. One barn painted by Wayne Fetro had been featured in this paper. Fetro's address is 304 1/2 Jonlyn Dr., Elizabethtown. Phone (717) 361-8374.

**ANSWER** — Lynn Rossi, Lititz Borough, has a young groundhog living beneath a large rock in her front yard and wanted to know how to get the groundhog to leave her residential property? Thanks to a reader who called and said to drop mothballs in the groundhog's hole. Another reader recommends smoke bombs in which the fuse is lit and put into the hole where it will give off a gas which poisons animals. Groundhogs generally have two holes. One entrance must be close. After placing a smoke bomb in the hole, it needs to be closed to keep the gas from escaping. The York County believes the product must be legal since it can be sold for that purpose, but he did not specify where the smoke bombs may be purchased.

**ANSWER** — Wayne Urfer, 254 W. Main St., Moorestown, N.J. 08057, is interested in photos, stories, manuals, and other information that show how to convert tractors (homebuilt from cars, trucks, or a combination of various parts and pieces. This practice was common during the Great Depression, because conversion tractors were often built out of necessity by poor farmers who couldn't afford a commercial tractor. Urfer writes that he is prepared to pay a fair price for good, original materials. Thanks to Philip Smith, Womelsdorf, who writes that photos and stories about homebuilt tractors are featured in the book "Iron Will" and in "Farm & Ranch Living" magazine published by Reiman Publications. Both sources are available from Country Books, P.O. Box 990, Greendale, WI 52129. Phone (800) 558-1013.

Also a lot of tractors and people will gather at the 55th Old Threshermen's Reunion, Kinzers, Aug. 13-16. Smith writes that event is a good source of information about homebuilt tractors.