



Illuminating miniature gourds results in a spectacular vine of lights as demonstrated by Jane Yocum, left, and Ginger Pryor.

## Light Up The Holidays

(Continued from Page B2)

Gravel or stones  
Greenery (fern fronds, ivy vines, autumn leaves, evergreens)

Tea lights or small votive candles

Select size and shape of container desired for finished lantern.

Choose a second, smaller container (a plastic beverage works well). Use scissors to cut off top of smaller container. Make this container about the same height as the larger container. Set aside.

Fill the large container with water to a depth of approximately one inch. Place a few stems of greenery in water. Place the container in freezer until solid. Make sure it is setting level.

Set the smaller container on the frozen water. Place gravel or small stones in the smaller container to anchor it to the bottom. Arrange greenery around the container. Fill the container with water and place in freezer. You may find it helpful to float ice cubes on top of the water to hold the greenery under water, but it's not necessary to do so.

Unmold the ice lantern with cool or lukewarm water. Remove the stones from the inner container, fill it with lukewarm water, and allow to set a few minutes. The small container should slide out with a gentle tug.

Turn the large container upside down in the sink and run lukewarm water over it. The lantern should slide out. Store the lantern in the freezer until needed.

When desired, remove the lantern from freezer and set a small tea light or votive candle inside.

### VINE OF LIGHTS

Small, ornamental gourds  
Small Mexican luffa gourds  
Basin with water  
Metal kitchen scrub pad  
Clear spray lacquer or clear acrylic varnish  
Brown floral tape  
Floral wire  
Strand of 10 lights, C5 or C7 patio lights  
Dried leaves  
Pencil  
Sharp kitchen knife with serrated blade  
Keyhole or hobby saw  
Power drill with assorted drill bits, 1½/2 or 7/16-inch

Soak the small gourds in warm water for up to 15 minutes, then scrub off any mold and dirt with the metal scrub pad. Allow gourds to dry.

Estimate the diameter of a light bulb and socket on the light strand. Select a drill bit that is the same or slightly larger size than the diameter of the bulb and socket to check fit. If using larger light bulbs, a sharp kitchen knife with a serrated blade can be used to make the hold.

Using the 1½/2-inch drill bit, drill a hole on either side of the hole you drilled earlier.

Use a variety of drill bit sizes to drill additional holes in the gourd. The number of holes created will determine the amount of light the gourd emits. Shake out the small seeds from the gourds. Save them for next year's crop.

Spray the drilled ornamental gourds with lacquer or acrylic varnish. Allow to dry.

Crack the thin shells of the luffa gourds and peel them to expose the fibrous interior. Set aside. Cut out interior fiber so light bulb will fit into gourd.

Starting at the plug end of the light strand, wrap the strand with brown floral tape. Stop wrapping just before the first light socket.

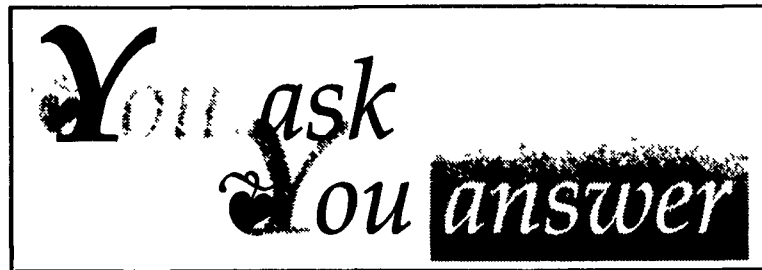
Thread a short length of floral wire through the tiny holes at the top of each gourd. Insert a bulb and socket in the top hole of each gourd. Secure the gourd to the strand, twisting the ends of the floral wire together. Continue wrapping with floral tape. Using floral tape, cover the twisted ends of wire. Tape leaves to light strand.

Slip luffa gourds over the light bulbs along the strand. Alternate luffa gourds and the drilled ornamental gourds along the light strand as desired.

## Pennsylvania Christmas Show Opens Wednesday, Dec. 3

**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin Co.) — The 20th Annual Pennsylvania Christmas and Gift Show will be open from Wednesday, Dec. 3 to Sunday, Dec. 7 at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg.

The event is reportedly one of the largest Christmas Shows on the East Coast. Over 700 exhibit booths laden with Christmas gifts are available to shoppers. Exhibitors, crafters, and ven-



This column is for readers who have questions but don't know whom 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** — Christian Sauter has an old cast-iron pot belly stove with a crack on the top piece. He asks if it is possible to make a sand mold of the original piece and cast a new replacement. Is there anyone who reconditions old cast iron stoves?

**QUESTION** — A Lancaster County reader wants to know where to find parts for a Signature sewing machine or where to have it repaired.

**QUESTION** — Roseanne Sharon, Rocky Mountain, N. C., wants to know how to grow garlic.

**QUESTION** — Miriam Beller, 238 Cardinal Drive, Quarryville, PA, 17566, is looking for a used 4-quart Mirro dough kneader. State condition and price.

**QUESTION** — John K. Kauffman, 2824 Cambridge Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344, would like to buy a

used but in good condition set of Author Maxwell "Bible Friends" books. State condition and price.

**QUESTION** — A reader wants to know if there is any place in Lancaster County to get machine smocking done. If the gathering is done for her, she would do the embroidery on the front. Does someone have or know someone who has a machine?

**QUESTION** — Mary Houser want an address for the Jee Spice Co.

**QUESTION** — K. Garber is looking for the metal containers used on a cream separator made by the National Dairy Machine Co., No. 6, Newark, N. J. The first patent date was 1895. Call (717) 464-2894.

**QUESTION** — LeRoy Serventi, Croydon, wants to know of salvage yards with a large selection of coal shakers to use with his Lenon coal stoker.

**QUESTION** — Anna Nolt, 196 Wanner Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522, wants to buy a used Golden book, "The Three Little Kittens."

**QUESTION** — Barbara Hess, Shoemakersville, wants to know where to buy replacement parts for a Squeeze strainer used to make juice. The strainer was manufactured by B&B Manufacturing Co., McKeesport.

**QUESTION** — George Rousis Sr., Bally, wants to know where to buy 4,000-5,000 staples to use in a Swingline staple gun.

**QUESTION** — George Cornell, 517 Cornell Rd., Blairsville, PA 15717, writes that he closed down the family's 44-head dairy several years ago. He has a 500 gallon Darl Kool farm tank that was in working condition, stanchions, water cups, and cow mats. Cornell would like to know the value of these items and how to sell them.

**QUESTION** — Carol Smith, New Alexandria, would like to know where to find pilgrim and American Indian boy and girl stampers.

**QUESTION** — K. Twiss needs a set of rules for the board game Backgammon. Send to her at 11630 Flor-

ence Hill Rd., Camden, NY 13316.

**QUESTION** — Bob Silverman, Annville, wants to locate a company or individual who would dismantle an old stone farmhouse on a Lebanon County property.

**QUESTION** — A Maryland reader wants to know where to find a man's black and red corduroy hat with ear flaps that tie on the top.

**QUESTION** — A Mechanicsburg reader wants to buy a milk bottle that was distributed by the former O.H. Frey Dairy, Hanover. Call him at (717) 697-1365.

**QUESTION** — An Ephrata reader wants to know how to kill moss growing on an old wood shingle roof, and how to keep from regrowing.

**QUESTION** — Amos G. Miller, 43 W. Eby Rd., Leola, PA 17540, wants to buy a handcranked fodder shredder that was made in the early 1900s. He prefers one that is in working condition or at least repairable.

**QUESTION** — Fred Lappe, Southold, N.Y., wants to know if anyone has a good picture or painting of a young man plowing with seven mules or seven horses.

**QUESTION** — Lynn Rossi, Littitz, wants to know where to have a copper pot polished. She doesn't want to do it herself.

**QUESTION** — Hannah Coles, Bridgeton, N.J., wants to know where to purchase citron for canning.

**QUESTION** — Wilson Gorrell, Forest Hill, Md., is trying to find information on a single wheel, manual push-type garden seeder and where to buy the metal seed plates (especially for lima beans). No identification plate can be seen and the planter is estimated to be 40-50 years old. The seed box is round and appears to be cast iron.

**QUESTION** — S. Beller wants to know where to buy either a new or used alarm clock by Westclox Model 47544 called the Power Napper.

**ANSWER** — Mrs. David Weidenhammer, Schuylkill County, asked who fixes cuckoo clocks. Thanks to Michael Stauffer, Leonardtown, Md., for writing that he shipped his mantel clock and a Hamilton watch to Phil Weaver, whose business is called Gone To Pieces in Homer City. The toll-free number is (800) 205-7204.

dors have all been working feverishly to have their special gifts and one-of-a-kind items ready for all who come to shop. Some of the many thousands of gift ideas include arts and crafts, clothing, jewelry, leather goods, toys, flowers, tree ornaments, stocking stuffers, hand-crafted furniture, and much, much more. Many things are hard-to-find gift items that just can't be purchased anywhere else.

Shoppers can take a break to see the 100-foot train display sponsored by the Reading Company Technical and Historical Society. They put together a platform with three to five sets of trains running simultaneously.

To give home decorating ideas, the show offers many decorated Christmas trees — all with different themes. Continuous daily Craft Demonstrations and Cooking Clinics take place throughout

the day. Olde Christmas Village contains twenty-one life-sized decorated buildings and eight tents.

General Admission tickets are \$6 each. Admission for Senior Citizens over 62 is \$4. There is no admission charge for children under 12 when accompanied by parents.

For more information, call Dick or Pattie Mahoney (717) 233-5100 or (610) 565-0313. Website: www.pachristmasshow.com.