

Conservation workshop sponsored by NBLT

County and municipal officials are invited to a regional workshop designed to demonstrate the principles of "conservation zoning" and "conservation subdivision," an approach the North Branch Land Trust is calling Growing Greener: Conservation by Design.

The workshop will be held from 4-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 31 in the dining room of the Educational Conference Center at Luzerne County Community College. The college is located at 1333 South Prospect Street in Nanticoke.

In many parts of Pennsylvania, it's "now or never" to protect the lands that are important to us, says Linda Thoma, director of operations for the NBLT. In short order, good lands will be developed and what remains may not be the best for community use, conservation or farming. And the longer the wait, the more expensive it will be to protect. There is no single protection technique that is best for all communities and all situations.

Monica Drewniany of Natural Lands Trust and Michael Frank of Heritage Conservancy will present two methods for critical land protection.

Heritage Conservancy's Opportunity Knocks: Open Space is a Community Investment explains that money raised through local taxes and used to purchase land or conservation easements often avoids the higher and ongoing costs of community services, in particular, public school costs.

Meanwhile, Natural Lands Trust's Growing Greener: Conservation by Design helps communities use the development process to protect interconnected networks of open space, natural areas, greenways, trails and recreation lands. With the Growing Greener approach, municipalities can adopt flexible zoning and subdivision design standards that provide options for the developer while achieving community protection objectives, says Thoma.

The workshop is recommended for county and municipal officials who are committed to a better future for their communities. Consider attending if you are an elected official, planning commissioner, code officer, and environmental advisory council member who reviews development proposals in your community; a county or municipal staffer, solicitor, consulting planner, local conservation organization representative or other professional who advises municipalities on development proposals; a developer, engineer, surveyor, planner, landscape architect, realtor, or other professional involved in the design, sales and marketing of subdivisions; or anyone interested in learning how new development can create more livable communities.

The workshop fee is \$20 per person. The fee includes registration, dinner, and a copy of the Growing Greener: Conservation by Design workbook for each organization attending. Registration is limited to the first 50 people. Ten scholarships are available. There is a limit of one scholarship award per municipality.

To register, visit the Web site www.nblt.org for a registration form. Send the completed form and a check made payable to North Branch Land Trust to 11 Carverton Road, Trucksville, Pa. 18708. To apply for a scholarship, contact Thoma by calling 696-5545 or e-mail her at thoma@nblt.org. The deadline to apply for a scholarship is Wednesday, May 24.

This program is being presented by North Branch Land Trust and Luzerne County Planning Commission. It is made possible through Northeast PA Urban & Community Forestry Program with funding by USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area. The workshop was developed by Natural Lands Trust. It is co-sponsored by PA State Association of Boroughs, PA State Association of Township Supervisors, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and PA Planning Association.

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

- On May 28, 1902, Owen Wister's "The Virginian" is published by Macmillan Press. It was the first "serious" Western and one of the most influential in the genre. The book became a sensation almost overnight, selling more than 1.5 million copies by 1938.

- On May 27, 1927, production of the Ford Model T officially ended after 15,007,033 units had been built. The Model T sold more units than any other car model in history, until the Volkswagen Beetle eclipsed its record in the 1970s.

- On May 23, 1934, famed fugitives Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker are killed in a police ambush near Sailes, La. Officers from Texas and Louisiana set up along the highway, waiting for Bonnie and Clyde to appear, and then killed the couple during a two-minute fusillade in which 187 bullets were fired at their car.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- It seems that everywhere you go these days, cell phones are ubiquitous. They're even small enough now to fit in the ear - which has given rise to the phenomenon of people walking down the street talking, seemingly, to themselves. Considering all that, it's hard to believe that the first cellular phone weighed a full 2 pounds.

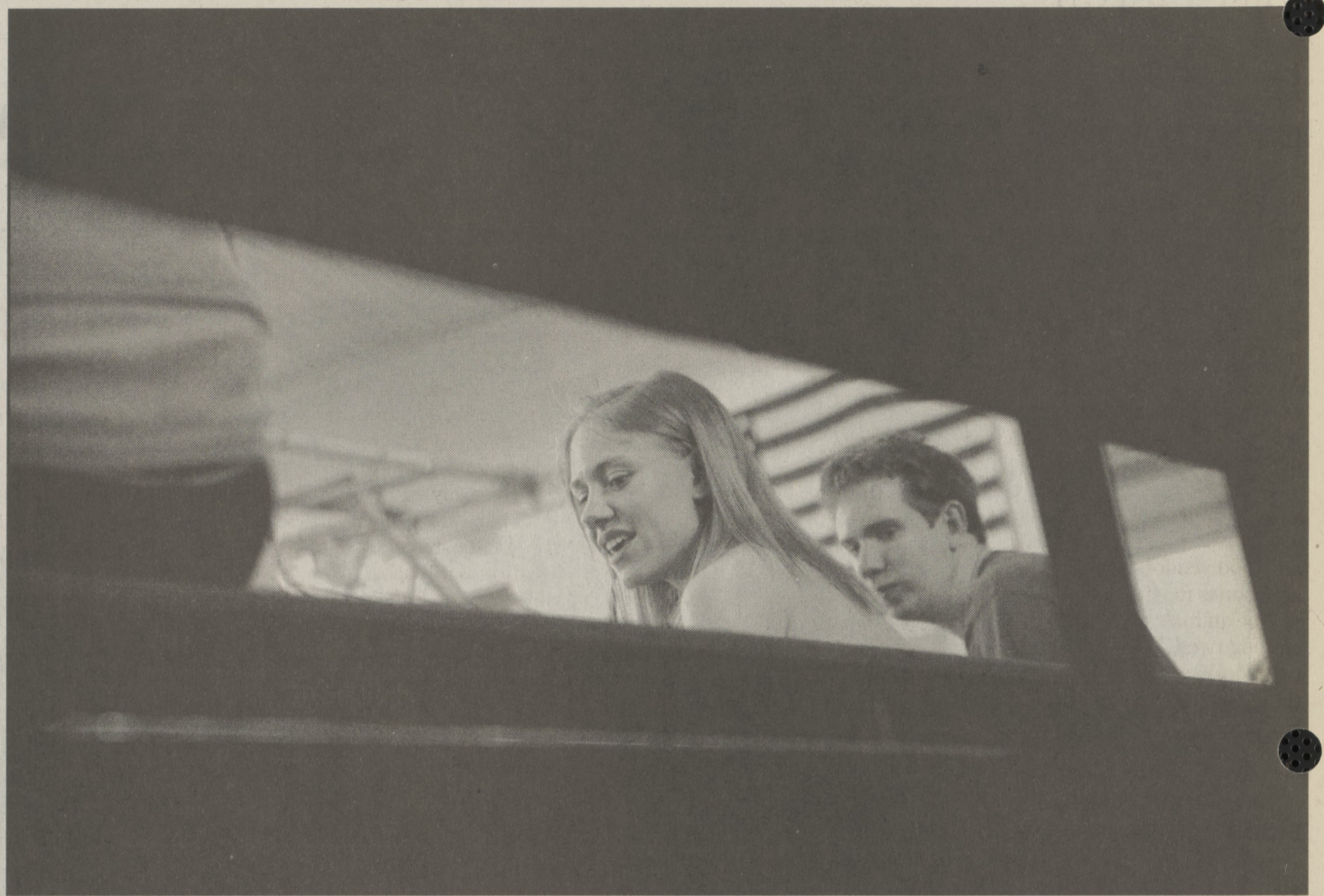
- On average, men spend a total of five months over the course of their lives just shaving.

- Are fish smarter than people? In some respects, it seems, that may be true. The gurnard, a fish found in Florida, grunts when a thunderstorm is brewing. That may not seem like much, but locals say the fish are more reliable predictors of storms than meteorologists. I wonder, though: How do you hear a fish grunt?

- It was Andre Maurois who made the following sage observation: "The only thing that experience teaches us is that experience teaches us nothing."

- Here's a tidbit for golf aficionados: Before 1850, golf balls were made of leather and stuffed with feathers.

- Thought for the Day: "Try as much as possible to be wholly alive with all your might, and when you laugh, laugh like hell. And when you get angry, get good and angry. Try to be alive. You will be dead soon enough." - William Saroyan



Framed by an opening in the bleachers, two teenagers turn their gaze away from the volleyball game in the Dallas High School gym to something more interesting.

Kids who like pets will love reading program

All children in preschool through fifth grade who love pets, love to read about pets, have pets, wish they had pets or have a favorite stuffed pet should make their way to the Back Mountain Memorial Library this summer for "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" summer reading program.

They will have lots of fun reading about animals of all kinds and enjoy special programs about animals, too. Children may begin registering for the summer reading program June 1 in the Children's Room of the library. The goal for readers is to read eight books during the summer.

Preschool and beginner readers may have a parent or caregiver read the eight books to them. There will be exciting new game boards and miniature animal prizes each week. And if your child completes all eight books, they will receive a special prize. The program runs until Aug. 18, at which time the library will host a final party and program for all participants.

So hop, slither, jump, trot, fly, swim (you get the idea) to the library this summer "fur" some fun reading and programs.

The following special pro-

grams are being held: "Once Upon A Toon" - a fun, interactive program blending original stories and live cartoon illustrations by Joe Wos, 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 23 on the third floor of the Sheehy-Farmer Campus Center at King's College, Wilkes-Barre. Young patrons of all libraries are invited to this Luzerne County Library System program.

"The Wonderful World of Insects" - Kathy Kelchner, Environmental Educator, Frances Slocum State Park, 11 a.m. to noon Friday, June 30 in the Children's Room of the library.

"Tricks and Training with My Dog Anna" - Marty Neely, Pet Training Instructor at PetsMart, Saturday, July 15, 2006, 11 a.m. to noon at the children's outdoor gazebo area.

"Make an Outside Bird Feeder and Learn the Sights and Sounds of Outside Birds" - Karen Yarish of Wild Birds Unlimited, Wednesday, July 19 from 1-2 p.m. in the Children's Room of the library. There is an \$8 fee for supplies.

"Animals Have Feelings Too" - Beth Maffei, humane educator/volunteer coordinator with the SPCA of Luzerne County and her dog Sebastian, a Great Pyrenees, Tuesday, July 25 at 1

p.m. Please bring a donation from the "Wish List" for the SPCA of Luzerne County. SPCA Wish Lists are available at the library.)

"Meet Macko, Dallas Township's New Police Dog" - Officer Brian Feeney will demonstrate Macko's bomb sniffing abilities. Tuesday, Aug. 1 from 1-2 p.m. at the children's outdoor gazebo area. Day and time may change according to Macko's availability.

"Final Party" and Program - Friday, Aug. 18 from 1-3 p.m. in the Children's Room/gazebo. There will be refreshments, cookies, snacks, prizes, certificates, a special program and a visit from the Country Buffet Bee.

Students age 13-18 may still register for the young adult book discussion group. All participants are asked to attend the organizational meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 22 in the back of the Reading Room by the young adult section.

Registration is still taking place for this summer's book discussion group for teens ages 10, 11 and 12. All registered participants are reminded to attend the organizational meeting at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 23 in the Children's Room. Books will be

selected and ordered and dates and times for the meetings will be arranged.

Children (5th grade and up), teens and adults will buddy up with young children and meet weekly in the Children's Room to read, play games, and make a craft. Readers and children who would like to be "read to" may register on Tuesday, May 23 after 9:30 a.m. by calling the library at 675-1182.

Students ages 12-18 may register now or throughout the summer for this year's read and review summer reading program for teens. The more they read and review, the more chances they have to win a \$50 gift card from Target.

Registration for summer storytimes will be held Wednesday, June 7 after 9:30 a.m.

The Evening Book Discussion Group will meet from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 23 in the Community Room of the library. Peter Wolman, moderator, asks all participants to be prepared to discuss "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. New members are welcome.

BASKET RAFFLE TO BENEFIT MARKET ON THE POND



The Auxiliary of the Meadows Nursing Center in Dallas will hold its annual Market on the Pond from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at the center on West Center Hill Road. The event will feature 100 vendors. To kick off the event, a gift basket raffle is available at the center. Last year, more than \$1,800 was raised through this project. Volunteers, staff and friends donate the baskets. Tickets may be purchased in the lobby at the receptionist desk or on the day of the event. All proceeds benefit residents at the center. Anyone wanting to donate a basket should call the volunteer department at 675-8600 extension 195. Preparing for the Market on the Pond, from left, are Gary Kirk, Meadows assistant administrator; Carl Noto, executive director of EEI; auxiliary members Bernie Hill and Louise Montigney; and Lloyd Ryman, event chairman.

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