



OPINION

35 More Happy Returns

On September 21, the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Program will celebrate its 35th anniversary at the State Dairy Princess Pageant to be held at the Penn Harris Convention Center in Camp Hill. All former state dairy princesses and milk maids have been invited back for a celebration.

The dairy princess program has a long history that dates back to 1956 when the Miss Milk Maid Contest was initiated by the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers. Milk maids were chosen according to Pennsylvania milk marketing areas. Later the Pennsylvania Holstein Association assumed sponsorship of the program, and from 1979 through 1983, Atlantic Dairy Association served as coordinator of the princess program, working together with the six district coordinators and the county promotional committees.

In 1983, for the purpose of providing a more uniform program, which could serve all areas of Pennsylvania, the district coordinators established the present Pennsylvania Dairy Princess and Promotion Services, Inc.

The program reaches thousands of consumers. This year, 40 princesses and 35 alternates have had 1,762 school promotions; 695 store/mall promotions; 512 non-farm meetings; 387 farm meetings and 759 special events. One-hundred forty-one thousand nine hundred ninety-one recipe brochures were distributed, along with 270,588 other promotional items. The princesses traveled 141,717 miles to do these promotions.

We extend our congratulations to the many people over the years who have helped make the dairy princess program successful. And on this 35th anniversary, we extend best wishes for 35 more happy returns.



NOW IS THE TIME

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Evaluate Bank Accounts

During the past several months, many banks have changed their fee structures, interest rates, and the way interest is calculated on accounts. There now are many differences between banks. Based on these changes and differences, you might want to do some comparison shopping for your banking needs. Some items to check are:

- Interest not being paid on the total balance in a savings account.
- Interest in large-balance money accounts are lower than other types of accounts.
- Compare minimum balances for all types of accounts.
- How interest is calculated, i.e. compounded daily, monthly, quarterly, or annually.
- If you qualify for special accounts based on age that waive many of these fees.

Finally, if you have a savings program for children, you might want to consider other savings alternatives such as U.S. Savings Bonds or certificates of deposit — especially if the bank is not paying

Farm Forum

Editor:

Just want to say thank you to you and "Lancaster Farming" for the enlargement of our farm picture. Wherever you have it done, does do a nice job with them.

The Gearharts
Martinsburg

Editor:

There have been recent comments in various publications that imply that Farmland Dairies opposes efforts to raise dairy farmer income. Nothing could be further from the truth. As New York Governor Al Smith would say, "Let's look at the record."

To criticize an American for trying to uphold the constitution is an unfortunate stance. I would hope that no one would abandon the precepts of our Founding Fathers when these precepts get in the way of personal profit.

I believe that merely raising the price of Class I milk, as New York has just done, will, in the long run,

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interest on the first \$200 deposited in the savings account.

Money management is an important part of farming today. Selecting the right bank to fit your money needs will help you increase your income.

Avoid Residues In Food

It is every farmer's responsibility to make sure the food they produce does not contain residues of pesticides and drugs.

To avoid residues, it is important labels are read and all instructions are followed. When treating cows, make sure they are easily identified, milked last, and the milk properly disposed.

When using pesticides, especially insecticides, make sure the chemical is cleared for the animals or crop you are using it on. Do not use products that are no longer allowed. Compounds with a long life could render a building or field unavailable for use for a long time.

Food safety is a major concern among consumers. The adverse publicity and resulting decline in consumer purchases as a result of improper chemical use is devastating to a commodity. So, protect your markets and use all chemicals and drugs properly.

Address Dairy Farm Costs

Dairy farmers are experiencing the same economic hardships the egg producers experienced several years ago. The same marketing

issues, declining consumption, and reverse pricing schedules are similar to both industries.

As agricultural leaders are exploring new ways to improve marketing opportunities, farmers need to develop crisis or survival management strategies. Luxury spending is hard to eliminate but the good managers will make the tough decisions.

You need to look at culling unprofitable cows. This could also reduce your labor and feed costs. Do not buy new equipment. Spend more time fixing equipment and practicing preventative maintenance to make equipment last longer.

Feed for profitable production instead of maximum production. Cut expenses by eliminating items you are not using, i.e. magazines not being read, excess heifers, and rented land. Concentrate on improving the productive life of your cows and reducing the number of replacement heifers needed.

Talk with your banker and explore ways to restructure your loan payments. One alternative is look for a lower interest rate and only pay interest. Be very cautious in assuming more debt. Instead, work on increasing your net worth in the business.

To make wise cost-cutting decisions, you must first set goals for your operation. These goals would include pounds of milk per man, culling rate, debt per cow, and cost to produce a hundredweight of milk.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, September 14

Bradford-Sullivan Forest Landowners Association Woodlot Tour.

Southeast Pa. 4-H Small Animal Show, Reading Fairgrounds, 8:45 a.m.

Schaefferstown 21st annual horse plowing contest and horse pull at Harvest Fair, Lebanon, thru Sept. 15.

N.J. Organic County Fair, Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

N.J. Dairy Princess Pageant, Hunterdon Central H.S., Flemington, dinner 6:15 p.m. and pageant 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 15

Beaver Community Fair, Beaver Springs, thru Sept. 2.

Graz Fair, Graz, thru Sept. 21. 1991 World Fertilizer Conference, New York Marriott Marquis, New York, N.Y., thru Sept. 17.

Monday, September 16

Reading Fair, Reading, thru Sept. 21.

Fruit and Vegetable Producers twilight meeting, Hort. Demo Site, Ridgway, 6:30 p.m.

1991 World Fertilizer Conference, New York Marriott Marquis, New York, N.Y., thru Sept. 17.

Tuesday, September 17

Garden Center Nite-Lite meeting, Colonial Gardens, Phoenixville, 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

Harmony Fair, Clearfield Co., Westover, thru Sept. 21.

Backyard Composting Seminar, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

1991 World Fertilizer Conference, New York Marriott Marquis, New York, N.Y.

Swine and beef educational meeting, Montoursville Vo-Ag Building, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 18

Garden Center Nite-Lite meeting, Royer's Nurseries, Doylestown, 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

Solanco Fair, Quarryville, thru Sept. 20.

Thursday, September 19

Garden Center Nite-Lite meeting, Short's Garden Center, Reading, 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

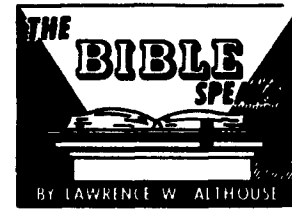
Lancaster Co. 4-H Advisory, Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.

North East Community Fair, North East, Erie Co., thru Sept. 21.

Oley Valley Community Fair, Oley, thru Sept. 21.

Elk Co. Extension 71st annual meeting, Montmorenci Grange.

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IF YOU HAVE ANY WORD
September 15, 1991

Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (13:2). Note that Barnabas is still named first. So they set out for Cyprus where something unexpected happened: challenged by a magician, it is Saul, not Barnabas, who makes a ringing defense of their work. "...Saul, who is also called Paul" (13:9), and from this point on in Acts he is referred to solely as Paul.

Background Scripture: Acts 3:1-3, 13-52.

Devotional Reading: Galatians 3:10-14, 21-29.

We sometimes call it "being in the right place at the right time," yet I can't help seeing behind some of these events something more profound than luck or chance. Maybe what we see as "luck" is really God working incognito.

We can see something of this at work at the beginning of Acts 13. The writer tells us that at the church in Antioch "there were prophets and teachers" (13:1). Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen from the court of Herod, and Saul. Here, Saul is just one of five workers in the Antiochian church and the writer of Acts lists him simply as "and Saul."

SAUL BECOMES PAUL

But, "While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me

When he and Barnabas reach Antioch of Pisidia (a different Antioch), they attend the synagogue and one of the officials says, "Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it" (13:15). Once again, it is Paul who rises to the occasion and preaches a powerful sermon, calling his hearers to repent and receive Jesus Christ as Lord.

THROUGH THIS MAN

There are not many times that someone gives us an invitation like that, but perhaps there are more opportunities than we realize. We don't have to preach a sermon like Paul. Note that he ends with these words: "Let it be known to you therefore, brethren, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone that believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses" (13:38).

In our own ways and our own words we, too, can witness to the love of God in Christ that sets us free as nothing else can.

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