



OPINION

4-H For Everyone

At the Lampeter Fair hog show last week, Henry Gruber, well-known livestock judge, said he wished every young person in America would have the learning experience afforded by caring for and showing a livestock project.

Of course, not every family has the facilities or the resources to accommodate a large animal youth project. But because of the extensive 4-H programs, many youths do have a project with the corresponding opportunity to learn by doing.

From photography to fashion design to market lambs to market analysis, 4-H has something for everyone. Traditional projects include agriculture and food-related themes. Other 4-H projects are concerned with leadership, citizenship, science technology, and career direction.

"We have always known that 4-H makes a difference in the lives of young people," said Joy Sparks, University of Delaware area 4-H agent. "Now this has been documented."

Sparks says children who participate in 4-H and other youth groups get better grades, learn life skills that help them become more productive adults, and tend to take on more leadership roles as children and as adults.

Community involvement and citizenship programs are an important aspect of 4-H. One 4-H youth has become involved in visiting a nursing home and a children's hospital. Her long-term efforts won her a \$1,500 college scholarship as part of the National 4-H awards program.

4-H'ers learn about food safety and kitchen cleanliness. And maybe more important, in their clubs, they feel accepted. Sure there is peer pressure, but it's a positive type of pressure that encourages them to do the right things.

4-H is not just for farm youths anymore. And as National 4-H Week is celebrated this week, it becomes clear that Henry Gruber's wish for all youth has the possibility to be fulfilled through the 4-H clubs across the country.



NOW IS THE TIME

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Manage Barnyards

Barnyards are often the most visible part of a farm. A well-managed barnyard will help you present a positive image for your farm.

This will help you to minimize complaints from neighbors. Jeff Stoltzfus, extension project associate, offers the following suggestions to improve the appearance of barnyards:

- Direct manure and runoff to a manure storage area.
- Direct clean water away from the barnyard.
- Use rain gutters to direct roof runoff away from barnyards.
- Terraces upslope of the buildings will direct runoff water around barnyards.
- If water needs to leave the barnyard area, allow it to pass through a grass filter strip before it reaches a stream, road ditch, or other waterway.

By managing barnyards, you will help improve water quality and prevent some animal diseases while building good community relations.

To Be Aware Of Toxic Plants

Fall is the time of year to be alert to poisonous plants. With the coming of frost, remember not to graze sorghum-sudangrass crosses and sudangrass for several days after a frost.

Better yet, wait one week and ensile it, and let it ferment about four weeks before feeding.

Also, some ornamental plants and animals do not mix. Some ornamental plants, such as yew bushes, will kill animals when eaten by them. Therefore, homeowners and farmers should not toss ornamental clippings into pastures and fields.

Also, keep fences well maintained and keep gates closed to prevent animals from gaining access to poisonous ornamentals.

To Prevent Farm And Home Fires

Fire is both friend and foe. We can't live without it, but its destructive power is a threat we must control.

Some ways you may reduce the risk of fire are:

- Regularly inspect your house

and buildings for fire hazards. Check your electrical systems, fuel storage, and heaters.

- Remove trash, stacks of papers, and other unneeded combustibles that could feed a fire.
- Read and follow the directions with portable heaters.
- Be prepared for fire should it strike. Have operating smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.
- Keep matches and lighters out of children's reach.

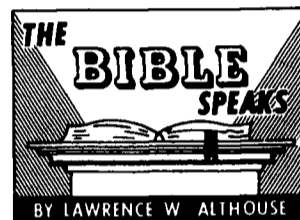
To Salute 4-H

Next week is National 4-H Week. We salute all the 4-H members and the adult volunteers for their many accomplishments.

If you are not currently involved in 4-H, I would encourage you to contact your local extension office to learn more about this great youth program.

4-H is a constantly changing program designed to meet the needs of today's youth. I am sure you will love the flexibility of 4-H to address local community and parent's concerns.

4-H has something for everyone. Call now and become a part of your land grant university's youth program!



PICK UP THE PHONE:
IT'S FOR YOU!
October 6, 1991

Background Scripture: Acts 15:36 through 16:23.

Devotional Reading: Colossians 1:3-14.

If I had been chairperson of the search committee to hire someone to minister to the gentiles, Paul would never have become an apostle. Not because of what Paul had been — a persecutor of Christians — but because of what Paul was at the time: a difficult, stubborn, sometimes quarrelsome man who had already demonstrated that he was not a "team player."

Fortunately, I had nothing to do with hiring Paul; I say "fortunately" because God knew what he was doing when he called Paul to do his bidding and, no matter how logical my judgment may have been, it would have been the wrong decision. Paul was not hired to be "Christian Personality of the Year," but an apostle for God. Despite this man's difficult and even exasperating personality, God needed him.

That is one of the first things we need to know about God's calling: sometimes God calls some of what you and I would judge to be "the least likely people." It would be wonderful if all of God's workers had even dispositions and pleasing personalities, but they don't. Sometimes the most gifted people are not very personable.

But God still needs their gifts for his work. The call comes to people who seem unlikely candidates for God's work — including you and me! So we are not St. Francis of Assisi reincarnate! That doesn't mean that God doesn't have work for us to do.

GOD FORBID!

I wish Luke had been more explicit in telling us how they were "forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia" and in what way "the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them" to go into Bithynia. ("Holy Spirit" and "Spirit of Jesus" are used interchangeably by Paul) Does that mean that they heard a heavenly voice or saw a vision? Perhaps, as you and I do, they found themselves blocked whenever they considered evangelizing in the province of Asia and when they wanted to enter Bithynia. Maybe, after experiencing various obstacles to these decisions, they concluded that the obstacles were simply God saying "No" to these particular plans. Are there not times in our lives when God closes a door on our plans? Maybe the only difference is that Paul and Timothy recognized God's hand in their obstacles, whereas you and I, not looking for God's revelation, experience it but don't recognize it.

When Paul dreamed his night vision of the Macedonian man pleading for him to "Come over to Macedonia and help us," he also recognized this as a call from God. Would you be likely to make an important decision on the basis of a dream? Or would you be likely to shrug it off with "it was just a dream"? That's something else we must understand about God's call, the problem is not that he fails to communicate with us, but that we don't recognize it when he does.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, October 5

Keystone International Livestock Show, Harrisburg, thru Oct. 7.
Elk Co. Town and Country Day.

Sunday, October 6

National 4-H Week
Keystone International Livestock Show, Harrisburg, thru Oct. 7.
Herding Dog Classic, Mifflin Co. Youth Park, Reedsville, 8 a.m.

Monday, October 7

National 4-H Week
Keystone International Livestock Show, Harrisburg.
Manheim Community Farm Show, Manheim, thru Oct. 11.
Hollidaysburg Community Fair, Hollidaysburg, thru Oct. 10.
Round bale handling, Ag Classroom, Cumberland Valley H.S., 8 p.m.
ADADC meeting, Tally-Ho Restaurant, Kanona, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 8

National 4-H Week
Constructed wetlands meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m.
Production Nursery Bus Tour, Western Pa., thru Oct. 9.
Pa. Holstein Association member-

ship activities committee meeting, State College, 10:30 a.m.
Production concerns swine meeting, Country Table Restaurant, Mount Joy, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
"Ways To Grow" Satellite Conference, Red Schoolhouse, Honesdale, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.
Nursery Educational Bus Tour, Indiana Co., thru Oct. 9.

Wednesday, October 9

National 4-H Week
Lancaster Farmland Trust Preserving Land Conference, Gordiner Conference Center, Millersville University, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Nursery Educational Bus Tour, Indiana Co.
Franklin Co. intensive grazing tour to Somerset Co.
ADADC meeting, Hidden Inn, South Kortright, N.Y., 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 10

National 4-H Week
Unionville Community Fair, Unionville, thru Oct. 12.
1991 Annual Fall Conference for Bovine Practitioners, Holiday Inn, Frederick, Md., thru Oct.

11.
Pa. Council of Cooperatives annual meeting, Days Inn Penn State, State College, thru Oct. 11.

Pa. Holstein Association youth committee meeting, Pa. Holstein Office, State College, 10:30 a.m.

Hal F. Doran retirement recognition, Days Inn Penn State, State College, reception 5:30 p.m., dinner 6:15 p.m.

PEMA luncheon meeting, Olde Hickory Inn, Lancaster.

Clearfield Co. extension annual banquet, Best Western, Clearfield, 6:30 p.m.

ADADC meeting, St. Lawrence Inn, Canton, N.Y., 7:45 p.m.

ADADC meeting, Brisben Baptist Church, Brisben, N.Y., 8 p.m.

Friday, October 11

National 4-H Week
Eastern Pa. 4-H Beef Lamb Show and Sale, Allentown Fairgrounds, show 2:30 p.m., sale Oct. 12, 10 a.m.

ADADC meeting, Chateaugay Knights of Columbus Hall, 8

p.m. (Turn to Page A44)

Lancaster Farming
Established 1955
Published Every Saturday
Ephrata Review Building
1 E. Main St.
Ephrata, PA 17522
— by —
Lancaster Farming, Inc.
A Steinman Enterprise
Robert G. Campbell General Manager
Everett R. Newswanger Managing Editor
Copyright 1991 by Lancaster Farming

