



OPINION

FFA Week Feb. 19-26

More than 417,000 FFA members will promote FFA, agricultural education and the food and fiber industry during National FFA Week, Feb. 19-26, 1994.

FFA members in 7,545 chapters across the U.S. as well as Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands will be organizing events and activities to foster awareness of agricultural education and support for FFA.

This year's theme, "FFA — Leadership for America," will be seen through communities nationwide through promotional efforts of local members. FFA activities and agriculture classes emphasize leadership skills, analytical thinking and the application of both to the industry of agriculture.

Larry Case, national FFA advisor, said today's young people are aware of their responsibilities as agricultural leaders for tomorrow. "Our members realize the world in which we live is growing larger and more interdependent," he said. "These young people will be leading the effort to provide food and fiber for a growing population, as well as to keep America competitive in the global marketplace."

National FFA Week is held each year during the week of George Washington's birthday to recognize his leadership and commitment to American agriculture. Both the National FFA Center and the National FFA Hall of Achievement are located on part of Washington's original Mount Vernon estate near Alexandria, Va.

FFA is a national organization of 417,462 members preparing for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. FFA's mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Local, state and national activities and award programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills acquired through agricultural education.

Congratulations FFA! Your vision of youth is needed in today's world. And your leadership will take us where we need to go.



NOW IS THE TIME

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Review Insurance Coverage

What does your insurance cover?

If you are like most people, you do not know until you have a claim to file.

The recent record snowfall has caused many farm buildings to collapse. Unfortunately, several farmers have found out their insurance does not cover snow damage.

Now would be a good time to sit down and discuss your insurance coverage with your insurance agent. Discuss with him what your insurance covers and does not cover. Review all the types of things you do or produce on your farm with your insurance agent.

Types of coverages you will want to consider are fire, earthquake, snow, flood, storm, water damage, product liability, general liability, business interruption, and other types recommended by your insurance agent.

If your agent is not familiar with agriculture, you may want to consider finding a company with agriculture experience and types of insurance a farmer needs.

Do not wait for an accident to occur to find out about your insurance coverage. Talk with your agent today and secure the proper coverage.

To Tune-Up Week

A preseason tune-up and calibration preserves environmental quality by ensuring accurate

meeting, Bucks County Courthouse, Doylestown, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 24

Pa. State Holstein Convention, Ramada Inn, Gettysburg, thru Feb. 26.

Bradford County Dairy Nutrition Workshop, extension office, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Penn Manor High School tobacco and pesticide meeting, ag department, 7 p.m.

Cambria County Dairy Nutrition meeting, extension office, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

N.Y. Farm Show, State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, thru Feb. 26.

Winter vegetable meeting, Pine View Acres, Pottsville, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Centre County annual meeting, Logan Grange Hall, Pleasant Gap, 7 p.m.

Bucks County pesticide update meeting, Neshaminy Manor Center, Doylestown.

Mid East UDIA meeting, The Barn Restaurant, Smithville, Ohio.

Corestates Hamilton Agriculture Seminar, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Winter Tree Fruit Growers meet-

application.

A tune-up includes a check of hardware and plumbing for signs of wear and tear, calibrate and replace worn nozzles, and review safety supplies and procedures.

When checking for wear and tear, look for damage to frame, running gear and tank; check the pump for cracks or leaks; test throttling valves, pressure gauges, hoses and clamps for leaks; check nozzle gaskets for a tight fit; and clean line and tip strainers with fresh water and soft brush.

Calibrate. Make sure nozzle size, flow rate, and spray pattern are uniform across the boom. Replace worn nozzles and keep extra nozzles on hand for spraying season.

Check and use appropriate safety equipment. Basic equipment includes long-sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy shoes or boots, chemical-resistant apron, gloves, and goggles or a face shield.

Be sure to read all labels to identify further safety precautions. And finally, be certain pumping and filling equipment has anti-backflow devices and check valves to protect groundwater.

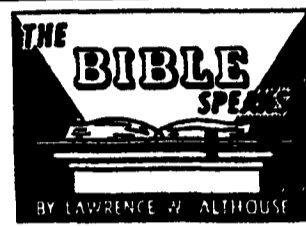
To Secure Pesticide Credits

We are in the heart of the winter meeting season. Now is an excellent time to secure your pesticide re-certification credits.

Do not wait to the last minute to try to secure your credits. In Pennsylvania, you need to renew your pesticide license every three years. It is easier to receive a third of your credits every year than wait and try to receive them all in a short period of time.

Stay current with your credits and secure several this winter.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "Excellence may be attained if you care more than others think is wise."



LOOKING AT NIAGARA
February 20, 1994

Background Scripture:

Luke 22: 1-30

Devotional Reading:

Mark 14: 1, 2, 10-25, 42-45

Methodist Bishop Gerald Kennedy used to say that seminary graduates ought to start as bishops and then work their way up to parish ministers. I'd like to take that one step further and suggest they start as bishops and end up as lay people! (I think this suggestion was in the same vein as the ancient academy where first-year students were called "wise men", second-year students "philosophers", and third-year student "learners".)

However, I'm afraid the church isn't quite ready for that — yet. All too often, we are back where the original disciples were when Luke wrote: "A dispute also arose among them which of them was to be regarded as the greatest" (2:24). This passage is particularly ironic because just preceding it in the Gospel of Luke is the account of the Last Supper in which Jesus offers them wine and bread as symbols of his body and blood which he will be giving on their — and our — behalf. In the Gospel of John the account of Jesus' last supper with his disciples tells of his washing of the disciples feet (John 13). So, in all four gospels, the story of Jesus' last supper evidences his self-giving love and humble service.

BISHOPS TOO!

How incredible then that, immediately afterward, his disciples would argue over which of them would be the most prominent in the kingdom of God. How could they have sat with him at the table in the upper room and missed the whole point of what he was saying and demonstrating? How, in the presence of his humble love could they be thinking of "which of them was to be regarded as the greatest"?

But it is not as difficult to do as it may seem. Lay people do it. Preachers do it. And bishops do it, too. All of us are pulled and shoved by our egos, by our striving for recognition and acclaim. Ninety percent of the nastiness and heartache I have witnessed in the church could be traced ulti-

mately to both wounded and over-inflated egos. I was talking yesterday with a friend who is a member of one of the largest churches of a certain denomination. Knowing the senior minister by reputation, I asked my friend, "What's his greatest asset?" I expected him to mention preaching, pastoring, or church administration. Instead, my friend said somewhat sadly, "He knows how to accumulate and use power." In the conversation that ensued my friend made it clear that the power is used not so much in furthering the gospel, as in advancing the minister himself.

John Trevor Davies tells of a society woman who went to consult a famous psychotherapist. He began their first interview, saying: "Now tell me all about yourself." She did — not only that day but for twice a week for quite a few weeks. Finally, the therapist said to her: "Madam, I can do no more for you now; I advise you to take the first train to Niagara Falls and there take a long lingering look at something bigger than yourself."

SOMETHING BIGGER

Actually, that's what humility is. William L. Sullivan said that "Genuine humility does not arise from the sense of our pitiable kinship with the dust that is unworthy of us but from the realization of our awful nearness to a magnificence of which we are unworthy." Philips Brooks, an Episcopal bishop, said much the same: "The true way to be humble is not to stoop until you are smaller than yourself, but to stand at your real height against some higher nature that will show you what the real smallness of your greatness is." An old adage puts it most simply of all: "A mountain shames a molehill until they are both humbled by the stars."

All too often the church seems to have bought the secular world's concept of greatness. Why don't we turn that around, demonstrating it in our own lives, and selling the secular world on both the teaching and example of Jesus: "Let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves" (22:27).



Saturday, February 19

Septic System/Well Protection Workshop, Carroll Township Municipal Building, Dillsburg, 9 a.m.-noon.

FFA Week, thru Feb. 26.

Sunday, February 20

Monday, February 21

Bradford County Dairy Day, Troy Middle School, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Adams/Franklin/Cumberland Vegetable Growers meeting, Penn State Fruit Research Lab, Biglerville, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Centre Co. Dairy-MAP, Grange Hall, Pleasant Gap, also March 7.

New Holland Vegetable Conference, St. Stephen United Church of Christ, New Holland, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

DHIA Workshop, Kutztown High School, 7:30 p.m.

Winter Forum Workshop, Holiday Inn-Syracuse, Syracuse, N.Y., thru Feb. 22.

Mid East UDIA meeting, Moundsville, W.Va.

Lancaster County Holstein Club barn meeting, Gary and Robert Bowman, Paradise, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 22

Lancaster County Dairy Day Part 1, Farm and Home Center, 9 a.m.

Pesticide management training, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

DHIA Workshop, Tulpehocken High School, 12:30 p.m.-3 p.m.

Corn Production Satellite Semi-

nar, Upper Perkiomen High School, Pennsburg, 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Dairy-MAP, Cross Keys Restaurant, Cross Keys, also March 1.

Md. Farm Bureau Women Farm Tour, Frederick Co. 4-H Conference Center, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Mid East UDIA meeting, Travel Host Inn, Marietta, Ohio.

York County Beekeepers, York extension office, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 23
Mid-Atlantic Interior Landscape Conference, Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square.

Lebanon County Dairy Day, Prescott Fire Hall.

York/Lancaster Counties Fruit Grower meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Penn Jersey Crop Management Conference, Holiday Inn, Bethlehem.

New England Direct Marketing Conference and Trade Show, Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, Sturbridge, Mass., thru Feb. 27.

Southeast Regional Vegetable Growers meeting, Family Heritage Restaurant, Franconia, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Southern Maryland Alternative Ag Conference, Waldorf Jaycees Hall, Waldorf, Md., 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Adams County Dairy Day (rescheduled), extension office, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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