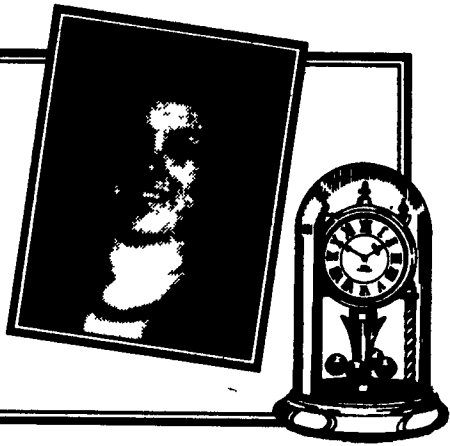


Taking Time
by
Rebecca Escott



Make Each Anniversary Count
Although in the 1990s April and October have become popular wedding months, June is still a favorite time for couples to exchange vows. This means that June is also a time when many couples celebrate anniversaries.

Most couples are married fewer than 50 years. Consequently, it's important to make each of these 50 celebrations count. And considering the current divorce rate—1.1 million divorces annually—each of us who is happily married certainly has reason to celebrate.

Dr. Thomas Lee, Utah State University, says, "Many couples will not have all of the (marriage success) factors in their favor and will still have successful marriages. Some with the odds in their favor will fail nevertheless. Part of the difference lies in the extent to which couples take care of their marriage."

One way to take care of your marriage is to make your anniversary celebration a special, personalized one. This past year my husband and I really enjoyed our anniversary. I sent him on a "treasure hunt" to spots around the community that held significance to us as a couple—the place of our first date, where he proposed to me, etc. We ended the evening with a gourmet dinner at home. I had a lot of fun reminiscing as I planned it, and fortunately, he had fun during the evening activities. Each year we also restate our vows to one another. To me, they get more meaningful each time we say them because we think back on the joys and sorrows that we have shared during the year.

If you're looking for a way to make this year's anniversary spe-

cial, or if you just want to remind your spouse of your love, here are some ideas from Dr. Glen Jenson, family life specialist at Utah State University.

Jenson suggests:

- Take a vacation to the place of your courtship or early years of marriage. Go to a restaurant that you frequented during your courtship.

- Spend a few hours looking through your wedding album or watching your ceremony video. Play music that reminds you of your early years of marriage. Replay the song that you danced to on your wedding day, and invite each other to dance again.

- Reaffirm old vows or write new ones that have to do with the challenges ahead. Reflect on the year. What positive things happened in your marriage? What not-so-positive things happened that you can learn from?

- Arrange to take your anniversary day off from work. Isn't it as important as any national or state holiday?

- Together do something entirely new and different. Why wait until mid-life or retirement to do something crazy? Create a memory today.

Research reveals that couples who talk with each other often, are sensitive to each other's feelings, and use non-verbal communication will tend to maintain strong, satisfying marriages. Your anniversary is a great time to reinforce some of these habits.

And the exciting thing about taking time to celebrate your marriage and keep it strong is that you set a wonderful example for the children in your home. Studies show that if a couple's parents are

Dairy Baby Is Their First Child



Shalanna Neufeld popped into the world at 12:22 a.m. on June 1, earning her the title June Dairy Baby and a basketful of dairy products for her parents, Philip and Elizabeth Neufeld of Akron. The 7-pound 10-ounce girl is the first child of the Neufelds. Traditionally, the Lancaster County Dairy Promotion Committee presents the goodies to the first baby born in the county and hands out "I love milk" T-shirts to every baby born at the county hospitals during June Dairy Month. Lancaster County Dairy Princess Amy Espenshade made the presentation.

FFA HAPPENINGS

Geissinger Named Outstanding Ag Student

Dan Geissinger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Geissinger, of Mifflintown, was recently named winner of the 1995 Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award.

The award, sponsored nationwide by Dekalb Genetics Corporation, is presented to the outstanding senior agriculture student

happily married, the younger couple is more likely to be happily married and less likely to divorce. By taking care of your marriage, you're giving a gift to your spouse AND your children.

demonstrating superior scholarship, leader and supervised agricultural program.

Dan was graduated from Juniata High School, where he served as vice president and secretary of the FFA chapter. He has received the Star Greenhand, Star Chapter, Keystone degrees.

His agricultural program consists of registered Holsteins and grain drying. Following graduation, Dan plans to be the owner/operator of a custom grain drying business.

As this year's winner, Dan receives a pin and certificate, and his name will be inscribed on a special plaque displayed in the ag classroom.



Dan Geissinger

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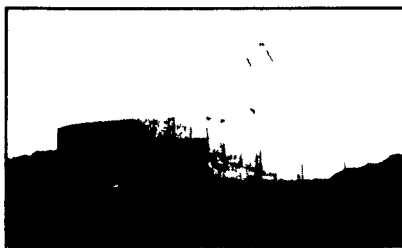
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Far Right: 2 Silage Pits In-Barn Manure Receiving Pit



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