


"It's Showtime"
by
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THANKSGIVING MEANS 'GIVING THANKS' FOR OPPORTUNITIES

During the fall season, as daylight shortens and the overshadowing darkness tends to shorten daily outdoor events, we have an excellent opportunity to reflect on our good fortunes and blessings — an opportunity that is enhanced by the coming and passing of Thanksgiving.

The origin of the Thanksgiving celebration, bountiful harvest, and "giving thanks" is well-known. But in the modern world, with all of the technological advances and convenient methods that make our lives easier and sometimes more hectic, we have a lot for which to be thankful. Even with the outlandish pace of life, we should slow our activities enough to quietly ask ourselves:

For what are we truly thankful?

I am thankful for the opportunity to live in a country where animal agriculture is so vitally important and recognized as such. Important not simply because it provides a means for the livelihood of individuals; but more importantly, it provides for our collective sustenance.

Stockmen and farmers, for your earnest diligence in providing a bountiful harvest of food, I give you my thanks.

I am thankful for the opportunity to interact with others who have similar interests and to display for comparison what we have raised. The competition among livestock enthusiasts fosters a desire to achieve the best and provide the best through continual improvement.

Peers, judges and competitors, for forcing us to continually improve upon what we raise and produce, and to display our best at all times, I give you my thanks.

I am thankful for the opportunity to participate in junior livestock

programs and to be guided by individuals who give freely of their time and resources.

They believe in junior livestock programs and the benefits garnered by everyone involved, and are competent, enthusiastic people who can provide the important wisdom, vision, energy, and resources to ensure that these programs continue.

Volunteer leaders, county agents and vo-ag instructors, for giving unselfishly of your time, energy, and enthusiasm, I give you my thanks.

I am thankful for the opportunity to be part of a family. Some of the most rivaled competition, heart-breaking and heart-warming learning experiences, compassion, understanding and cooperation

was felt, had and learned from my siblings.

For parents who have provided us with the challenges and opportunities to experience by doing, succeed by doing, fail by doing, and learn by doing, in a forum that focuses on the special bonds among humans working with humans and animals.

Family, for your comfort, assurances, undying competitive spirit, resources, friendship, and above all else, your love, I give you my thanks.

I am thankful for the opportunity to experience the wonderful bounties, majestic sights, and unparalleled miracles of life. Lord, for all you have provided, I give you my thanks.

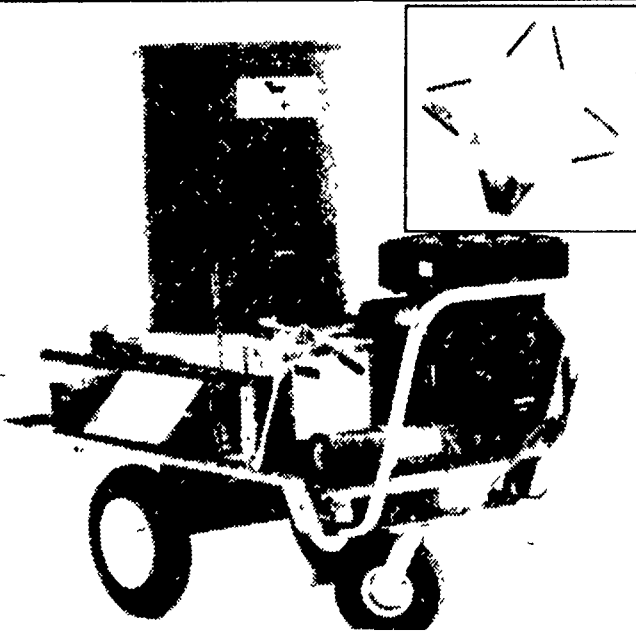
Farmland Trust Elects Officers

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Newly elected officers for Lancaster Farmland Trust are Phyllis

Whitesell, president; Stephen Kraybill, vice president; Dorothy Lyet, secretary, and Paul Whipple, treasurer.

The purpose of the Farmland Trust is to preserve the richest and most productive farmland in Lancaster County, to support the farmers who are good stewards of the land, and to encourage the growth of agricultural industry, recognizing that our farm heritage has enriched the lives of all citizens.

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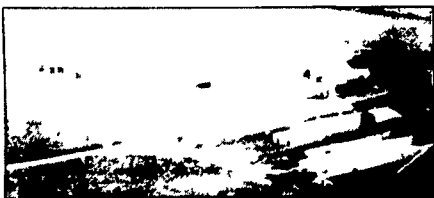
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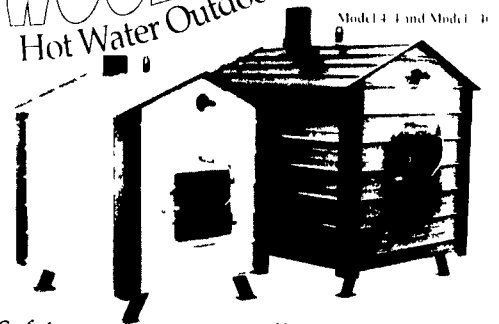
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