



# OPINION

## All Roads Lead To Harrisburg

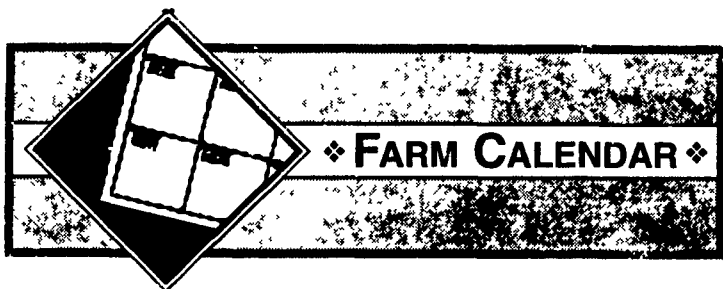
The Keystone International Livestock Exposition is set for September 30 to October 5 at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. This exposition is recognized nationally as a showcase for the nation's top beef, cattle, swine, sheep, and horse exhibits.

1998 has been designed as the year of the horse so exhibitors will receive special attention as part of the effort to increase public awareness of the horse. But all the other livestock species receive plenty of international attention too. Over 4,400 entries are expected for the show which offers a record \$200,000 in premiums. A stockmen's trade show with commercial exhibits are part of the over-all livestock show, and a tantalizing assortment of foods prepared by various Pennsylvania commodity groups will be at to the reasons why you should visit the show.

Draft Horse Hitch shows are featured. And all the major breed shows bring together in one place the best of the best.

We recognize the PLA youth winners Travis Moyer, Heather Bankert, Paul Kitzmiller, and Heidi Svonavec, and Jim Watkins, the new Hall of Fame winner.

If you have any interest in the business of livestock farming, this is an event you will not want to miss. All roads lead to Harrisburg for livestock producers starting next Wednesday.



### ❖ FARM CALENDAR ❖

- Saturday, September 26**  
7th Annual Harvest Sheep and Wool Festival, Salem County Fairgrounds, Woodstown, N.J., thru Sept. 27.
- World Beef Expo**, Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, Milwaukee.
- Eastern National Livestock Show**, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium.
- Capitol Area Beekeepers Association Banquet**, Summerdale Fire Hall, 6 p.m.
- Bloomsburg Fair**, Bloomsburg, thru Oct. 3.
- Pa. Avicultural Society Third Annual Tailgate**, Lake Tobias, Halifax, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Native American Festival**, Indian Steps Museum, Airville, thru Sept. 27.
- Falmouth Goat Race**, Falmouth, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Sunday, September 27**  
Schuylkill County Therapeutic Riding Program Benefit Horse Show, Schuylkill County Fairgrounds, Summit Station, 9 a.m.
- Adams County Ag Center Campaign Kickoff**, site is located off Old Harrisburg Road across from the Adams County National Bank Branch office, 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
- Swine Skill-a-Thon**, Berks County Ag Center, 3 p.m.
- Monday, September 28**
- Tuesday, September 29**  
Morrison Cove Community Fair, Martinsburg, thru Oct. 2.
- Pumpkin Variety Demonstration**, Penn Vermont Farm, Bedminster, 1:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- Rural and Farm Safety Day**, Troy Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Field Day and Pasture Walk**, Roman Stoltzfoos, Gap, 10

- a.m.-3 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, September 30**  
Glade Valley Community Show, Walkersville High School, Walkersville, thru Oct. 2.
- Calvert County Fair**, Barstow, thru Oct. 4.
- Brunswick FFA-FFA Alumni Community Show**, Brunswick High School, Brunswick, thru Oct. 1.
- New Holland Farmers Fair**, New Holland, thru Oct. 3.
- Thursday, October 1**  
Keystone International Livestock Expo, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Oct. 5.
- Friday, October 2**  
Leitersburg Grange Community Show, Leitersburg, thru Oct. 3.
- Tri-Valley Community Fair**, Heggies, thru Oct. 4.
- Field Day On Seasonal Dairy Grazing**, Cove Mt. Farm, Mercersburg, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 6th Annual Ickesburg Fire Company Perry County Old Iron Club Antique Days**, Fire Company Grounds, Ickesburg, thru Oct. 4.
- Seasonal Dairying Field Day**, Cove Mountain Farm, Mercersburg, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Cornell College of Ag Alumni Recognition Banquet**, Cornell's Statler Hotel, Ithaca, N.Y., 6 p.m.
- Saturday, October 3**  
4-H Super Saturday, Mercer County 4-H Park, 4 p.m.
- Mercer County Conservation District Open House**, Mercer County Conservation Farm, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Sunday, October 4**  
National 4-H Week, thru Oct. 10.
- Open Youth Schooling Horse Show**, Northampton County 4-H Center, Nazareth, 10 a.m.
- Solanco Young Farmers Family**



**Now Is The Time**  
By John Schwartz  
Lancaster County Agricultural Agent

### To Plan Fall Alfalfa Harvest

Fall is here and the annual concerns of management of alfalfa fields during the fall are upon us, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent. When should alfalfa be harvested? What effect will harvesting now have on the life of the stand? These are a couple of the questions being asked each fall by farmers. During September and early October weather conditions remain favorable for alfalfa growth.

In addition, fields are usually tall enough to harvest. However, when it comes time to harvest it is important to understand what the benefits and risks are to the crop if it is harvested. One of the

key considerations is the impact that a fall harvest will have on winter survival.

### To Understand Fall Growth of Alfalfa

The shorting day length and cooler temperatures tell the winter hardy alfalfa varieties to develop cold resistance. During the hardening process, plants reduce top growth and increase the amounts of carbohydrates they store in the roots.

This carbohydrate storage is important. In the spring, the carbohydrates stored in the roots are responsible for the first 6 inches of new growth. After this initial growth, photosynthesis will produce the needed carbohydrates. Winter survival and spring re-growth is dependent on having adequate amounts of carbohydrates stored by the plant in the fall.

Up to 50 percent of the stored carbohydrates are used during the winter by the plant. Harvesting alfalfa at the wrong time in the fall may cause the plant to use some of the stored carbohydrates to make new fall re-growth reducing the amount for winter survival and spring growth.

### To Manage Fall Alfalfa

New alfalfa varieties have helped to eliminate some of the winter kill problem, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster

County Agronomy Agent. Good management can improve winter survival of alfalfa.

If the alfalfa field has come into bloom during September or early October, it should be harvested. Normally, alfalfa will begin new growth after reaching full bloom regardless of being harvested or not. Even if harvest is delayed beyond full bloom, it will do little to keep stored carbohydrates in the roots. Newer stands are less susceptible to winter injury following fall harvest than older stands.

It is now felt that the length of time since the previous harvest is more important than the actual date of fall harvest. If it has been at least 45 days since the last harvest, further delay of harvest is not necessary. Other management considerations to help improve winter survival of alfalfa include maintaining good soil fertility and pH which will reduce stress and planting the most disease resistant variety with high yield potential.

*Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, the type of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."*

memorials and remembrances per se, but I was living in the here and now and wanted help with the present.

In those days I was rather disdainful of anything old; architecture, art, music, habits, customs, and so forth. I rather imagine that my attitude then was not unique and my complaint has been raised by countless others. In reflection, I believe that I was wrong in thinking that we dwelt too much in the past. If my church erred, it was not in memorializing the past, but in failing to help its youth understand the value of the past for the present and future.

My dictionary gives three definitions for the word "memorial" and the first, "something designed to preserve the memory of a person or event," is the one most applicable in Joshua 4:7. God intends for the twelve stones from the Jordan River to be a "sign" to preserve the memory of that great event when the people of Israel were enabled by God to cross the Jordan River, an event that should not be forgotten: So, "...when your children ask in time to come, "What do these stones mean to you?" Then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord..." (4:6, 7).

### A PRESENT POWER

The purpose of remembering, however, is not just to celebrate the past, but to rekindle as power for the present the faith the past inspired. Mr. David McClelland of the Harvard Medical School found that, in his own experience, he could abort colds by thinking about two things: past moments when he felt deeply loved and cared for by someone else, and a time when he loved another person. The remembrance of past love received and given was able to mobilize his immune system to fight off the threatening cold. He was also able to successfully teach this technique to his students.

In a similar manner, the remembrance of a past encounter with God can empower us for meeting current and

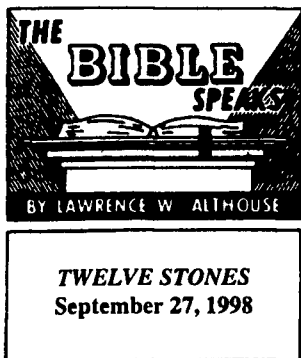
future challenges. So, nothing is a true memorial that points only to the past. Remembering some great event of time gone by, we must be inspired for the present and fit for the future. A memorial keeps our present and future in touch with the past.

### THE POWER OF REMEMBERING

The Jews celebrate Passover as a memorial, not simply to remember the past, but to tap its power for the challenges of today. We celebrate the Last Supper for the same reason and the power of this memorial for us is to be found, not alone in that night when Jesus shared this Passover meal with his disciples, but that he is present in our lives now. A memorial window or pew in our churches celebrates not only a person of the past, but the faith of that person that is still an inspiration for us today.

The twelve stones set up by Joshua and his followers were still visible in the day when this book was written. He tells us: "...and they are there to this day" (4:9). Sometime between the time of Joshua and Jesus, they disappeared. We do not know what happened to them, but, because of the Book of Joshua speaks of them, they continue as a memorial to another of God's savings acts in the history of his people.

It is important for us to remember that God has done so that we may continue to look to see what he is doing now and live in the faith that he will continue to act redemptively in the future. That is what these twelve stones and all memorials remind us.



**TWELVE STONES**  
September 27, 1998

**Background Scripture:**  
Joshua 4:1-3, 8, 10, 11, 20-24  
**Devotional Reading:**  
Psalms 78:1-8

In my youth, it seemed to me that the church I attended spent an inordinate amount of time in the past. As a congregation, I thought we were constantly remembering a lot of things that had happened a long time ago. I wasn't against

**Picnic, Karl Herr and Family.**  
4th Annual Fall Antique Tractor and Implement Collector's Show, St. Peter's Church, Shimersville, 9 a.m.

**Monday, October 5**  
Holidaysburg Community Fair, Holidaysburg, thru Oct. 8.  
Manheim Community Farm Show, Manheim, thru Oct. 9.  
Poultry Health and Management Meeting, Kreider's Restaurant, Manheim, noon.  
Dauphin County Farm Bureau Banquet, Halifax Ambulance and Rescue Building, Halifax, 7 p.m.  
Dauphin County 4-H Achievement Night, Dauphin Ag Resources Center, Dauphin, 6:30 p.m.  
Roadside Marketing Field Day, The Spring House, Eighty-Four, 1 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 6**  
1998 Pa. Feeder Calf Roundup Tele-Auction Sale, Buckhan-

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