A10-Lancaster Farming, Saturday, September 11, 1999



# **Preservation 2000?**

The Preservation 2000 Act that was unveiled this week at Kevin and Audary Rohrer's farm, by state Rep. John Barley, and state Sen. David Brightbill has all the ear marks of an innovative effort to partnership in an effort to support the Commonwealth's most pressing environmental concerns. The act these public officials plan to introduce when they get back into legislative session provides local governments with maximum flexibility in prioritizing their environmental issues. It is designed to provide incentives to counties to further encourage the preservation of open space and farmland, guard watersheds, improve recreational opportunities, protect natural areas and habitats, and address existing environmental problems.

Some of the existing environmental problems are listed in a page handed to the press at the time of the announcement. They include,

• Acid mine drainage abatement and cleanup efforts.

Plugging of orphan oil and gas wells.

• Planning, education, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair for greenways, trails, open space, natural areas, river corridors, watersheds, community parks, and recreation facilities.

• Community conservation and beautification projects.

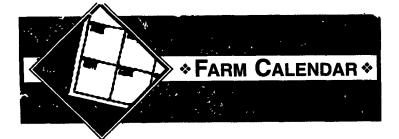
- Remining efforts.
- Nonpoint source pollution abatement.
- Local watershed-based conservation efforts.

• Improvement of water quality impaired watersheds.

• Water, storm water, and sewer infrastructure projects.

• And of course, protection of farmland in accordance with the ag area security law.

While presented under the popular banner of farmland preservation, when you read the proposed act, there is a lot more said about all the other "environmental concerns" than farmland preservation. Let's hope this doesn't turn out to be another attempt to save farmland that in effect adds so many environmental restrictions on the farmer that no one could hope to make a living at it. Lets hope all the other environmental concerns don't take so much money we don't even get the farmland saved.



#### Saturday, September 11

Woods Workshop Program, Cornerstone Forest Products, 9:30 a.m.

Farm-City Day, Herring Farms, Farmington.

3d Annual Celebration of Farming, Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Museum, Lambertville, N.J., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., also Sept.

## Sunday, September 12

PennAg Industries Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Baltimore's Inner Harbor, thru Sept. 14.
Mercer County Holstein Club picnic, 4-H Park Exhibit Building, 1 p.m.



## Plant cover crops

Cover crops act as a nutrient bank, according to Robert Anderson, Lancaster County Extension Agronomy Agent. Cover crops are capable of using the leftover nitrogen from the previous crop season before it leaches into the ground water. If the corn silage crop did not use all the nitrogen applied, it leaves some unused nitrate nitrogen in the soil profile.

A cover crop will capture that nitrogen and use it for crop growth. In the spring when the cover crop is killed with a herbicide or plowed down, the nitrogen is released back into the soil during the growing season for the next crop. In addition, cover crops add organic matter to the soil.

Whether the entire plant is left in the field or just the roots, this plant material adds organic matter to the soil. Organic matter adds water holding capacity to the soil. Provides food for soil microbes, improves soil structure and adds to the soil ability to hold nutrients. A little money for seed and a little time to plant are small costs to pay for the many returns that cover crops provide.

#### To Plant Cover Crops for Feed

Robert Anderson, Lancaster

Grace, Md., leaves Chester 4-H Center 7:30 a.m. and Herr Angus 8:30 a.m.

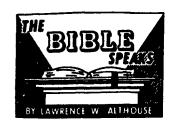
- Philadelphia Harvest Show, Horticulture Center at Fairmount Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Ninth Annual Benefit Auction and Bake Sale for the Clinic For Special Children, Leola Produce Auction, Leola, 8:30 a.m. Lehigh Community Livestock
- Roundup Sale, Schnecksville Fairgrounds, 10 a.m. PDPPS 43d Annual Pennsylvania
- Dairy Princess Banquet and Coronation, Sheraton Inn, Har-

County Extension Agronomy Agent, reminds us cover crops may also provide additional forage for livestock feed. If the cover crop is harvested as a silage crop, the nitrogen it captures from the soil becomes a source of protein when fed to ruminant livestock.

When the cover crop is used to produce silage, not only is the nitrogen kept from leeching into the environment, the silage grown will replace purchased feeds at a very small cost to the producer. Cover crops offer the most advantage when planted immediately after removing corn silage or tobacco.

## To Invest in Assets

In a recent book review of the book <underline>Rich Dad, Poor Dad</underline> by Robert Kiyosaki, several observations were made on the differences on how middle class people and rich people view earning money.



WHEN THE CORN IS PLENTIFUL September 12, 1999

Background Scripture: Exodus 13:7 through 14:31 Devotional Reading: Psalms 106:1-12

One of the things that makes much of the Bible so real and timely for me is that most of the people who are depicted in its pages appear to be "real people."

Like Abraham craftily managing to save his own skin by passing off his wife Sarah as his sister to the Pharaoh in Egypt (Gen. 12, 21); or Lot seeking to divert a crowd of men of Sodom from raping his two angelic guests and offering them instead his two virginal daughters (Gen. 19).

Sarah seething with jealousy and resentment at Hagar whom she herself had given to Abraham as a concubine (Gen. 16). And so on through Genesis.

When we arrive at the Book of Exodus this humanness is still evident, particularly the fickleness and changeableness of human nature. No sooner has Moses persuaded Pharaoh to "let my people go," than the Pharaoh has a stunning change of mind. "What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" (14:5). NO GRAVES IN EGYPT?

We find the people of Israel no less fickle. With the Pharaoh and his army now in belated pursuit of the people of Israel, the people whom Moses led also have a radical change of heart. The Israelites turn on Moses with bitter sarcasm: "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, in bringing us out of Egypt?" (14:11). Suddenly, they "remember" that they had been against this exodus thing from the very beginning: "Is this not what we said to you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'?" (I'll just bet that was what they said in Egypt!). How quickly they forget how terrible was their lot in Egypt: forced labor, tyrannical treatment, and a status that got worse and worse as they prospered. "For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in

The thesis of the book is middle class people work for money and rich people have money work for them. Most people live their lives chasing paychecks, pay raises and job security.

Kiyosaki says there are no get rich quick schemes, but learning the difference between assets and liabilities is very important. Rich people acquire assets. Middle class people acquire liabilities, but they think they are assets. An asset puts money into your pocket. A liability takes money out of your pocket. Financial aptitude is what you do with your money once you make it, how you keep people from taking it from you, how long you keep it and how hard that money works for you.

Feather Prof.'s Footnote: "If you are not riding the wave of change, you will find yourself beneath it."

the wilderness." That is not a unique point of view.

This is true of individuals as well. Christ comes offering us the highest kind of liberty, yet many of us, cowed by the prospect of launching out into uncertainty, choose to stay with the bondage we know instead of the freedom we have only glimpsed. So it is, too, with some people who suffer from illness. Offered wholeness, they cling to the sickness that has become tolerable over the years rather than take the risk of being healthy.

#### **STAND FIRM!**

To all of this whining, Moses responds: "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today ..." (14:13). This is one of those scriptures that we need to frame and hang in our homes, cars, and offices, because it is the key to life when we encounter opposition, feel trapped or threatened by the challenge to leave the old behind and step off into the new. Whenever in our lives we feel that we would rather return to the familiar misery of Egypt instead launching off into the unfamiliarity of the promised land, we need to heed these words: "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord

Soren Kierkegaard, the Danish theologian, tells a story about a wild goose who flew into a barnyard filled with domestic geese. Perching on the fence, he began to the local geese, "You're geese and you were created like me to fly far and wide." He reminded them of their glorious heritage of flight and the glorious freedom that awaited them if they would but use their God-given wings. The geese were very impressed with what the stranger told them and they began to yearn to be like him. They enthusiastically applauded him. But the corn was plentiful in the barnyard and its shelter was cozy and warm. So, when he flew away, they remained where they were.

Monday, September 13 Poultry Health and Management Seminar, Kreider's Restaurant, Manheim, noon.

Green Township Community Fair, Cookport, thru Sept. 18.
Live Cattle Evaluation, Byerly Brothers Meats, Lewisburg, carcass evaluation Sept. 20.
Auson Area Fair, Albion, thru Sept. 18.
Berlin Brothersvalley Community Fair, Berlin, thru Sept. 18.
Denver Community Fair, Denver, thru Sept. 18.
Sinking Valley Fair, Skelp, thru Sept. 18. Big E, 78th Annual Eastern States Expo, West Springfield, Mass., thru Oct. 3.

ADADC Dist. 8 meeting, Hidden

Wednesday, September 15

Southern Lancaster County Fair,

Quarryville, thru Sept. 17.

ADADC Dist. 1 meeting, St.

Lawrence Inn, Canton, N.Y., 7

Thursday, September 16

North East Community Fair, North

Oley Valley Community Fair,

East, thru Sept. 18.

Oley, thru Sept. 18.

N.Y., 7:30 p.m.

Inn Pavilion, South Cortright,

Great Frederick Fair, Frederick, Md., thru Sept. 25.

Delaware Valley Old Time Power and Equipment Association Days of the Past, Washington Crossing State Park, Titusville,

N.J., thru Sept. 19. Saturday. September 18 Grazier Meeting, Penn State University Haller Farm. Producer Field Trip to Penn State Haller Farm, meets at Comfort Inn/Bonanza Restaurant at New Columbia exit of Rt. 15, north of I-80 at 8 a.m.

Southeast Regional Cattle Assocaition Annual Farm Tour to Maryland, Holloway Brother Farm, Harford, Md., and Shadow Springs Farm, Havre de risburg, milk punch reception 5:30 p.m., banquet 6:30 p.m. Sustainable Forests Day, Gulyas and Tilley Property, Ulster, 10 a.m.

Lancaster County Trust annual picnic, Dwight and Rosie Rohrer Farm, Manheim, 1 p.m.-5 n.m.

Sunday, September 19 Gratz Fair, Gratz, thru Sept. 25, Monday, September 20 Pa. All American, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, thru Sept. 23.

Beaver Community Fair, Beaver Springs, thru Sept. 26.

Lycoming Fall Crops Day, Gene Sellers Field, Montoursville, 10

a.m.-2 p.m.

Lucsday, September 21 Pa. Holstein Fall Championship (Turn to Page A41) That isn't a story about just geese, is it. Sadly, it may be our story too.

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