

2023 PA Livestock Association Heritage Award

The 2023 Heritage Award winner is Martene Firestine of Womelsdorf, PA. Martene is a hardworking and dedicated individual that has a passion for agriculture. With a goal of raising scholarship money for youth in agriculture, she has managed two PLA food stand fundraisers for the last 18 years, raising enough money for 106 scholarships totaling \$111,000.

Martene is retired from the Conrad Weiser School District where she worked with special needs and troubled youth. She and her husband Mike of 45 years have raised 2 daughters, Margeaux and Morgan. Currently they have 1 grandson, Hudson, and another grandson will soon make his appearance later this year. They raise Hereford cattle; Corriedale, Hampshire, and Southdown sheep; sweet corn, pumpkins, and various other crops on their farm.

Martene is a behind the scenes person, working tirelessly to plan each event. She consistently seeks to raise the most amount of money possible to provide scholarships to our PLA youth. She does this by getting donations and working with vendors to get the best deals but also providing a wholesome, home cooked tasting meal to those that purchase food. She meticulously organizes the menu, product deliveries, and seeks volunteer workers to manage the booth. She does all of this because she has a love for giving back to our agriculture youth.