

2024 Award Winners

The PA Livestock Association annually presents Outstanding Youth Awards for 4-H and FFA members as well as Livestock Scholarships during the Keystone International Livestock Exposition's Award Ceremony. On Thursday, October 3, 2024, nine youth will be presented with awards for their dedication to the livestock industry in the Commonwealth. The 2024 Livestock Hall of Fame winner will be announced and the Heritage Award will be presented.

Alaina Fabin of Indiana County and Samantha Hayman of Somerset County will be receiving the Outstanding 4-H Awards.

The following youth will receive \$2000 scholarships for their participation and involvement in the livestock industry:

- Caleb Antram is the son of Dave and Jodell Antram, Somerset, PA (Somerset County). He is a senior at Penn State University majoring in Animal Science.
- Avah Burke is the daughter of John and Stacy Burke, Emlenton, PA (Venango County). She is a sophomore at Penn State University majoring in animal science.
- Hannah Mansfield is the daughter of Leonard and Amy Mansfield, Greenville, North Carolina. She is a sophomore at Penn State University majoring in Animal Science.
- Natalie Mosier is the daughter of Scott Mosier and Joyce Borger, Palmerton, PA (Carbon County). She is a sophomore at Penn State University, majoring in animal science.
- Kierson Reasner is the daughter of Peirron and Nicole Reasner, Neelyton, PA (Huntingdon County). She is a sophomore at Oklahoma State University, majoring in Animal Science.
- Rylee Stockdale is the daughter of Curtis and Jessica Stockdale, Dayton, PA (Armstrong County). She is a first-year student at the Washington Health System School of Nursing.
- James Voight is the son of Delbert and Wilhelmina Voight, Fredericksburg, PA (Lebanon County). He is a sophomore attending Penn State University, majoring in Mechanical and Biomedical or Biological Engineering.

The PA Livestock Association will also induct the 2024 Hall of Fame winner, Ronald and Yvonne (deceased) Trostle.

To write the story of showing livestock in Pennsylvania is to write the story of Ronald and Yvonne Trostle. The two met at the York Fair in 1960 and were married for fifty years. Ron lost his beloved wife in 2013.

Ron was raised around dairy and bought his first pig in high school in 1958, the first in a long career of showing. For decades, the Trostles have been involved in showing livestock and volunteering for livestock organizations. The 4-H program was a family affair as their children, Steve, Melissa, and

Matt, all participated in 4-H. Ron and Yvonne were the York County swine club leaders for over 40 years. In 2009, Ron and Yvonne received the Pennsylvania 4-H Swine Leader award during the PA Farm Show. Ron also had the opportunity to judge livestock, which he did in eight states and at 39 county fairs. He enjoyed the experience as a great opportunity to meet a lot of new people and make friends. It was well known that Yvonne never left home without her homemade whoopie pies and peanut butter fudge.

The organizations Ron and Yvonne were involved with include the York State Fair, the county 4-H board of advisers, and the 4-H Center advisory board. Yvonne served as treasurer of the Mid-Atlantic Southdown Breeders Association for 28 years and served on the Pennsylvania Livestock Association board of directors. She served over 25 years on the KILE sheep committee. Ron still stays involved in agriculture as a lifetime member of the York Fair Agricultural Society, member of the York County Farm Bureau, and the Pennsylvania Livestock Association.

The 2024 Heritage Award winner is Amy Garges.

Amy Garges has been actively involved in the Pennsylvania Livestock Association for the last ten years. After filling in as secretary when Harold Harpster was sick, she was officially voted in as the PLA secretary in 2018. In addition to her role as Secretary, she is the chair of the social media/promotion committee and has served on the youth committee. Amy also creates the sign-ups for the various PLA food booths, takes photos of the food and the stand for promotion on social media and helps to promote the scholarships as well. Tammy Weaver roped Amy into volunteering on the KILE Beef committee eleven years ago. Amy is always there all 5 days of the show to help, whether it is check in, lining up shows, running ribbons, making social media posts and more.

Amy graduated from Penn State with a degree in Animal Science in 2009. She was just as busy in college, holding a variety of offices in the Block and Bridle club and Dairy Science Club. She was also the founding President of the Penn State Collegiate Cattlewomen club and funding co-chair of Penn State's Meat IN Day. After graduation she worked for Lenape Limousin and helped with their show string at KILE and Farm Show. She then joined Clemens Food Group as a Food Safety and quality assurance technician before becoming the 4-H educator in Montgomery County for 11 years. As an educator, she has earned her Achievement in service award from the National Assoc. of Extension 4-H youth development professionals, National winner of the excellence in workforce development award for her virtual ag careers course, and next week she'll be accepting her distinguished service award in Boise, Idaho at the national conference..

At Farm Show, you can find Amy helping with the Junior market animal committee as the market lamb and goat chair. Amy has also been the secretary of the Farm Show Scholarship Foundation since 2021 where she helps to organize their clay shoot fundraiser. As you can tell, Amy is passionate about helping raise scholarship dollars for youth in agriculture and helping find them careers in agriculture. She is also a member of the PA committee of Targeting Excellence that raises scholarship dollars for students pursuing a career in the food animal industry.

Amy and her husband, Jacob, who she met in 4-H, reside in Telford, PA with their daughters Tayler and Eva. They raise and show Border Leicester and Lincoln Longwool sheep competitively nationwide. Both Amy and Jacob are longtime Montgomery County 4-H livestock club volunteers and have been running sheep and goat jackpot shows for 11 years. In 2022 they were both selected to attend the National Lamb Feeders Leadership school in Colorado. Amy also coaches the Montgomery Co 4-H potato judging team, Pork Day team, and the PA 4-H Champion Livestock Skillathon team (2023 NAILE). In her spare time, Amy has been co-chair of the Advent Lutheran Church annual Easter Egg Hunt for 15 years.