



March-April 2026

Friends of the Farm Show News



Volume 14 Issue 2

**Fairperson and Junior
Fairperson of the Year**

Mark Keller Receives Awards

Thank You to Sponsors

PA Farm Show Stars

So You Want to Be a Farmer



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The Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that was developed to stimulate, facilitate, and support educational programs, incentives, and events relating to the annual Farm Show event.



Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. is proud to recognize and celebrate the remarkable success of the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show. This year's event brought together thousands of Pennsylvanians and visitors from across the region to honor the agricultural tradition, innovation, and community spirit that define our state.

- **Record-Breaking Attendance:** The 2026 show welcomed an unprecedented number of guests, showcasing widespread enthusiasm for Pennsylvania's agricultural heritage.
- **Innovative Exhibits:** From sustainable farming demonstrations to advanced agri-tech showcases, the event highlighted the forward-thinking approaches shaping the future of agriculture.
- **Youth Engagement:** 4-H and FFA participants shone in livestock competitions, educational presentations, and hands-on workshops, inspiring the next generation of agricultural leaders.
- **Local Flavors:** The beloved Food Court delighted visitors with Pennsylvania favorites, including the famous milkshakes, fried mushrooms, and maple products.
- **Community Involvement:** Volunteers, sponsors, and local organizations collaborated to ensure a welcoming and engaging experience for all attendees.

This milestone event would not have been possible without the dedication of farmers, exhibitors, sponsors, and volunteers. The Friends of the Farm Show Foundation extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed their time, resources, and passion. Your efforts ensure that the Farm Show remains a vibrant celebration of Pennsylvania's agricultural legacy.

Building on the momentum of 2026, we look forward to future Farm Shows that continue to unite communities, inspire innovation, and promote appreciation for the Commonwealth's agricultural excellence.

Thank you for making the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show a resounding success!

The Friends of the Pa Farm Show Foundation Inc.

Mark K. Keller Chairman

We are looking for articles and pictures to publish in the Friends of the Farm Show News.

May - June Due by April 1
July - August Due by June 1
Sept. - Oct. - Due by August 1

Newsletter Editor: Lizzie Bailey
Questions? Please call (717)254-9550
Email articles: fofsnewsletter@gmail.com

May - June, 2026
Newsletter
Deadline
is
April 1, 2026

On the cover: You Want to Be A Farmer: A mom with her young child digging in garden soil at the 2026 PA Farm Show. Photo provided by PA Department of Agriculture.

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Feed Scurry, Friends and Fun

The Mike Waugh Celebrity Feed Scurry was held Wednesday, Jan. 14, in the New Holland Arena during the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show. A significant fundraiser for the Foundation, the event was filled with high-energy competition and enthusiastic cheering from the crowd.

Foundation Chairman Mark Keller opened the scurry by thanking those in attendance, along with the event sponsors, draft horse teams,

drivers, muckers and all those who made the event possible.

The crowd then surprised Keller with a spirited rendition of "Happy Birthday" in celebration of his birthday. After Representative Eddie Day Pastinski led those in attendance in the national anthem, the first teams were off and running.

During intermission, the popular Children's

Stick Horse Race took place, featuring special appearances by the Pennsylvania State Police. The event also marked the second year of audience participation races, adding to the excitement and fun of the evening.

There is special electric that is in the air during the Feed Scurry, and if you attended or participated, we hope you felt that same feeling.



Feed Scurry Drivers & Sponsor Placings

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3. Representative Dave Zimmerman — H.R. Ewell, Inc.
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10. Representative Zach Mako/Representative Tom Jones — Adams Electric Cooperative
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28. Casara Keiffer — Orrstown Bank
29. Representative Leanne Krueger — PA Milk Dealers Association
30. PA Fair Queen Ava Immel — PA Association State & County Fairs
31. Representative Chad Reichard — Versant Strategies
32. Amy Motter (Champ) — Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
33. Debra Kohr Sheppard — PCNTV
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We appreciate your partnership to help promote the PA Farm Show and youth in agriculture!

Thank You!

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS



Thanks to the support of our volunteers, we were able to share our mission, connect with the community, and make the Farm Show experience more engaging and memorable for everyone involved.

We extend our appreciation to your dedication and effort in making the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show one to remember!



Martha Ebersole 2025 PSACF Fairperson of the Year

Lizzie Bailey

When Martha Ebersole's name was announced as the 2025 Fair Person of the Year during the convention of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, it felt less like a surprise and more like a moment everyone had been waiting to celebrate. Because if you have spent any time at the Perry County Fair in Newport, you already know Martha. She is the one who shows up early. The one who notices what needs done before anyone has to ask. The one who will plant the flowers, organize the queen program, raise the sponsorships, and still find time to help the 4 H kids make whoopie pies for the Pomona Grange stand.

Martha did not grow into a fair life by accident. She was raised in it. Her parents helped restart the Perry County Fair following World War II, and she has never missed her local fair since the day she was born. When you grow up in that kind of environment, you learn that a fair is not just an event. It is a responsibility. It is tradition. It is a community woven together year after year.

Over the decades, she has served as a fair board member, chaired the Fair Queen Program, and led sponsorship efforts that brought in more than forty thousand dollars annually. She personally helped beautify the grounds, planting flowers and shrubs in every corner and even watering them herself from a golf cart with a tank and hose in hand. It is hard to find a part of the fair she has not touched in some meaningful way.

Mark Keller said it simply and best. "Many years working with Martha at the Perry County Fair has always been a pleasure. Anytime there was a request for something, she would have it handled in no time."

That steady dependability carried her beyond the local level. Martha has served fifteen years on the board of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs, chaired the communications committee for twelve years, and is a past president of the association. Her leadership helped strengthen communication among fairs and advocate for the needs of county fairs across the Commonwealth.

Her service does not stop there. Martha is also a board member of the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, supporting youth agricultural education connected to the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Most recently, she was elected IAFE Zone 1 Director, representing fairs from Pennsylvania to Quebec on the international board.

At home, her foundation is just as strong. Martha and her husband Ray have been married for fifty four years. They are the parents of Bryan and Stacy and proud grandparents to Keegan. Their partnership is built on humor and patience. One story shared at the convention brought laughter to the room. If Ray wants to replace a piece of equipment, he asks Martha to haul it in the truck. Sometimes the tailgate might be left open along the way, and when she arrives with an empty bed, Ray just smiles and says, "Honey, let's go shopping."



Jeff Smith, Brian Ebersole, Martha and husband, Ray Ebersole and daughter, Stacey Bruker.

It is that balance of hard work and heart that defines Martha Ebersole. She was taught by her parents to give one hundred and ten percent in everything she does, without expectation of reward. That philosophy is evident in every flower planted, every meeting attended, every young exhibitor encouraged, and every fair strengthened because she chose to serve.

The Fair Person of the Year award recognizes individuals who preserve and protect the future of Pennsylvania's county fairs. In honoring Martha, the fair family recognized something even deeper.

They recognized a lifetime of showing up.

And in fair work, that may be the highest honor of all.

**Congratulations Martha
2025 PSACF
Fairperson of the Year**

A lasting impact

Keller recognized during Farm Show



Above: PA Farm Show Junior Committee member Lenka introduces Gerald W. Reichard Memorial Impact Award winner Mark Keller (left). Junior Committee member Garrett presents the award to Mark.

Right: Friends of the PA Farm Show Foundation chairman Mark, stands with Junior Committee member Garrett.

A special break was taken during the Pennsylvania Farm Show Junior Committee Auction at the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show to honor Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation Chairman Mark Keller. Keller was recognized with the Gerald W. Reichard Memorial Impact Award, which honors an individual who gives their time, talent, and heart throughout the year—not just during the Farm Show—just as Gerald did.

Keller, who was born in Carlisle and raised in Perry County, built a career rooted in hard work and community service. He is a farmer, auctioneer, township auditor and supervisor, Perry County commissioner, and a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. As stated in the introduction, "Mark Keller's life reflects a deep and enduring connection to agriculture and to the people of Pennsylvania."

Join us in congratulating Mark on this wonderful achievement.



At the recent PA Auctioneers Association Conference held at the Sheraton in Harrisburg, Mark Keller was inducted into their Hall of Fame. This honor has only been given to a select group of Pennsylvania auctioneers who exemplifies the high standards of character and business ethics that are expected in auctioneers.

Mark joins a small list of previous auctioneers that have been awarded this honor.

Presenting this award was Harry H. Bachman (pictured with Mark in the photo to the left) who is a member of the Hall of Fame. Bachman expressed, "What an honor it was for me to be able to present Mark with this award."

Congratulations Mark, on the well deserved recognitions!

A Voice That Carries and a Legacy That Lasts

Lizzie Bailey

During the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show, a familiar voice once again echoed through the complex, calling bids with the steady rhythm so many have come to expect each January. If you have ever stood near the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation Junior Committee Auction, you know the sound. It is confident. It is steady. It keeps the crowd moving.

But this year, that voice carried more than tradition. It carried distinction.

Former state representative and

longtime auctioneer Mark Keller was recognized with not one, but two significant honors during Farm Show week.

Keller was inducted into the Hall of Fame by the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association, recognizing decades of excellence and leadership within the auctioneering profession.

Auctioneering is more than speed and rhythm. It is trust. It is reading a crowd. It is knowing when to pause and when to press forward. It is connecting people in a matter of moments.

Keller attended the ceremony with his wife by his side. As the award was being announced, he did not yet realize what was unfolding around him. Then, to his surprise, his son and daughter in law entered the event. When he saw them there to witness the moment. Keller later shared that he became emotional. For a man known for composure at the

Harry Bachman shared, "Auctioneer Hall of Fame Award nominations come from past honorees, it is a two-year vetting process. It was an honor and a personal privilege to present Mark with his award."

podium, it was a deeply personal moment that spoke louder than any bid call ever could.

During the Farm Show itself, Keller was also presented with the Gerald Reichard Memorial Impact Award. This distinction speaks not only to professional skill, but to meaningful influence. It honors individuals whose contributions leave a lasting mark on Pennsylvania agriculture and the Farm Show community.

For many, Keller's impact has been both visible and personal. As auctioneer for the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation benefit auction, he has helped raise significant funds in support of youth scholarships and educational programming.

Year after year, he has stood at the podium not simply to call bids, but to remind bidders what their generosity means to a young person with agricultural dreams.

His career in public service reflects that same commitment. During his time in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Keller consistently advocated for agriculture, rural communities, and the industries that sustain the Commonwealth. Whether in Harrisburg or at a local auction, his focus remained on service.

Receiving both the Hall of Fame honor and the Gerald Reichard Memorial Impact Award in the same season underscores the breadth of Keller's legacy. One recognizes professional mastery within auctioneering. The other



Mark Keller with his wife, Sally, accepting the Auctioneer Hall of Fame Award from Harry Bachman.

honors the difference one individual can make when he shows up year after year and gives back.

For those gathered at the 2026 Farm Show, the moment felt fitting. The voice that has helped carry countless auctions across the finish line was, in turn, recognized for carrying forward a tradition of service and steady leadership. And as bids continued to rise and the auction moved ahead, it was clear that while awards mark milestones, the real legacy is found in impact. In the youth encouraged. In the programs strengthened. In the quiet pride of family watching a lifetime of work honored.

The Gerald W. Reichard Memorial Impact Award

The Gerald W. Reichard Memorial Impact Award honors the legacy of Gerald W. Reichard, a dedicated veteran, educator, and long-time volunteer with the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Reichard served for many years as the Farm Show floor manager, giving countless hours to support exhibitors, vendors, and the day-to-day operations of the show before his passing in 2016.

Reichard's contributions were rooted in service to agricultural education and to the community of Farm Show participants, helping create a positive experience for visitors and exhibitors alike. His work bridged production agriculture, youth involvement, and the agricultural network across Pennsylvania.

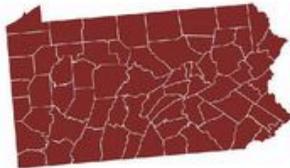
The Impact Award bearing his name is presented to individuals whose efforts have had a significant and lasting influence on the Pennsylvania Farm Show. Past recipients include leaders, communicators, and volunteers who embody the spirit of Reichard's dedication to agriculture and community engagement.

Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association Hall of Fame

The Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association Hall of Fame recognizes auctioneers whose careers reflect exceptional professionalism, leadership, and long-term service to the profession. Induction represents one of the Association's highest honors, celebrating individuals whose work has strengthened the auction industry across the Commonwealth.

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So You Want to Be a Farmer

Lizzie Bailey

When the doors closed on the 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show, I found myself thinking about one area of the Main Hall that had been so full of life during the week.

It was not the loudest exhibit. It did not have flashing lights or long food lines.

It was the space called So You Want to Be a Farmer.

All week long, I watched children step into that booth with wide eyes and curious hands. They dug through soil boxes looking for hidden vegetables. They picked up real tools, sometimes heavier than they expected. They learned about worms and soil and how things grow beneath the surface long before we ever see the harvest.



Kids are digging in the soil in the raised garden bed for potatoes.

There is something about watching a child kneel beside a box of soil that makes you smile. You can almost see the questions rising up in them. Could I grow something at home? Could I make a little garden of my own?

But what caught my attention every time I walked past were the sheds. They were built from repurposed wood, boards that had clearly lived another life somewhere



A beautiful repurposed garden shed with a chalk board highlighting lessons for the day.

else before being carefully assembled again. You could see the grain, the knots, the weathered edges. They were not polished showroom pieces. They felt honest. Like something you might find tucked behind a farmhouse garden. And maybe that was the quiet lesson woven into the whole exhibit.



Rustic repurposed wood shed.

Farming has never been about shiny and new. It has always been about making good use of what

you have. Fixing. Rebuilding. Teaching the next set of hands how to care for land that will outlive all of us.

The Farm Show celebrated with the theme, "Growing a Nation" this year, and that exhibit lived that theme in the simplest way. It reminded us that agriculture does not begin with technology or trophies. It begins with soil, curiosity, and someone willing to kneel down and learn.

Long after the milkshakes were poured and the banners were taken down, I kept thinking about those children and those sheds. Because the future of farming does not always show up with banners or applause.

Sometimes it begins quietly, with dirt under small fingernails and a young heart asking, could I grow this too?



2026 PA Farm Show STARS: Promoting Teamwork, Respect, and Integrity

Morgan Firestine

Following the 2025 Farm Show, an Ethics Committee was officially formed to strengthen communication, reinforce expectations, and uphold the values that make the Pennsylvania Farm Show a success. The creation of this committee reflects a continued commitment to fairness, safety, and the positive experience of every exhibitor and volunteer involved.

At the heart of this initiative for the 2026 PA Farm Show was the STAR program, which stands for Showing Teamwork and Respect. The STAR program was designed to recognize individuals and groups who exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship, cooperation, and integrity throughout the Farm Show. Participants, families, volunteers, and leaders were invited to nominate those who demonstrated outstanding character and support for others.

The response was inspiring. This year, eight individual awards were presented, along with recognition of one county 4-H club, for consistently modeling what it means to be a STAR at the PA Farm Show. These honorees set the tone for a culture built on encouragement, leadership, and mutual respect.

Kinsley Tice went above and beyond to support a younger showman. She patiently walked him through each step of fitting his market goat, carefully demonstrating, teaching, and explaining the process before the show. Kinsley didn't stop there—she encouraged him to practice showing his goat and then personally coached him on how to present his market goat project

effectively. She stayed by his side, walking him all the way to the ring while offering guidance and encouragement every step of the way.

Owen Mead stepped up to help clean out the bred gilt pens to prepare the barn for the junior market swine exhibitors. He worked tirelessly, clearing pens and aisles until the barn was spotless. Owen also assisted with putting the pen dividers back in place. His hard work and dedication made a huge difference in getting the barn ready for the upcoming exhibitors.

Lillian Broschart and Daniel Kelly were incredibly helpful to both the exhibition avian committee and fellow exhibitors. They were always willing to jump in, solve problems, and take initiative wherever needed. Their friendly attitudes and readiness to help made them valuable contributors throughout the event.

The Cumberland County 4-H exhibitors demonstrated great teamwork by working together and sharing space in the barn. They supported one another while also having fun, creating a positive atmosphere and making the Farm Show a truly memorable experience.

Megan Johnson displayed outstanding sportsmanship. She assisted numerous youth from various counties in learning about showmanship and caring for their birds. Her willingness to share her knowledge and encourage others exemplified true leadership.

Leslie London remained in the show ring to assist turkey exhibitors with flipping their birds.



STAR stands for Showing Teamwork and Respect.

She was consistently encouraging and supportive of her fellow participants outside the showing as well.

Leslie even helped a boy she had just met clean his turkey's feathers in preparation for the show. She complimented exhibitors on their presentations and congratulated the Reserve Champion exhibitor as well. Leslie's enthusiasm for the show community and her willingness to share her knowledge were truly commendable.

Nolan Doan was always ready to lend a hand to fellow showmen, helping them prepare their animals and frequently asking if anyone needed assistance in the goat barn.

Jeremiah Doan took pride in keeping the aisle swept and clean. He was also willing to engage with the public and regularly checked in with other exhibitors to see if they needed help, demonstrating both responsibility and leadership.

As we look to the future, the Ethics Committee remains dedicated to creating an environment where teamwork, respect, and integrity are not just encouraged but truly celebrated. Here's to our STARS and to a Farm Show experience that will continue to grow stronger and shine even brighter each year with these outstanding youth leading the way.



2026 PA Farm Show Junior Market Livestock Sale Sets Six Records

Morgan Firestine

The 2026 Pennsylvania Farm Show Junior Market Livestock Sale reached new heights this year, setting six record-breaking purchases, electrifying the sale ring with energy and enthusiasm. This milestone moment showcased the powerful strength of support for youth in agriculture across the Commonwealth.

More than just impressive numbers, the sale highlights the grit, dedication, and responsibility of Pennsylvania's 4-H and FFA members. Months of early mornings, late nights, and unwavering commitment culminated in a celebration of excellence for those entering the ring with their animals. Spirited bidding from businesses, industry leaders, and elected officials demonstrated the widespread commitment to investing in the next generation of agricultural leaders.

Leading the highlights was the Reserve Champion Steer, exhibited by Jayce McKinney, which sold for an impressive \$17,000 to Hoss's Steak & Sea House. Their continued investment reflects strong support for youth exhibitors and Pennsylvania's beef industry.

The Grand Champion Hog, exhibited by Aubrey Mase, brought \$16,000 and was purchased by Hatfield Quality Meats, underscoring the pork industry's commitment to youth agriculture.

The Reserve Champion Hog, shown by Emily Pattison, earned a

remarkable \$10,000 bid from Kunzler Meats, further highlighting the strength of industry partnerships that make the sale such a success.

In the goat division, the Reserve Champion Goat, exhibited by Parker Gardner, sold for a record \$7,000 to EQT Corporation, demonstrating corporate support for youth agricultural programs.



Clayton Heisey's Grand Champion Lamb.

Adding to the excitement, Clayton Heisey's Grand Champion Lamb commanded an impressive \$15,000, purchased by Bell & Evans and Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson, representing a strong partnership between agricultural business and public leadership.

The small animal divisions also saw outstanding support. The Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen, exhibited by Faith Stuebgen, sold for \$6,000 to HJ Towing & Recovery, while the Reserve Champion Turkey, shown by Monroe Bellows, brought \$3,000 from the MacCauley Foundation.

These record-setting sales highlight not only the exceptional quality of livestock exhibited, but also the dedication, responsibility,

and leadership demonstrated by Pennsylvania's agricultural youth. Each exhibitor commits months of hard work to caring for, training, and preparing their projects, gaining invaluable experience in business management, animal care, and perseverance.



Top: Faith Stuebgen, Butler Co., Grand Champion Youth Meat Rabbit.
Bottom: Monroe Bellows, Bradford Co., Reserve Champion Jr. Market Turkey

The continued success of the Junior Market Livestock Sale reinforces its status as a premier event at the PA Farm Show. More importantly, it reflects the unwavering support of buyers who recognize that their investment extends far beyond the sale ring, directly supporting scholarships, agricultural education, and the future of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry.

As the gavel fell on another historic sale, one message rang clear: Pennsylvania's agricultural future is strong, and the next generation is ready to lead with the help of industry support.



PA Farm Show Junior Committee Benefit Auction



Each year at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, there is a special moment that captures the heart of the event and shines a spotlight on the next generation of agricultural leaders. That moment comes when the Junior Committee steps forward to host its annual auction, a lively celebration of teamwork, ambition, and community support.

The Junior Committee Auction is more than just a fundraiser. It is a coming together of families, friends, and supporters who believe in young people and the future of agriculture. The committee is made up of dedicated youth who work year-round to plan and promote the auction, strengthening their leadership skills and deepening their connection to the agricultural community. Their passion for farming, food systems, and service is on full display when the bidding begins.

This year, that enthusiasm translated into real impact. The Junior Committee Auction raised more than \$8,000, a remarkable achievement and a testament to the generosity of buyers and supporters who filled the auction area with energy and encouragement.

What makes this auction special is how it bridges generations. Producers, Farm Show visitors, alumni, and longtime supporters gather to bid on items generously donated by businesses and families across the Commonwealth. From handcrafted goods to farm experiences and specialty products, every item tells a story. Every bid becomes a vote of



PA Farm Show Junior Committee members were very busy showcasing auction items.

Items were donated by business at the PA Farm Show to show their support for the youth in agriculture.

The auction raised more than \$8000.



confidence in youth leadership.

The funds raised support scholarships, leadership development, and educational opportunities for Junior Committee members through the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation. These dollars help young leaders attend conferences, participate in statewide events, and bring new ideas back to their communities. In that way, each winning bid becomes an investment in tomorrow's agricultural advocates.

But the value of the auction goes far beyond the dollar total. It builds confidence in young leaders who step forward to thank buyers and sponsors. It creates memories between mentors and mentees. It reminds all of us that when we invest in youth, we strengthen the future of Pennsylvania agriculture.

There is something powerful about watching a young person take ownership of an event that carries such meaning. The calls from the auction ring, the friendly competition among bidders, and the applause after each item sells all reflect something deeper — a shared belief that our youth are worth supporting.

The Junior Committee Auction is not simply an end-of-Farm Show-week tradition. It is a promise. A promise that agriculture's future is bright, and that when community and opportunity come together, young leaders rise to meet the moment.



Olivia Morrissey Named 2026 Pennsylvania Fair Queen

There is a moment each January when the ballroom quiets, hands find one another under banquet tables, and hearts beat just a little faster.

On Saturday evening during the 113th annual convention of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs and the Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association in Hershey, that moment belonged to Olivia Morrissey of the Lebanon Area Fair. Surrounded by 64 accomplished young women representing fairs from across the Commonwealth, Olivia was crowned the 2026 Pennsylvania Fair Queen.

Anyone familiar with the Fair Queen program understands this is about far more than a sash and tiara. It represents leadership. It reflects service. It speaks to a young woman's ability to advocate for agriculture and for the local fairs that remain the heartbeat of so many Pennsylvania communities.

Olivia, the daughter of Jim and Amy Morrissey, is a 2025 graduate of Annville Cleona High School and now a freshman studying Fashion Design. Her resume reflects both creativity and commitment. During high school she was active in Student Council, National Honor Society, Mini Thon, and Students for Christ, while also competing in tennis, basketball, and track.

Her fair involvement began early. From age eight to eighteen, she was a member of the 4 H Friends Club of Lebanon County, focusing on sewing projects and developing leadership skills. One of her favorite summer traditions is volunteering in the competitive exhibits department at the Lebanon Area Fair, where she has also proudly entered her own work.

The state competition itself is thorough and demanding. Each of the 65 contestants submitted a written essay about the significance of her local fair, delivered a prepared speech inviting people to attend, participated in a formal interview with a panel of judges, and gave a stage introduction during the annual banquet. The top five finalists then answered an impromptu question: If your next social media post were to go viral, what would you share and why? Olivia's answer centered on agricultural education. "If I were able to go viral across the country," she shared, "I would like to inform others about the



Secretary Russell Redding, Pa Dept. of Ag, State Fair Queen Olivia Morrissey, and PA Fair Queen Alternate, Rory Jones of Shippensburg Community Fair.

importance of our agriculture and our farmers, and how what they do affects our everyday lives and everything that we do."

Shippensburg Community Fair Queen Rory Jones of Franklin County was selected as the 2026 Alternate. The daughter of Timothy and Melissa Jones, Rory is a senior at Shippensburg Area Senior High School and plans to pursue livestock and equine science in college. She participates in the Ship Start dual enrollment program, coaches gymnastics, works at a privately owned equestrian barn, cheers on the varsity squad, assists in student athletic training, and is active in Mini Thon.

Also recognized among the top five finalists were: Albion Area Fair Queen Tiffany Lowe, Franklin County Fair Queen Laine Hess, Somerset County Fair Queen Jovi Jeske.

Annalee McCray of the Denver Fair was chosen as Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants.

Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding offered a reminder that resonated throughout the ballroom. "The crown is not the reward. It is the responsibility," he said, "encouraging the young women to represent agriculture with strength, courage, and purpose."

In the year ahead, Olivia and Rory will travel throughout the Commonwealth advocating for county and community fairs and sharing the story of agriculture's impact. Olivia will also serve as an honorary member of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Junior Committee and contribute to newsletters for both the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation and the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs.

As outgoing Queen Ava Immel placed the crown upon Olivia's head, it was clear the evening marked the beginning of something meaningful.

A year of handshakes.

A year of conversations.

A year of carrying the story of Pennsylvania fairs forward.

And in communities across the state, that story continues.

Submits appearance requests by emailing:

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Questions: Call (717)254-9550



Charley Lengel-Kramer 2025 Junior Fairperson of the Year

Charley Lengel-Kramer Named 2025 Junior Fairperson of the Year
The Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs has named Charley Lengel-Kramer as its 2025 Junior Fairperson of the Year, recognizing her outstanding commitment to agriculture, leadership, and service across the Commonwealth.

A junior Agribusiness major at Delaware Valley University, Charley specializes in dairy, livestock, and equine systems while also enrolled in the university's competitive 4+1 Agribusiness Management master's program. Her involvement on campus reflects both passion and purpose. She is active in Block and Bridle, Dairy Society, Collegiate Farm Bureau, the Collegiate Cattlemen's Association, and A-Day, and works as a student employee at the university's Livestock Center.



2025 Junior Fairperson of the Year Charley Lengel-Kramer with her parents, Janmichael & Holly Kramer.

Charley's roots in agriculture began long before college through active participation in 4-H and FFA during high school. That early foundation continues to guide her service today. She serves as a Zone 4 Junior Fair Board representative, was a nominee for the State Junior Fair title, and is a member of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Junior Committee.

Beyond her titles and involvement Charley is known for her willingness to step forward wherever help is needed, whether that means mentoring younger members, assisting with livestock shows, or representing youth voices in industry discussions. She understands that fairs are more than events. They are classrooms, community gatherings, and launching pads for future leaders. Balancing academics and agriculture with athletics, Charley is also a member of the Delaware Valley Collegians lacrosse team, demonstrating dedication both in and out of the arena.

Her recognition as Junior Fairperson of the Year highlights not only her accomplishments, but also the bright future she represents for Pennsylvania agriculture.



America250PA Quilt Raffle Raises \$8,880 at Farm Show

The Friends of the Farm Show Foundation's America250PA Quilt was proudly raffled on Saturday, January 17, 2026, during the Junior Committee Auction on the Main Hall stage at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. Created to celebrate Pennsylvania's rich agricultural heritage in advance of the Commonwealth's 250th anniversary, the America250PA Quilt quickly became one of the year's most talked-about projects. Each stitch reflected generations of farm families, youth leaders, and rural communities who have shaped agriculture across Pennsylvania since 1776.

As the Junior Committee Auction brought energy and excitement to the Farm Show floor, the quilt raffle marked a meaningful moment in the evening's program. When the winning ticket was

drawn, Beth Raney of State College was announced as the fortunate recipient of the commemorative quilt.

Beyond its beauty and craftsmanship, the project delivered an even greater impact. Through ticket sales and generous support, the America250PA Quilt raised \$8,880 for the Friends of the PA Farm Show Foundation Inc.. Proceeds from the raffle directly support youth educational agriculture programming connected to the Pennsylvania Farm Show. The Friends of the Farm Show Foundation Inc. works throughout the year to expand educational opportunities, invest in young leaders, and strengthen the future of agriculture in the Commonwealth.

The success of the America250PA Quilt raffle is a testament to the dedication of



Quilt being displayed by Garrett and Nathan at the Junior Committee Benefit Auction.

volunteers and supporters who believe in honoring our agricultural history while investing in the next generation. As Pennsylvania moves toward America250PA celebrations, this quilt will stand as a lasting reminder that agriculture remains at the heart of our state's past, present, and future.



CENTER FOR Dairy EXCELLENCE

On Farm Animal Care Workshops Offer Hands On National FARM Training This Spring

This spring, dairy producers across Pennsylvania will have the opportunity to step back onto the farm not just for daily chores, but for focused, hands-on training designed to strengthen animal care practices and meet National FARM requirements.

Beginning March 31, a series of free Animal Care Workshops will be held on five Pennsylvania dairy farms. The workshops are hosted by the Center for Dairy Excellence, PA Beef Council, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania, and Penn State Extension.

Unlike classroom settings, these workshops take place directly on working farms, offering practical skill building in real world environments. Participants will rotate through four core training areas that qualify under the National Dairy FARM Program:

- Cull cow decisions, down cows, and transition cows
- Animal handling, stewardship and meat quality issues
- Dystocia
- Farm safety

Each attendee will receive a certificate verifying completion of National FARM training requirements, an important component for many dairy operations committed to maintaining high standards in animal care, workplace safety, and stewardship.

Valerie Mason Faith, Risk Education Manager with the Center for Dairy Excellence, encourages producers to bring their teams.

“As you and your dairy team work to enhance efficiency and cow comfort, we hope you’ll join us at one of these animal

care workshops this spring,” Mason Faith said. “We’re excited to host the workshops back on the farm for hands on training. They are offered at no cost, and participants leave with documentation showing their commitment to FARM standards.”

A Spanish interpreter will be present at each workshop to ensure accessibility for dairy employees. Lunch will be provided, and biosecurity protocols will be carefully followed at every location.

Workshop Dates and Locations

March 31 – Lancaster County
Rohrer Dairy
Washington Boro, PA

April 2 – Lebanon County
Location to be announced

April 9 – Centre County
Breezy Farms
Pennsylvania Furnace, PA

April 21 – Franklin County
Mercer-Vu Farms
Mercersburg, PA

April 28 – Somerset County
Pennwood Farms
Berlin, PA

Registration is required. Dairy producers are encouraged to include the names of employees who will attend from their operation. To register, **call 717-346-0849 or visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/animal-care**.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information, contact Valerie Mason Faith at vmason@centerfordairyexcellence.org.



Date: 3/24/2026
Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 a.m.

Registration Deadline: 3/24/2026 9:45 AM

Point of Contact: Sherrima Sharif (215) 760-5318

Program Format: Online Meeting (Live)

Training Topics: Accounting/Budget, Agriculture, Cash Flow Management, Small Disadvantaged Businesses, Tax Planning
Description:
Learning Objectives:

- 1) Choosing the right QuickBooks version for your agriculture business
- 2) QuickBooks setup, including Chart of Accounts and Integrations
- 3) How to navigate daily functions in QuickBooks

This webinar is presented by Sherrima Sharif, QuickBooks certified Pro Advisor, and Accounting Services Program Manager for the PA SSBCI (State Small Business Credit Initiative) program. This workshop is presented for those small business owners with the online version of QuickBooks, and may not be as relevant for those with the desktop version license.

The PA SSBCI program is specifically designed for small businesses owned by socially or economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI) and very small businesses (VSB) with fewer than 10 employees. The PASBDC provides Technical Assistance for VSB or SEDI-owned businesses that are applying for, preparing to apply for, or have previously applied for federal or state funding.

“This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SSBCI-21031-0044 awarded to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.”

Instructions:
This workshop is for PASBDC registered clients. If you are not a registered client you will be asked to register for no cost advising before your registration is complete.

Attendee Instructions:
Join the webinar on Tuesday, March 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at this link:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://kutztown.zoom.us/j/94838700536>

Meeting ID: 948 3870 0536

Funded by Friends

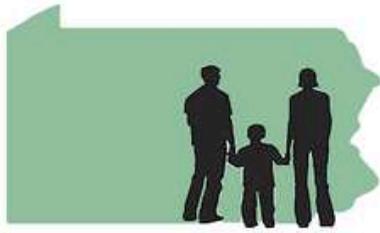
With the support of our **generous sponsors**, the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation helped fund more than 20 educational events and programs during the 110th Pennsylvania Farm Show. We invite you to take a moment to reflect back on the Farm Show and the impact these opportunities made.

For a full list of sponsors scan the QR code.



Photos by Rachel Schlegel

- Sheep to Shawl & Fleece to Shawl
- Draft Horse Pulling Competition
- AgExplorer Stations
- Antique Tractor Restoration
- Horse Power!
- Children's Pedal Tractor Pull
- PSECU Stage
- Lancaster Farming Stage
- Horseshoe Pitching
- Horse Shoeing & Sheep Shearing Demo
- Coloring Contest
- FFA Mid-Winter Convention
- Speedhorse Demonstration
- Mike Waugh Celebrity Draft Horse Feed Scurry Competition
- Calving Corner
- Truck and Tractor Pull Demonstration
- Conservation Display
- PA Farms to Families Immersion Lab
- Canine Extravaganza – Meet the Breeds
- Draft Horse Hitch & Drive Demos
- Lumberjack Demonstration
- Reined Cow Horse
- Mini Horse Extravaganza
- Ag Mechanics
- FFA Window Displays
- Women In Ag



FRIENDS OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA
FARM SHOW
FOUNDATION, INC.

"The **Trust** that our **Annual Friends** and our **Lifetime Friends** has placed in the hands of our 9-member Board of Directors of our Foundation is staggering in fulfillment of our **Mission Statement!**
What a Success Story!"

-William L. Piper
Former Chairman

Friends of Farm Show

Funding the Future of Ag

About us: The Foundation exists in order to , **facilitate, stimulate** and **support** educational programs, incentives and events relating to the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show.

**We invite you to partner with us
to produce this truly stellar event.**

Participation at all levels is welcome. Organizations, businesses and individuals are welcome to explore varied sponsorship levels. Becoming a Farm Show Friend is open to any person or family.

- **Sign-Up for the Newsletter**
- **Become a Friend**
- **Stay Connected**



www.friendsoffarmshow.com

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Lizzie Bailey, Vice-Chairman
Beverly Gruber, Secretary
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Lela Reichart, Member
Nathan Tallman, Member
Dale Welk, Member

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FRIENDS OF THE
**PENNSYLVANIA
FARM SHOW**
FOUNDATION, INC.

Friends of Farm Show

Funding the Future of Ag

Stimulate ♦ Facilitate ♦ Support

The Foundation believes in its mission statement to contribute to educational programs, incentives and events relating to the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Why is the Foundation important?

The Foundation was established in August 2010 and since then it has contributed more than \$2 million to the educational programs at the Farm Show.

How can you get involved?

Become a Friend!

\$65/annually ♦ \$500/lifetime

Email farmshowfriends@gmail.com
or call 717-729-7158

Donate to the Friends

Along with the fee of becoming a Friend, donations of any amount are accepted and are tax deductible. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Friend Application:

Contact's Name: _____

Name as you would like it to appear on signage:

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about us: _____

I would like to receive Friends' emails:
Email _____

Annual-\$65

Lifetime-\$500

Billing: Check Enclosed

Pay by credit card:

Call Debby Griffith, Bookkeeper, 717-497-5660

Mail checks to:

Friends of the PA Farm Show Foundation
c/o PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center
2300 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

I would like to sign-up for Friends' Emails

Email: _____

FOLLOW US!

[f](#) FriendsofPAFarmShow [@](#)friendsofpafarmshow



c/o PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center
 2300 North Cameron Street
 Harrisburg, PA 17110

Email: farmshowfriends@gmail.com

Website: www.friendsoffarmshow.com

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Pennsylvania
Farm Show

Is Hiring!



apply at:

employment.pa.gov

**Pennsylvania
 Farm Show Complex
 and Expo Center Schedule**

Highlights of Upcoming Events

- March 5-8, 2026 PA Home & Garden Show
- March 5-8, 2026 Horse World Expo
- March 14-15, 2026 Harrisburg Gun & Knife Show
- March 19-21, 2026 Keystone Nationals
 Championships
 Truck & Tractor Pulls
- March 20-22, 2026 Mid-Atlantic Beef Classic

Jan. 9-16, 2027 PA Farm Show 2027

Plus hundreds of other entertaining
 and educational events.
 See the full schedule here

