

# Scholarships Go To Students Pursuing Ag, Home Economic-Related Careers

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Lancaster Farming Staff  
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)

— Seven Lancaster countians will be heading off to college with \$1,400 scholarships from the Farm and Home Center Foundation.

The monies for the scholarships are derived from a trust fund set up more than three decades ago by the late Elmer L. Esbenshade. Recipients must pursue either a degree in agriculture or in a home economics-related field. Selections are based on scholarship, leadership, extracurricular activities, and financial need and include the following students:

Shannan Sombers said of her decision to study food science at Purdue University, "I like making food and eating, too."

The 18-year-old had considered becoming a chef, but with a strong background in math and science courses, Shannan heard opportunities abounded in the food science arena. When she saw a brochure from Purdue touting its food science program, she knew that was the place for her. Purdue and the Institute of Food Technology have also awarded Shannon with substantial scholarships.

The Ephrata high school senior is the daughter of Frank and Laurie Sombers of Ephrata. At school, Shannan is president of the National Honor Society, plays field hock-

ey, spring and winter hockey, student council representative, prom council member, and placed first at the state level in the Science Fair competition. Her project was called "Metingoline's Effect on the Living Ecosystem of Corbicula Fluminea." Successful Science Fair projects enabled her to visit Albuquerque as an observer of ocean habitat.

As if that isn't enough to keep her busy, Shannan works part time at Zinn's Diner, and volunteers at Maple Farms Nursing Home, Ephrata Library, and Eileen's Fitness Club.

Jessica Hess plans to study beef and livestock science at State University New York (SUNY). The 18-year-old doesn't live on a farm, but for years she has been helping on neighboring farms. She has worked with hogs, chickens, tobacco, hay, straw, tomatoes, orchard, and small vegetables.

Jessica selected SUNY after a university representative visited Penn Manor High School, where she is in FFA. In school, Jessica also participated in soccer, basketball, track and field. She is a member of a church youth group. Jessica resides with her mom Teresa Hess in Washington Boro.

Jessica Latham said, "Penn State was the only college I applied to because it's the only place I wanted to go."

The 18-year-old daughter of

Steven and Donna Latham plans to study animal bioscience to pursue a veterinary career. Although she did not grow up on a farm, Jessica said that she often helped on her grandmother's farm, where she raised 4-H dairy projects.

At Solanco High School, Jessica has participated in marching, concert and jazz bands, pit orchestra, glee club, Interact Community Service, Christians in Action, National Honor Society, and served as a peer mentor. Jessica is active in her church youth group, plays in the church brass band, and helps in the nursery.

In addition to Farm and Home, Jessica has received scholarships from Penn State and a savings bond from Daughters of the American Revolution. She was featured as Teen of the Week in December.

This summer Jessica will participate in a mission trip to Austria, where she will work in an orphanage and be part of a drama team.

Sarah Woodling is best known to Lancaster Farming readers as the Lancaster County Poultry Queen and as recipient of several awards for her research in egg preservation. This year, Sarah has discovered new egg storage methods by using food grade shellac and with modified atmosphere packaging.

After top awards in the Science Fair for two years, Sarah's project this year was even more qualified

to win, except it couldn't be judged.

Contestants needed to attend the event to be interviewed by judges. Because Sarah excels in music, she had the opportunity to audition at regional competition. The problem was that it was the same day.

The 17-year-old daughter of Russell and Barbara Woodling, Landisville, said that she decided that since she would be spending the rest of her life in science research, and she would never again have the opportunity to compete in regional chorus, she would go for the musical competition. Sarah was selected as first soprano at county, district, and regional levels. She was a member of Chamber Singers, Hempfield Singers, Senior Strings, Concertas Musicus, and participated in the school's fall and spring musicals.

Sarah has participated in the Governor's School of Ag Science and has been impressed with Penn State's program. She has received several scholarships from Penn State and the National Institute of Food Technology to study food science and poultry technology at the college.

Sarah also works part time at a retirement home and at J.C. Penney.

Michael Bollinger will study animal science and agribusiness at Alfred State College of Technology.

The 18-year-old son of C. Dale and Cynthia Bollinger lives on a

Quarryville farm.

At Solanco, Michael has participated in baseball, wrestling, soccer, FFA, marching band, band, and the National Honor Society. He is active in his church youth group.

The Bollingers raise 45-50 cows on their farm. In addition to many farm projects for FFA, Michael has received Keystone, Red Rose, and star chapter awards. He is a past president of his FFA chapter.

Laura Miller has been sewing since she was 7 years old.

"I love to sew," she said of her reason to pursue a fashion design degree at Lasell in Boston.

For years, Laura has been helping in her mom's home business by sewing wedding and formal gowns.

She has enjoyed it so much that she is determined to concentrate on formal wear in fashion design.

"I would like to establish a big business in formal wear," Laura said.

Helping in her mom's business has not allowed Laura much extra time for extracurricular activities at Donegal High School. "But that's the way I wanted it. I can sew all day," Laura said.

She works on the yearbook staff, is a member of the Key Club, Booster Club, and in the church library.

Laura is the daughter of Grace and Eric Miller, Mount Joy.

(Turn to Page A37)



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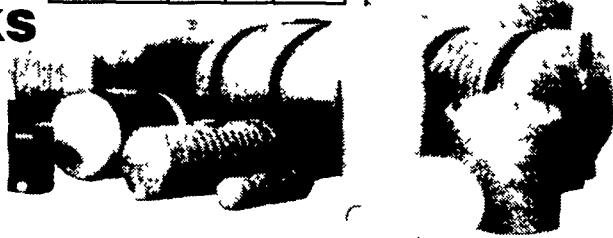
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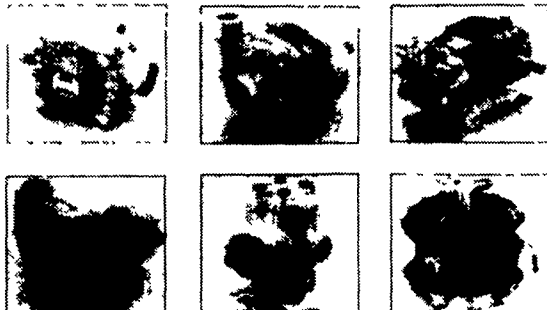
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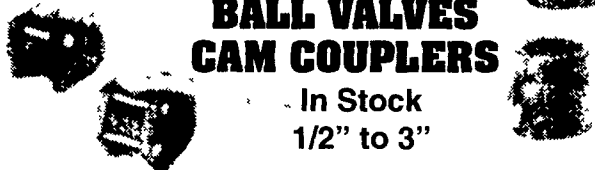


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