

# Newsmakers

## ■ IN THE NEWS

**Jean Riffle** has been appointed Region III education chairwoman for the American National CattleWomen (ANCW), Englewood, Colo. Riffle also serves on the Public Relations, Resolutions, Education and Promotion committees.

In December Riffle was installed as president of the Heart of America Chapter of The Retired Officers Association (TROA) Auxiliary in Kansas City, Mo.

Riffle and her husband, John, operate John Riffle Angus Farms, Pleasant Hill, Mo.

**Nancy (Diuble) Thelen**, Ann Arbor, Mich., received the National Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Agents at its annual conference in Denver, Colo.

Thelen worked for Premier Beef Cattle and Curtiss Breeding Service before joining Michigan State University Extension in 1979. From 1979 to 1989, she served as the 4-H youth agent in Eaton County, Mich. Since then, she has been the county Extension director in Washtenaw County, Mich.

Thelen has been involved in Angus activities for many years. In the 1960s, she helped organize the Michigan Junior Angus Association and served as Miss American Angus in 1970-71. She also has served in leadership roles in the Michigan Angus Association and the Michigan Angus Auxiliary. Today, Thelen and her husband, Steve, and their daughters, Renee and Julie, continue to participate in various Angus activities. Both daughters are officers in the Michigan Junior Angus Association, and Renee currently serves as Michigan Angus queen.

**Jim and Ann Werner**, Jim & Ann Werner Registered Angus, Diagonal, Iowa, have been named Iowa's Seedstock Producer of the Year. The award will be presented on Feb. 14 at the Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines.

The award honors outstanding cattle producers in the seedstock industry. Each purebred breed association is given the opportunity to nominate one candidate for the award.

Ann's father, Wayne Lacock, founded the herd in 1928. Ann took an active role in the operation at an early age and collected

performance data and maintained the records for her father. Her career in the seedstock industry continued after her marriage to Jim as they started purchasing females from her father. The Werner herd was started in 1976 with only a few cows. Today their operation has grown to include almost 300 breeding females.

## ■ ANGUS ARRIVALS

Bret and Melissa (Harrison) Schulze, Mount Airy, Md., announce the birth of their first son, **Kyle Edward**, Nov. 1. Kyle weighed 7 lb., 6 oz. and was 20 in. long. Grandparents are Mike and Ann Harrison of Washington Farm, Woodbine, Md.

Nick and Leslie (Morelock) Roye, Fayetteville, Ark., announce the Nov. 6 birth of their daughter, **Hailey Ann**. She arrived at 5:48 p.m., weighing 7 lb., 7 oz. and measuring 19½ in. long. Her grandfather is Teddy Morelock.

Tim and Heather Overstreet, Cedar Branch Farm, Bedford, Va., are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, **Joshua Quinn**. Joshua was born at 2:01 p.m., Dec. 11. He weighed 8 lb., 10½ oz. and measured 22½ in. Paternal grandparents are Ivan and Elaine Overstreet, Wirtz, Va., and maternal grandparents are William and Janet Carter, Vinton, Va.

## ■ IN PASSING

**Othella (Rousser) Jones**, 81, of Dimmitt, Texas, passed away Dec. 2. Jones was born in Kress, Texas, on March 24, 1919, to George and Edna (Myers) Rousser. In 1935 she married Worth Jones.

A homemaker and rancher, Jones was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Dimmitt and the Texas Angus Auxiliary, and she served as secretary for the Greater West Texas Angus Association.

She is survived by her husband; a son, Weldon of Hart, Texas; two daughters: San Rhodes of Amarillo, Texas, and Jeton Edge of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a brother, Winfred Rousser of Sunray, Texas; a sister, Ramona Mallow of Plainview, Texas; a half-sister, Marguarite Bowman in California; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the

## Kurtz named advertising coordinator

Ginette Kurtz, Clarksdale, Mo., has been named advertising coordinator for the *Angus Journal* and the *Angus Beef*



**Ginette Kurtz**

*Bulletin*. Kurtz's role in the Advertising Department gradually has expanded to include more responsibility. "Ginette's rapport with

*Angus Journal* and *Beef Bulletin* customers is one of her many valuable qualities, which she has built upon in the last 12 years of employment with Angus Productions Inc.," said API Advertising and Production Manager Cheryl Oxley in making the announcement. "The extensive experience and knowledge she has acquired with the Angus breeders and meeting their marketing needs qualify her well for this position."

In her new role, Kurtz will coordinate procurement, production and publication of advertising in both API publications.

Kurtz, who lives on a small commercial cattle operation near Clarksdale, has been married to Andy Kurtz for nine years. They have a 4-year-old son, Seth.

First United Methodist churches of Dimmitt or Hart; Hospice Cares, 213 W. Etter, Dimmitt, TX 79027; or Medical Center of Dimmitt, 112 W. Jones, Dimmitt, TX 79027.

**Richard Waldher**, 69, Pomeroy, Wash., passed away Nov. 26. He was born May 23, 1931, in Pomeroy to Anthony and Frances (Van Ausdle) Waldher. He graduated from Pomeroy High School in 1949 and married Meribeth Burnett on May 20, 1950, at Pomeroy.

The couple attended Washington State University at Pullman for one year before returning to Pomeroy, when Waldher went to work for his father at his Standard Oil distributorship. In 1962 he purchased the family business. He retired in 1997.

Waldher farmed in the Dutch Flat area of Garfield County until his death. He raised

wheat and Angus cattle for 53 years. He established JR Angus, a purebred herd. He received the Cattleman of the Year Award in 1977. He was known for his purebred Angus production.

Waldher coached the Holy Rosary Catholic School A and B basketball teams for 13 years and coached many years of Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) girls' and boys' basketball teams.

He was actively involved in helping FFA members raise their animals and often loaned his barns and pasture to 4-H and FFA members who lived in town. Waldher was instrumental in starting the Pomeroy FFA Chapter rotating cow project and donated one of the first Angus cows to the chapter. He was a member of the Washington State Angus Association for 45 years. Waldher assisted in starting the Washington State Junior Angus Association and was active with the junior Angus show days and events.

Waldher was a member of Holy Rosary Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus; was a city councilman for eight years; president of the local Kiwanis Club; and was a past member of the Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce.

He is survived by his wife; three sons: Mark and James, both of Pomeroy, and Chris of Longview, Wash.; two daughters: Lisa Lund of Pomeroy and Susan of Fruitland, Idaho; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Donald.

Memorials may be sent to the Dick and Meribeth Waldher Vocational Education Scholarship Fund in care of Sterling Savings Association, 782 Main St., Pomeroy, WA 99347.

■ **ALSO IN THE NEWS**

**Pfizer Animal Health**, Exton, Pa., was honored with the National Outstanding Cooperation Award by the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) at its December meeting in San Diego, Calif. The award recognizes Pfizer's donations to participating FFA chapters through its Dectomax® Next Generation Program.

**Bill Pendergrass** has resigned as executive vice president of the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association (TCA). He has accepted a position with Future Beef Operations, working in the Southeast.

**M. Scott Smith** became dean of the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Agriculture on Jan. 1. In addition to being the chief administrative officer of the college, Smith will direct the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, which are both statewide entities that have links to national networks.

Smith has been with UK since 1978, the year he received his doctorate from Michigan State University. Before becoming dean, Smith served as associate dean for research, associate director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and a professor of agronomy.



Officers and board members of Texas's Lone Star Angus Alliance are (top row, from left) **E.M. Holt**, Weimar, president; **Warren Wheelock**, Hallettsville, vice president; **Delbert Faske**, Lexington treasurer; (bottom row, from left) **Lee Mueller**, La Grange; **Bubba Kay**, Manor; **Mark Janak**, Hallettsville, secretary; and **Doug Willard**, Industry.



The American Angus Association and Angus Productions Inc. recognized several individuals for their years of service to the organization at a recent holiday celebration. Those pictured (from left) are **Jeanette Frump**, five years; **Gail Billups**, five years; **Shelby Corf**, five years; **Debbie Alexander**, five years; **Carol Waller**, 30 years; and **Mary Pepple**, 15 years. Not pictured are **Jean McGuire**, 10 years, and regional managers **Jim Shirley**, 15 years; **Don Laughlin**, 20 years; **Bill Powell**, 20 years; and **Chuck Grove**, 25 years.