

Compiled by Kasey Brown



Hayley DeHaan

POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR

New year, new opportunities

As 2018 rang in, I once again sat down to make my New Year's resolutions list. I stared down at my sheet of paper, pen in hand, reflecting on 2017 and all the many blessings that came my way.

The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) has played a huge role in the goals I made over the years, and I am forever thankful for the person it has transformed me to become.

For some, a new year is the opportunity to wipe the slate clean. For others, it is the opportunity to step out

of the comfort zone and try something new. Sensing a pattern? A new year brings new opportunity.

I want you to ask yourselves, what is stopping you from seizing the opportunity to be successful?

Here are my top six resolutions for juniors in 2018!

1 Apply for scholarships

The Angus Foundation offers more than \$200,000 in both undergraduate and graduate scholarships. Head to www.angusfoundation.org to fill out applications by May 1.

The American Angus Auxiliary has a scholarship for graduating seniors, both male and female. Ladies who receive the scholarship have the opportunity to run for Miss American Angus at the 2018 Angus Convention.

You'll need your Bronze and Silver awards to receive the Auxiliary scholarship, so be sure to get those before the due date on May 1.

2 Raising the Bar

Head to the home of America's brightest orange to check out Oklahoma State University (OSU). Raising the Bar is a great way to meet and get to know juniors from around the country. In Oklahoma, you'll be able to visit some of the most prominent Angus ranches in the country and get an inside peek at OSU's purebred beef unit and state-of-the-art research facilities.

3 Attend Angus Convention

Travel to Columbus, Ohio, and explore the 2018 Angus Convention. There you can check out a variety of production-based seminars and learn about the latest tools to use on your operation at home. You will also have the opportunity to listen to the Miss American Angus competition speeches and watch the Angus Ambassador presentation.

4 Attend LEAD

Hosted in Billings, Mont., the 2018 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference is one not to miss! This LEAD will take us back to our Angus roots, focusing on premier ranches, genetics and production cattle. Join 200 other juniors and explore Big Sky Country while making memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

5 Attend first STAR

State officers will be a part of NJAA history and travel to Saint Joseph, Mo., for the first State Training and Angus Retreat (STAR) conference. At STAR, you'll get the opportunity to tour the American Angus Association headquarters and explore the different branches within the Association. You'll be able to grow as a leader and as a team member.

6 Say thanks

Thank the Angus Foundation and the Auxiliary at local, state and national levels.

The National Junior Angus Association and its many opportunities are largely funded by the Angus Foundation and the Angus Auxiliary, both locally and nationally. Without these organizations, many of our scholarships and events would not be what they are now. Take the time to thank the individuals behind these organizations who take the time to make all the magic happen.

— Hayley DeHaan, Oregon



Bronze and Silver awards

Bree Gaffney, Barneveld, Wis.; Grace Link, Deerfield, Wis.; Dakota Lovett, Bladen, Neb.; Tanner Mickey, Taylorville, Ill.; Claire Murnin, Huntley, Mont.; and Taylor Nikkel, Maple Hill, Kan., have earned the NJAA's Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Clark, education and events director of the American Angus Association. Rylee Erdmann, Lisbon, N.D.; and Sophia Royer, Westpoint, Ind., have earned the NJAA Bronze Award.

Bree Gaffney, the 16-year-old daughter of Scott and Valerie Gaffney, attends Barneveld High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association, which she has served as fundraising chair, queen and ambassador.

She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Bree participated in the livestock judging, photography, quiz bowl, prepared public speaking, graphic design, creative writing and extemporaneous speaking contests, as well as the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off. She also participated in the mentoring program in 2013 and 2014. In 2015 and 2017 she attended the LEAD conferences.

Bree has submitted weight data to the American Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) program and has consigned cattle to the Gaffney Family Cattle Bull and Female sales. She is actively involved with her local 4-H club.

Grace Link, the 17-year-old daughter of James and Linda Link, attends Stoughton High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association,

which she serves as secretary.

She has participated in local, state and national shows. At the NJAS, Grace served as a voting delegate in 2014 and 2016. She also attended the LEAD conference in 2015.

She is actively involved in her local 4-H club and FFA.



Dakota Lovett, the 20-year-old son of Jeff and Sandy Lovett, attends Southeast Community College, where he studies livestock production and agriculture business. He is a member of the NJAA and the Nebraska Junior Angus Association, which he has served as director.



He has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS,



Dakota participated in the livestock judging, quiz bowl and photography contests.

Tanner Mickey, the 16-year-old son of Jon and Carla Mickey, is a member of the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association.

He has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Tanner participated in the extemporaneous public speaking, photography, team sales, quiz bowl, livestock judging and team marketing contests.

He has submitted weight data to AHIR and consigned cattle to the Prairie Creek Angus Sale.

Claire Murnin, the 10-year-old daughter of Jared and Julie Murnin, attends Huntley Project Elementary School and is a member of the NJAA

and the Montana Junior Angus Association.

She has participated in state, regional and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Claire participated in the photography, livestock judging, prepared public speaking, stockman, skillathon and quiz bowl contests and the Cook-Off. She was also a participant in the mentoring program in 2016 and 2017.

She has submitted weight data to AHIR and consigned cattle in the Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) Angus female sale.

Taylor Nikkel, the 19-year-old daughter of Mark and Janice Nikkel, attends Kansas State University, where she studies agricultural economics. She is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, which she serves as a director.

She has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Taylor participated in the team sales, team marketing, livestock judging and team fitting contests.

Rylee Erdmann, the 9-year-old daughter of Jeremy and Stacy Erdmann, attends Lisbon Elementary School and is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association.

She has participated in local, state and national shows. At the NJAS, Rylee participated in the 2017 mentoring program.

She has submitted weight data to AHIR and has consigned cattle to the Sprunk-Erdmann Angus Production sales. She is also actively involved with her local 4-H club.

Sophia Royer, the 11-year-old daughter of Steve and Cassie Royer, attends Mintonye Elementary School and is a member of the NJAA and the Indiana Junior Angus Association.

She has participated in local, state

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and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Sophia participated in the quiz bowl, team sales and livestock judging contests. She was also a participant in the 2016 and 2017 mentoring program.

Kansas Angus Youth Earn KLF Scholarships

Twenty-two scholarship winners for the 2017-2018 school year were

recognized during the annual Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) Convention Nov. 29 in Wichita, including Angus juniors Sarah Loomis, Council Grove, Kan., and Morgan Woodbury, Quenemo, Kan. A total of \$23,000 was presented by the Kansas Livestock Foundation (KLF) and its partners.

Sarah Loomis, daughter of Jason and Sheryl Loomis, received a \$1,000 "Youth in Agriculture" scholarship

from KLF. She is a freshman at Hutchinson Community College (HCC) majoring in agricultural communications and animal science. Funded by the KLF Club Calf Sale hosted during the Kansas Junior Livestock Show, this scholarship recognizes students entering or returning to a Kansas junior or senior college and pursuing a degree in agriculture or a related field.

Morgan Woodbury, daughter of Howard and Elise Woodbury, received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Kansas CattleWomen (KCW). She is a freshman majoring in agribusiness. This scholarship, funded by the KCW silent auction, is awarded to students entering or returning to a Kansas community or senior college and pursuing a degree in dietetics, food safety, agriculture or a related field.

Juniors present research

Undergraduate students presented posters during the Kansas State University (K-State) Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI) Undergraduate Research Symposium Tuesday, Dec. 12. The symposium hosted at Weber Hall highlighted the ASI undergraduate research for the fall 2017 semester.

Undergraduate research is an opportunity to perform in-depth study, gain transferable skills, develop critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, define academic and professional interests, and form relationships with mentors, professors and other students. The program gives students the opportunity to work with ASI faculty and graduate student mentors on a rewarding project that helps them prepare for their next goals.

Research helps students understand the value and constraints of data. Whether they go on to

Important dates and deadlines

FEBRUARY 2018

- 15** Ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Jr. Angus Show
- 15** State Training and Angus Retreat (STAR) conference registration deadline

MARCH 2018

- 1** Deadline for Honorary Angus Foundation and Advisor of the Year nominations
- 1** Raising the Bar (Oklahoma City, Okla.) registration deadline
- 9-11** MAJAC Show, Harrisonburg, Va.
- 22-25** STAR Conference, Saint Joseph, Mo.

APRIL 2018

- 12-15** Western Regional, Reno, Nev.
- 15** Ownership & entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Show
- 19-22** Raising the Bar, Oklahoma City, Okla.

MAY 2018

- 1** Deadline for Gold Award applications
- 1** Outstanding Leadership Award applications due
- 1** Ownership and entry deadline for American Angus Breeder's Futurity
- 1** Ownership and entry deadline for Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show
- 1** Ownership and entry deadline Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show
- 1** CAB/NJAA and Angus Foundation scholarships applications due
- 15** Ownership and early entry deadline for National Junior Angus Show
- 15** Entry deadline for NJAA Creative Writing, NJAA/Angus Journal Photograph, and NJAA Graphic Design Contests
- 15** Entry and recipe deadline for All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off

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Nick Theos Scholarship Program

The Public Lands Council (PLC) opened applications for the Nick Theos Scholarship Program, offering qualified college students a unique opportunity to attend the PLC 2018 Spring Legislative Conference April 10-12 in Washington, D.C.

Selected scholarship recipients will join conference attendees as they meet with members of Congress, federal government agency officials, and leading policy influencers to communicate policy priorities of the public land ranching industry.

Two Nick Theos scholarships are available for 2018. The scholarships include a \$250 stipend, hotel

accommodations, and complimentary conference registration.

Nick Theos, a founding member of PLC and lifetime supporter of the livestock industry, died April 11, 2013, at the age of 92.

The scholarship was created by the Theos family to encourage the next generation to engage in the policy issues facing public lands ranching.

Interested students should

complete an online application, found at <http://bit.ly/2CNp5Y3>, by Feb. 9, 2018. Applicants should have a demonstrated interest in public lands ranching.

Directed questions to Allie Nelson at 406-231-3328 or anelson@beef.org.



PHOTO BY PAIGE NELSON

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graduate school, return to the ranch or venture into industry, these students will use data every day to make decisions. An undergraduate research experience helps them understand how to value that data during the decision-making process and will help make them more successful animal scientists.

Angus junior **Dean Klahr**, ASI junior from Holton, Kan., took part in the participant-based undergraduate research. "Participating in research has provided me with a real-life experience to decide if I want to continue with research in the future, along with seeing the benefits we can make on the industry," Klahr explained.

His project looked at the effects of beef cattle temperament on feed and water intake, working with Megan Rolf, assistant professor in animal science.

The undergraduate research course focused on the effect of increasing GleptoForte dosage in newborn pigs on sow and litter performance. Students developed abstracts and posters as part of the course requirement. Angus junior **Shannon Ney** was a member of the class.

Ney, animal science and industry junior from Russell, Kan., said, "This course allowed [me] to exercise my communication, time-management and critical-thinking skills. I discovered where my passion lies within the industry."

Twelve of the undergraduate research students will be presenting their research at regional or national meetings.


Undergraduates interested in learning more about the ASI research program, or those interested in sponsoring the program, can contact Cassie Jones, coordinator of undergraduate research, at 785-532-5289 or jonesc@ksu.edu. 

Photo Contest

Deadline: May 15, 2018

Rules available at www.angus.org/njaa/Contests.aspx

Photo categories

- Angus Cattle



- Angus Landscapes



- Angus People



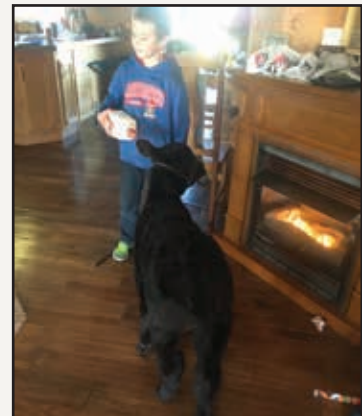
- Around the Farm or Ranch



Digitally Enhanced Photo Contest

Deadline:
May 15, 2018

Show off your skills in enhancing photos with a specified purpose, whether for use in an advertisement, to use as a t-shirt design or for some other purpose.



Rules available at
www.angus.org/njaa/Contests.aspx