

NEXT GENERATION

Compiled by Megan Silveira,
assistant editor

POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Tyler Bush

Brought together by a basic love

To say the least, the past few months have been somewhat of a whirlwind. But we are Angus, right?

We are driven, determined, the toughest of the tough, passionate, goal-oriented folks who never stop till we reach our destination.

I'm not oblivious to the fact that things have been a struggle. I know the future is uncertain. But what do we do, and where do we go? I say we take this time to show the world why the livestock and agricultural industries are so important.

It's pretty easy to say we as agriculturists will continue progressing forward, but there will always be challenges. We as

producers have to be leaders and show the genuine pride we have in the work we do.

Whether you're 15, 30 or 60 years old, if you put your best foot forward, you can be the person to truly make a difference during these challenging times.

Juniors, I know things have been difficult. The drive, determination and work ethic we're known for hasn't had the same upbeat feeling like most years.

But I promise, no matter the circumstances, if you put in the time,

results will come in the end.

I encourage you to not slow down, to not do anything halfway and to not give up. With mediocre effort comes mediocre outcomes.

We never know what the future has in store, but what we can control is the love and passion we share for this historic breed. To leave you all with a thought of mine: remember it is cattle that have brought us together, and it is cattle that will keep us together.

— Tyler Bush

Angus juniors selected to Missouri Agribusiness Academy

National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members Lucas Crutcher, Fair Grove, Mo., and Courtney Keaton, Anderson, Mo., were two of the 30 high school sophomores selected as participants for the Missouri Department of Agriculture's Missouri Agribusiness Academy.

Throughout the upcoming year, this group of students will have an opportunity to explore various segments of the Missouri agricultural industry. With the changes brought

about by the recent pandemic, the Department is exploring virtual avenues in the areas of leadership and professional development for participants.

The Department plans to provide students with many opportunities including tours of agricultural businesses, presentations from various guest speakers and visits with influential leaders in the industry. The academy will allow participants to explore career opportunities in agribusiness, animal health, farming, ranching and more.

Bronze and Silver Awards

Trey Conley, Clarksdale, Mo.; Kady Figge, Onaga, Kan.; Kelly Gaffney, Barneveld, Wis.; Victoria Gerken, Cashion, Okla.; Marcie Harward, Richfield, N.C.; Mattie Harward, Richfield, N.C.; Hudson Myers, Edmond, Okla.; Garrett Schuering, Thompson, Mo.; and Baylee Wulfkuhle, Berryton, Kan.; have earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Upperman, education and events director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo.

Adam Miller, Gridley, Ill.; has earned the NJAA's Silver award, and Allie Bieber, Waukon, Iowa; William Miller, Gridley, Ill.; and Gage Zenor, Attica, Ind.; have earned the NJAA's Bronze award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of Junior Angus Association activities and leadership; participation in showmanship, contests and shows; using performance testing to improve their herd; and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

The first recipient of the Bronze

and Silver awards is **Trey Conley**. Conley is from Clarksdale, Mo., and a member of the NJAA and Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA).

The 18-year-old son of Bill and Donna Conley has served his state as second secretary. Conley has shown at all levels and participated in the livestock judging and photography contests at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).

Conley has attended the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) and Raising the Bar conferences and Angus Convention. He has also submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) and consigned cattle to the Conley Angus sale.

Kady Figge of Onaga, Kan., is also being recognized. Keith Figge's 18-year-old daughter currently

attends Onaga High School.

As a member of the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA), Figge has served as director, treasurer, royalty and State Ambassador.

As an attendee of the NJAS, she has competed in the photography contest and participated in the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off and mentoring program.

Figge has attended the LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences, as well as submitted data to AHIR and consigned cattle to the Schilling Cattle Company sale.

The next recipient is **Kelly Gaffney** of Barneveld, Wis. Gaffney is the 15-year-old daughter of Valerie and Scott Gaffney and attends Barneveld School District.

Gaffney is a member of the NJAA and the Wisconsin Junior Angus

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Wisconsin



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Association (WJAA). She has attended the NJAS, where she participated in the quiz bowl contest and the mentoring program.

Gaffney has submitted weight data to the AHIR and consigned cattle to the Gaffney Family Cattle sale.

Cashion, Okla., native **Victoria Gerken** is receiving her awards. She is the 18-year-old daughter of David and Cara Gerken and attends Kingfisher High School.

Gerken is a member of the NJAA and Oklahoma Junior Angus Association (OJAA). She has served her state association as director and reporter in the past and currently serves as president and royalty.

At the NJAS Gerken has participated in the public speaking and team sales contests and the Cook-Off. Additionally, she served as a voting delegate at the NJAS and participated in the LEAD conference.

Marcus and Patty Harward's 18-year-old daughter **Marcie Harward** has earned recognition. Harward is from Richfield, N.C., and attends Stanly Community College, where she is working towards her associate degree in science.

Harward is a member of the NJAA and the North Carolina Junior Angus Association, where she has served as vice president, royalty and currently serves as secretary.

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Harward has participated in the team marketing, quiz bowl, creative writing, team sales and career development contests as well as the Cook-Off. She has as served as a voting delegate for her state in 2017.

In addition to showing at all levels, Harward has participated in the Raising the Bar conference.

Harward's 18-year-old sister, **Mattie Harward**, is the next recipient. Mattie also attends Harward Academy/Stansly Community College, where she is working towards her associate degree in science.

As a member of the North Carolina Junior Angus Association, Mattie has served as director, treasurer, vice president, president and royalty.

At the NJAS, Mattie has participated in the team marketing contest, mentoring program and the Cook-Off. Along with showing at all levels, Mattie has attended the LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences.

Hudson Myers of Edmond, Okla., has earned his Bronze and Silver awards. He is the 17-year-old son of Steven and Joy Myers and attends Oklahoma State University (OSU).

As member of the NJAA and OJAA, Myers has served his state association

as director. He was this year's recipient of the Oklahoma Angus Association scholarship.

Myers has exhibited cattle at all levels and attended the NJAS where he took part in the Cook-Off.

Myers has attended the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference for two years. He has also submitted data to the AHIR® and consigned cattle to the Price Farms "Sale of Queens" sale.

Thompson, Mo., native, **Garrett Schuering**, has been awarded his Bronze and Silver awards. Schuering is the 18-year-old son of Brent and Melanie Schuering. He currently attends Centralia R-VI High School.

Schuering has shown at all levels and is a member of both the NJAA and the MJAA. He has served as second vice president and treasurer for the MJAA.

Schuering has attended the NJAS and the Raising the Bar conference. At the NJAS, Schuering has participated in the skill-a-thon, quiz bowl and mentoring program. He served as a voting delegate last year.

The last recipient is **Baylee Wulfkuhle** from Berryton, Kan. Mark and Brenna Wulfkuhle's 18-year-old daughter attends Shawnee Heights

High School.

As a member of the NJAA and the KJAA, Wulfkuhle has served her state as director and State Angus Ambassador. At the NJAS, she has participated in the quiz bowl contest.

Receiving the Silver award is **Adam Miller** of Gridley, Ill. Miller is 15 years old and attends El Paso Gridley High School. He is the son of Alan and Theresa Miller.

During his time as a member of both the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association, Miller has shown at all levels. He has participated in the team fitting contest, mentoring program and Cook-Off at the NJAS.

Miller has attended the Mini-Raising the Bar and LEAD conferences, as well as submitted weight data to the AHIR®.

The first recipient of the Bronze award is **Allie Bieber**. The Waukon, Iowa, native is the 17-year-old daughter of Edward and Amy Bieber. She attends Waukon High School.

Bieber has served the Iowa Junior Angus Association as royalty and received their state scholarship. She has shown at all levels.

At the NJAS, Bieber participated in the mentoring program. She has also attended the LEAD conference.

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William Miller from Gridley, Ill., is also receiving his Bronze award. The 10-year-old attends El Paso Gridley Centennial Elementary School and is the brother of Silver award recipient, Adam Miller.

As a member of the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association, William has shown at all levels and attended the NJAS, where he participated in the Cook-Off and

mentoring program.

William has also consigned cattle to the Prairie View Farms Sale.

The next recipient of the Bronze award is **Gage Zenor**. Zenor is from Attica, Ind., and attends Seeger High School. The 17-year-old is the son of Heidi Zenor.

As an active Angus showman, Zenor is a member of the NJAA and the Indiana Junior Angus

Association. He has participated in local and state shows and attended the NJAS. **AJ**

Nebraska



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