

NEWSMAKERS

Compiled by Lindsay King, assistant editor

Within this “Newsmakers” column we share important news and accomplishments of our members, including state association activities, birth and marriage announcements, and news of Angus members’ passing.

In passing



Daniel “Dan” Bruns, 68, Madison, S.D., passed away April 7.

Dan and his wife of almost 47 years, Linda,

established Bruns Angus near Madison in 1972. They began selling registered Angus bulls in 1989 and continue to do so today. Over the years the couple was blessed with three children: Donny, Jesse and Kaylynn. Both boys came back to the family operation. Dan continued to be active in the daily operations throughout his 2.5-year fight with pancreatic cancer.

Survivors include his wife Linda (Bachmann) Bruns; children Donny Bruns, Jesse (Kari) Bruns and Kaylynn (Chad) Bruns-Cooney; grandchildren Kade and Jace Bruns and Addison and Paislee Cooney, all of Madison; brothers Ron Bruns of Baltic, S.D., Gary Bruns of Floresville, Texas, and Bill (Diane) Bruns of Madison; brother-in-law, Keith Gates of Pella, Iowa; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Crystal (Kevin) Manthey of Bonesteel, S.D., and sister-in-law, Dawn Holley (Chris Clark) of Prescott, Ariz.; nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles; as well as his four-legged best friend, Corky.



Louis Bulfer, 77, Fairmont, Minn., passed away April 2.

Louis was born Nov. 13, 1941, to Louis Sr. and

Mary (Angstrom) Bulfer. Graduating from Fairmont High School in 1960, Louis moved to Arizona in April of 1963 where he entered the U.S. Army as a helicopter crew chief. He was honorably discharged in late 1966.

Louis married Margaret Herrin in 1967 in Shelbyville, Tenn., and they were blessed with three children: Daniel, Philip and Sarah.

Louis owned Bulfer Construction, a farm drainage contractor. He later owned 10th Street Car Wash for 25 years while also raising Angus cattle. He supported the 4-H program for 50 years.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret; children Daniel (Jenny) Bulfer, Philip (Amber) Bulfer, and Sarah (Jason) Tony; grandchildren Joshua Bulfer, Jay Bulfer, Madeline Bulfer, Ella Bulfer, Demitrios Kalomiros, and Alexander Kalomiros; brothers Charles (Kathleen) Bulfer, Joseph (Aloma) Bulfer, Thomas (Paula) Bulfer, Edward (Karin Schultz) Bulfer, and Patrick (Joyce) Bulfer; sisters, Rosalie Bulfer and Margaret

(Paul) Galloway; many nieces and nephews and friends.



Tom Lee Drake, 77, Davis, Okla., passed away April 5.

Tom was born June 12, 1941, in Oklahoma

City, Okla., to the late W.H. and Clifford (Walkup) Drake. Tom grew up in Davis, graduating from Davis High School in 1959. While in high school, Tom met Judi Morton of Sulphur. Tom and Judi married on July 14, 1962, and were married for more than 55 years. She preceded him in death on Oct. 13, 2017.

Tom attended the University of Oklahoma. He was a proud member of the Davis community his entire life. He served the city as mayor from 1966-1968 and was a past member of the Davis Volunteer Fire Department. He was inducted into the Davis Alumni Hall of Fame in 1999. He also served on the Murray County Emergency Medical Services Board.

Tom and his brother Bob founded Drake Farms in 1966. He served on boards at the county, state and national level. He was a charter member of the National Cattleman’s Association in 1977, as well as on the board of directors from 1986-

1990. Tom served as president of the Oklahoma Angus Association three times, 1983, 1994 and 1995. He was awarded the Mr. Angus Award in 1988 and was inducted into the Oklahoma Angus Hall of Fame at the turn of the century.

Tom was awarded the Historic Angus Herd Award in 1983 by the American Angus Association. He served the Association as Director from 1989-1995 and served as American Angus President in 1991.

Tom was awarded the Oklahoma State University Animal Science Master Breeder Award in 1988. Near the end of his cattleman's career, he served on the Oklahoma State Board of Agriculture from 2000-2005. When Drake Farms sold in 2002, Tom continued to consult with Angus herds throughout the country.

Survivors include daughters Stacey (Ricky) Harness of Poquoson, Va.; Paige (Shawn) Magee of Norman, Okla.; and Ashley (Guy) Wiley of Fernandina Beach, Fla.; nine grandchildren, Delaney Harness, Drake (Katelynn) Harness, Duncan Harnes, Tyler (Katie) Magee, Trace Magee, Trevor Magee, Sara Wiley, Kate Wiley, and Matthew Wiley; one great-grandson, Wilder Harness; brother, Bob Drake of Davis; bonus daughter, Kelly Owens; two brothers-in-law, Ed Morton and Tom Morton; and nieces and nephews, Joe Tom (Nancy) Drake, Whitney Drake, Faith (Jimmy) Westervelt and Leslie (John) Schlarb.



Brian Halverson, 79, Baker, Minn., passed away March 30.

Brian was born Feb. 8, 1940, to

Arthur J. and Francelia (Reierson) Halverson in the home he lived in all of his life in rural Baker. He graduated from Barnesville High School in 1958 where he was active in football and FFA. He attended the University of Minnesota in St. Paul to study agriculture.

Brian married Joanne Elizabeth Brakke on June 24, 1960. They lived and farmed in Elkton Township in Clay County. Four children were born to this union: Pam, Mike, Matt and Jayne.

Brian enjoyed spending time with family and friends, especially the times spent with his 10 grandchildren and his two great-granddaughters. Brian helped his children and grandchildren prepare cattle for 4-H and FFA events, and he served as a mentor to youth showing cattle. He was inducted into the Barnesville High School Hall of Fame.

During his farming career, Brian received many awards, including: the Angus Heritage Foundation Award, Clay County Outstanding Conservationists, Clay County Valley Farmer and Homemaker Award, NDSU Outstanding Agriculture Award, Clay County Friend of the Fair, and the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association Meritorious Award, Minnesota Angus Association Breeder of the Year, and was a Potato Days Grand Marshall.

Brian was active and served as a member of the Clay County Fair Board for 45 years. He was also a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council and the Brotherhood, the MN Certified Seed Potato Board and was a lifetime member of the American Angus Association.

Survivors include his wife, Joanne; children, Pam Eastman of Staples, Minn., Matt (Theresa)

Halverson of Baker, Jayne (Pat) Rein of International Falls, Minn., daughter-in-law Brenda Halverson of Baker; 10 grandchildren, Megan (Michael) Ness, Zachary (Chantel) Eastman, Evan Halverson, Paige (Zachary) Griffin, Ann Halverson, Nicole Halverson, Nathan Halverson, Lauren Halverson, Cullen Rein, and Ellie Rein; and two great-granddaughters, Vivian Ness and Lainey Jo Griffin.



Naomi Smith, 87, Lexington, Va., passed away March 30.

Naomi was born Jan. 25, 1932, to Grove and

Arlene Leith of Wyoming, N.Y. Naomi's pride and joy was her flock of Finnsheep. She was the 2018 inductee to the Finnsheep Breeders Hall of Fame.

Naomi and her late husband Joe were great enthusiasts of Angus cattle, traveling throughout the country attending shows and sales. She was inducted into the Virginia Angus Association Hall of Merit. In 2016 the Virginia Angus Breeders Show and Handbook were dedicated to Naomi. She dedicated much of her time to the association, working part time clerking sales and in the office.

Survivors include a sister, Jo York of Tennessee; two brothers, Dean Leith (Meeli) of New York, and Duane (Rena) Leith of North Carolina; three grandchildren, Caleb Smith of New York, Amy (Ray) Hunt of Texas, and Aaron (Dana) Chadwell of New York; and four great-grandchildren, Justice Hunt, Tyler Hunt, Taylor Chadwell and Cameron

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Chadwell. In addition, she leaves behind one very special young man, Cody Manspile, and her best friend Martha Stuart.

In addition to her parents, Naomi was preceded in death by her husband Joseph R. Smith, and all four of her children, Catherine Culkin, Sharon Williams, Mike Culkin and Pat Smith; as well as one brother, Bruce Leith, and one sister, Sandy McGowan.

In recognition Don. L. Good Impact Award

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA), a trade organization protecting the business interests of livestock producers, has been selected to receive the 2019 Don L. Good Impact Award.

Members of the association are involved in many aspects of the livestock industry, including seedstock, cow-calf and stocker cattle production, cattle feeding, dairy production, swine production, grazing land management and diversified farming operations. The association's work is funded by voluntary dues paid by its more than 5,500 members.

The award, presented by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council Inc. (LMIC), is named in honor of Good, who is a former head of the Kansas State University (K-State) Department of Animal Sciences and Industry, and recognizes positive impact on the livestock and meat industry on agriculture.

KLA, headquartered in Topeka, was formed in 1894 when a group of more than 100 Flint Hills ranchers met in Emporia to discuss cattle theft problems and unreasonable railroad freight rates. KLA works toward a better business climate for ranchers and feeders by representing members' interests on legislative and regulatory issues and helping to enhance their ability to meet consumer demand. It is one of the nation's most respected state livestock organizations.

Cotton inducted into Ag Hall of Fame

Terry Cotton, Saint Joseph, Mo., was inducted into the Saint Joseph Ag Hall of Fame March 22 at the 15th Annual Farm City Breakfast hosted by the Saint Joseph Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Committee.

Cotton has been devoted to northwest Missouri agriculture since the 1970s. A graduate of K-State, Cotton worked for the Wichita Chamber of Commerce before taking a job with Glenkirk Farms, a leading seedstock operation.

Cotton joined the American Angus Association as a regional manager



in 1979 and was promoted to Angus Productions Inc. manager in 1986. After retiring in 2018, Cotton continues to travel the country providing ring service to more than 60 seedstock operations.

2019 Kentucky Angus Association Annual Meeting and Banquet, March 1, Louisville



Burks Cattle Co., Park City, won grand champion female at the Kentucky Angus Sweepstakes Show & Sale. Braden Burk is pictured accepting the award.



Emily Johnson, Slaughters, won reserve grand champion female at the Kentucky Angus Sweepstakes Show & Sale. Keith Johnson is pictured accepting the award.



Golden Age Farm LLC, Lexington, won reserve grand champion bull at the Kentucky Angus Sweepstakes Show & Sale. Shelby Jones is pictured accepting the award.



Anne Stewart DeMott, Lexington, (right) received the Distinguished Service Award. Presented by Abigal Smoot, Miss Kentucky Angus.



Jim Jasper, Nicholasville, (left) and Ricky Cunningham, Dexter, received Appreciation Awards for their service to the Kentucky Angus Association Board of Directors.



Kris Lynn, Springfield, (center) received the Herdsman of the Year award. Susie and Billy Fryer presented the award.



The Kelly Flanders family, Buffalo, received the Family of the Year award. Pictured (from left) are Kenley Conner, presenting; and Kalli, Kelly and Melissa Flanders.



Gordon and Anne Patton Schubert, Taylorsville, received the Joe William Meng Jr. (Joe Bill), Lifetime Achievement award. Presented by Charlie Boyd (right).



Tom McGinnis, Heritage Farm, Shelbyville, received the Performance Breeder of the Year award. Pictured (from left) are Eddie Burks, presenting; Pam Dockery; Tom McGinnis; Jim Jasper (seated); Tyler McGinnis; Elias Hernandez; and Allen Bradley.

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Selected to serve on the Kentucky Angus Association Board of Directors (seated, from left) are Tom McGinnis, Shelbyville, director; Anne Patton Schubert, Taylorsville, director; Jason Crowe, Irvine, vice president; Gil Cowles, Rockfield, president; Anne Stewart DeMott, Lexington, secretary-treasurer; and Blake Boyd, May's Lick, director. Also serving as directors (standing, from left) are Bob Clark, Harrodsburg; Jim Shaw, Hodgenville; Keith Johnson, Slaughters; Sam Fouts, London; Kris Lynn, Springfield; Henry Smith, Russell Springs; and Kelly Flanders, Buffalo.

2019 Ohio Angus Association Annual Meeting and Banquet, Feb. 2, Wooster



Serving on the Ohio Angus Association Board of Directors (seated, from left) are Wesley Untied, Fazeysburg, director; Joseph Sanders, Harrod, chairman of the board; Allen Gahler, Graytown, treasurer; Todd Raines, Seaman, president; Keith Kauffman, Danville, vice president; and Daniel Wells, Frankfort, executive secretary. Directors serving on the board (standing, from left) are Scott Millikan, Napoleon; Chip Enos, Cambridge; John Hall, Cardington; John King, Tiffin; Fred Penick, Hebron; Ron Miller, Wapakoneta; David Baird, Washington Court House; Nick Wagner IV, Attica; Shawn Howell, Shelby; Tim Harsh, Radnor; John Grimes, Hillsboro; and David Felumlee, Newark. Not pictured are Jay Clutter, Wapakoneta; Keith Burgett, Carrolton; Kelvin Egner, Shelby; and Henry Bergfeld, Summitville.

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