



# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## A New Day

*This is the Beginning of a New Day.  
God has given me this day to use as I will.  
I can waste it, or use it for good.  
What I do today is very important,  
Because I'm exchanging a day of my life for it.  
When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone "forever,"  
Leaving something in its place I have traded for it.  
I want it to be Gain, not Loss, Good, not Evil,  
Success, not Failure.  
In order that I shall not forget the price I paid.*

—Author unknown, repeated by Paul "Bear" Bryant

Paul "Bear" Bryant, known to many by his trademark plaid houndstooth hat, is remembered as one of the winningest coaches in college football history. His name is synonymous with the state of Alabama, as well as college football. The Bear left behind a legacy of memorable words that are still repeatedly used today in diverse settings. The above quote on new beginnings has great meaning to all of us as we enter the new year with fresh thoughts, ideas and hopes.

As we contemplate the new year, every day is a new beginning that we are given to pursue our greatest abilities. For many of us, the new year is a time to reflect on the changes we want and sometimes must make. It is a time for motivation to move forward with our lives.

The new year is a time for remembering the past. For some, the past year may have been wonderfully successful — a time of joy and prosperity. For others, the past year may have been a time of tragic circumstances. Miraculously, time has a way of healing us — a way of releasing us and letting us go forward to celebrate another year. Most importantly, the new year is a time to look forward to the upcoming adventures in our lives and how those adventures will shape our character.

What a blessing it is to have the opportunity to begin each new day with a fresh piece of clay with which to sculpt the memories of our lives! Some days may indeed be less productive than we wanted, while others may be filled to the very last second with our successes. So goes life! The goal is to make strong, intelligent choices so our successful days far outnumber our unsuccessful days. Let us resolve to make ourselves the best that we can be!

Throughout history, it has been a tradition to set new year's resolutions. For the first few weeks of the new year, we strive to be "new and improved" people. Sometimes we succeed and do change aspects of our lives. Sometimes we slip back into old habits. Unfortunately, we cannot go back to yesterday to make corrections; however, we can aim high and try again tomorrow. That is why we must be careful with our decisions, because as Coach Bryant said, "We are trading a day of our lives for it." Oh, that my day should be used for the betterment of myself and the encouragement of those I encounter!

Celebrations of the new year focus on fresh beginnings, clean slates and discarded bad habits. In America, New Year's Day is also filled with certain traditions. Southern families are busy cooking up black-eyed peas for good luck and turnip greens for prosperity while other parts of the country participate in other traditions. So, just like most of you, I will be celebrating New Year's with my southern family, following many of these traditions and looking forward to new beginnings.

My hope for the new year is that each of you will embrace the future with fresh thoughts, ideas and hopes in all aspects of your lives, including the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). What we do today may well be how we are remembered tomorrow. Make each day count. Happy New Year's, my friends!

— Kindra Wood, Alabama



Kindra Wood

## International exchange program

The Communicating for Agriculture Exchange Program (CAEP) will offer a wide array of opportunities in 2006 for young Americans to live and train overseas in agriculture-related production and business operations. CAEP will offer special scholarship grants to several outbound exchange program participants through the Communicating for Agriculture Scholarship and Education Foundation.

CAEP works with country partner organizations in 13 foreign countries to line up placements for applicants based on their qualifications and preferences. Placements range from small family wineries in France to high-tech swine operations in Denmark and wide-open ranches in Australia.

For more information about CAEP's outbound overseas exchange program, call

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1-800-432-3276, Ext. 3512, or visit [www.caepusa.org](http://www.caepusa.org).

### USDA accepting 1890 National Scholars Program applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting USDA/1890 National Scholars Program applications for the 2006 academic school year.

The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is a partnership initiative between USDA and the 1890 Land Grant Institutions and Tuskegee University. Through this initiative, USDA seeks to expand its diversity by recruiting talented students into public service in agriculture and related fields, including food sciences, natural resource sciences and agricultural sciences. Through this partnership, USDA hires graduates into career positions at USDA. Since the inception of the National Scholars Program in 1992, USDA has funded a total of approximately 400 national scholars.

All 2006 application materials must be postmarked no later than Jan. 15 and sent to the USDA liaison officer at the institution of the applicant's choice. The application form and additional information are available at <http://1890scholars.program.usda.gov>.

For more information contact Carl Butler, USDA/1890 National Scholars Program Manager, at (202) 205-2693 or [mcarl.butler@usda.gov](mailto:mcarl.butler@usda.gov).

### Texas Angus Auxiliary scholarship applications

The deadline for the 2006 Texas Angus Auxiliary scholarships is April 1. Applicants should have the application and letters of recommendation postmarked on or before that date.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be graduating high school seniors and members of both the Texas Junior Angus Association and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Also,

parents of the applicant must have been dues-paying members of both the Texas Angus Association and the Texas Angus Auxiliary for the two calendar years previous to the application year.

The Texas Angus Auxiliary will select a female and male winner to each receive a \$1,000 scholarship to the college, university or accredited technical program of his or her choice. The winners will each be forwarded to the American Angus Auxiliary for competition in the national Auxiliary scholarship contest.

For information about the scholarship or an information packet, including an electronic copy of the application and requirements, contact Erin Worrell at [worrellerin@yahoo.com](mailto:worrellerin@yahoo.com) or (512) 585-8096.

### 2006 National Beef Ambassador announced

Amanda Nolz, Mitchell, S.D., won the title

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### National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

The top 15 individuals at the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, hosted in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE), included several members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). Top ranking 4-Hers include Abby Bergman, Indiana, first; Trae Simmons, Indiana, second; Andy Wilhoit, New Mexico, third; Hyatt Probose, Ohio, fourth; Maria Stevens, Maryland, fifth; Travis Meeter, Illinois, sixth; Jimmi Cable, South Dakota, seventh; Lindsay Waugh, Minnesota, eighth; Gwen Powers, Pennsylvania, ninth; Jeremy Dyer, Georgia, 10th; Abby Probst, Texas, 11th; Jay Behrens, Texas, 12th; Rebecca Hamilton, Maryland, 13th; Clint Mefford, Oregon, 14th; and Katie Kidd, Texas, 15th. Other NJAA members placing in the top 25 include Lindsay Smith, Maryland, 23rd, and Ryan Urban, South Dakota, 25th.



The top 10 All-American competitors in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest include (front row, from left) **Abby Bergman**, Indiana; **Trae Simmons**, Indiana; **Andy Wilhoit**, New Mexico; **Hyatt Frobose**, Ohio; **Maria Stevens**, Maryland; (back row, from left) **Jim Coon**, representing The Hartford; **Travis Meeter**, Illinois; **Jimmi Cable**, South Dakota; **Lindsay Waugh**, Minnesota; **Gwen Powers**, Pennsylvania; **Jeremy Dyer**, Georgia; and **Eric Conklin**, representing The Hartford.



The top 10 individuals in the beef portion of the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest include (front row, from left) **Trae Simmons**, Indiana; **Brian Down**, Illinois; **Maria Stevens**, Maryland; **Abby Bergman**, Indiana; **Jason Zwilling**, Illinois; (back row, from left) **Brent Tolle**, representing Merial; **Rachel Stuart**, Illinois; **Alex Acheson**, Kansas; **Abby Probst**, Texas; **Clint Mefford**, Oregon; and **Gwen Powers**, Pennsylvania.



The top 11th-20th All-American competitors in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest include (front row, from left) **Abby Probst**, Texas; **Jay Behrens**, Texas; **Rebecca Hamilton**, Maryland; **Clint Mefford**, Oregon; **Katie Kidd**, Texas; (back row, from left) **Brian Down**, Illinois; **Rachel Stuart**, Illinois; **John Hobbs**, Indiana; **Alex Acheson**, Kansas; and **Katie Beeler**, Iowa.

of National Beef Ambassador for 2006 at the National Beef Ambassador Competition Nov. 3-5, 2005, in Austin, Texas. The competition was established on behalf of the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (CBB) and state beef councils by the American National CattleWomen Inc. (ANCW).

Twenty-four contestants from throughout the country vied for the national title and for \$4,500 in cash prizes distributed among the top three places and three educational scholarships totaling \$2,250 from the ANCW Foundation. Nolz received \$2,500 in cash and a \$1,000 college scholarship. Second place went to Melissa Green, Arbutle, Calif., who received \$1,200 and a \$750 scholarship. Third-place winner Peter Scharpe, Arlington, Minn., an NJAA member, received \$800 and a \$500 scholarship. Paul Moya, New Mexico, and Amy Berry, Wyoming, received honorable mention awards.

### **News from the California State Fair**

At the 2005 California State Fair, the new Marketing Competition allowed Sale of Champions participants to create a "sales ad"

or "photo collage with timeline and narrative" to market their animal to the general public and potential buyers. The grand champion marketing award went to NJAA member Cynthia Konda, Porterville, Calif., and the reserve grand champion marketing award was presented to Cody Penfold of Fresno County.

Youth also participated in the Livestock Champion Challenge, which is an opportunity for junior livestock exhibitors to enhance their knowledge of their animal project and the related industry. Through lab exercises and exams, each contestant was tested on their knowledge of their project area and that of the other participants. The champion beef exhibitor in the Champion Challenge was Alex Bachman of Apple Valley FFA in San Bernardino County. The reserve champion beef exhibitor was Alina Amaral of Sonoma FFA in Sonoma County.

### **Angus junior named FFA National Agri-Entrepreneur**

Waco Phipps, Kearney, Neb., was one of 10 students from across the country who

received a National Agri-Entrepreneurship Award and \$1,000 during a ceremony at the 78th National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky. The award program recognizes young people who start, or are planning to start, businesses.

Phipps, the son of William and Robin Phipps, owns and operates Sandhills Fencing, a business offering custom fence-building, repair and removal services. He has also received the Nebraska Governor's Excellence Award and was selected to attend the 2005 Entrepreneurship for Young People Conference, where he met top corporate executives and former President Bill Clinton.

### **West Virginia junior Angus news**

New officers of the West Virginia Junior Angus Association include Molly Irons, Lewisburg, president; Richie Thompson, Point Pleasant, vice president; Anny Irons, Lewisburg, secretary; Trisha Smith, Dorcas, treasurer; Kelsea Arnold, Horner, historian; and Jordan Miller, Franklin, reporter. The new advisors are Sandy Smith, Dorcas, and Tammy Miller, Franklin.

