



# Newsmakers

► Items of interest about and for members of our Angus family

## IN THE NEWS

**Rocky Creek Farms**, Ashford, Ala., has received the Historic Herd Award from the American Angus Association. William Womack Sr. established the herd in 1941 with the purchase of four cows and one bull. In the 1950s the introduction of Bahai grass and the inception of performance testing became incentives for the Womacks to put more emphasis on raising Angus cattle.

William Jr., "Billy," returned to the farm in 1964 after earning his degree at Auburn University. He now owns and manages the farm. Throughout the years, the Womack family has been progressive in performance testing and recordkeeping.

The Association presents the Historic Angus Herd Award to Angus herds that have been in the continuous production of registered Angus cattle by the same family for 50 years or more.

**John Crouch**, Saint Joseph, Mo., American Angus Association executive vice president, was recently honored with an appreciation dinner at the Wendell Alexander farm in Dresden, Tenn. Crouch is a Tennessee native and a graduate of the University of Tennessee (UT) in Knoxville.

The event allowed students enrolled in Matthew Spangler's livestock-merchandising class and individuals interested in being members of the UT Martin livestock judging team to meet Crouch and discuss current events in the cattle industry. Spangler is UT Martin assistant professor of animal science and livestock judging team coach.

## Louisiana Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, LeCompte, March 9



► Officers and directors of the 2007 Louisiana Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Greg Tate**, Ville Platte, president; **Michael Rome**, Tallulah, secretary; **Dale Hoover**, Clinton, past president; (standing, from left) **Chris Roussel**, Gramercy; **Dave Means III**, Gloster; **Boyd Walker**, Lake Charles; **Ronald Dobson**, Campti; **David Billingsley Jr.**, Keithville; **Drew Hall**, Greenwell Springs; **Warren Bryan**, Ruston; **Gary Greene**, Covington; **Lana Myers**, Jennings; and **Casey St. Blanc**, Folsom.

## IN PASSING

**Renos Long**, Morgantown, Ind., died March 27, two weeks prior to his 100th birthday.

Renos was born April 10, 1907, in Owen County in Indiana. He spent his entire life as a cattleman and farmer in Johnson and Morgan counties. A lifetime member of the American Angus Association since 1953, four generations of his family have now been active Angus breeders. Renos enjoyed helping 4-H and junior breeders get their start in the Angus business.

He is survived by his son, Ronald; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Jack Halverson**, 82, Forest River, N.D., died April 25 at the Valley Memorial Home, Woodside Village, Grand Forks, N.D.

Jack was born Aug. 25, 1924, in Grand Forks to A.E. and Mildred (Poole) Halverson. He graduated from high school in Forest River and attended the University of North Dakota (UND). Jack enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving from 1943 to 1945. Following his discharge he continued his education at the Minnesota School of Business, graduating in 1948.

Jack then returned to Forest River to farm with his father. He married Phyllis Stoll May 28, 1948, in Grand Forks. Jack was the founding president of Black Gold Farms, served as president of the North Dakota Angus Association and represented the livestock industry throughout the U.S. He was active in the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association as well as the Presidents

Ag Club at North Dakota State University (NDSU).

Jack was also a member of the Forest River Community Church, the Forest River City Council, the Forest River American Legion and the Grand Forks Elks Club. He played alto saxophone in many bands, starting with jazz bands while attending UND. He was a member of the Elks Band from its inception, as well as the 9th District Legion Band, the Shrine Band and the Grand Forks Community Band. Jack was also a member of Saint John's Masonic Lodge of Forest River, the Kem Temple Shrine of Grand Forks and the Shrine Band, the Royal Order of Jesters and the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Jack is survived by a son, Gregg; a daughter, Margo; five grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Alex Davis**, 84, Council Hill, Okla., died April 8 in Muskogee, Okla.

Alex was born Aug. 18, 1922, in Scipio, Okla., to Luther and Rose (Perkins) Davis. He married Eugenia Beck Feb. 14, 1942, in Eufala, Okla. He farmed in Oklahoma and later moved to California, where he worked in a frozen fruit plant.

Alex moved back to Oklahoma in 1950, residing in Russellville. In 1959 he moved to Council Hill, where he started Circle D Angus Farm. Alex was a life member of the American Angus Association and many state and local cattlemen's associations.

He was a member of the Elm Grove Baptist Church and received numerous awards for helping 4-H, FFA and the Methodist Boys Home.

Alex is survived by his wife; sons, Keith and Bryan; daughters, Vickie and Susan; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

## ANGUS ARRIVALS

**Joshua and Deanna Bloom Hofing**, Indianapolis, Ind., announce the birth of their son, **Bryce Lee**, born April 10. He weighed 7 lb., 13 oz., and was 20½ in. long.

Grandparents are Don and Carol Bloom, Westville, Ind., and Gary and Karen Hofing, Chelsea, Mich.

## INDUSTRY EXTRAS

**Ron DeHaven** has been named the new executive vice president of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). He will succeed Bruce Little, who is retiring at the end of this year. DeHaven has served as administrator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for the last three years, starting his career there in 1979 as a veterinary medical officer.

**John Adams**, National Milk Producers Federation; **Robert Fourdraine**, Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium; **Perry Mobley**, Alabama Farmers Federation; and **Cindy Wolf**, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, have been newly elected to the board of directors of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA). **Rafael Seneriz**, Elanco Animal Health and **Annette Whiteford**, California Department of Food and Agriculture, were re-elected to the board.

**Nevil Speer**, who served as interim chief executive officer (CEO) of the NIAA while continuing his duties at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, was awarded the association's Chairman's Award. As a professor of animal science, he teaches, conducts applied research and industry outreach, and oversees the university's beef unit.

**G. Marvin Beeman** was awarded the 2007 Meritorious Service Award by the NIAA at the association's annual meeting in Sacramento, Calif., April 9. Beeman, who operates the Littleton Large Animal Clinic in Colorado, was recognized for his years of participation in NIAA and especially for his leadership role in creating and establishing NIAA's Equine Committee and resulting equine programs.

**Karen Jordan**, a practicing veterinarian as well as a dairy, beef and horse farmer-producer in North Carolina, was named winner of the NIAA President's Award at the association's annual meeting April 9 for her leadership of the Cattle Health Committee.

**Melissa Simpson** has been appointed as deputy under secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. As deputy undersecretary, Simpson will be responsible for policy relating to the programs of the USDA's Forest Service.

**Anthony Hulen** has been appointed director of the Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns. He will serve as the department's primary liaison to public and private stakeholders.

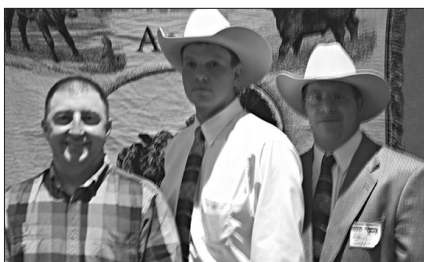
**Michael Kotlikoff**, professor and chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences at Cornell University, has been named dean of the university's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Colorado State University president Larry Penley recently bestowed the title of University Distinguished Professor on **John Sofos**, professor of animal sciences.

**William "Bill" Thompson** has been named the economist for Texas A&M University's Texas Cooperative Extension's West Central District. His responsibilities will include

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► **South Dakota Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Watertown, Feb. 5**



► Officers and directors of the South Dakota Angus Ass'n include (from left) **Aaron Schelske**, Virgil, director; **Ryan Bergh**, Florence, president; and **Kevin Geppert**, Mitchell, secretary-treasurer.



► **Herman and Jeanette Fink, Black Ink Farms, Armour**, receive the South Dakota Breeder of the Year Award.

► **Michigan Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet, Mason, March 11**



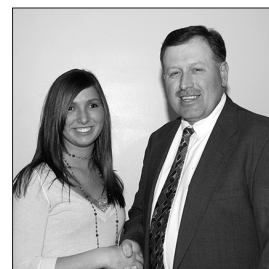
► Officers and directors of the 2007 Michigan Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Steven Fitzner**, Bellevue, president; **Chuck Reid**, Eaton Rapids, vice president; **Pam Bryson**, Bellevue, secretary; **Bonnie Canfield**, Clarksville; **Phil Tuggle**, Ithaca, chairman; (standing, from left) **Darwin Canfield**, Clarksville; **Pat Goheen**, Deckerville; **Jonathon Taylor**, Gregory; **Charles Preston**, Prescott; **Julie Thelen**, Saline; **Steven Thelen**, Saline; **Lawrence Bryson**, Bellevue; **Monte Bordner**, Sturgis; and **Merle Boehmer**, Williamston.



► The 2007 Michigan Angus Auxiliary officers are (standing, from left) **Nancy Thelen**, Saline, past president and national president-elect; **Barb Sweeney**, Mason, president; **Ricka Boehmer**, Williamston, vice president; **Victoria Meiburg**, North Branch, secretary-treasurer; **Lois Foster**, Niles, historian; **Janel Harrocks-Boehmer**, Williamston; **Melanie McNees**, North Branch, awards chairwoman; and **Renee Thelen**, Saline, Miss Michigan Angus chairwoman.



► Receiving Premier Breeder awards are (seated, from left) **Andrew Foster**, Niles, second; **Rachael Vaassen**, Ann Arbor, third; **Patricia Vaassen**, Ann Arbor, fourth; **Julie Thelen**, Saline, fifth; and (standing, from left) **Dee Anne Merriman** and **Kendra Merriman**, both of Lowell, honorable mentions.



► **Scott Foster** (right), Niles, receives the 2007 Adult Appreciation Award from **Erika Boehmer**, Michigan Junior Angus Ass'n vice president.

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developing educational programs in farm, ranch and natural resource management.

**Richard Linhart** has joined the Pfizer Animal Health Beef veterinary operations team. He will be based in Boise, Idaho, and will focus on improving the overall success of beef herds with an emphasis on production medicine and improving beef reproductive efficiency.

**Sue Brown** has accepted a position as a product manager for Destron Fearing. She will be responsible for developing marketing plans, forecasting sales and overseeing advertising and marketing communications for the company's portfolio of products.

**Curt Sindergard**, Newman Grove, Neb., has been appointed to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation's (FCIC) board of directors. Other farmer-producer representatives include **Frank Jones Jr.**, Lubbock, Texas; **Timothy Kelleher**, Yuba City, Calif.; and **Luis Monterde**, Purvis, Miss.



### ► Ohio Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet, Plain City, Feb. 3



► Officers and directors of the 2007 Ohio Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Allen Gahler**, Graytown, executive secretary; **Tim Harsh**, Radnor; **Bob Deitrick**, Zanesville, vice president; **Doug Majors**, Lancaster, president; **Fred Penick**, Hebron; **Sandra Wallace**, Burgoon; (standing, from left) **Brent English**, Elida, treasurer; **James Winter**, Ashville; **John Grimes**, Hillsboro; **Tom Woodward**, Gallipolis; **John King**, Tiffin, chairman; **Paul Hill**, Bidwell; and **Kelvin Egner**, Shelby.



► **George and Vivian Martin** (seated, from left), Cumberland, receive the 2006 Distinguished Service Award from **John King**.

### ► Georgia Cattlemen's Convention, Perry, April 5



► **C.L. Cook**, Brifton Farm, Social Circle, is the 2006 Purebred Cattleman of the Year. Pictured are (from left) **Joyce** and **C.L. Cook**.