



# Newsmakers

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

## IN THE NEWS

**Robert "Bob" Funk**, owner of Express Ranches, Yukon, Okla., has been honored with a 2005 Oklahoma State University (OSU) Animal Science Distinguished Service Award. Funk established the Express Ranches Progressive Junior Scholarship Program in 1995, a program that has awarded approximately \$1.2 million to more than 200 youth. Juniors who purchase Express show heifers and steers are eligible for scholarship awards of up to \$25,000 for their success in qualified shows.



**BOB FUNK**

**James Birdwell**, Fletcher, Okla., has been honored with a 2005 OSU Animal Science Distinguished Service Award. Birdwell has served as auctioneer at university-related sales such as Oklahoma Beef Inc. (OBI) bull sales and OSU Cowboy Classic sales. An OSU alumnus, Birdwell serves as president-elect of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association.

**Southern Cattle Co.**, Marianna, Fla., has named James Stice its customer service manager. In his new role, Stice will enhance customer relationships, advertising/promotion activities and development of commercial programs.

**Kirk Stierwalt** has been selected as the National Training Advisor in the Cattle

Division of Andis Co. Stierwalt will focus on testing products in the field and advising on product improvements and developments. Andis manufactures handheld equipment purchased by animal groomers to trim, cut, curl and dry hair.

Elected to serve on the Southwest Virginia Angus Ass'n board of directors are **George Stovall**, Stuart; **James Osborne**, Nickelsville; **George Johnstone Jr.**, Wytheville; **H.J. Denny**, Dublin, president; **Joe Kendrick**, Honaker; **Bruce Warner**, Lebanon; **Steve Furrow**, Rocky Mount; **Keith Matney**, Cedar Bluff; **L.N. Webb Jr.**, Dublin; **Ann Rambo**, Max Meadows; **Dan Eversole**, Blacksburg; and **Freddie Mullins**, Clintwood, president-elect.

## IN PASSING

**Robert "Bob" Hillier**, 64, Stillwater, Okla., died April 13 at his home.

Bob was born Jan. 20, 1941, to J.C. and Louella Hillier. He graduated from Stillwater High School in 1959 and received a bachelor's degree in animal science from OSU in 1963. He attended Purdue University and earned a master's degree and doctorate in ruminant nutrition.

In 1963 he married Lynda Park of Tulsa, Okla. Upon graduating from Purdue, Bob worked for Ralston Purina Co., Saint Louis, Mo., where he developed a preconditioning/receiving formula and wrote the first *Purina Beef Cattle Facts Book*. He also developed self-limiting supplement formulas such as Accuration® and Accuration Grass Stretcher, as well as other cattle supplements while at Purina.

In the 1970s, Bob served as vice president and general manager of Deaf Smith Feedyard Inc., Hereford, Texas; general manager of Hitch Feeders II, Garden City, Kan.; and, later, general manager of Hitch Feeders I in Guymon, Okla. While at Hitch, he helped develop the Hitch Verified Production Control program. In 1973, he established H&H Cattle Co., a registered Angus herd known today as Hillier Angus Ranch and charter member of OBI. He became president of Bartlett Cattle Co. in 1989. By 1994, he completed some consulting work, and, in 1995, became the vice president of cattle procurement for

ConAgra. He returned to Stillwater in 1997 and remained active in the cattle industry.

Bob served on the board of the American Angus Association, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, North East Oklahoma Angus Association, Kansas Livestock Association, Texas Cattlemen's Association, Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and as chairman of the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Board.

He is survived by his wife; daughter Susan; son Robert Brian; and three grandchildren.

**Flora Felton**, 70, Neola, Iowa, died March 21 at her home.

Flora was born Aug. 23, 1934, to Carl and Della Schnackel Hildebrandt. She graduated from Shelby High School and worked for the U.S. Postal Service in Omaha, Iowa, for 20 years. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and its Evening Circle. She spent many years active in 4-H and Farm Bureau.

Survivors include her husband, Don; sons Randy, Roger and Rick; daughter Cindi; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**A.F. "Frankie" Flint Sr.**, 96, Tucumcari, N.M., died April 9 at his residence.

Frankie was born on the family farm near Bard, N.M., on May 17, 1908, to Martenia and Edna (Marrs) Flint. He married Addie Lee Whately in 1930. He traveled and volunteered for organizations such as the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF), Production Registry International, American Angus Association, New Mexico and Texas Angus associations, Certified Meat Sires, and New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association.

He served on the San Jon school board for 25 years and was a Rural Electric Association board member for 45 years. Frankie was a lifetime resident of the Bard community until his move to Tucumcari five years ago. He was a member of the San Jon United Methodist Church.

He is survived by sons Quinnie, A. Franklin and Martenia; and daughter Ora.

**William "Bill" Roche**, 85, resident of Galt and Lodi, Calif., died May 1 after battling Alzheimer's.

Bill was born Oct. 26, 1919, in Early, Iowa, to Bill and Ella Roche of Nemaha, Iowa. He graduated from Nemaha High School in 1937 and attended Buena Vista College. He graduated from Iowa State University in 1941 with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. He entered the military in 1942 and received the Bronze Star while serving in Merrill's Marauders, later known as the Army Rangers.

After returning home, he married Joyce

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► **Bob** (left) and **Hollyce Neumeyer** of Jaybee Angus Ranch, Bonners Ferry, Idaho, donated a December 2003 daughter of Thomas Precision E161 2105. The female was bought by **Elaine** (continuing from left) and **Ed Adkins**, Bonners Ferry, Idaho. More than \$5,800 raised at the sale will go toward the 2005 National Junior Angus Show in Denver, Colo.

## NEWSMAKERS

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Kischer in 1946. He worked as a fieldman for the *Corn Belt Farm Dailies* and as a county youth Extension director.

He owned an Angus herd in Albert City, Iowa, and was secretary of the Northwest Iowa Angus Association before moving to California in 1954 to become a fieldman for the American Angus Association. He spent the next 32 years as the Association's West Coast regional manager and later the Western director of regional managers. He helped organize the Western States Angus Association and the Western National Angus Futurity (WNAF). He was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation in 2001. He moved to the ranch in Galt in 1973, where he retired in 1986 and maintained an Angus herd until 1999. He was a member of the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Galt.

He is survived by his wife; daughter Kris; son Steve; and two grandchildren.

## STATE SPOTLIGHTS

### South Carolina Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet & Meeting, Clemson, March 18



► The 34th Annual Carolina Angus Futurity was dedicated to **Floyd** (left) and **Elsie Patrick**, Pelzer, S.C.

### Maryland Angus Ass'n



► New officers and directors of the Maryland Angus Ass'n include (seated, from left) **John Bewley**; **Mary Bewley**, secretary-treasurer; **Hank Suchting**, president; **Dean Bryant**, vice-president; (standing, second row, from left) **Chester Kerns**; **Frank Feeser**; **Patty Kerns**; **Pam Velisek**; **Doug Velisek**; **J.D. Brown**; (standing, back row, from left) **Jason Hose**; **John Gundzik**; **Brian Considine**; **Kevin Barkdoll**; and **Laura Mihm**. **Doug Full** is also pictured, representing the Maryland Junior Angus Ass'n. Directors not pictured include **Lori Moxley** and immediate past president **Caryl Velisek**.

**George "G.J." Six**, 78, Holiday, Fla., and formerly of Butler, Mo., died April 4 at the Marliere Hospice Care Center in New Port Richey, Fla.

G.J. was born Sept. 25, 1926, to Claude and Naomi King Six, Adrian, Mo. He attended grade school and high school in Adrian. He was a member of FFA. After graduating from high school, G.J. attended Central College in Fayette, Mo., where he joined the Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity. In 1944 he enlisted in the Aviation Division of the Navy. Afterward, he attended the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he earned an agriculture degree in 1949. He was married on Sept. 25, 1954, in New Jersey.

Through the years, G.J. worked as a herdsman, auctioneer, wheat farmer, debt collector, farm equipment salesman, office manager, insurance salesman and cattleman. He was always involved in Angus cattle. He was a member of the Bates County Fair Board, Lions Club, Masons and Shriners Club. He was a member of the Adrian Christian Church and, later, the First Christian Church of Butler.

He is survived by his wife, Reine; daughters Claudia, Jamie and Jodi; and two grandchildren.

### ANGUS ARRIVALS

**Danny and Andrea Bradshaw**, Hubbard, Iowa, announce the birth of their daughter, **Kaci Rena**, born April 7. She weighed 6 lb., 12 oz., and was 19¼ in. long. She joins a sister, Alexiss.

### INDUSTRY EXTRAS

**Mark Reisinger**, Eldora, Iowa, has been selected as the Iowa State Director for Rural Development. Reisinger has served as the chief agricultural policy advisor for Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa since 1998. In his new role, he will work to enhance the

economic opportunities and quality of life in rural Iowa.

**Charles Conner** has been confirmed as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture by the Senate.

**Deborah Burd**, Strong, Maine, is the new executive director of the National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture, effective June 1.

**Scot Blehm**, Mitchell, Neb., has been named the Nebraska State Director for Rural Development. Blehm previously served as district office manager for Rep. Tom Osborne since April 2002.

**Marc Johnson**, has been named the Colorado State University interim director for Cooperative Extension until a permanent director is named. Johnson has served as vice provost for agriculture and outreach and dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences.

**Quinton Huncovsky**, Hays, Kan., has been named the executive director of the annual Kansas Beef Exposition.

**Tim Foss** is the new sales and underwriting manager of The Hartford's livestock division in Omaha, Neb. Foss will be responsible for all sales and underwriting operations of the division's eight offices.

**Francis Fluharty** has received the 2005 Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) Director's Innovator of the Year Award. Fluharty, a feedlot nutritionist with the department of animal sciences, was honored for a beef enterprise initiative he developed that now contributes more than \$11 million to Ohio's economy.



### California Angus Ass'n Meeting, Modesto, March 30



► Elected to serve on the 2005 California Angus Ass'n Board of Directors are (seated, from left) **Carter Pierce**, Selma, president; **Gregory Schafer**, Orland, vice president; **Betsy Cardoza**, O'Neals, treasurer; **Debbie Cozzitoro**, Merced, secretary; **Allison Blanchard**, Mendota, past president; **Jim Viether**, Wilton, past president; (standing, from left) **Cheryl LaFranchi-Mongini**, Calistoga; **Randy Perry**, Prather; **Kelli Toledo**, Visalia; **Steve Lambert**, Oroville; **Stacey Sosa**, Denair; **Mark Perez**, Crows Landing; and **Amanda Leo**, Turlock, junior advisor.