



PHOTOS BY SHELBY METLEN

Interns Arrive at Angus

Haley Ercoli, Morgan Marley, Mayzie Purviance and Taylor Wilkins are selected to intern at Angus headquarters.

by **Mayzie Purviance**, editorial intern

The American Angus Association, Saint Joseph, Mo., welcomes four interns this summer: Haley Ercoli, Morgan Marley, Mayzie Purviance and Taylor Wilkins. These four young women have packed up and moved to Saint Joseph in hopes of broadening their horizons, furthering their education, and obtaining real-world experience in their specific career paths.

Haley Ercoli

Haley Ercoli, Plant City, Fla., will be working as the Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) intern. Ercoli's responsibilities will focus on



Haley Ercoli

collecting and inputting data on the Angus breed.

"Applying for the internship with Angus was a no-brainer for me," says Ercoli. "I'm extremely interested in genetics, and I knew being able to add 'Angus Association' to my résumé would help me out in the long run."

Growing up on her family's farm, Ercoli Farms, sparked her interest in agriculture at a young age. She is the daughter of Lisa and

Richard Ercoli, and is an animal science major at the University of Florida, with an emphasis in equine studies. Ercoli plans to graduate in December of 2017.

At the university, Ercoli is involved in Block & Bridle and the Gator Cattlewomen. After graduation, she plans to apply for vet school.

"I am so thankful for this opportunity to intern with Angus Genetics Inc.," says Ercoli. "The American Angus Association is such a prestigious organization, and I am proud to represent the University of Florida here this summer."

Morgan Marley

Morgan Marley of Elkins, Ark., was selected as the Angus Productions Inc. (API) communications intern.

Marley was raised on a commercial cow-calf and poultry operation where she worked alongside her family in the daily chores of both cattle and poultry production. She graduated from the University of Arkansas with a bachelor's degree in agricultural education, communications and technology, and a minor in animal science. She is currently attending Colorado State University, pursuing a master's degree in public communication and technology. After

obtaining her master's degree, Marley hopes to have a communications career in the livestock industry promoting beef cattle.

"When I started applying for summer internships, I knew the position with Angus



Morgan Marley

Media was my first choice," Marley says. "I wanted more experience in the livestock industry, and I can't think of a better place to gain that experience than at the Angus Association.

From the superb quality of people to the high-caliber production of print, digital and video media produced in-house, there isn't anywhere else I'd rather spend my summer learning from the best in the beef industry."

Marley grew up working on her family's farm, where her most memorable activities involved the cattle side of the operation. Although not exclusively Angus, her family's cattle herd is based in the Angus breed. She has spent time visiting and learning about various Angus operations through participating in livestock judging. Her dream is to always be involved either directly or indirectly with the beef industry.

"The opportunity to work with Angus Media will allow me to further grow as a communicator and advocate for the industry I am most passionate about," Marley says. "It

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► **Above:** Four summer interns recently joined the American Angus Association, Angus Genetics Inc. and Angus Media in Saint Joseph, Mo. Pictured are (from left) Taylor Wilkins, events and education intern; Haley Ercoli, AGI intern; Morgan Marley, communications intern; and Mayzie Purviance, editorial intern.

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is my life's ambition to motivate and empower others both inside and outside of the livestock industry to work together toward a brighter future.”

Mayzie Purviance

Mayzie Purviance of Rosalie, Texas, has joined the API staff as editorial intern. She will spend the summer contributing to the *Angus Journal*, the *Angus Beef Bulletin*, the *Angus Beef Bulletin EXTRA*, and the *Angus Journal Daily* electronic newsletter. She will also travel to various industry events and conferences, and will contribute to the Angus Media team's online coverage of events.

Purviance is a junior at Texas A&M University (TAMU) and a graduate of Rivercrest High School. She is a member of

the Alpha Beta chapter of the Sigma Alpha Agricultural Sorority and works as a photographer for the TAMU Corps of



Mayzie Purviance

Cadets. She is majoring in agricultural communications and journalism, with an emphasis and certification in event planning.

Purviance is no stranger to the cattle industry. Her family

has been ranching and farming for decades. She was an active member of the Cuthand 4-H club and the Rivercrest FFA chapter, and she is a former Paris District FFA officer.

Purviance also wrote for the *Bogata News-Talco Times* her junior and senior years of high school.

Purviance says she has always dreamed of being published in the *Angus Journal*, and now she gets the chance to make that dream come true. While applying for scholarships during her senior year of high school, she included in many of her essays her intentions and hopes for the future.

“I dream of a life traveling the nation, interviewing people, and sharing their story with the world,” she wrote. “My ultimate goal is for my grandfather (Dennis Purviance) to stumble upon one of my articles in the *Angus Journal* or some other magazine when he is having his morning coffee.”

Taylor Wilkins

Taylor Wilkins of Brooker, Fla., is the American Angus Association's events and education intern.



Taylor Wilkins

Wilkins will assist the Events and Education Department in contests, shows and general office duties throughout the summer.

Wilkins says she has always dreamed about working for the Angus

Association in some way, shape, form or fashion. She has grown up on a small farm with Angus cattle and has shown Angus and Angus-influenced livestock.

“To see a breed grow tremendously and to see a company continue to promote and expand the breed speaks volumes,” she says. “What better way to learn and gain experience throughout my college career than from the experts themselves?”

Wilkins is the daughter of Terry and Ginger Wilkins. She is an agriculture and life sciences education major at Iowa State University and plans to graduate in December of 2017. Wilkins plans on furthering her education by pursuing a master's degree.

At the university, Wilkins is involved in Block & Bridle, Bacon Expo and the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Ambassador program. She is also a student worker for the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences.

“I am looking forward to spending my summer on the road representing the American Angus Association,” said Wilkins. “I am excited for the challenges, as well as the adventures, I will encounter over the next few months.”

The interns' contact information is provided below for your convenience:

- ▶Haley Ercoli – agiintern@angus.org;
- ▶Morgan Marley – mmarley.intern@angus.media;
- ▶Mayzie Purviance – mpurviance.intern@angus.media; and
- ▶Taylor Wilkins – TWilkins.intern@angus.org.

