

AT THE BACKDROP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 237



► Virginia juniors placed second in the intermediate other beef division, winning recipe and placing second in showmanship. Pictured are (from left) **Ryan Borer**, Buchanan; **Henry Alexander**, Louisa; **Kallie Poole**, Staunton; **Aubrey Herbers**, Lynchburg; and **Gordon Clark** and **Suter Clark**, both of Gretna. They prepared “CAB Frankfurter Stroganoff.”



► South Dakota juniors won first overall in the senior other beef division after first winning second in recipe and first in showmanship. Pictured are (from left) **Tyler Bush**, Britton; **Madison Styles**, Brentford; **Sawyar James** and **Wyat James**, both of Bruce; **Sawyer Styles**, Brentford; and **Ty Mogck**, Olivet. They prepared “CAB All-American Grilled Cheese Frankfurters.”



► Michigan juniors placed third in the intermediate other beef division. Pictured are (from left) **Kavina Johnson**, Quincy; **Thea Zellmer** and **Paige Zellmer**, both of Nashville; and **Jayce Brown**, Pinckney. They prepared “Motor City Dogs.”



► Florida juniors placed second in the senior other beef division after winning the recipe category and placing second in showmanship. Pictured are (from left) **Kathryn Springfield**, Frostproof; **Gabriela Hernandez**, Wellington; **Alexa Grau**, Miami; **Case Birge**, Graceville; **Morgan Blommel**, Dade City; and **Nicole Grau**, Miami. They prepared “W4 Kraut Furters.”

Helping hands

This year the National Junior Angus Association supported The Ronald McDonald House as its designated philanthropy. The network of local chapters has been making sick children happier and healthier by providing a home environment and support to keep families close, giving them a place to rest and refresh. This year, the NJAA gathered pop tabs to support the charity. Virginia and Florida were recognized for bringing in the most tabs and were honored with a freeze party in their state booth.



Advisors of the Year

Iowa couple has created a family atmosphere for the Iowa Junior Angus Association, meriting national honor at 2017 NJAS.

Finding new ways to connect with Iowa juniors is why Chris and Dixie McCormick, Pleasantville, Iowa, were nominated for Advisors of the Year through the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA). The McCormicks were recognized for their leadership, inclusion and encouragement at the National Junior Angus Show in Des Moines, Iowa.

“More emphasis has been placed on developing other skills, such as public speaking through speech contests, knowledge of the cattle industry through quiz bowl and the presentation and promotion of our state association through the poster and scrapbook contests,” says Haley Greiman, first vice president, Iowa Junior Angus Association. “We have grown with the guidance of Chris and Dixie in more than just the showing.”

The McCormicks have been very involved in helping to plan the 2017 NJAS in Iowa, leading the junior committees and organizing schedules for the show. Fundraising, contest organization and meal planning have been handled efficiently under the McCormicks’ leadership, according to a nomination letter. The McCormicks have put all their efforts into improving the quality of the Iowa Junior Angus Association, Greiman adds.

The NJAA Advisor of the Year Award was introduced in 1980 to recognize the tremendous contributions of junior Angus association advisors. Any junior Angus association advisors are eligible for the award by sending in a letter of nomination.

— by Sarah Hill, special projects editor



► **Chris and Dixie McCormick**, Pleasantville, Iowa, were named Advisors of the Year in recognition of their leadership, inclusion and encouragement of Iowa junior members.