



Newsmakers

► Items of interest **about** and **for** members of our Angus family. *Compiled by Linda Robbins.*

IN THE NEWS

Maguire Blair, Drake, Sask., Canada, has earned the 2016 Junior Angus Stockman Award from the Canadian Angus Foundation.

In addition to involvement with Blair's West Land & Cattle, his family's operation near Drake, Blair has developed his own herd of purebred Angus cattle. He makes all the breeding decisions for his females, and has been slowly expanding his herd through female purchases and embryo transfer. Blair's future plans include attending Lakeland College in Vermilion, majoring in animal science and crop technology.

Blair has been very active through 4-H and junior programs and attends 10-12 shows each year across western Canada. He has earned many awards for his skills in grooming and showmanship and has also exhibited high-quality breeding stock. This past year, Blair's cow Bar-E-L Erica 74A was the most dominant show female in Canada, winning championships at Showdown, Lloydminster, Stockade National Angus Show, Brandon Ag Expo, Farmfair and Agribition. Erica was named Canadian Angus Gold Show Female of the Year and also won the international "Show Female of the Year" from *AngusBreeder.net*.

The Junior Angus Stockman of the Year Award is a recent initiative of the Canadian Angus Foundation, introduced last year to recognize those outstanding young cattlemen who are constantly growing their stockmanship capability by actively working with their Angus cattle.

Rae-Leigh Pederzoli, Medicine Hat, Alta., Canada, and Nicky Lansink, Three Hills, Alta., were selected as winners of the \$10,000 Keith Gilmore Foundation (KGF) Prize for Beef Cattle Innovation. The KGF Prize is awarded to students who are recognized for academic excellence; leadership; and commitment to pursue a career to improve, support and promote the beef cattle industry.

The KGF Prize and Keith Gilmore Foundation are Canadian Hereford Association initiatives; however, the award seeks to acknowledge beef industry research and leadership in the fields of agriculture,

veterinary medicine and ag journalism rather than specific breed projects. The Canadian Angus Association (CAA) is proud to claim Rae-Leigh Pederzoli as a member of Canada's Angus fraternity. She is a commercial cattle producer with an Angus-influenced herd and the granddaughter of Aldo Pederzoli, who received a 50 Year Heritage Award from CAA in 2015. Pederzoli is also a graduate of the Cattlemen's Young Leaders program and was mentored by CAA Director of Breed Development Kajal Devani.

Pederzoli is completing a master's degree at the University of Saskatchewan and will be attending the University of Calgary this fall pursuing a doctorate in veterinary medicine. She is an active member of the Canadian Young Leaders program and is a member of the Young Cattlemen's Council. She has attended and represented the Canadian beef industry at numerous conferences in Canada and the United States. Her long-term goal is to practice and perform research in the food animal

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Continuing growth, Angus hires HR director

The American Angus Association has served the nation's quality-minded cattle producers for more than 130 years, and managing day-to-day business requires a talented group of professionals across a number of disciplines. Ladena Keuhn, a native of north central Missouri, joined the Angus team Aug. 11 to lead the member-driven organization's human resource programs and initiatives.

Keuhn brings nearly 20 years of experience in human resources management, training and development, employee relations, recruitment, corporate planning, and benefits management. As the Association's first director of human resources, Keuhn is a key member of the executive team, and will develop programs and policy to align with the organization's strategic business plan.

"With Ladena's proven experience in human resources management, she provides a great amount of leadership to our team of 100-plus employees in Saint Joseph, Mo.," says Allen Moczygemba, American Angus Association CEO. "She will help us maintain the quality reputation we've established over the years for exceptional member service and performance."

Most recently, Keuhn served as a vice president with Individual Assurance Co., which provides a full range of insurance products. She spent more than a decade leading the company's human resources and providing an efficient, process-driven environment for employees and customers. Keuhn also has experience in strategic planning and operations management, and will be instrumental in future planning for the Association.

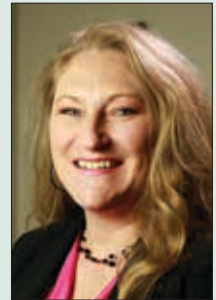
"I am honored to be a part of the prestigious American Angus Association, and I am committed to working with Angus leadership to continue building a strong culture within the organization," Keuhn says. "I am looking forward to implementing programs to positively impact our employees and our membership."

As the American Angus Association's director of human resources, Keuhn will manage and recommend practices that balance employee welfare in conjunction with the organization's mission statement and company culture. She also provides direction for the Association and its three Saint Joseph, Mo.-based entities — Angus Media, Angus Genetics Inc. and the Angus Foundation. At the center of the organization's vision are more than 25,000 members nationwide who rely on the Angus breed's unrivaled performance database, outreach and education, and marketing services.

Keuhn earned a master's degree in business administration and human resources from the University of Missouri—Kansas City, and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Missouri—Columbia. She is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and the Greater Kansas City SHRM chapter.

Keuhn resides with her husband, Jerry, in Platte City, Mo., along with their 12-year-old son, Blaine.

— by Jena McReil, Angus Media



Ladena Keuhn

production industries, particularly within the cow-calf and feedlot sectors.

“I believe you see Canada’s national breed associations doing more work together now than ever before,” says CAA CEO Rob Smith. “I commend the Canadian Hereford Association and the Keith Gilmore Foundation for their interest in advancing research that benefits all cattle and beef production across Canada. Rae-Leigh is an outstanding young cattleman whose interest, passion and intelligence have much to offer the future and sustainability of our sector and industry as a whole.”

Cody Sankey, Economy, Ind., has been hired by Genex Cooperative Inc. as the new beef sire procurement manager.

Sankey is a graduate of Oklahoma State University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science and a master’s degree in ruminant nutrition. During his time at Oklahoma State, he also competed on a national champion livestock judging team.

After college, Sankey managed the Michigan State University Beef Cattle Center for eight years and coached the



Cody Sankey

university’s livestock judging team. Most recently, he worked for a livestock nutrition and animal microbiology company while based in Indiana. He also serves on the Indiana Beef Cattle Association board of directors and is the second vice president of the Indiana Angus Association.

Sankey is a fifth-generation cattleman. He hails from Sankey’s 6N Ranch in Council Grove, Kan., the second-longest-running registered-Angus herd in the United States. Today, he and his wife, Lindsay, raise Angus and Hereford cattle and remain active in both their families’ cattle operations. He was active in the National Junior Angus Association and has been a member of the American Angus Association since 2001.

IN PASSING

Robert (Bob) Gordon, beloved husband, father and grandfather, died July 29 with family by his side at Boissevain, Man., Canada.

Bob was born Nov. 13, 1932, in Oak Lake, Man., to the late Henry and Ella (Ronberg) Gordon.

Growing up in the 1930s, Bob loved the country and farm lifestyle, and 4-H. At an early age he had a dream of becoming a registered-livestock breeder. In 1946, Bob exhibited his first steer at the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair in Brandon and continued showing there for more than four decades, later showing at Denver, Chicago, Toronto Royal, Ag-Ex, Canadian Western

Agribition, and world Angus and Hereford shows until his retirement.

Bob’s family moved to Souris, Man., in 1955. He married Joyce (Honeyman) of Hayfield, Man., in 1959. In 1961, his family was in the dairy business shipping milk for 10 years. Bob and his brother Wayne formed Kinnaber Cattle Co., establishing a Shorthorn operation. Bob was named “Builder of the Shorthorn Breed” in 1970 by the *Shorthorn Country* and American Shorthorn Association. He was instrumental in forming the Canadian Shorthorn Lassie Organization and president and director of the Manitoba Shorthorn Club. Kinnaber won three consecutive grand champion females and two reserve grand champions between 1969 and 1971 at the National Western Stock Show in Denver and two champions at the 1968 and 1969 Chicago International. Bob judged many livestock shows, including Agribition, Toronto Royal, 4-H achievement days and U.S. state fairs.

While serving on the Manitoba Cattle Producers board, Bob and fellow cattlemen initiated the Douglas Bull Test Station in the late 1960s. In 1969, he served as the first president and founding partner of Bar-5 Simmentals in Brandon, Man. Bob initiated the importation of Simmental cattle from Europe. Achilles Cattle Co. hired Bob as manager to promote and sell Simmental semen all over the world.

In the 1970s, the Hereford herd was established when his children’s love for showing cattle began. While serving as director of the Canadian Hereford Association, he initiated the formation of the Canadian Junior Hereford Association (CJHA), hosting the inaugural youth event at Kinnaber in 1979. Bob was intrigued by the Angus breed and developed a small herd in the 1980s. His experience with multiple breeds led him to be named sire selector and manager of the beef program for Western Breeders/Alta Genetics in Balzac, Alta., in 1985, selecting beef sires for the North American market for 13 years.

Bob was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame in 1995. In 2007, Bob and Joyce were inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame for their contribution to agriculture and the beef industry.

In 2003, Bob and Joyce wrote *A Cattleman’s Walk Down Memory Lane*, a book chronicling their lifelong experiences in farming and the livestock industry. Bob and Joyce retired to Boissevain in 2008.

In addition to his loving wife of 56 years,

Bob is survived by children Lois, Shirley, Sheila, B. Lynn and Bruce; brother Wayne; sister Cheryl; and 10 grandchildren.

Bob's family will remember, "A true stockman never dies; he's just selected by the best judge of all."

J.L. (James Lish) Hoskins, 92, Hustonville, Ky., died Sept. 4 at Baptist Health Lexington.

J.L. was born Sept. 27, 1923, in Casey County, Ky., the son of the late William and Pearl (Bell) Hoskins.

A lifetime farmer in Lincoln and Casey County, J.L. raised tobacco and Angus cattle. In his more than 70 years raising Angus, he sold cattle across Kentucky and the surrounding states. He and his daughters participated in local, state and national Angus cattle shows for many years.

J.L. had a busy personal life. He was an active member of the Hustonville Baptist Church, serving as Sunday school teacher, chairman of the ushers and as a trustee. He was a founding member of the Central Kentucky Angus Association and later served as director and president. He had been a lifetime member of the American Angus Association since 1950 and served as a delegate representing Kentucky at the Annual Meeting. He was a director of the Kentucky Angus Association and Peoples Bank. He was a member of Lincoln County Farm Bureau, Hustonville Ruritan and a Kentucky Colonel.

He was presented with the American Angus Association's Historic Herd Award, Kentucky Angus Lifetime Achievement Award, Kentucky Angus Performance Breeder of the Year Award, Honorary Commissioner of Agriculture, and Lincoln County Outstanding Farmer. He was a salesman for Bluegrass Fertilizer Co., sold Vigertone mineral for 35 years, and was a tobacco solicitor for the Burley Tobacco Warehouse for 40 years.

J.L. was a loving and supportive husband, father and grandfather. He and Evelyn (Allen) Hoskins celebrated 70 years of marriage Jan. 19, 2016. In addition to Evelyn, he is survived by daughters Donna and Rita; grandchildren James, Kindra and Kandis; great-grandchildren Addison, Bennett, David, Andrew, Kinney and Kade Nicholas, due in November.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Blaine Hansen has been appointed vice president of technical services for all species of livestock and poultry by Ralco. Hansen

Virginia Angus Breeders' Show, July 24, Chatham



► **Naomi Smith (left)**, Upperville, receives the show dedication award from **John Repair**, Virginia Angus Ass'n president.

will be a core member of the executive staff and will play an important role as the company continues to grow and develop its technical team and capabilities.

Edward Chu has been selected as the new deputy regional administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 in Lenexa, Kan. Region 7 encompasses Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and nine tribal nations.

Rachel Linder has been hired as an industry support and graphic design coordinator for Select Sires. In this role she will produce beef print advertising and flyers and will assist with the beef program's social media presence. Linder will support the beef acquisition and genetic testing processes, manage trade show activities and coordinate the artificial insemination (AI) certificate program in addition to performing other administrative duties.

Brandon Thesing, Pine Island, Minn., has been named the SRS (Select Reproductive Solutions™) specialist of the year by Select Sires for his work in the reproductive field.

Janet Donlin has been named executive vice president/CEO of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

She succeeds **Ron DeHaven**, who retired after nine years of service to the AVMA.

Brian Behnke has joined ABS Global as the new St. Jacobs business manager. He will be responsible for the global strategic direction of the brand and product offering, as well as promoting the brand within the different business regions. His goal will be to grow the brand's notoriety for overall type improvement by engaging with the sales organization, marketing, product development and supply chain teams regularly. He will be based out of DeForest, Wis.

Willie Altenburg has been hired by Select Sires as beef development advisor. His role will include assisting member cooperative employees with developing independent beef representatives and enhancing beef sales. Additionally, Altenburg will acquire sires for the beef program.

Guy Rusche, Garretson, S.D., has been hired as an area sales manager for the BioZyme Inc. supplement division. In this position, Rusche is responsible for promoting sales of the company's products and supporting the company's dealer network in South Dakota.

Charles Whitt has joined H.J. Baker as marketing manager for the Animal Health and Nutrition Division. Whitt will lead the efforts to develop integrated marketing campaigns, manage trade shows and oversee the design, production and distribution of all marketing assets.

Jay Johnson has joined the Arm & Hammer animal nutrition team as an account manager, ruminant enterprise sales. In this role he will be responsible for growing ruminant business in the south-central United States. His territory will include Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Eric Whitley, president and principal of Downforcemarketing LLC, has joined the board of directors of Protect the Harvest. He is also director of business improvement at <http://Leading2Lean.com>. Whitley was originally a volunteer with the organization.



Editor's Note: This column is compiled by Assistant Editor Linda Robbins. To submit your newsmaker, email lrobbins@angusjournal.com or call 816-383-5245.