



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Taylor Isley has been hired as the Commercial Angus Identification and Performance Program (CAIPP) coordinator for the Canadian Angus Association (CAA). The one-year internship is supported by Agriculture and AgriFood Canada's Career Focus Program.

The CAA announced CAIPP in June 2015 at the second annual Carcass 101 event. Isley is working with Kajal Devani, director of breed development, to formally launch the program in 2016. Through CAIPP, producers will record Angus-tagged animals with the Association and have the option to add pedigree and performance information to these animal records, including feedlot growth and carcass quality information.

IN PASSING

Gary Rayl, 78, died Nov. 6, 2015, in Hutchinson, Kan., after a long battle from a stroke many years ago and a recent battle with vascular dementia.

He was born Sept. 12, 1937, in Hutchinson, the son of Leo and Dollie (Beaty) Rayl. Gary was a 1955 graduate of Buhler High School, also graduating from Kansas City Bible College, Hutchinson Community College, McPherson College and Wichita State University (WSU). He received a master's degree in administration of justice from WSU.

Gary retired from the Kansas Department of Corrections as deputy secretary of corrections of Kansas. He also held positions as warden at Hutchinson Correctional Facility; the Arizona State Penitentiary, Florence, Ariz.; Fort Grant Prison, Fort Grant, Ariz.; and Kansas State Penitentiary, Lansing, El Dorado; and Toronto Honor Camps of Kansas during his career.

He was a member of Countryside Baptist Church, the American Correctional Association, Kansas Peace Officers's Association (KPOA), the Kansas Sheriff's Association and had life memberships in the American Poultry Association and the International Waterfowl Breeders Association.

He was married to Betty Farney. He married Beverley Helm July 11, 1980, in Phoenix, Ariz.

In addition to wife Beverley, Gary is survived by sons Brad, Dennis and Robert;

daughter Kaye; stepchildren Deena, Joel, Mark and Susan; sister June; half sisters Jeannie, Jessie, Patty and Dianne; eight grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Kenneth "Ken" Coulter, 93, Goodfield, Ill., died Nov. 14, 2015, at Advocate Bromenn Medical Center in Normal, Ill.

Ken was born in Goodfield April 2, 1922, to Isaac and Launa (Robinson) Coulter. He married Madeline Schurter in Goodfield April 6, 1947.

Ken enjoyed serving his Lord first and foremost, and was a member of the Goodfield Baptist Church, which his grandfather H.M. Robinson built for his workers. The farm that belonged to H.M. is known as the Brick House and Conklin Dinner Theater now. Ken served as a deacon, moderator and Sunday School teacher for children and adults. He went to Taylorville Schools and graduated from Goodfield High School. He also attended Purdue University in Indiana.

He was a pilot during World War II, served as a second lieutenant and flew B25s on the Eastern Air Command from September 1943 to January 1945. He was one of 10 from Douglas, Ga., selected to attend West Point for his pilot training.

Ken was a longtime member of the Central Illinois Angus Association, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the Woodford Farm Bureau and the American Legion in Eureka. He served as secretary of the Central Illinois Angus Association for more than 20 years. He had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1951.

He was a 4-H leader for 25 years, served as beef superintendent for the state fair and conducted the Governor's Champion Livestock Auction for eight years. He also served on the Heart of Illinois Fair Board and auctioned off the champions for many years. He was a broker for his own company, Ken Coulter and Associates, with his wife as his partner. They farmed, raised and showed Angus cattle with their family.

He organized the first Mennonite Relief Sale at the Central Illinois Angus Barn (now gone) when asked by Clarence Yordy and John Roth. He auctioned and helped organize the sale for almost 40 years. He

helped with other charities such as the Advocate Hospital Auction in Eureka, the Youth Farm sale for more than 30 years and the Maple Lawn sale in Eureka. He auctioned when requested for many other charities, hog and Angus sales in many states.

In addition to his wife, Ken is survived by daughters Coleen and Sheri; sons Kenneth and Kevin; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Virginia Whitner, 94, Atlanta, Ga., died Nov. 20, 2015.

A native of Atlanta, she was born to Virginia Simpson and John Whitner. Virginia was an accomplished research scientist at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, where she helped in developing the first kidney dialysis machine.

After her retirement from the CDC, she and Sue Lewis had a second career running a very successful cattle ranch, breeding black Angus and receiving numerous accolades within the Angus cattle community. Virginia was a longtime member of the Georgia Angus Association and a great supporter of the Angus industry. Whitner & Lewis Farm in Dahlonega, Ga., had been a member of the American Angus Association since 1970.

She then retired for the final time at age 90. With her infectious smile, kind heart and warm, loving attitude, Virginia was always willing to lend a hand. She was a beloved daughter, sister and friend and had a life well-lived with dignity. Her smile and giving nature will be greatly missed by all those who knew her.

Virginia is survived by family and friends.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Biozyme Inc. broke ground on a \$1.2 million warehouse and dock addition to its main supplement-production facility in Saint Joseph, Mo. The 14,000-square-foot addition, under construction at 6010 Stockyards Expressway, is expected to be completed in Spring 2016 and will provide space for the increasing number of trucks needed to pick up orders. Biozyme relies entirely on outside carriers to transport its products to customers.

Increased demand for Biozyme's natural feed supplements domestically and internationally prompted the facility

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expansion. The company's products are formulated to promote animal health, digestion, production and reproduction.

In addition to the warehouse expansion, the company has expanded the facility's office space to accommodate its growing staff. In the past 18 months, the company has hired 25 people in addition to initiating a double shift in March.

Lacey Sutherlin has joined ABS Global as a sales team leader. Working in western Montana, Sutherlin will be delivering the full array of company products and services. She will be providing turn-key breeding projects with synchronization, heat detection and a portable breeding barn, as well as providing nitrogen fill service for semen customers. Sutherlin has successfully conducted AI schools and will arrange AI training as needed throughout Montana and parts of northern Wyoming. She will be leading a team of company representatives and assisting with sales and breeding services.

Nancy Kavazanjian from Wisconsin has been re-elected as chairwoman of the U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA®). **Brad Greenway** of South Dakota was elected as vice chairman and **Lisa Lunz**, Nebraska, was elected as secretary. **Dawn Caldwell** from Nebraska was elected treasurer and **Mike Geske**, Missouri, was elected as a director-at-large. The remaining director-at-large seat on the board leadership group will be appointed by USFRA's officers in the coming weeks.

The organization also confirmed the addition of three new affiliates during the elections. They are the Illinois Corn Marketing Board, the Illinois Soybean Association and the Missouri Corn Growers Association. The addition of these three organizations raises the total number of agriculture commodity groups and industry partners that comprise USFRA to 94. The new affiliates will have one representative on the organization's board of directors for a one-year term.

Benny Cotta, Chowchilla, Calif.; **Bryce Fischer**, Cato, Wis.; **Jim Iverson**, Mindoro, Wis.; and **Michele Lookingbill**, Friona, Texas, received the Accelerated Genetics top sales honor, the President's Diamond Award, in November 2015. Receiving the President's Ruby Award were **Dennis Comer**, Phillips, Neb.; **Jim Galstad**, Westby, Wis.; **Terry Gowin**, Marana, Ariz.; and **Tony Mayer**, Chili, Wis. The President's Onyx Award was presented to **Steve Engel**, Herreid, S.D.; **Dan**

Esch, Dodgeville, Wis.; **Gerald Feikema**, Brookings, S.D.; **Paul Tveten**, Winona, Minn.; **Allan Hanselman**, Salem, Ore.; **Ken Montsma**, Brandon, Wis.; **Allan Pereira**, Bakersfield, Calif.; **Ed Correia**, Patterson, Calif.; **Pat Lindgren**, Colfax, Wis.; and **Cesar Silveira**, Arlington, Wash.

John Brakebill is now vice president and COO of Filament Marketing as part of the company's new leadership structure. **Jean Retallick** is now director of administration, and **Megan Hayes** will be the director of market messaging. **Jena Swanson** assumes the role of director of client services, and **Brianna Ripp** will be the director of client experience.

Roel Andriessen, who heads the International Sales Group of Tyson Fresh Meats, is the newly elected U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) chair. He succeeds Leann Saunders, president of Where Food Comes From. **Bruce Schmoll**, a soybean and corn producer from Claremont, Minn., is the new USMEF chairman-elect. **Dennis Stiffler**, CEO of Mountain States Rosen, is the USMEF vice chairman. **Conley Nelson**, Algona, Iowa, general manager of the Smithfield Foods hog production division and the newest member of the board, will serve as secretary-treasurer.

Betsy Huber of Pennsylvania was elected president of the National Grange at its 149th annual session. She is the first woman to advance to that position. As the National Grange president, Huber will work with the National Grange staff to advance Grange policies in Washington, D.C., as well as oversee the day-to-day operations of the organization.

Christopher Johnston of Michigan was re-elected Gatekeeper; **Claire Logan** of Rhode Island was re-elected Ceres; **Susan Noah** of Oregon was re-elected Pomona; and **Marie Nicholson** of Montana was re-elected Flora.

Amy Hays has been selected by the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation as the educational services manager in its Agricultural Division. In this role, Hays will provide support and development to the Agricultural Division for educational programming, producer outreach and community education. She will also redesign how the division's educational services are offered and develop innovative ways to connect with producers.



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.