



Newsmakers

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

IN PASSING

LeRoy Montoya, 59, Clarksdale, Mo., died April 2 at his home.

LeRoy was born Nov. 2, 1954, to Manuel and Magdalena (Pino) Montoya in Mountainair, N.M., and grew up on the family ranch in Moriarty, N.M.

He married Jennifer Waller Dec. 18, 1998. Leroy was a member of Oak Christian Church and a life member of the American Angus Association. He was also a professional cattle fitter and cowboy who loved collecting rocks, fossils, antiques and Indian artifacts.

In addition to his wife, LeRoy is survived by sons Manuel Montoya and Jacob and Jeffrey Conley; brothers Facundo, Fred, Fidel and Michael Montoya and Casey Ingram; sisters Juana, Betty, Mary Ann and Lucy; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Forrest Byergo, 97, of Savannah, Mo., died April 7 in the Ozark Riverview Manor nursing home, Ozark, Mo.

Forrest was born Oct. 27, 1916, in Barnard, Mo., to Emmet and Bertha (Giffin)



Forrest Byergo

Byergo. He graduated from Guilford High School in 1934, and attended Northwest Missouri State College (now University) and the University of Missouri. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942 and served until

December 1945. Forrest married Mary Mayes May 14, 1946. In 1952 they moved to the farm east of Barnard and bought their first registered-Angus cattle. They lived there for most of their life.

Forrest taught veterans on-the-farm classes for 11 years after serving in the Navy. He belonged to the O'Howell Strader American Legion Post No. 102 at Barnard; the Nodaway Lodge No. 470 AF&AM in Maryville, Mo.; the Disabled American Veterans; and the Nodaway County Angus Association. Forrest had been a life member of the American Angus Association since 1953. He had been inducted into the Missouri Angus Breeders Hall of Fame in 2004.

Forrest was a member of the Guilford United Methodist Church and taught high school Sunday School classes for many years.

In addition to his wife, Forrest is survived

by sons Stephen, Andrew, Rex and Joseph; daughters Mara, Jenny, Trudy and Sue; brother Keith; 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Pete Bonds, Saginaw, Texas, was elected president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) in April.

Richard Thorpe, Winters, was elected first vice president, **Robert McKnight**, Fort Davis, was elected second vice president, and **Eldon White**, Fort Worth, was elected executive vice president.

Rocosa Ridge Ranch, owned by Bruce Berg, Meridian, Texas, was awarded the 2013 Outstanding Rangeland Stewardship honor from the TSCRA and the Texas Section, Society for Range Management (TSSRM) at the TSCRA annual convention. The award was created to honor ranchers and landowners who are expending remarkable efforts to improve and manage range and pasturelands, and the resources, livestock and wildlife the lands support.

Rocosa Ridge Ranch will now compete for the regional stewardship award sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), Dow AgroSciences and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Dan Hoge, professor of animal science at Black Hawk East Campus, Galva, Ill., was inducted into the Black Hawk College East Foundation Wall of Fame. Honorees have provided outstanding service and/or leadership to the foundation and/or the Black Hawk College East Campus, as well as the community.

In addition to being a 44-year animal science professor and mentor, Hoge has coached livestock judging teams to 19 combined championships at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the American Royal, the National Western Stock Show and the North American International Livestock Exposition, as well as 40 National Barrow Show judging championships.

For the first time, an endowed scholarship was set up in honor of a Wall of Fame inductee. At the event's conclusion, it was announced that \$166,218 in cash and pledges were raised for the Dan Hoge Livestock Judging Scholarship. The interest will

generate \$4,000-\$5,000 in student scholarships annually for students attending the East Campus.

David Emerick, chair of the college board of trustees, announced that the East Campus auditorium had been renamed the Dan Hoge Auditorium.

Roger Winter, Scott City, Kan., has been awarded the Academy of Veterinary Consultants (AVC) 2014 Outstanding Service Award. Sponsored by Merck Animal Health, the annual award recognizes an AVC member who has made exceptional contributions to the organization, as well as the beef cattle and veterinary medical professions.

Six years ago, Winter organized the AVC audiovisual committee with the objective of making meetings, proceedings, seminars and podcasts and other information on the website available to every AVC member. Much of this information has allowed AVC members to gain continuing-education credits, as well as remain up-to-date on bovine health and industry developments.

Winters was in private practice in western Kansas for 13 years and has expanded his industry experience by working with various companies for the last 20 years.

Glenn Fischer, Allflex USA senior vice president of sales and marketing, has been elected chairman of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA). Other members of the NIAA executive committee include **Tony Forshey**, Ohio Department of Agriculture, vice chairman; **Travis Justice**, Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation, secretary; **Nevil Speer**, Western Kentucky University, treasurer; and members at large **Karen Jordan**, **Lanny Pace** and **Stan Mannschreck**.

Five individuals were elected to serve their first three-year terms on NIAA's 19-member board of directors. They are **Mark Engle**, independent consultant; **Kevin Maher**, founder and president of Global VetLink; **James McKean**, veterinary diagnostic & production animal medicine, Iowa State University; **Rick Sibbel**, director of U.S. cattle technical services, Merck Animal Health; and **Victor Velez**, animal health and food safety services, California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Bob Lightner has been promoted to Information Services (IS) project manager for Accelerated Genetics. In this role he will be responsible for ensuring the progressive development of the company's new business system, Acumatica, and will be working with a cross-divisional committee to manage testing and transition of the endeavor.

Jeremy Persinger has been hired as help-desk coordinator, with responsibilities that include supporting users with email and website issues, along with laptop, tablet and phone support.

Ben Kinnard has been hired as district sales representative in Region 14. He will be serving the areas surrounding Door and Kewaunee counties in Wisconsin. In this role he will be responsible for developing sales leads, maintaining customer relations and selling the company's programs, products and services.

Justin Hall has joined the sales team at Accelerated Genetics as a district sales manager covering eastern New York and the New England states. **Steve Rebhahn** has been hired as a farm and barn crewmember, and **Jeffrey VanPatten** as a district 1 sales representative covering the Finger Lakes/Upstate New York sales territory. In **Debbie Alt's** new role as a customer service representative, she will be responsible for

working within the call center to handle incoming requests and customer orders.

David Englund, Omaha, Neb.; **David Smith**, Tulsa, Okla.; **Michael Pfanz**, Omaha, Neb.; and **Terri Piccolo**, Omaha, Neb., all employees of Farmers National Co., have been appointed to senior vice president roles within their areas of specialty. Englund is now senior vice president of farm and ranch management. Smith has been named senior vice president of oil and gas management. Pfanz is now senior vice president of risk management, and Piccolo has assumed the role of senior vice president of finance for the company.

Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux City, Iowa, has announced a partnership with **Food Animal Vet Services/Donor Solutions** located in Rensselaer, Ind. Through the Trans Ova Genetics professional services team, the Indiana facility now offers *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) services for both beef and dairy clients.

Trans Ova will have a team at Donor Solutions every other week to perform IVF collections, and donors can be set up on farm and hauled in for collection on these dates. The location began monthly aspirations in May 2013.

Trans Ova has also announced a

partnership with **Polzin Embryo Center** located in Darwin, Minn. A Trans Ova professional services team will be at Polzin every other week to offer IVF collections, and donors can be set up on farms and hauled in for collection on these dates. The location began monthly aspirations in March 2014.

Helen Kees of Wisconsin was elected president of the board for the Cornucopia Institute at its March 2014 meeting. **Kevin Engelbert** of New York was elected board vice president. **Barry Flamm** of Montana was elected to the board of directors after having served on the policy advisory board. **Roger Featherstone** of Arizona was re-elected as treasurer of the Cornucopia board. Replacing Flamm, **Mitch Blumenthal**, Sarasota, Fla., is the new policy advisory board member.

Iris Huang has been hired as vice president of supply chain for Andis Co. In the newly created position, Huang will oversee and supervise global supply chain strategies and build a competitive infrastructure.



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.