



Newsmakers

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

IN THE NEWS

Oak Ridge Angus, Calistoga, Calif., was honored with a California Agricultural Heritage Club (CAHC) award at the California State Fair July 13. The club is a prestigious group of families and businesses who are descendants of pioneer ranches, farms and agribusinesses of early California. The ranches, farms and agribusinesses have been in place for 100 years or more.

Oak Ridge Angus was established in 1912 and has been a member of the American Angus Association since 1984.

Chris Stephens, a native of Weston, Miss., has joined the Angus Foundation as its new



Chris Stephens

assistant director of development. In his new position, Stephens will assist the Angus Foundation in fundraising to help achieve the organization's mission of advancing education, youth and research for the Angus breed and

Association members.

Stephens received his bachelor's degree in ag communications from Oklahoma State University in 2002, and possesses a strong, professional skill set in leadership and fundraising in the beef industry. Most recently, Stephens served as director of operations for EE Ranches Inc., in Dallas, Texas. In that position, Stephens managed a major ranching enterprise consisting of five ranches in four states.

Previously, Stephens served as development officer for the College of Veterinary Medicine with the Kansas State University Foundation, where he assisted in securing high-level gifts of \$10,000 to \$1 million. Prior to that role, he also served as executive director of the Hereford Youth Foundation of America, where he developed and executed the organization's \$5 million scholarship endowment campaign; and as director of youth activities with the American Hereford Association.

"Chris will be a tremendous addition to our Angus Foundation team. His

professional experiences in the purebred beef cattle industry, coupled with his successful fundraising record, will be invaluable in our organization's efforts to even better meet the increasing education, youth and research needs of our Angus members," said Milford Jenkins, president of the Angus Foundation. "He shares in our strategic vision for the Angus Foundation's future, and he'll play a crucial role in our charitable resource development activities and carrying out our mission."

Stephens said he's eager to join the Angus team.

"The Angus Foundation has a successful history in development and support of its mission to advance the Angus breed," Stephens said. "I am excited about helping to implement new strategies for growth and support for the Foundation and creating greater awareness for our mission: youth, education and research."

Bob Switzer, Canadian Angus Association (CAA) past president, will be inducted into the Canadian Agriculture Hall of Fame Nov. 6 at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in

Toronto, Ont. In 1966, Switzer purchased his first registered-Angus from the Corydon Dispersal at Elbow, Sask., eventually leading to the establishment of Sandy Bar Ranch at Aneroid. He served as CAA president in 2008 and as Canadian Angus Foundation chair in 2009.

Switzer was instrumental in organizing the first Angus and Angus-influenced feeder-calf sale in Moose Jaw, which led to sales in Assiniboia, Maple Creek, Medicine Hat and, in subsequent years, throughout Canada. He helped form Red Coat Cattle Feeders in 1998 to feed cattle and employ local people to stop the outflow of cattle, grain and people from the region.

John Willmott, Canadian Western Agribition past president, and James Bartlett, crop protection pioneer, were also named as 2016 inductees.

IN PASSING

Jerald "Jerry" Simonsen, 73, Torrington, Wyo., died June 17.

Jerry was born June 1, 1943, in Tilden, Neb., the son of Arnold and Willavie (Allen)

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Six ranches honored for stewardship efforts

The tradition of cattlemen and women serving as stewards of America's natural resources was honored with the announcement of the six regional Environmental Stewardship Award Program (ESAP) winners. The recipients, who were honored during the 2016 Cattle Industry Summer Business Meeting, span the country and were nominated for their outstanding efforts to protect land, air and water resources on their individual farming and ranching operations. The regional winners will now compete for the national ESAP award, which will be announced in February 2017.

The awards, now in their 26th year, were developed to recognize beef producers for their implementation of practices that improve the environmental sustainability of their operations. The ESAP award is sponsored by Dow AgroSciences, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and the National Cattlemen's Foundation.

The 2016 regional winners are Huntingdon Farm, John and Kathryn Dawes, Alexandria, Pa.; Stoney Creek Farm, Grant, Dawn and Karlie Breikreutz, Redwood Falls, Minn.; Turkey Track Ranch, Dale Smith and Jay O'Brien, Amarillo, Texas; Cherry Creek Ranch, Lon and Vicki Reukauf, Terry, Mont.; Smith Creek Ranch Ltd., Samuel Lossing, Duane Coombs, Ray Hendrix, Austin, Nev.; and Black Leg Ranch, Jerry and Renae Doan, Jeremy and Ashlee Doan, Jay and Kari Doan, Jayce Doan, Shanda and Don Morgan, McKenzie, N.D.

Now in its 26th year, the ESAP honors regional winners from across the United States. Regional award winners are forwarded for consideration for the National Environmental Stewardship Award, which is announced during the Annual Cattle Industry Convention. This year's national award winner will be announced in Nashville, Tenn., during the 2017 Cattle Industry Convention.

For more information on the award program and to find information on past recipients, visit www.environmentalstewardship.org.

Simonsen. His family moved to Goshen County, Wyo., in 1957. He graduated from Torrington High School in 1961 and received an associate's degree from Goshen County Community College prior to serving in the U.S. Army from November 1964 to November 1966.

He married Vaughn Shields Dec. 7, 1968, in Chugwater, Wyo., and the couple owned a farm at Veteran where they started their family and raised purebred Angus cattle until 1984. The Simonsen family then moved to Yoder where they resided until moving to Torrington in 2015.

Jerry was an avid cattle showman and competed in countless shows. He was a 4-H leader and worked for the University of Wyoming Extension after he retired from farming. He was a master gardener and co-hosted a weekly radio gardening show.

He loved to help people with their plants, grow and process vegetables and fruit, and cook a meal to feed an army. Jerry helped to start the local farmers' market and the Supreme cow program. He was active in many organizations, including the Lions Club and the Western Stock Show Association. He had been a member of the American Angus Association.

In addition to his wife, Jerry is survived by son Garrett; daughter Vane; his mother; sisters Carole, Linda, Patty and Kay; and many nieces and nephews.

Marian Hambleton, 96, Sun City, Ariz., died at Banner House Hospice June 18. Marian and her husband, Bernard, lived most of their lives in Washington state and enjoyed wintering in Sun City.

As a graduate nurse, Marian was a hospital administrator and she and Bernard owned the Fairfax Hospital in Kirkland, Wash.

They became interested in black Angus cattle and owned 200 head and showed them at many Angus shows and also at their Glacier View Ranch in Concrete, Wash. They had the grand champion Angus heifer at the Denver Stock Show one year. Bernard was a director of the Western States Angus Association, and Marian was an active member of the Angus Auxiliary.

In 2005, Marian and Bernard moved to Sun City permanently, and they enjoyed golf and bridge as members of the Union Hills Country Club.

Marian is survived by a sister, Melva, and by many loving nieces and nephews who were very much a part of her life.

Charles "Chuck" Pezanoski, 57, Dimmick, Ill., died June 24 at Saint Francis

Medical Center, Peoria, Ill.

He was born June 21, 1959, in Streator, Ill., to Robert and Catherine (Naughton) Pezanoski. He married Roberta "Bobbie" Noble on May 26, 1989.

Chuck was a graduate of La Salle-Peru Township High School and Wyoming Technical Institute. He was the owner of Lou's Spring & Welding Shop Inc. in Peru, Ill. He attended Grace Bible Fellowship and was a member of the Illinois Angus Association. He had been a member of the American Angus Association since 2006.

Chuck was passionate about the Angus cattle industry and enjoyed working with his sons to prepare for cattle shows. He was known for being a hardworking and honest businessman. His heartwarming laugh and easy smile were contagious. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. Even at the end of his life, he still gave to others by becoming an organ donor.

In addition to his wife, Chuck is survived by sons Keith and Ty; his mother; brothers William and Terry; sister Trisha; eight nephews; two nieces; and many aunts and uncles.

The family would like to establish a monetary Chuck Pezanoski Illinois Junior Angus Leadership Award in his honor. All memorials can be directed to the Illinois Junior Angus Association, c/o Bobbie Pezanoski, 61 N. 34th Rd., Peru, IL 61354.

Marian Van Dyke, 81, Bozeman, Mont., died July 26 with her family at her side.

Marian was the second of three children



Marian Van Dyke

born to John and Catherine Kamps May 14, 1935. She was born at home in the dry hills of Anceny and Amsterdam, Mont. She attended Manhattan Christian School and Manhattan High School.

As a teenager, she started dating the neighbor boy, Clarence Van Dyke, and soon after they fell in love. Clarence joined the U.S. Army and Marian began working to earn money in anticipation of her marriage. She worked for Dr. Erickson and Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. She and Clarence were married on May 19, 1953, at Bozeman Christian Reformed Church.

They were happily married for 63 years. Her dream was to have children, and they had four together. Marian was a true helpmate to Clarence, working in whatever capacity necessary to support several farming and ranching endeavors. She was involved

with and a valuable asset to their career in registered-Angus at the Van Dyke Angus Ranch. Marian was known for her ability to make delicious meals and baked goods for visitors and company at a moment's notice.

Marian enjoyed knitting, crocheting, quilting, cooking and gardening. She was known for her cinnamon rolls and potato salad. She also loved to have fun and play practical jokes. She was involved in several committees at Manhattan Christian School and invested time in church ministries for young women.

Marian worked for many years at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital as a nurse's aide on the obstetrics floor and nursery. Later in life she became very involved in Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) as one of the first leaders of BSF in Bozeman. She participated for more than 20 years and was a mentor and mother figure to many women through the ministry. Marian had a positive influence on others by taking a personal interest in their lives.

Marian took great joy in her 11 grandchildren. She gave special attention to each grandchild individually, making time for yearly outings, overnight stays and trips. She was also blessed with 13 great-grandchildren.

Marian's earthly goals never overshadowed her eternal goals. Her eternal perspective permeated every aspect of her life. It started where it should, with her prayer life. Marian was a prayer warrior, never hesitating to take full advantage of the incomprehensible resource we have in being able to bring everything to God in prayer.

She prayed for the spouses of her children and grandchildren when they were still in the womb. She prayed and yearned for the salvation of her children and her grandchildren. Her marriage, work, study life, church life and her daily fruit exemplified a person who sought the Lord's will in all things.

In addition to her husband, Marian is survived by sons John, Keith and Lee; daughter Debra; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

INDUSTRY EXTRAS

Todd Firkins has joined Merck Animal Health as the executive director of U.S. Food Animal Marketing. Firkins will be responsible for leading the development and execution of marketing programs for the Food Animal product portfolio to support the company's business plan and organizational objectives.

Cathy Kleiven has been hired by Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc. (BIVI) as the executive director of supply chain management. She was previously senior director of supply chain excellence and operations management for Zoetis Inc.

► **Texas Jr. Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet,**
June 11, Belton



► **Joseph (left) and Susanne Bush (center),** Gatesville, receive the Heyser Award for outstanding service to the Texas Jr. Angus Ass'n from **Kaydee Free,** Texas Angus Ass'n queen.

Len Heflich, vice president of global food safety, quality and crisis management for Grupo Bimbo in Mexico City, has been elected president of the Center for Food Integrity (CFI) board. **Doyle Karr,** director of biotechnology public policy for DuPont, was elected vice president, and **Amy Roady,** communications director for the Illinois Restaurant Association, was named secretary-treasurer.

New board members for the 2016-2017 term include **Susan Borra,** Food Marketing Institute; **Leanne Cooley,** L.H. Gray & Son Ltd.; **Stewart Leeth,** Smithfield Foods; **Leigh Horner,** The Hershey Co.; **Monica Massey,** Dairy Farmers of America; **Kirk Merritt,** Ohio Soybean Council; **Ernst van Orsouw,** Genus/PIC; **Cicely Simpson,** National Restaurant Association; **Mindy Whittle,** Monsanto; and **Doug Winter,** United Soybean Board.

Allison Grove has been hired to the Research and Nutritional Services (RNS) team at Zinpro Corp. as research assistant. In this position, Grove will assist the RNS team in conducting literature reviews, protocol and report writing, coordination and managing research files for product support and in presentation of research.

Ohio residents **F. Joe Darst,** Gahanna; **Mark Ferrell,** Jamestown; **John "Jack" Fisher,** Columbus; **Elizabeth Ann Murmaw,** New Philadelphia; **Nevin Smith,** Marysville; and **John Spreng Jr.,** Bucyrus, have been inducted into the Ohio State Fair Hall of Fame.

Cheremie Viator has joined the Westway Feed Products team as marketing manager.

She will work with the management team to implement marketing and advertising strategies. While based at the company's headquarters in Tomball, Texas, Viator will assist the Westway sales teams across the United States, Mexico and Canada.

Brooke Fox, current president and CEO of the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF), has joined the Western Stock Show Association board of directors.

Russ Weathers, CEO of Agriculture Future of America (AFA), will step down as CEO at the end of AFA's 2017 fiscal year, Feb. 28, 2017. Weathers will continue to serve the organization as chairman of the board and work with organization leadership in an advisory role.

Mark Stewart, current AFA president, will succeed Weathers. As of March 1, 2017, Stewart will be AFA CEO and president. Stewart joined AFA in 2011 as director of development.

Scott McGregor has joined H.J. Baker's Animal Health and Nutrition division as its newest sales representative for the Central Plains region of the United States.

Ashley Burks, Willard, Mo.; **Todd Conway,** Smiths Grove, Ky.; **Larry Forsbach,** Urbana, Ohio; **Charlie Gressman,** Callahan, Fla.; **Terry Hackler,** Tomball, Texas; **Josh McInturf,** Wildwood, Fla.; **Ron Manness,** Hartley, Man.; **Gary Range,** Clyde, Texas; **Charlotte Rutledge,** Fort Myers, Fla.; and **Alicia Taylor,** Havre de Grace, Md.; were honored as top sales persons by Westway Feed Products at its annual Presidents Council meeting.

Taylor received the honor posthumously, and was represented at the meeting by her daughters Alexandria and Olivia. The company has established an annual memorial scholarship in her honor at Harford Community College in Bel Air, Md.

More than 30 employees from eight member cooperatives, Select Sires GenerVations and Select Sires Inc. took part in Select Sires' employee orientation June 21-22 at the company headquarters in Plain City, Ohio. Artificial insemination (AI) technicians, sales representatives, Select Mating Service™ (SMS™) genetic consultants, Select Reproductive Solutions™ (SRS™) specialists, communications and marketing staff and interns attended for the two-day event where they received education to better serve customers. Following orientation, a majority of the attendees participated in an additional two days of extensive sales training.

