The value of life

There are many things and people that enter and exit our life on a regular basis, though there are some who stay with us our whole lives in some fashion. Those people or things are sometimes the most often overlooked or taken for granted.

Relationships

As I've grown a bit older, I've begun to value life a bit differently for that reason. It's not until you lose someone close to you that

you tend to do so.
During the past several
years, traditions in my
family have changed
due to different
circumstances, and that
has been really weird
and foreign to me.



Evan Woodbury

This Christmas season I challenge each and every one of you to

look forward to time with your family and find out everything about them, especially the ones you don't see as often. I promise that someday you'll be glad you did. My mom always used to tell me that presents don't really mean that much to her anymore because she has everything she needs. It's not that she doesn't appreciate them, but she knows there are more important things — like family.

I used to be about meeting everyone and anyone that I could. I focused on who I knew and not as much about building relationships with them. Do I think that knowing as many people as you can will pay off at some point in your life? Absolutely! However, if you

don't start to build on that, you'll merely have acquaintances and never true friends.

I've had the incredible opportunity to travel all over this country and into Canada meeting people who mean more to me than anything. If you surround yourself with good, positive people, it will take you farther in life than you can ever imagine. Let the ones who are meant to exit do so and live your life the way you want to. Remember your roots, faith and what your parents taught you.

A *Bible* verse that often guides me is Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all that you do, and He will direct your paths." Merry Christmas!

- Evan Woodbury, Kansas

Bronze and Silver Awards earned

Kyra Meyer, Blue Hill, Neb., and **Nicholas Prevo,** Pulaski, Iowa, have earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Clark, education and events director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo.

Meyer, the 13-year-old daughter of Brandon and Kami Meyer, attends Blue Hill Schools and is a member of the NJAA and the Nebraska Junior Angus Association, which she serves on the fundraising committee.

She has participated in state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Kyra has participated in quiz bowl, team sales and photography contests and the All-American *Certified Angus Beef®* (CAB®) Cook-Off.

She has consigned cattle in the 4M Angus/ Burken Cattle Co. Bull Sale and is actively involved with her local 4-H and FFA chapter.

Prevo, the 17-year-old son of Stacie Prevo, attends Davis County High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association, which he serves as director.

He has participated in local, state and national shows and showmanship contests. At the NJAS, Nicholas participated in quiz bowl, extemporaneous speaking, photography and graphic design contests and the Cook-Off. He has also participated in Leaders Engaged in Angus Development conferences and Raising the Bar conferences in 2014 and 2015.

Summer internships available for dairy, research and veterinary students at Select Sires

Select Sires Inc. has announced plans to offer summer internships at its headquarters facility in Plain City, Ohio, during the summer of 2016. Positions are available within the sales and marketing, communications, and veterinary departments.

"Both practical work experience within the industry and networking are extremely important in helping college students prepare for full-time employment upon graduation," says David Thorbahn, Select Sires president and CEO. "That's why Select Sires offers hands-on internship opportunities each year. These internships help introduce students to the industry side of agriculture, while they contribute to the day-to-day operation of the Select Sires federation."

College students pursuing a bachelor's degree in dairy science, animal science, ag economics, ag communications or related agricultural fields may apply for these internships. Dairy-marketing interns must have experience working with cattle, and the

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Visit the NJAA web site at www.njaa.info.

ability to clip and prepare animals for still or video photography while communications internship applicants are encouraged to have completed basic journalism or public relations coursework.

Individuals interested in food animal medicine may apply for the veterinarian internship, which provides experience working with herd health, biosecurity and treatment of bulls.

Applications are due Jan. 1, 2016. For information on these internships and application requirements visit www.selectsires.com/aboutus/summer_internship.html or send an email message to tsmith@selectsires.com. A separate

application form is needed for the veterinarian internship and is available here www.selectsires.com/aboutus/vet_internship.html.

Editor's Note: This column is compiled by Associate Editor Kasey Brown. To submit your "Next Generation" item, email kbrown@ angusjournal.com or call 816-383-5277.

► Mississippi Angus Preview Show, Oct. 11, Jackson, Miss.



► Showmanship was won by (from left) **Colten Nickles**, Morton, junior 1 champion; **Elizabeth Rone**, Courtland, junior champion; **Rylie Melancon**, Woodville, intermediate champion; and **Hayden Neal**, Forest, senior champion.



► Mississippi Angus royalty are (from left) Katherine Goree, Pulaski, junior princess; Haley Walker, Potts Camp, Northeast Mississippi princess; Elizabeth Rone, Northwest Mississippi princess; Addison Lindsey, Pelahatchie, Southwest Mississippi princess; Gabrielle Simpson, Tupelo, 2016 Mississippi queen; and Hayden Neal, 2015 Mississippi queen.



▶ Left: The Mississippi junior board of directors are (from left) Jacob Carpenter, Ripley, president; Gabrielle Simpson, vice president; John Davis, New Albany, secretary; Haley Walker, treasurer, Elizabeth Rone, reporter; directors Zach Mills, Mantachie; Casey Tolls, Batesville; Abby Nickles, Morton; Sadie Morris, Batesville; Rylie Melancon; Will Manning, New Albany; and Rachel Towles, Batesville.

