

Trick or treat

Growing up, Halloween was one of my favorite holidays. My mouth still waters when I think of homemade popcorn balls and caramel apples. I can remember each and every costume, from being Peter Pan in green tights and a hat, to a skunk with a big white stripe, to even a hillbilly with a little brown jug. But my favorite costume was, and is, the ace of spades. My mom never sews anything, but she took time out of her hectic schedule to work extra hard on this costume, and it was perfect! Every stitch was flawlessly placed and sewn with love. I felt like the pick of the deck the whole night while I played tricks on friends and family alike.

When I thought about the fall season, with Halloween approaching, I realized that life is much like trick or treating. As children, the world seemed to give us more treats than tricks. For most of us, our days were consumed with play — Barbies® GI Joes® or Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles® Rarely did fate hand us more than a rainy day or an hour of “time out.” Our biggest worry? Whether we wanted the purple or red Kool-Aid®!



Kristen Oaks

Well, life still rewards us with treats, but tricks are often (sometimes very often) intermixed. For example, because of my four-wheeler wreck, I lost my spleen and lots of blood, resulting in a week in the hospital and a scar straight down my middle. This was a major trick!

But, the flip side of this event was that my friends and family gathered around and showed outstanding love and support. Bad things, I learned, do turn into good. Tricks do turn into treats. Just think of events in your life that changed you. I bet that not all began in a positive manner. In fact, probably most of them did not. Strong character, I’ve found, comes not from our successes as much as from our disappointments and from the manner in which we learn to handle them.

So this fall, when you don your favorite costume and grab that plastic pumpkin, remember that life is full of tricks and potholes that may trip you up on your path. But don’t worry! Success can come to all of us if we aspire to build some character and turn life’s tricks into treats. Happy Halloween!

—Kristen Oaks, Louisiana

► Michigan Junior Angus Preview Show, East Lansing, June 12

► Jane Maxey Buher (left) presents auxiliary and memorial scholarships to (continuing from left) **Rachael Vaassen**, Ann Arbor; **Julie Thelen**, Saline; and **Andrew Foster**, Niles.



► Ozark Empire Fair Angus Show, Springfield, Mo., July 30

► The Southwest Missouri Junior Angus Ass’n announced year-end awards. Pictured are (from left) **Erica Atkinson**, Republic, Mo., show heifer of the year; **Brett Naylor**, Buffalo, Mo., bred-and-owned bull of the year; **Cody Washam**, Pierce City, Mo., bred-and-owned heifer of the year and member of the year; and **Hope Herd**, Fair Grove, Mo., show bull of the year.



► **Cody Washam**, Pierce City, Mo., was awarded the Earl K. Nau Scholarship. Pictured are (from left) Edsel Matthews, Max DeForest, Larry Ellison, Washam, Chris Nau and Pat Lloyd.



Riffles award Supreme Scholarship

During the 2005 Missouri State Fair, Col. John and Jean Riffle, Pleasant Hill, Mo., awarded the \$2,000 Supreme Scholarship to Josh Twente of Napoleon, Mo., at the “Sale of Champions.” This is the third year the Riffles have given the Supreme Scholarship, which is awarded to a 4-H or FFA member and will be presented during the annual meeting of the Missouri Association of Fairs and Festivals.

Submit scholarship applications

The Colvin Scholarship Foundation announces its 2006 scholarships. The

► South Dakota Junior Angus Spotlight Show, Huron, July 30



► Juniors are awarded Auxiliary scholarships. Pictured include (from left) **Derek Koupal**, Dante, recipient; **Jane Green**, presenter; and **Kyle Bussmus**, Mitchell, recipient.

application deadline is Dec. 1. All qualified collegiate juniors and seniors are encouraged to apply. The scholarships will be awarded in January 2006 to students demonstrating a commitment to the beef industry through the pursuit of a meat science, food science, animal science, marketing, business, communications, journalism or other degree related to the beef industry through activities and curriculum.

Applications are available at www.certifiedangusbeef.com/press/csf/index.php. For more information contact Vickie Catteau at 1-800-225-2333, Ext. 268, or vcatteau@certifiedangusbeef.com.



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**B/R Ruby
of
Tiffany
4214**

- #Twin Valley Precision E161 (FR)
- #GAR Precision 1680
- +WCC Blackcap C9 (R)
- #N-Bar Emulation EXT
- #B/R Ruby of Tiffany 9148
- B/R Ruby of Tiffany 436
- #Tehama Bando 155
9J9 GAR 856
- #SS Traveler 6T6
Premier Blackcap 6276A (R)
- #Emulation N-Bar 5522
N-Bar Primrose 2424
- #AAR New Trend
B/R Ruby of Tiffany 155

Rishel Angus Donates 2006 Angus Foundation Heifer

The Bill Rishel family of Rishel Angus, North Platte, Neb., will donate the 2006 Angus Foundation Heifer, set to sell at 2 p.m., Jan. 12, 2006, during the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo.

B/R Ruby of Tiffany 4214, a February 2004 daughter of Twin Valley Precision E161, will headline the package. Her dam is B/R Ruby of Tiffany 9148, a daughter of N-Bar Emulation EXT. As a special feature this year, the heifer is bred to Ironwood New Level and expected to calve in early February 2006.

In addition to the heifer, the buyer will receive 30 days of free insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.; free transportation to the buyer's farm or ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; and a flush and three embryo implants into the buyer's recipient cows from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa.

The sale of the package will precede the NWSS Angus Bull Sale, scheduled to take place in the Beef Palace Auction Arena. All proceeds from the heifer package go to the Angus Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that funds and supports programs involving education, youth and research in the Angus breed and the agricultural industry.

Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation director of development, says B/R Ruby of Tiffany 4214 was specifically selected by the Rishels for the special purpose of the Angus Foundation Heifer fund-raiser. "The Rishels' offer to throw in the bonus sale feature of 4214 being bred to Ironwood New Level for a projected February 2006 calf was

even more humbling to the Angus Foundation," Jenkins says. "As with prior buyers and donors of the Angus Foundation heifer packages, this unselfish and generous validation of the Rishels' endorsement of the importance to raise funds for the Angus Foundation will be an inspiration for many years to come for all of us involved in the Angus breed!"

For more information about the Angus Foundation Heifer Package, contact the Angus Foundation at (816) 383-5100 or visit with any regional manager.

