

**national
junior
angus
association**



the Scoop Spring 2010
a journal for juniors, by juniors

The Scoop Staff

Publisher

The Angus Foundation

Staff Leader

Ellen Hoffschneider, NE

Newspaper Staff

Dustin Albers, OR
Meghan Blythe, KS
Michaela Clowser, NE
Aliesha Dethlefs, NE
Bailey Harsh, OH
Ashley Hunter, IA
Mollie Lastovica, TX
Daniel McFarland, LA
Rebecca Park, OK
Katy Satree, TX
Jennifer Ann Smith, TX
Mary Spencer, NE
Katlyn Tunstill, AR
Hannah Uden, NE
Samantha Yantis, AR

Project Manager

Christy Bryan – University of Georgia

Photo Manager

Ricka Boehmer – Michigan State University

Project Coach

Julie McMahon French, MI



The Pursuit

Achieving a dream is the subject of many inspiring quotes, self-help books and popular songs. Real life, though doesn't work as simply as we are led to believe. The fairy tale says anything is possible, while reality paints a different picture. Where is the middle?

During my junior year of high school, I began exploring potential careers. My first loves were writing and public speaking, but I was still passionate about a variety of other subjects. I was clueless about my career until I heard about agriculture communications. I knew that was the job for me. When I approached my parents, excited that I had finally made up my mind, I was taken aback by their reaction. Though they were happy I had found a college major that matched my passion, they were concerned about job security and thought the medical field would provide more opportunities for me. Once they realized I was convinced, they suggested I get my teaching certificate or look for a different major with a communications option.

Not quite sure what to do, I headed to the 2008 NJAS. At each of the Scoop's morning and afternoon meetings an individual involved in Angus and communications spoke. I asked the first person if there were jobs available in the field and he answered yes. I was excited but knew it would take more than my word about one person to help my parents understand. So, over the entire show,

I asked that same question to every speaker, and even took notes about their presentations.

At the end of the week, I had a notebook full of notes to present my case to my parents. I approached them and explained what I'd learned and they considered everything I said. The outcome: I am currently a freshman at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a major in agriculture journalism. I am pursuing my dream!

I am still not exactly certain what my role in the communications field will be, but that is part of college. No decision is final, and there are many roads left to be explored. One of those paths came this past fall, as I competed in the National Beef Ambassador contest and earned a spot on the team. Four other young people and I will travel across the United States sharing our passion and our dream for the future of the beef industry.

My story is an example of what it takes to make dreams into goals. No dream will ever fall into your lap, but with a plan, and plenty of hard work, they can come true. Explore the options available to you, and with careful consideration, set a goal. All that's left to do then is work. The National Junior Angus Association is a great place to start looking around. In the Angus industry a variety of people do a variety of things. As you read this issue about the dreams of others, ponder your own, and plan your pursuit.

— By Ellen Hoffschneider, Nebraska



PHOTO BY COLE GARDNER, KS, FROM 2009 NJAS PHOTO CONTEST

20/20 Vision

In the eyes of 9 year olds...

The Scoop staff thought it would be fun to look into our future generation. We discovered that the kids that are 9 years old today would be 20 years old at the 2020 National Junior Angus Show. So we decided to interview 20 of them and see what some of their current interests are. I would also like to thank each of them for their time. They were a lot of fun...and are going to make some fantastic leaders one day!

Questions:

1. What is your favorite food?
2. What do you want to be when you grow up?
3. If you could meet anyone in the world, who would it be?
4. What do you like to do for fun?
5. What do you like to listen to?
6. What is your heifer's name?

Peyton Ruud, Alabama

1. Fried chicken w/honey mustard sauce
2. Nurse. I like to help people.
3. Hannah Montana!
4. Ride 4-wheelers
5. Taylor Swift
6. Miss Nell

Cali Enfinger, Alabama

1. Fried chicken w/ranch dressing
2. Fashion Designer
3. Taylor Swift
4. Watch television
5. Taylor Swift
6. Heeldy & Leena

Megan Crowell, Alabama

1. Pepperoni pizza
2. Elementary School Teacher
3. Josh Turner
4. Play softball
5. Country music! I love Josh Turner
6. Bella

Jaxton Jones, Tennessee

1. Chocolate ice cream
2. A policeman
3. Megan Fox (Transformers)
4. Play with my dogs
5. Rock music
6. Annie

Cale Hinrichsen, Kansas

1. Steak and mashed potatoes
2. Veterinarian
3. John Wayne
4. I like to go hunting
5. Country music
6. Q-Baby

Charlie Nichols, Florida

1. Macaroni & cheese
2. Dentist
3. Tim Tebow
4. Play baseball
5. County 96.9 "The Big Dog"
6. D59

Chance Flack, Georgia

1. Spaghetti
2. Vet
3. A Cow that talks!
4. Help my dad halterbreak calves
5. Hip-Hop
6. She doesn't have a name yet... any ideas?

Andrew Craddock, Georgia

1. Pepperoni pizza
2. Dirt bike rider
3. Batman!
4. Ride dirt bikes
5. Rock music
6. Abby

Haley Sweitzer, Pennsylvania

1. Watermelon
2. Pig farmer
3. The Jonas Brothers
4. Ride the ripstick
5. Country music
6. Gracey

Kade Renfro, Texas

1. Hot dogs
2. Engineer
3. Megan Fox (Transformers)
4. I like to play golf and I like to sing
5. Rock music
6. Snowball

Kase Renfro, Texas

1. Chocolate
2. Professional football player
3. Eli Manning
4. Play football
5. Armor
6. Undecided...

Gus Warne, Missouri

1. Chicken nuggets
2. Monster truck driver
3. SpongeBob SquarePants
4. Play on my Wii
5. Rock & roll music
6. No names yet!

Whitney Brown, Tennessee

1. Steak...CAB®, of course!
2. Teacher
3. Demi Lavoto
4. Cheer
5. Everything...rock, country...I like it all!
6. Haven't decided yet!

Mason Cox, Tennessee

1. Pizza
2. Football player
3. A famous football player
4. Play football
5. All music
6. She is nameless right now!

Grady Dickerson, Kansas

1. Tomatoes
2. Rancher
3. Skylar Ruby Knight
4. Read
5. Piano
6. Peppy

Abby Bartenslager, West Virginia

1. Ice cream
2. Veterinarian
3. Miley Cyrus!
4. Swim
5. Hannah Montana 3
6. Daisy

Isaiah Dumas, North Carolina

1. Hot dogs
2. A King! Maybe president!
3. Bill Gates
4. Play basketball & talk to girls!
5. Rap music
6. Zarah & Natucko

Haley Roye, Arkansas

1. Spaghetti
2. Science teacher
3. Hillary Clinton!
4. I love to paint
5. Taylor Swift
6. Elizabeth – As soon as I get a heifer!

Halle Collins, Louisiana

1. Ice cream & three-cheese tortellini
2. Lawyer & chef
3. Pa Pa Herman and Taylor Swift
4. Riding 4-wheelers & swimming with friends
5. Taylor Swift, Hannah Montana, and Amy Grant
6. Tinker!

Nicholas Pohlman, Arkansas

1. Frito chili pie
2. I don't know...but I will have Angus cattle.
3. Taylor Swift
4. Play with my friends
5. Rhonda Vincent and the Rage
6. Vera, Renee, Karen, Velma and Envious!

— By *Katlyn Tunstill*, Arkansas



NJAS Memories

Cook-Off Celebrates 26 Years

The All-American Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) Cook-Off was started by Anne Patton Schubert, Taylorsville, Ken., Ardyce O'Neill, Logan, Iowa, and members of the American Angus Auxiliary in 1983.

When it started, Anne Lampe, Scott City, Kan., competed in it as a junior. In 1993, she began helping Anne Patton Schubert. Currently, Anne Lampe and Anne Patton Schubert serve as the Beef Education co-chairs for the American Angus Auxiliary.

Juniors participated in the 26th year of the CAB Cook-Off last summer in Perry, Ga. In the beginning the recipes were limited to ground round, but in 1986 Certified Angus Beef LLC started sponsoring the event. Currently, the contest is divided into three different categories, roast, steak, and other beef items. There are three age divisions junior, intermediate, and senior as well as a division for adults. Each state could have up to 12 teams but they couldn't be in the same division or category.

When comparing the contest from the past to now, there has been more participation and the recipes have also changed. Instead of one main dish there has been a wide variety of recipes. The skits have also changed. They are more polished and elaborate and include more information on CAB. Awards are presented in showmanship, recipe, and overall performance. The increasing use of technology has also improved the contest, as cooking devices are now provided for you or you could bring your own.

At the 1998 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Indianapolis, Ind. David Letterman's mom, was the contest's "celebrity judge." A member of the National Board had connections to get her to come and judge. A comment she used most often was that she thought all of the presentations were cute. A segment of the NJAS was on the David Letterman Show.

Anne Patton Schubert and Anne Lampe were asked if they ever had any other "celebrity judges". "They are all celebrities," responded Anne Patton Schubert. Tom Burke is what they would call the contest's "alumni judge." He is the longest-serving judge for the CAB Cook-Off, with more than 15 years of experience. He judges because of the

people and the food. Tom is impressed by how much the juniors know about the importance of CAB. Judging gives Tom the opportunity to get to know the juniors better. I asked Tom if he has ever eaten anything he didn't like. "If I did, you would never know it," Tom commented. The skits he likes the most include Angus steak. "Any skit with that can't be beat." He would like all of us to be thankful to Anne Patton Schubert and Anne Lampe for all they've done for the Cook-Off for many years.

Comments shared from past participant, Dru Uden, of Franklin, Neb., include many different ideas. He participated in the Cook-Off four years-- 1985, 1986, 1989, and in 1999 as an adult. Dru has seen the skits change more than the meal prepared. Dru said change is good but he would rather go back to focusing more on the beef products. In the recipes there has been a greater variety of food prepared. Dru thinks that he could do better than he did when he first competed if he had the opportunity now.

Hannah McCabe of Kansas is an active Cook-Off participant, and said they do the Cook-Off because it's a

lot of fun. She also likes to eat the food afterward. They came up with a skit with help from another team member, Meghan Blythe, who had Superman costumes. The team centered the skit around it. The team members were Cole and Ransom Gardiner, Meghan and Allie Blythe, and Hannah and Esther McCabe.

As you can see, the Cook-Off is a very popular contest at the NJAS. The adults and juniors who compete in the contest every year enjoy it. The Cook-Off will continue to be a popular contest and will always be exciting.

— *By Aliesha Dethlefs, Nebraska*



The skits judge Tom Burke likes the most include Angus steak. "Any skit with that can't be beat."

40 Years in the Making

An Interview with Jeremy Haag about *The 40th Anniversary of the National Junior Angus Show*

The 40th Anniversary of the National Junior Angus Show is a complete history of the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) from its beginning in 1969 in Columbia, Mo., to the 40th Anniversary Show in 2008, Des Moines, Iowa. It includes a complete history of the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest from its beginning in 1967 at the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in Lexington, Ky., to the 42nd Anniversary Showmanship Contest held in 2008 in Des Moines, Iowa.

I interviewed Jeremy Haag from the American Angus Hall of Fame about his role in writing the book.

Michaela Clowser: How long did it take to write and finish the book?

Jeremy Haag: It took 1 ½ years to collect all the information and write the book.

MC: What was your role in writing the book?

JH: I gathered information from past Angus Journal's and compiled this information for the articles written about the contests, shows, and showmanship.

MC: What do you hope people will gain from reading the book?

JH: I think this is the best show book published, and I hope that people will use this book as a reference guide.

MC: What was your favorite part of writing *The 40th Anniversary of the National Junior Angus Show*?

JH: I really enjoyed looking at the past winners and seeing how the type and kind of Angus cattle have changed over the years.

MC: Is there going to be a Volume 2, and do you hope to work on it?

JH: Yes, we have decided to write a new volume every 5 years. The new volumes will be kept up to date and provide the latest information. I plan to work on the future volumes.

MC: Why did you choose the color purple for the cover?

JH: Well, the Angus Legends book

is black and gold, and the Atlantic National book is green, so we thought purple would be a good color for this book. The additional volumes will also be purple.

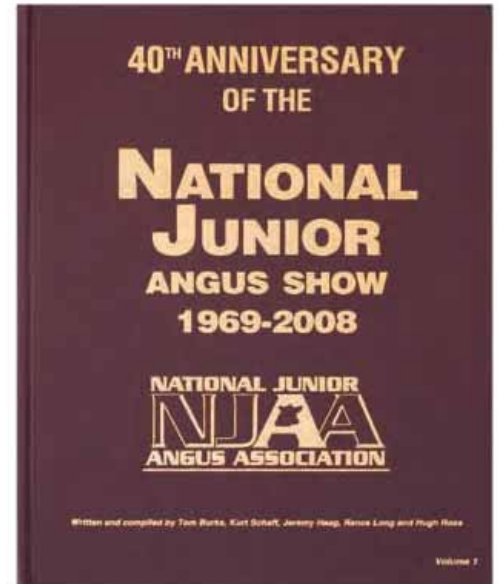
MC: What surprised you the most about writing *The 40th Anniversary of the National Junior Angus Show*?

JH: I was really surprised by how long it took to gather and compile all the information we had collected and in the end when it was all together the substantial size of the book was incredible.

If you would like to purchase a copy of *The 40th Anniversary of the National Junior Angus Show*, contact the American Angus Hall of Fame at www.angushall.com.

Note: I would like to thank Jeremy Haag for taking the time to participate in my interview.

— By Michaela Clowser, Nebraska



What you really need to pack as tack.

Some people have a check list of everything that they need to pack. Some common items are feed, tack box, buckets, etc. The Boecker brothers of Arkansas took it one step further as they included an entire entertainment system. This entertainment system included a flat screen, X-Box 360, and an extreme sound system. One couldn't help to notice this system when they would walk by and see people either watching a movie or playing a video game. I must say, it was pretty impressive!

— By Katy Satrie,
Texas



Generally Interesting

Just When You Thought You Knew Everything!

When thinking about jobs or careers in agriculture, we tend to have a very narrow view. Sure, we list the farmer, rancher or veterinarian, but do we ever think past that? We are familiar with job opportunities in our local area, but have we looked away from home? When researching jobs in the field of agriculture, I found a very wide range of job opportunities not just here in the United States, but around the world.

I started with the statement: I would like to work in _____ as a _____ making about _____. From there, I just started to fill in the blanks.

Let's start with jobs in the United States. Listed are just a few of the opportunities found:

Dairy Sales and Nutrition Consultant, Enzyme Product Manager, Agronomy Operations Manager, International Market Manager, Statistical Geneticist (Scientist), Marketing Manager, Quality Assurance Director, Production Manager, Laboratory Technician, Product Specialist, Human Resources Manager, Working Ranch and Cattle Foreman, Commodities Trader, Software Customer

Service Representative, Feed Manufacturing, Ag Business Consultant.

What about jobs around the world? You could investigate any country and look into a specific area, but here are just a few at a quick glance:

Canada: Agricultural Economist, Forage Territory Manager, Precision Farming Specialist, Agronomy Specialist, Conseiller en Alimentation Animale (sounds cool!)

South America: Entomology Lead, Sugarcane Statistical Geneticist, Research Scientist

Australia: Farm Manager, Animal Nutritionist, Food Scientist Technologist, Agribusiness Manager, Irrigation Farm Operator, Marketing Coordinator, Agronomist, Export/Import Coordinator, Territory Manager, Cattle Senior Assistant Manager

The list could go on, but you get the idea. As you look into the jobs, check into the salary possibilities with that particular profession and decide if it is something that interests you and that can sustain your lifestyle. Different locales

suggest different salaries, so you should consider this as well.

No matter what you choose or where, the factor that seems to be the one deciding factor in all of this is education. You need the proper tools to do the job you pursue. How do we know what tools are needed? Ask the people doing the job today. Ask people right here in our Angus association. These are people who have dedicated their lives to the ag industry. Who better to give advice? And the best thing is that they are ready and willing to help.

As I prepare for college, I want to make sure my choice of college and my area of study will prepare me for the job I want to pursue. If you are uncertain as to what area of agriculture to study, I suggest you get with a college advisor and let them know things that may interest you. Talk to family, friends, the Angus association, and others to get you started toward your future!

— *By Samantha Yantis, Louisiana*

Changing Schools

I remember it much like it was yesterday — new school, new friends, new teachers, and a whole new town. Most drastic changes like this happen when you are in elementary or middle school, not high school. I, however, was different. I saw an opportunity, knew it was one for the taking, and took it. My current high school was not offering me the quality agricultural education classes I desired. The chance to grow and be molded into someone ready for the rigorous challenges of pursuing an undergraduate degree in agriculture was at my fingertips. Fifteen miles away, the rival school happened to have one of the top agricultural education programs in the nation. I simply had to be brave and take a chance. Transitioning high schools would be difficult — leaving my friends of nine years and entering into a whole new world would be a challenge. Even so, I never viewed it as such. I perceived it as a new opportunity for personal growth and a chance to prepare for the next phase of my life.

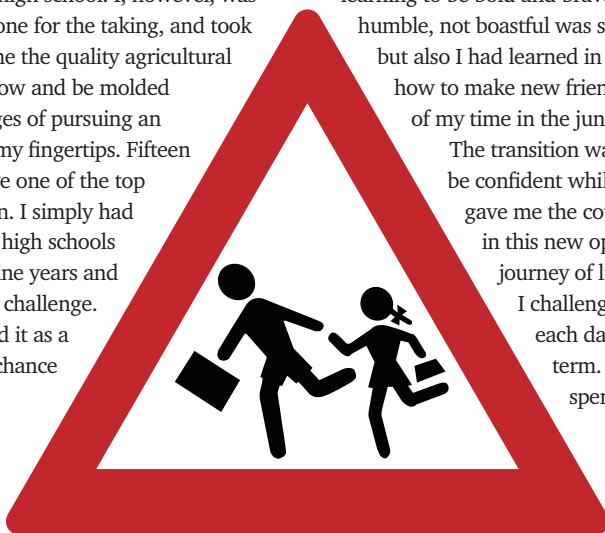
Over the years, junior Angus activities had given me the obvious: friends, enjoyable events to attend and memories. What were

not so obvious were the life skills I learned through participating in these activities. Confidence to be bold and brave in this new adventure came from learning to be bold and brave in junior Angus activities. The ability to be humble, not boastful was something not only my parents had taught me, but also I had learned in many experiences in the NJAA. Finally, knowing how to make new friends in any environment came easy to me because of my time in the junior Angus circle.

The transition was a success. I was able to take a leap of faith and be confident while doing so. My time that I had spent in the NJAA gave me the courage to be bold, humble, and make new friends in this new opportunity. Being prepared for the next step in the journey of life was well worth the sacrifice of moving schools.

I challenge you to find opportunities and take them. Spend each day working toward goals—short term and long term. You will find that using this method will help you spend your time on activities that are worth doing.

— *By Jennifer Ann Smith, Texas*



Watching What You Eat: The Challenges with Food Allergies

A food allergy is your body's reaction in response to certain foods because it thinks it is harmful. It is estimated that 4% to 8% of all children have food allergies, and only 2% of adults have allergies because many children tend to grow out of their allergies.

National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members face many challenges in managing their food allergies on the farm and at shows. At home they have to read food labels and be careful in food preparation. They have to watch what they eat on the fairgrounds and in restaurants, and continually monitor their food choices to stay healthy enough to compete.

Common symptoms of a food-allergy reaction are hives (red bumps or rash), tingling in the mouth, swelling in the tongue and throat, and difficulty breathing. A food allergy can also bring abdominal cramps, vomiting, or diarrhea. A rash, coughing or wheezing, loss of consciousness and dizziness can also result when a person consumes a food to which he or she is allergic. These symptoms need to be taken seriously. Allergies are commonly treated with an antihistamine, such as Dimetapp® or Benadryl®, which helps stop the body's reaction.

Tyler Blythe from Kansas was allergic to milk protein in dairy products from the age of 3 years until he was in the 4th grade. He grew out of his allergy and no longer has to read each food label for everything he eats. Tyler said he and his family are able to eat out in restaurants a lot more.

Eight common foods cause 90% of all food-allergy reactions: cow milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (for example, walnuts, pecans, almonds and cashews), fish, shellfish, soybeans and wheat. When you suffer from one of these common allergies, you are not able to eat that food or any food product that has been made with it.

On average, there are 2,000 hospitalizations and 150 deaths a year from food allergies. The best treatment is to avoid the foods that cause a reaction.

Britney Creamer from Colorado is challenged by two very serious conditions. She is lactose intolerant (unable to fully digest dairy products) and she has Celiac Disease (cannot consume protein gluten). She says avoiding these foods requires a lifestyle change which is very difficult. It started when she was diagnosed with Celiac Disease because she had nowhere to turn. Her

doctor provided no information, and no referral, other than to see a dietician. The first one she saw knew nothing about her disease.

She also played basketball at a Division II college. As active as she was, it was very difficult to consume enough food, and the coaching staff did not fully realize the extent of what she could and could not eat.

Britney said she did a lot of personal research, and her mom's friend who also has Celiac Disease

was her best source of information. Now she has found out a lot of her friends have it as well, and she says they are the easiest to talk to.

Christiane Wimbish from North Carolina is lactose intolerant and agrees that your friends should be your best support system. She said friends who are willing to understand food allergies and related challenges are often the best resources.

— By Ashley Hunter, Iowa

Extend Your Network

250 million active users... about 80 million monthly visits... reaching out to people, by the masses, in 140 characters or less...

What do these statistics have in common? They represent Facebook, Myspace, and Twitter-- three social networking web sites that have truly taken hold of the world's common forms of communication with both hands.

It is no surprise, as today's technology becomes more and more advanced, even the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), a branch of the agricultural industry (an industry that goes back to our country's foundation, at that), is seeing the effects of this socially driven, technologically forward generation.

Seen as a great way to keep in touch with other members across the nation, social networking sites are viewed as positive resources by NJAA members.

"I think it is a great way to keep in touch in our generation" Jacee May, Oklahoma Junior Angus Association member said. "Facebook has allowed me to stay in touch with all my Angus friends through all of the things it offers."

Other junior members see these forms of social networking as a way to truly get to know each other.

"I think sometimes when members meet at shows they don't have the opportunity to fully get to know one another," Paige Wallace, Missouri Junior Angus Association member said.

Online networking is essential for relationships outside of the NJAA circle as well.

"It has helped me connect with friends from my old school and relatives," Jacob Steph, Texas Junior Angus Association member, said.

What started out, in the case of Facebook, as a

way for college students to communicate with one another is now a widespread networking site used by more than 120 million people daily, with over two-thirds of users being non-college students.

So why is social networking important? Is it needed whatsoever? The answer is yes.

"From a sociological perspective, social networking sites improve social capital, which is particularly useful in striking up a conversation or exchanging ideas from a network of people," a Wordpress.com author said.

For businesses, the "newest" approach to marketing and advertisement lies embedded in these online networks.

"Social networking sites allow companies to further saturate the market with their brand name in a non-traditional approach," Robert Myers, NJAA Board Member, said. "Doing this allows more recognition between themselves, their consumers and the products they promote."

Many businesses with agricultural roots such as VitaFerm and Justin Boots can be found on Twitter and/or Facebook, and the list of these businesses goes on and on.

Overall, social networking is the newest whirlwind in the technological world and it has extended to the NJAA, directly affecting its members, enabling them to "connect more effectively and frequently with friends from across the nation," Myers said.

As technology continues to change and adaptations are made to improve current trends, NJAA members are encouraged to extend their network.

— By Mollie Lastovica, Texas

Viewpoints

Can We Do It?

In the showmanship finals at a preview show, the judge asked me what was the biggest problem facing the beef industry today. At first, I stalled by saying, “Well sir, that is a good question,” and then I replied, saying, the animal rights activists are one of the biggest threats to today’s beef industry. He said that was a nice answer, but he didn’t think that was too big of an issue. I thought about what he said as I washed my calves and packed up to head home. I want my animals to have the best care and treatment that I can give them - does that mean I am an animal rights activist? I decided to do some research.

If you look at the phrase “animal rights activist,” you see the key word “activist.” According to my computer’s dictionary, activist means, “a zealot, protester, radical, extremist.” Well, that certainly does NOT describe me! Once again, looking at the phrase “animal rights activist,” you see the word “rights”. Put in the context of animal rights, it means that animals have the same rights as a human being. So, what do we call those of us who are interested in our animal’s health and general well-being? We are people interested in animal welfare. Welfare literally means, “to fare well,” or to be healthy.

If you’re still partially in the dark as to the difference between the two, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and your local humane society provide an excellent contrast. Your local humane society is concerned with the day-to-day details of taking care of animals. They take in strays, unwanted animals, and rescue them to rehabilitate and find homes for them. Animal welfare is their main goal. On the other hand, the HSUS is the embodiment of the animal rights activists.

There is a distinct difference between animal welfare and animal rights. Animal welfare is simple and straightforward. As cattle breeders we know what animals need to be happy, healthy, and well-taken-care-of. Animal rights are more subjective. The animal rights groups believe that animals are equivalent to human beings. The HSUS petitions, lobbies, and rallies around the

cause of animal rights to pass bills that restrict us as cattle owners. The threat they pose to cattle breeders is the fact that they push the public to be vegan or vegetarian. If they succeed in their aim to make a majority of the United States meat-free, that will kill our industry. On their blog, the HSUS

stated that those of us who raise and eat animals are pro-cruelty! Cattle owners who are proactive to care for and give the best treatment to their animals are certainly not pro-cruelty! However, the HSUS does raise a great deal of awareness for the local humane societies and can aid in bringing help to animals. But, it is almost always the local humane societies who get down and dirty in the day-to-day aspects of animal

welfare. Cattle owners who care about the well-being, health, and happiness of their animals obviously are people interested in animal welfare.

So, now that we know the difference between animal rights and animal welfare, and where cattle breeders stand on this issue, what can we do about it? We cannot just stand on the sidelines and watch as our livelihood is snatched away from us. We have to promote our image to the general public, to show them that we are not the animal-hating people that the animal rights activists portray us as. At first, I didn’t like the idea of being labeled an activist, but if we think about it, what would animal welfare activist mean? Going back to the definition of activist would mean we are zealous about keeping our animals healthy, we go to the extreme to keep our animals well-fed and content, we are radical about giving our cattle the best treatment they can possibly have. It doesn’t sound so bad after all! So, what are we, as animal welfare activists, going to do? I always liked the DIY approach to anything, so here is a Do-It-Yourself list for the animal welfare activist.

- First of all, make sure your animals have plenty of water. Note: in extremely cold weather, cattle will drink more than in hot weather. That means that each cow will drink at least 8 to 10 gallons of water each day. If your tank doesn’t have a water

heater, you will need to get out there and chop ice! (I know, just what you’ve wanted to hear, but I’ve read that if you keep your abs tucked while you chop, you will build muscle. So you can still work on that six-pack!)

- Keep the hay feeders full or make sure your cattle have enough to eat. When it gets cold, cattle will use the food they eat to keep warm. So, if you want your show heifers to gain weight, you will want to give them lots of roughage and grain.
 - Check your cattle regularly for any signs of illness. Treating sick cattle early can save time and money in the long run, and will protect your animal’s health. This is especially important during calving season. You wouldn’t want that amazing little bull to die of pneumonia just because you didn’t check his cough!
 - Have shelter for your animals to keep them out of the elements. If a shelter is not an option for you, a bale of straw or cornstalks on the ground can insulate them so they stay warm when they sleep.
 - Do not mistreat your animals. While this might seem like a “DUH!” point, it is one that cannot be stressed enough. We cannot give the animal rights activists a reason to accuse us of mistreatment. No matter what species, whether it be a dog, cat, goldfish, cow, horse, or any other kind of animal, do be kind to it.
 - Find ways to support your local humane society. If you can convince your parents, get your next cow dog from your local humane society. In the unlikely event that you need a parrot, I know that my humane society had one, so you can check for that!
- Can we do it? To quote the President, “Yes, we can!” We need to show that we, as animal welfare activists, are active in taking the best care of our animals and that we are extremely involved in the day-to-day care of our cattle. We cannot sit back and complacently let the animal rights groups take away our way of life. We need to show the world at large that we are not animal haters, but animal lovers and we do the best we can for the animals in our care. Let us, as animal welfare activists, show the world who we are, what we stand for, and how we treat our animals.

— By Mary Spencer, Nebraska

We need to show that we, as animal welfare activists, are active in taking the best care of our animals.

Taking a Stand for Agriculture

Angus juniors from all across the country wake up early each morning to care for their cattle whether it's show day or the middle of calving season. Many of us see ourselves as representatives of the Angus breed, but it is quickly becoming more and more vital that we keep in mind we are not only representatives of our breed association, but also advocates for the entire beef industry.

Today there are multiple reasons why it is more important than ever before to become beef industry advocates, but the most noticeable is the growing ability of animal rights groups to affect consumer purchasing decisions. The primary agenda of these groups is the elimination of animal agriculture and with a goal like this, we must all stand up for our industry.

Just like production practices continue to change, our opponents have made changes as well. Modern animal rights organizations are more likely to carry business cards than picket signs and they have dumped their more radical approach in favor of a more mainstream one that appeals to a much larger audience.

These groups have learned to achieve their goals through education, advocacy and public policy reform, not violent demonstrations and break-ins. In addition, with the top five animal rights organizations having a combined war chest of a quarter-billion dollars, they have almost unlimited potential for furthering their agenda.

For anyone thinking to themselves, "These groups could never have an

impact where I live" take a look at what they have already done. Five states have imposed bans on animal housing systems and through successful ballot measures three states have passed animal housing laws. These measures outlawed the use of gestation stalls for housing breeding sows in Florida in 2002, and gestation stalls and veal crates in Arizona in 2006. Most recently in 2008, Proposition 2 passed in California, outlawing cages for laying hens and other forms of confinement housing. These issues were passed as a result of consumer misunderstanding.

Consumers are more removed from the farm setting than ever before in history and as a result, animal rights groups are preying on consumers' lack of knowledge about production practices to further their agenda.

One problem to be confronted is that the livestock industry has tried to

fight an emotional argument with science, when emotion is winning the battle for consumers. The tactics used by many animal rights organizations are based solely on emotional appeal with little to no scientific credibility.

So what can cattlemen of all ages do about it? We need to balance factual information with emotion, to demonstrate that we care for our animals and value their existence. By educating and informing consumers, they are less receptive to the rhetoric of animal rights groups. And who better to inform consumers; the producer who has spent countless hours caring for their animals and understands correct animal husbandry practices or the animal rightist that has no farm background or real knowledge of our industry?

Along with education, communication is vital. So for all of us working in the barn taking care of the show heifers and in the pasture with the cows, we all have our own unique beef story and we need to share that with consumers. Sharing that story can be as simple as talking to someone in your class or standing in front of the meat counter at the grocery store.

— By Bailey Harsh, Ohio



Ohio's Issue 2: A Better Proposition

Long gone are the days when the majority of Americans had a background in agriculture and understood where their food comes from. Today, if a young student were asked the question, "Where does chocolate milk come from," scarily, it would not be too surprising to hear the answer, "From brown cows of course!!"

The consumer-producer disconnect about how food is raised has more and more people willing to believe claims made by activist groups such as The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). When, in reality, groups like this are really only about furthering their own anti-meat agendas.

In 2008, California voters passed Proposition 2 that outlawed confinement housing. Backed by HSUS, this issue passed as a result of consumer misunderstandings and was devastating to California's animal agriculture.

Ohio livestock producers had their hands full with the prospect of an issue like California's Prop 2 showing up in a future election. Ohio needed a proactive solution to the growing HSUS problem, and they found it in Issue 2.

In the November 2009 election Ohioans overwhelmingly passed Issue 2, a ballot initiative that created the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board. The board was created to reinforce consumer confidence and to keep Ohio experts in charge of Ohio farms, thereby preventing out-of-state activist groups from creating rigid and impractical rules for animal care.

The passage of Issue 2 was a huge win for Ohioans as it ensures that Ohio farmers are able to continue providing the highest standard of care for their animals, which in turn guarantees a safe, locally raised, and affordable food supply for the consumer.

Unfortunately, Ohio's work is far from over, as HSUS has said they plan to continue pursuing their activist agenda with the likelihood they will gather petition signatures to place another issue on Ohio's 2010 ballot that would be similar to California's Prop 2. However, Ohio's pre-emptive Issue 2 better positions the state to deal with HSUS and can serve as a plan of action and model of success for other states facing HSUS and other activist groups.

— By Bailey Harsh, Ohio

Around the farm

It's Up to You to Speak Up For Your Way of Life

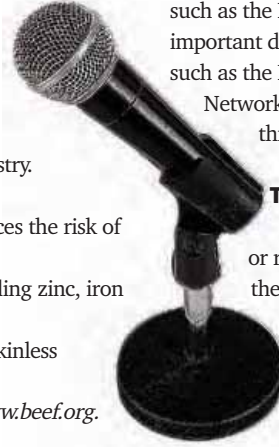
The most important weapon the agriculture industry has in the war against activism and miscommunication is you. Growing up around cattle, Angus juniors recognize and appreciate their important roles in our environment and diet; however, many people don't. It is our job to spread the word and speak up for the agriculture industry. Below are three easy steps that you can follow to do your part.

Arm Yourself with Facts

In order to better answer questions and counter misleading information we must present positive facts about the beef industry. Below are some examples of important statistics to know:

- Cattle grazing minimizes non-native plant invasion and reduces the risk of wildfire.
- A 3-oz. serving of beef contains 10 important nutrients including zinc, iron and protein.
- There are 29 cuts of lean beef with the fat content between skinless chicken breast and skinless chicken thigh.

Research and arm yourself with more facts about beef at www.beef.org.



Band Together

As a member of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) you are not alone in the fight against activism. There is strength in numbers, and together we are working to make our voice heard. Staying involved in organizations, such as the NJAA and FFA, also keep you informed and up to date on important developments within the beef and agriculture industries. Groups such as the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Beef Advocate Network keep members informed of local and national legislative issues through emails.

Tell Your Story

Many consumers today are generations removed from the farm or ranch, making them easily swayed by misleading media. It is these members of your church, students in your math class, and shoppers in the store that need convincing of beef's importance. They are the ones who need to hear your story of pasture management by chopping thistles; they are the ones who need to see you promoting animal husbandry by cleaning stalls at the county fair. So stand up and give a speech, accept an interview, or start a ranch blog. Tell your story about the beef industry because consumers want to listen. You can make a difference; and by telling the truth about our industry, we all win in the war against activism and miscommunication.

— By Meghan Blythe, Kansas

Dear Agnus,

Recently, I heard about a disease called curly calf syndrome that affects Angus cattle. Being an Angus cow, this worries me just a little bit! I don't know much about this abnormality, but it doesn't sound pleasant. What is this abnormality, and how can I protect myself and my offspring from it?

Sincerely,

Concerned about Curly Calf

Dear Concerned,

I believe the disease you are referring to is Arthrogyposis Multiplex, which was earlier referred to as curly calf syndrome. This is a recessive genetic defect in which calves may be born with bent or twisted spines. This disease is 100% fatal to the offspring, but usually does not adversely affect the mother. But don't worry; this genetic defect can easily be avoided. I'm sure that your owner has tested to see if you are a carrier for this defect. Even if you are, your owner can avoid this by making sure your sire is not a carrier for this defect. So really, there is nothing for you to be concerned about!

Sincerely,

Agnus

— By Rebecca Park, Oklahoma

Prevention is the 'Trick' for Trichomoniasis

Information from Dr. Craig Dethlefs, DVM North Platte Veterinary Clinic, North Platte, Neb.

Trichomoniasis (tricho•mo•ni•a•sis) is a venereal disease that is caused by a protozoa that lives in the reproductive tract of cattle. It can be a very devastating disease and is becoming more common in the central and western states. It occurs most in large pastures and in commingled cattle. The disease can cause infertility in cow herds where the cow can't conceive or will have early embryonic death. This can cause the cow to be open or late calving. Some producers have had 50 to 75 percent of their cows open due to trichomoniasis.

There is really no treatment except for testing the bulls and culling open cows. The best way to control the disease is through prevention. One way is through the use of young, virgin bulls. Herd bull management should include buying virgin bulls, testing older herd bulls, and not leasing bulls that have been used in any other herd. Maintaining fences so cattle and bulls don't go from one pasture to the other can help prevent the spreading of the disease.

— By Aliesha Dethlefs, Nebraska

5 Minutes with a Regional Manager

Regional Managers for the American Angus Association is a job that is not easily defined. I got the opportunity to talk to my regional manager, Richard Dyar. I had five minutes to ask him five questions about what it's like to do what he does.

Question #1: What was the farthest place you had to travel for your job?

Answer: California

Question #2: Approximately how many shows do you attend a year?

Answer: I usually go to about 12 shows a year.

Question #3: What is your favorite show you attend each year?

Answer: I don't have a particular favorite show that I like to go to each year, but I do like to go to the summer preview shows and the National Junior Angus Show.

Question #4: What exactly do you do as a Regional Manager for the American Angus Association?

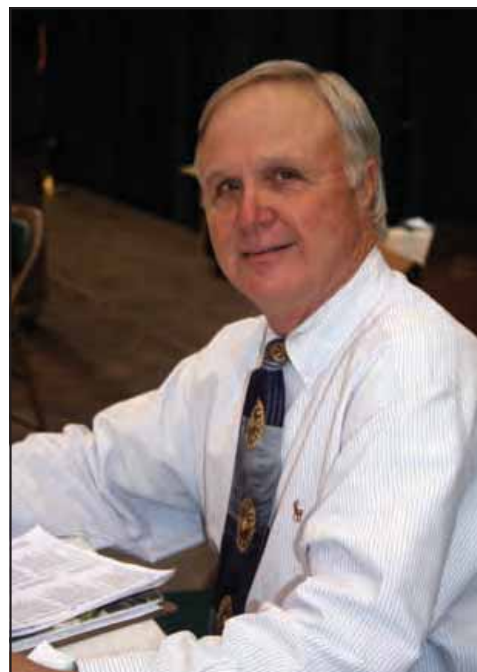
Answer: I represent the American Angus Association at cattle shows and Angus cattle events. I represent the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. I also work closely with the *Angus Journal* and help with the AngusSource® program

Question #5: How long have you been a Regional Manager?

Answer: 31 years

Wow, in just five minutes I learned a lot of things I never knew about a regional manager. This shows that if you take the time and talk to your regional manager, they can teach you a few new things that can help benefit you in the future.

— By Daniel McFarland, Louisiana



ATV Safety: Life or Death

A simple decision has the potential to produce devastating consequences. Shaving off five seconds instead of buckling your seat belt or skipping your helmet in order to preserve your hairstyle are ironic examples of stupid split-second choices. In reality, buckling your seat belt can save you from death or injury, lengthening your time spent with friends and loved ones, and a helmet looks a lot more attractive than a neck brace. Teenagers today need to slow down and analyze the consequences of the choices they make. Country kids surrounded by heavy machinery are especially vulnerable; however, heavy machinery is not the leading cause linked to farm accidents--ATVs are.

All-Terrain Vehicles, or ATVs, such as Gators or four-wheelers, killed 555 people in 2006, and 1 in every 5 was a kid. Another 146,600 people were treated in the emergency

room due to ATV-related injuries. These staggering statistics emphasize the importance of ATV safety.

While at the National Junior Angus Show, John Deere representative, Matt Murphy, exhibited a new and safer ATV. The John Deere XUV Gator with a 23 horsepower V-twin Kawasaki engine combines new technology and safety features to protect drivers. Much like a car or tractor, this ATV is built with a rollover protection system (ROPS), a safety cage surrounding the driver, and the convenient use of a seatbelt. This ATV also

provides the option of an adjustable governor that limits the maximum speed capacity. According to Murphy, the ROPS and speed limitations together eliminate the need to wear a helmet. Despite all safety features and designs the John Deere XUV Gator includes, Murphy reminds everyone that it is a powerful machine with useful work options. "ATVs are tools, not toys," he insists.

— By Meghan Blythe, Kansas



How-to for a 'Cowdo'

How to wash your animal

Things needed before you begin:

- Hose with a spray nozzle
- A wash bucket containing
 - rubber brush and scotch comb
 - spray bottle of sheen
 - bottle of soap
- Animal

Directions:

• Lead your calf to the wash rack and securely tie them up. The length of the tether is very important. Do not tie them up with a long tether. If the tether is too long this will increase the chance of the animal moving around too much or someone getting hurt.

• Screw in your water hose to the closest hydrant. Make sure that it is screwed in tightly so there is no extra spray.

- Turn on the water and adjust it so that there is sufficient pressure.
 - Adjust the nozzle on the other end of the hose so that there is a steady spray of water. Make sure that it is not a straight stream or a mist; it should be somewhere in between.
- After the water is adjusted properly, begin spraying your animal. Start with the rear and legs and work your way up to the top and head. This minimizes the amount of excessively sprayed water that could end up on the person washing beside you.

Spraying forward, not upward, will ensure that you don't spray the person beside you.

Be very careful when washing the belly, as it is a sensitive part for many animals.

- When the body is completely wet, move to the head. Be careful when washing the head so you do not want water to get into the ears. To minimize the chances of this grab the ear, squeeze it shut and gently pull it down and curve it in. This ensures that the ear will get very little water.

• If your animal is completely wet, grab your soap bottle. Do not use 100% soap, as it dries out the skin and results in faster hair loss. You should dilute the soap to a mixture of 60% water and 40% soap; this makes the soap less harsh on the skin and eyes of the animal.

• Reduce the spray of the water and put your soap bottle's nozzle facing downward into the spray and cover the animal with this soap and water mixture. Using the hose, penetrate the soap deeper into the hair so you have a cleaner animal. Remember to be careful around the head, especially the eyes and ears.

• After you have soaped down the entire animal, put down the hose and soap bottle and pick up a rubber brush.

• Begin to brush in the soap. Be gentle when brushing to save the hair from undergoing any damage.

• Brush the body from top to bottom; legs, top, middle, underline, rear, tail, neck and head.

• After you have finished brushing, pick up your hose and clean out your brush so that any debris and hair are removed from the bristles.

• Put your brush and soap back in your wash bucket.

• Turn your water hose back on and begin to wash the soap out of the animal. Again, start with the rear and legs and work your way up and forward toward the top and head.

• After you have completely washed all of the soap out of the animal, be sure to wash any crud that is in between the hooves of the animal to prevent foot related diseases.

• Shut off the water to your hose, unscrew it, and drain it by rolling it up into a nice coil. After you have it coiled up, screw the two ends of the hose together.

• Grab the scotch comb out of the wash bucket and use the side without the tines to squeegee the excess water out of the animal.

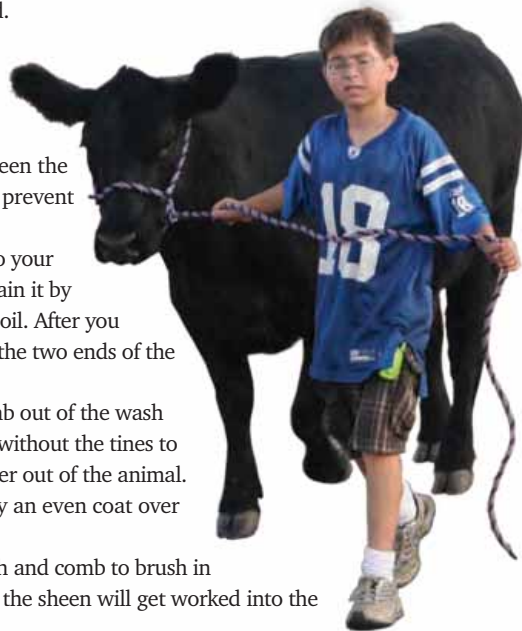
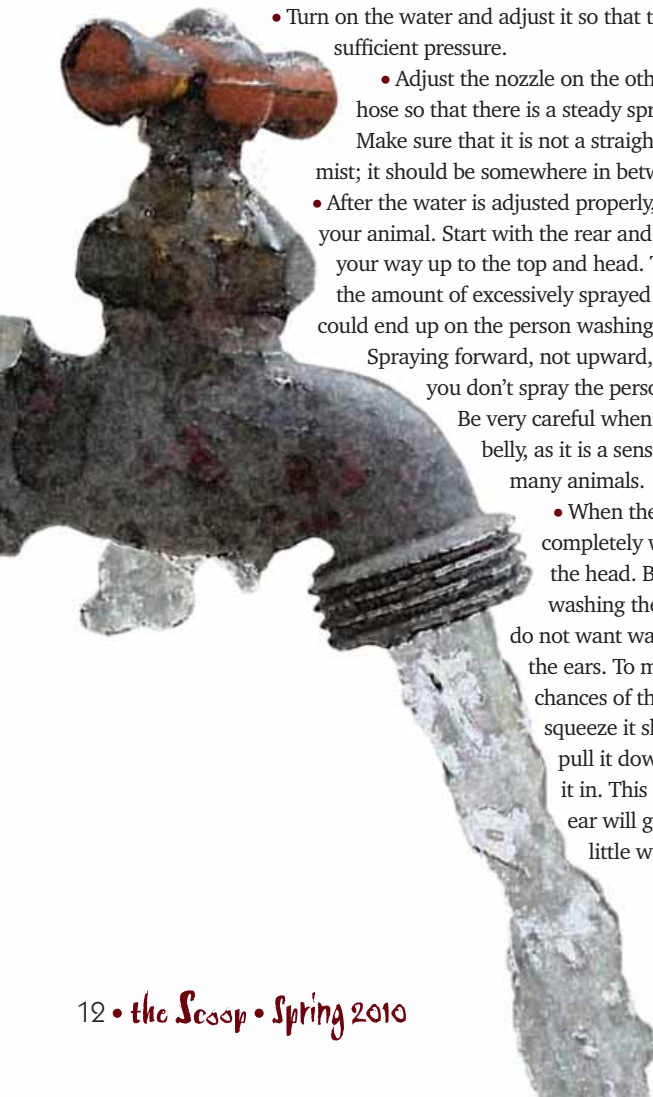
• Use sheen and spray an even coat over the animal.

• Use the rubber brush and comb to brush in the sheen to ensure that the sheen will get worked into the skin and hair.

• When finished collect your items (soap, brush, scotch comb, rubber brush and hose) and take them back to your stalls.

• Return to the wash rack to get your animal and take it back to your stall.

— By Katy Satree, Texas





How to blow out your animal

Things needed before you begin:

- Blower
- Comb and rubber brush
- Wet animal

Directions:

• Ensure that your animal is securely tied to prevent injury to both you and the animal.

• Before you begin blowing out your animal you need to brush its hair so it is smooth and laying in the direction you are going to blow – forward or up.

• Turn on your blower and begin blowing at the shoulder, working your way back. Make sure that you have both your comb and rubber brush with you. Be careful when your comb is in your back pocket. Make sure that the tines are pointed inward. This prevents accidents to you and the animal if your animal spooks or pushes over against you.

• Continue blowing from the shoulder to the rear on one side. When doing this, alternate between the top of the shoulder to the pin bone; the midpoint of the shoulder to the rear; and the bottom of the

shoulder to the flank. When the mid section is dry, begin on the belly. When blowing the belly, blow the hair forward and brush it with your rubber brush to prevent a belly line from appearing.

• When the belly is dry begin on the back legs. When blowing these out, blow the hair forward and slightly up to give it a slight lift, which helps the hair train for show day prep.

• Move to the front legs. Do the same process to the front as you did to the back. Make sure that the underarms are blown out and dry.

• Make sure you blow out the neck and entire head area well. A dry head is necessary to ensure that your animal does not get sick during the winter.

• When you have finished one side of the animal, move to the other and repeat the steps.

• When the animal is dry, use your comb to fluff any body and leg hair. This helps stimulate the growth and health of the hair and hide.

— *By Katy Satree, Texas*

How to tie an easy slip-knot



1. Take the rope and loop it around a secure rod or post.



2. Take the loose end of rope (bottom side) and cross it over the top of the rope that is nearest to the halter (on the top side of the pole).



3. Take the loose end and wrap it under the rope nearest to the halter. Make sure you leave a loop where the two ropes go over each other.

4. Grab the middle of the loose end and bring it through the loop that you left in step three.



5. Take the loop that you have just made from the loose end and pull it tight.

6. Take the end of the rope and put it through the secure loop. This acts as a lock so that the knot doesn't slip.



7. To untie the knot:

- Take the loose end
- Pull it out of the loop
- Pull it downward

The knot should come out clean with no snags.

— *By Katy Satree, Texas*



Let's have fun!



PHOTO BY PAIGE WALLACE, MO, FROM 2009 NJAS PHOTO CONTEST

What makes a "True Southerner?"

Many people have pondered this age-old question. Some people claim to be from the South, but are lacking in some of the vital areas to qualify.



Others out there are refusing their true heritage. How do you end this struggle? How do we know who is "a true Southerner?" A few of us are convinced that we have devised a sure fire method of identifying Southerners. We have devised a quiz that everyone can take. Please answer honestly and from your heart and prepare to embrace the "true you." To keep score give yourself 5 points if you answer yes, 3 points if you answer sometimes, and 1 point if you answer no.

- Your ringtones are all country music songs.
- When you order tea in a restaurant you assume it will be sweet.
- You watch *Gone with the Wind* once a year with your grandparents.
- You know the difference between a porch and a screened porch.
- Your favorite philosopher is Andy Griffith.
- You don't dip, smoke or chew in front of women!
- You eat grits for breakfast.
- You love fried okra.
- Sunday lunch dessert is always apple pie with homemade ice cream.
- When your Dad yells at the dogs it sounds like he is speaking a foreign language.
- A family reunion is food, food and more food.
- When you mention "fried chicken" you always say "southern fried chicken."
- If you are a woman, your hero is Granny on the Beverly Hillbillies.
- If you are a man, you love hunting almost as much as your truck.
- If you are a young man, you have fallen in love (at least once) with Ellie Mae Clampette, Daisy Duke, Dolly Parton, Reba McIntyre or Reese Witherspoon.

70-55 points — True Southern born and bred.

54-40 points — You have enough potential, that we will accept you!

39-25 points — You are a "wannabe," and we will alert you if any of our members die off!

24-0 points — Don't call us, we'll call you!!

— *By Samantha Yantis, Louisiana*

Limericks

A. There once was a cow named Sue
Who dreamed she was eating a **1)**
She woke with a fright
In the middle of the **2)**
To find that her dream had come **3)**

B. There once was a bull named Matt
Who dreamed of wearing a **1)**
As the cows walked by
They began to **2)**
As they saw him wearing a **3)**

Question:

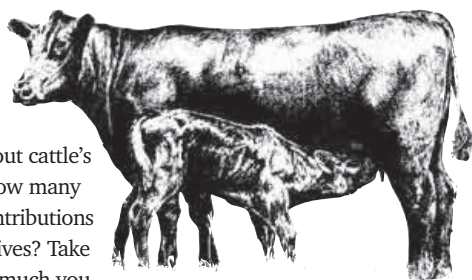
A cowboy rides into town
on Friday, stays for three
days and then leaves on
Friday. How did he do it?

Answer:

The horse's name was Friday.
— *By Katy Satree, Texas*

A. 1) shoe; 2) night; 3) true B. 1) hat; 2) cry; 3) cat

Wow That Cow! Quiz



Many people know about cattle's production of beef, but how many know about the other contributions cattle make to our daily lives? Take this quiz to find out how much you know about these bovine benefits.

- About how much land in the United States is considered grassland pasture and range land?
 - 2.3 billion acres
 - 587 million acres
 - 246 million acres
 - 492 million acres
- Why do most cattle graze on land that can't be used for anything else?
 - The terrain is too rocky or dry for growing food crops.
 - Cattle can only digest grass from these areas.
 - The terrain is too steep or hilly for building houses.
 - both a & c
- Components from a cow's blood can be used to manufacture:
 - A key ingredient in Advil
 - Marshmallows
 - Fire retardants used in fire extinguishers
 - None of the above
- While most people simply think of cattle providing only beef, cattle contribute to the production of many household items such as:
 - Deodorants
 - Socks
 - Windex
 - Styrofoam
- Cattle provide _____, which promotes healing of burns and wounds.
 - Collagen
 - Heparin
 - Vitamin B
 - Chymotrypsin
- Cattle help us get where we're going with byproducts such as:
 - Glue from beef protein used in manufacturing automobile bodies
 - Stearic acid from beef fat, which makes antifreeze
 - Glycerol derived from fat, which makes rubber hold its shape
 - Fats that make up the interior of automobiles
- ZIP, in reference to beef, means:
 - Zinc Indigestible Products
 - Zealous Industry's Passion
 - Zinc, Iron, Protein
 - Zinc, Iron, Potassium
- Cattle _____ soil with their hooves.
 - Pack
 - Mix
 - Aerate
 - Fertilize
- A ___oz. serving of lean beef contributes less than 10% of the calories in a 2,000 calorie diet.
 - 7
 - 4
 - 8
 - 3
- Cattle help produce:
 - Soaps
 - Purses
 - Crayons
 - All of the above

Source: "Wow That Cow" pamphlet produced by American National CattleWomen, Inc.

— *By Mollie Lastovica, Texas*

Could your Mom be a 'Desperate Heifer Mom?'

You Might be a Desperate Heifer Mom If...

- ...all your shoes have cow manure on them.
- ...your favorite scent is pink oil.
- ...you spend more money on one heifer than you do on your whole family.
- ...you carry paper towels to wipe the heifer's butt instead of your kid's face.
- ...the heifer stall is cleaner than your living room.
- ...your favorite saying is "its only one man's opinion."
- ...the only difference between you and the judge is that he has a microphone.
- ...you've ever said out loud, "I don't care what I look like."
- ...it's more important to shave the heifers' heads instead of your legs.
- ...you can't remember your kids' birthdays but can say their member codes in your sleep.

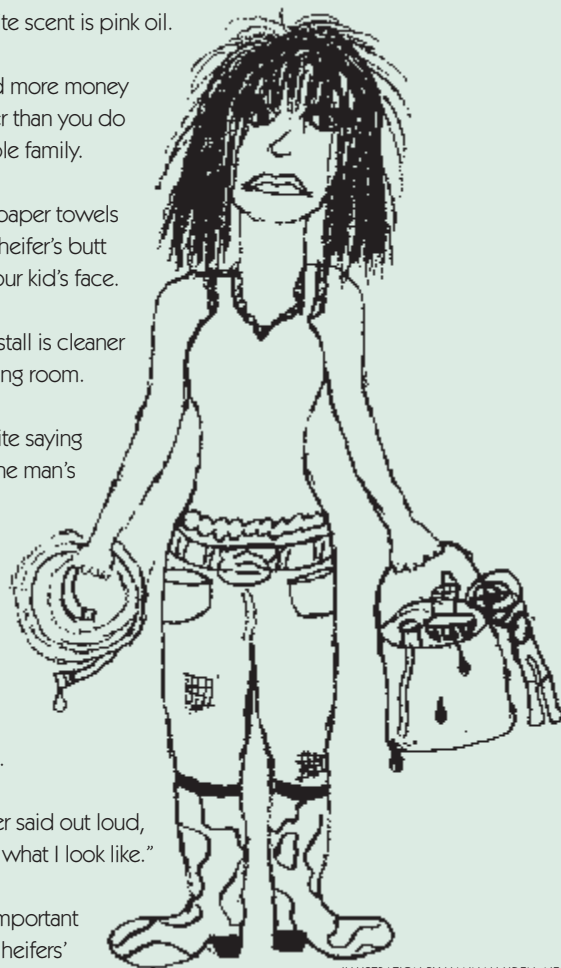


ILLUSTRATION BY HANNAH UDEN, NE

— *By Michaela Clowser, Nebraska*

Answers: 1:b, 2:d, 3:c, 4:a, 5:d, 6:a, 7:c, 8:c, 9:d, 10:d

national junior angus association

3201 Frederick Avenue
Saint Joseph, MO 64506
816-383-5100
www.angus.org/njaa

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Minster, Ohio 45865
Permit No. 2

