

# Association Link

## 2006 National Angus Conference & Tour set

Make your plans now to attend the 2006 National Angus Conference & Tour Sept. 26-28 in Boise, Idaho. The Association is pleased to announce that Purina Mills, LLC, and Alpha Animal Health are the major sponsors of "The Great Northwest Gathering."

The conference will take place at the DoubleTree-Boise Riverside and will include a program of beef industry speakers that will address current issues facing producers. A tour of Idaho and Oregon Angus herds is also planned.

Look for more information online at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).



## Search Pathfinder Report

The 2006 *Pathfinder Report* is included in the April 2006 issue of the *Angus Journal*. This year's report lists 9,321 individual cows and 258 sires that qualify for Pathfinder status. You can also search the Pathfinder Report online at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org) under the "Performance" link.

The Pathfinder program was started in 1978 and identifies superior Angus cows based upon recorded performance traits that are economically important to efficient beef production and include early and regular calving and heavy weaning weights. Bulls that have sired a minimum of five or more Pathfinder cows are listed as Pathfinder sires in this report.

## BIF coverage will be online

Angus Productions Inc. (API), publisher of the *Angus Journal* and *Angus Beef Bulletin*, will provide online news coverage of the 2006 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) annual meeting at [www.bifconference.com](http://www.bifconference.com). Earlier this year than in past years, the BIF meeting will be in Choctaw, Miss., April 18-21.

General sessions will focus on how producers can incorporate

current retail and consumer targets and how they can best fit into their production environments. The Ultrasound Guidelines Council (UGC) will sponsor a session titled "Basics of Ultrasounding Beef Cattle for Genetic Improvement," and BIF will honor several industry leaders, including its Seedstock Producer of the Year and Commercial Producer of the Year. The event wraps up with a tour on Friday.

For registration, hotel and travel information, visit [msucares.com/livestock/beef/bif2006.html](http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/bif2006.html) now. Then, for API's coverage of the event as it unfolds, visit [www.bifconference.com](http://www.bifconference.com).

## News of other industry events online

API coverage of the December 2005 Range Beef Cow Symposium in Rapid City, S.D., is online at [www.rangebeefcow.com](http://www.rangebeefcow.com). A link to audio/video files has been added to the welcome page.

To get the news from the 2006 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and Trade Show, visit [www.4cattlemen.com](http://www.4cattlemen.com). Visit the newsroom for news releases from the event. Visit the trade show page for highlights of products and services featured at the early February event. The awards page contains highlights of those honored during the week.

## Cattlemen's Boot Camp set for April in California

The American Angus Association, in cooperation with the Angus Foundation and Cal Poly State University, are conducting a Cattlemen's Boot Camp April 28-29 at San Luis Obispo, Calif. The event is open to all cattle producers and offers perspectives on production practices, marketing and end-product merit.

An Angus Skills Lab will precede the Boot Camp the morning of April 28. The Skills Lab is targeted toward new Angus producers who would like to learn more about the very basics of registering cattle and submitting performance information, permanent identification (ID) and basics of handling. Enrollment is limited.

Registration for Boot Camp is just \$75, but space for both events is limited, so register today by contacting the Association. The registration deadline is April 11. A hotel block is available at the Best Western Somerset Inn. Call (805) 544-0973 and ask for the American Angus Association block to get the negotiated rate.

More information is available at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org).

## Stark interns with CAB

The 2006 spring intern for Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Industry Information Division is Mandy Stark, a junior at Kansas State University (K-State) in agricultural journalism and natural resource sciences. She works with student assistant Susie Knetter and division director Steve Suther in producing articles that support supply development programs.

Stark hails from Olathe, Kan., and some of her early experience in journalism was as a teen columnist for the *The Olathe News*. She has worked part-time since August 2004 for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on a water-quality communications project. When she is back home, Stark also works as an operations coordinator at AMC Studio 30 Theaters.

A K-State College of Agriculture Ambassador, Stark also holds leadership roles in Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT), Alpha Zeta, Alpha Chi Omega and the K-State Panhellenic Council. She began the relationship with CAB in December when she attended a CAB Building Blocks to Success seminar in Wooster, Ohio.

## Juniors should note spring deadlines

Many deadlines for junior shows and events are rapidly approaching. All National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members between the ages of 9 and 21 should have received an entry booklet in the mail. If you have not received the booklet, contact the Junior Activities Department at (816) 383-5100.

- April 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Junior Regional Preview Show.
- May 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Northwest and North Central Regional Preview Shows.
- May 1 is the deadline for applying for the Gold Award and Outstanding Leadership Award. Also, applications for Angus Foundation scholarships and the CAB/NJAA Scholarship are due.
- May 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Eastern Regional Junior Show.
- June 1 is the ownership and entry deadline for the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Junior Show.
- June 1 is also the entry deadline for all NJAA creative writing, photography and graphic design entries, and it is the deadline to submit entries and recipes for

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## Association Link *(from page 4)*

the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American CAB Cook-Off.

For more information about junior events, activities and deadlines, contact the Junior Activities Department.

### **Western States Angus breeders to meet in Reno**

The 2006 Western National Angus Futurity and 2006 Western Regional Junior Angus Show are set for April 22-24 in Reno, Nev. Activities are planned for both juniors and adults, including shows,

a sale and Angus fellowship, so make your travel plans now.

The headquarters hotel for the event is John Ascuaga's Nugget. To make reservations call 1-800-648-1177. Identify yourself as part of the Western National Angus Futurity group to receive

negotiated rates. Make your reservation by April 1 to ensure availability and price.

If you can't make it to the events in Reno, you can view online coverage at [www.angusjournal.com/reno](http://www.angusjournal.com/reno), which is provided as a service of the Association and API.

### **Ask for assistance with junior transfers**

If you know of a junior member who has purchased an Angus animal to show and who has not received the transferred papers, and the ownership deadline for a specific show is fast approaching, the Association can help.

Contact the Member Services Department at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, however, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.



**LOUIS M. MARTINI**

### **Cross promotions**

Throughout the months of March and April, the CAB brand is partnering with Louis M. Martini wines for a retail cross promotion. The promotion extends the brand's marketing resources, expands brand presence beyond the meat department and is a turnkey promotion, meaning CAB provides the materials — stores need only to implement the promotion. More than 1,000 stores will participate, representing more than 13 national retail chains.

Consumer tear pads are located in meat departments and wine departments. They feature a recipe and \$1 off savings coupon for CAB product. The recipe features CAB center cut top sirloin and Louis M. Martini in a "Steak Martini with Asparagus Risotto and Braised Tomato Red Wine Sauce" recipe.

Visit [www.certifiedangusbeef.com](http://www.certifiedangusbeef.com) through April to view the promotion and featured Louis M. Martini recipe.

### **Regional leadership conference planned for North Dakota**

The North Dakota Junior Angus Association (NDJAA) is planning a regional Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference for March 31-April 2 in Fargo, N.D. The event is designed for junior Angus members who want to enhance their leadership skills and beef industry knowledge.

For more information about the regional LEAD Conference, contact NDJAA advisors Kathy and Richard Tokach at (701) 445-7390.