

14th Annual Angus Bull Sale

## March 1, 2025

SUTHERLIN FARMS FEEDLOT • STEVENSVILLE, MT Sale begins at 1PM Mountain Time • Lunch served at Noon

Selling 45+ Yearling Angus Bulls

50+ Fancy No Brand Commercial Angus Heifers

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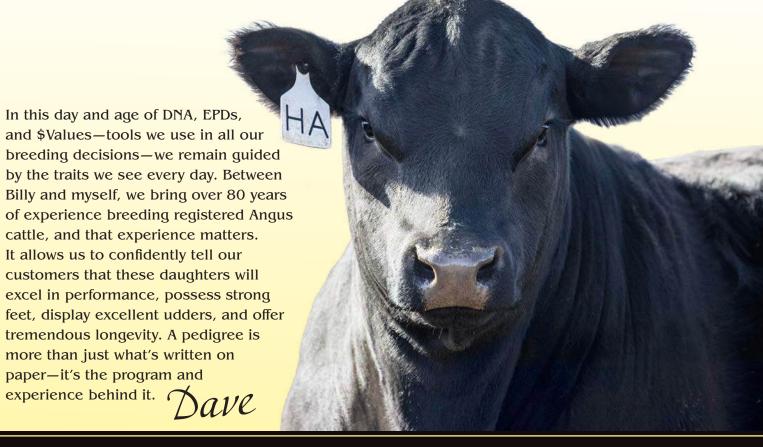
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Loren Brubaker Loren 406-360-1246



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BULLISH on Maternal

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Selling 175 Registered Angus Bulls

**Tuesday** 

April 1, 2025

38th Annual Bull Sale

**1:00 pm MDT** At the Ranch 10 miles east of Malta, MT

# 1:00 pm MDT At the Ranch 10 mile Ingus We do one thing ... Angus!

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Tyler & Sascha Lulloff Tyler's cell 406-654-4609 Dave & Yvonne Hinman 406-654-1809 Dave's cell 406-654-4656

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23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Bull & Female Sale

## March 12, 2025

12:30 PM (MST) At the Ranch 9100 MT Hwy 91 North, Dillon, MT 59725

320 Yearling, PAP-Tested Angus Bulls 300 Open Commercial Replacement Females



SITZ Fireball 742M Reg # 20898716

				-			
CED	BW	ww	YW	SC	Claw	Angle	PAP
13	-1.9	64	126	0.45	0.32	0.39	0.12
HP	Milk	CW	Marb	REA	\$M	\$(	С
13.8	17	51	1.78	1.02	65	35	0



**SITZ Dignity 725M** Reg # 20893463

	_	-		-			
CED	BW	ww	YW	SC	Claw	Angle	PAP
						0.34	
HP	Milk	CW	Marb	REA	\$M	\$	С
19 4	29	50	1 21	0.97	111	3.7	8



SITZ Fireball 716M Reg # 20898712

CED	BW	ww	YW	SC	Claw	Angle	PAP
4	2.4	82	145	1.19	0.40	0.35	-0.22
HP	Milk	CW	Marb	REA	\$M	5	SC .
11.1	27	70	1.04	1.23	59	3	15



**SITZ Republic 700M** Reg # 20912562

CED BW WW YW SC Claw Angle PAP 9 -0.2 72 128 0.70 0.40 0.44 0.64 HP Milk CW Marb REA \$M \$C 16.8 27 58 0.80 0.41 89



**SITZ Pilot 514M** Reg # 20893318

CED	BW	ww	YW	SC	Claw	Angle	PAP
					0.41		
HP	Milk	CW	Marb	REA	\$M	\$	C
22.7	7.0	61	103	103	98	7	20



SITZ Commerce 468M Reg # 20913496

CED	BW	ww	YW	SC	Claw	Angle	PAP
10	1.4	90	153	1.45	0.26	0.38	-2.18
HP	Milk	CW	Marb	REA	\$M	•	SC .
10.5	29	61	0.71	0.75	84	2	75

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Jim Sitz (406) 683-5277 SitzAngus@gmail.com

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**Joe Jones** (208) 670-2364 JoeJones@SitzAngus.com



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Selling 130 Yearling and 25 Coming Two Year Old Angus Bulls

50 bred heifers from Moore Livestock due to calve May 12 to June 15. Bred to VDAR bulls.



20991809 Milk \$W \$F **VDAR SHADOW 2004** CED BW WW YW SC Milk SW SF +9 -2.0 +48 +78 -.14 +27 +50 +68



20963132 \$W \$F 
 VDAR BLACK MASS 22 14
 20963132

 CED BW WW YW SC Milk SW SF
 +9 +0.4 +52 +92 +.83 +25 +51 +86
 sire N Bar Shadow X4124 MGS V D A R Cedar Wind 8111 sire B Bar Black Mass 3045 MGS V D A R Sonny Boy 1194



VDAR TWENTY TWENTY 252420960769

CED BW WW YW SC MIIK SW SF

+2 +3.0 +44 +83 +.69 +27 +38 +77 sire VDAR Twenty Twenty 2020 MGS HA Windfall 6011



VDAR KAWLIGA 1124 Milk -0.4 +73 +119 +1.01 +33 +86 +82 sire VDAR Kawliga 2141 MGS Sitz Resilient 10208



VDAR COALITION 1174
CED BW WW YW SC Milk +15 -1.3 +52 +96 +1.51 +32 +62 +67 sire U-2 Coalition 206C MGS V D A R Cedar Wind 5126



VDAR XXP 1334
CED BW WW YW Milk +0 +4.0 +76 +131 +1.36 +28 +62 +103 sire VDAR 4321 XXP 5629 MGS V D A R Stout 6287



**DVAuction** 

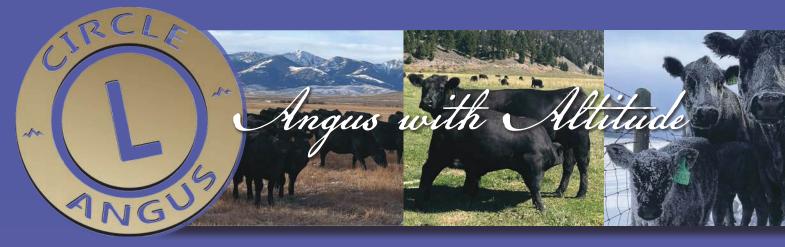
VDAR.com

Charles Pera 406.922.7077

Tom Wulff 406.580.1606 twulff@vdar.com

<u>Lee Van Dyke</u> 406.579.2585 lvandyke@vdar.com

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+15 -.1 +82 +139 +27 +1.40 +.45 +106 +188 +350

ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE

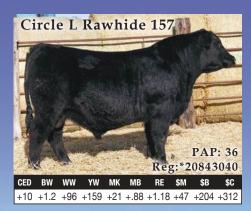
Monday

FEBRUARY 24, 2025

150 REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS
70 YEARLINGS
80 LONG YEARLINGS

1:00 PM • DILLON, MONTANA DILLON LIVESTOCK AUCTION













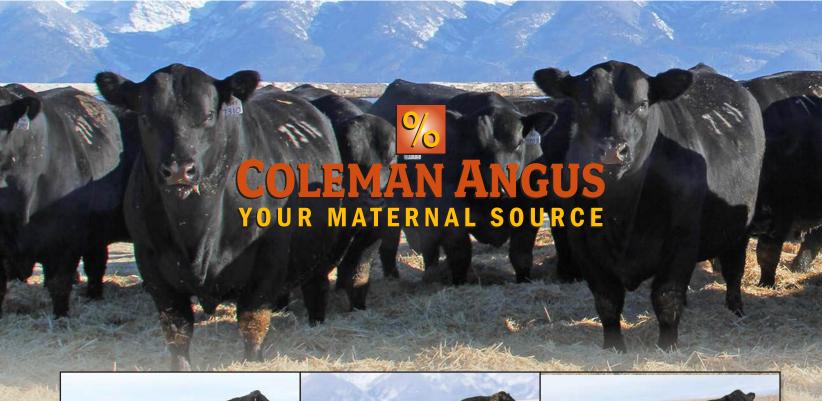


## CORY & KARI LAMEY

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#### **COLEMAN BUTTE 442**

Reg. 21061015 Sire: Coleman Below Zero 2106 Dam: Coleman Chloe 034 Act BW: 78 Adj WW: 781 CED: 11 BW: -.9 WW: 68 YW: 120 SC: .39 Milk: 23 \$W: 70 \$M: 93

#### COLEMAN TRIPLE WIDE 4311

Reg. 21060975 Sire: Coleman Easy Decision 1539 Dam: Coleman Donna 1203 Act BW: 68 Adj WW: 773 CED: 16 BW: -3.2 WW: 57 YW: 104 SC: .12 Milk: 12 \$W: 49 \$M: 86

#### **COLEMAN VORTEX 4111**

Reg. 21060894 Sire: Coleman Glacier 041 Dam: Coleman Donna 8146 Act BW: 85 Adj WW: 901 CED: 6 BW: .8 WW: 68 YW: 120 SC: .13 Milk: 20 \$W: 60 \$M: 83

## Selling

### **180 SERVICE AGE BULLS**

15 18-Month-Old Bulls & 165 Big, Stout Yearling Bulls

## Coleman ARROWHEAD Selling 6 Sons Coleman BELOW ZERO Selling 10 Sons Coleman EASY DECISION Selling 20 Sons

Coleman GLACIER Selling 30 Sons
Coleman MAHOMES Selling 2 Sons

## SIRES REPRESENTED:

Selling6 SonsColeman MISSIONSelling5 SonsSelling10 SonsColeman RESOURCE 708FSelling15 SonsSelling20 SonsColeman ROCKSelling27 SonsSelling30 SonsSAV RENOVATIONSelling4 SonsSelling2 SonsPALERMOSelling10 Sons

SOUTH AMERICA Selling 33 Sons





Dam: Coleman Chloe 9275 Act BW: 98 Adj WW: 872 CED: -2 BW: 4.2 WW: 96 YW: 160 SC: 1.14 Milk: 21 \$W: 81 \$M: 91



#### **COLEMAN CLARK FORK 4293**

Reg. 21060967 Sire: Coleman Resource 708
Dam: Coleman Donna 927
Act BW: 80 Adj WW: 824 CED: 11 BW: -1.8 WW: 72
YW: 127 SC: .73 Milk: 17 \$W: 65 \$M: 85



#### COLEMAN OATH 469

Reg. 21061034 Sire: Coleman Rock 7200 Dam: Coleman Chloe 975 Act BW: 79 Adj WW: 768 CED: 10 BW: 1.1 WW: 78 YW: 138 SC: 1.19 Milk: 24 \$W: 75 \$M: 92





**VIDEOS & SALE UPDATES: WWW.COLEMANANGUS.COM** 

Follow Us:







### **COLEMAN RIO GRANDE 4186**

Reg. 21060922 Sire: Palermo SA Dam: Coleman Donna 066 Act BW: 94 Adj WW: 786 CED: 1 BW: 1.6 WW: 60 YW: 113 SC: .76 Milk: 19 \$W: 49 \$M: 66



#### **COLEMAN BOND 433**

Reg. 21060980 Sire: SAV Renovation 6822 Dam: Coleman Chloe 9275 Act BW: 103 Adj WW: 944 CED: 0 BW: 3.6 WW: 85 YW: 150 SC: 1.12 Milk: 17 SW: 64 SM: 66

## COLEMAN SECURITY 429

He Sells

COLEMAN SECURITY 428

Reg. 21060960 Sire: SAV Renovation 6822

Dam: Coleman Chloe 9275

Act BW: 95 Adj WW: 915 CED: 0 BW: 3.4 WW: 89

YW: 159 SC: 1.24 Milk: 12 \$W: 60 \$M: 53

## Come Buy the Program

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   10 Bulls = 10%
- First Season Breeding Guarantee
- Freeze Branded
- Tested Free of PI-BVD
- Sight Unseen Buyer's Program



#### **COLEMAN GENERAL 431**

Reg. 21060973 Sire: Coleman Rock 7200 Dam: Coleman Chloe 9275 Act BW: 105 Adj WW: 902 CED: 4 BW: 4.1 WW: 91 YW: 154 SC: 1.14 Milk: 20 \$W: 72 \$M: 80



#### **COLEMAN PABLO 423**

Reg. 21060943 Sire: South America
Dam: Coleman Chloe 9275
Act BW: 88 Adj WW: 909 CED: 7 BW: 1.4 WW: 81
YW: 145 SC 1.51 Milk: 16 \$W: 65 \$M: 61



#### **COLEMAN GRIZZ 4191**

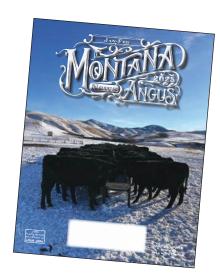
Reg. 21060925 Sire: South America Dam: Coleman Everelda Entense 092 Act BW: 84 Adj WW: 822 CED: 9 BW: 1.4 WW: 74 YW: 119 SC: 1.29 Milk: 18 \$W: 74 \$M: 100

Larry & Dee Coleman Family Jeremy & Jenny Haag Family 40067 Morris Road Charlo, MT 59824 Larry Coleman 406.240.2751 Jeremy Haag 406.833.0117 SCAN TO VIEW VIDEOS & UPDATES >





Snow has finally arrived in Montana!



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The Montana Angus News is the official publication of the Montana Angus Association and is available to anyone interested in Montana's Angus cattle. However, advertising is restricted to those raising Angus cattle in the state, those consigning Angus bulls to Midland Bull Test or people servicing cattlemen with their business located in Montana.

Since the magazine is not subject to subscriptions, the only feasible way it can be mailed is at bulk rate; therefore, advertising for events scheduled within 18 days of publication will be accepted only at the advertisers risk, and this publication will assume no financial responsibility for distribution on its entire circulation prior to that time.

Finally, the information contained is from sources deemed reliable, but is not guaranteed.

For details on subscriptions and advertising please contact:

Jesse Thompson 406.450.3429 PO Box 25 • Whitlash, MT 59545 montanaangusnews@mtangus.org



Printing: Ballyhoo Printing • Lewistown, MT www.BallyhooPrinting.com reetings Readers!

As we embark on a new year, it's with great excitement that we continue the long-standing tradition of raising high quality Black Angus cattle! I hope to bring you encouragement today as I think its something that isn't given out enough. It can be worrisome and stressful thinking about all the things in agriculture that are out of our control. My hope for you in the new year is that you'll focus more on what you can control: your attitude and how you react to each situation that comes your way. We can't control the weather, what the markets do, or the things that environmentalists say but we can control ourselves and how we react to each situation. Just something to keep in mind for the new year;) Worrying is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do, but it gets you nowhere.

Don't forget that we'll be doing our annual calving photo contest for the March/April Montana Angus News Issue. Whoever sends in the best photo will get bragging rights for a year and will get their photo on the cover. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for the photos and vote for your favorite one! There is no limit to the number of photos you can send in but there are a few guidelines: high resolution photos only and the photos must be of black Angus cattle from Montana. Photos can be emailed directly to me by the March magazine deadline which is February 8th so don't delay! MAA is also looking for new photos for our website. Once again, please send high resolution photos of your day to day life on the ranch to the email address below. We thank you for your efforts.

Rebekah and I are pretty proud of putting this magazine together for this readership and we hope you enjoy the stories enclosed. You'll find history, accolades, and trip recaps as well as important sale dates coming up and the advertising enclosed.

Wishing you a prosperous and fulfilling year ahead, filled with bountiful harvests and healthy herds!

Happy Trails,

Jesse Thompson Editor, Montana Angus News montanaangusnews@mtangus.org 406.450.3429

## CONNELLY Reg ANGUS RANCH

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34th Annual Genetics For The Long Run Production Sale

1:00 in the afternoon Tuesday February 25, 2025

at the ranch in Valier, MT



CAN DESCRIBER 9020 13340742

BW -1.4 WW +73 YW +135 SC +1.57 MILK +15 MARB +.63 RE +1.14 \$W +56 \$F +108 \$M +47 \$B +165



**CAR Bismark 8190** 19330111

BW -.6 WW +56 YW +91 SC +2.09 MILK +26 MARB +.23 RE +.40 \$W +62 \$F +74 \$M +77 \$B +100



BW +2.4 WW +85 YW +143 SC +1.57 MILK +32 MARB +.58 RE +.45 \$W +80 \$F +128 \$M +56 \$B +171

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Don & Wendy Connelly
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## Progeny Also By:

CAR Cha Ching 103
CAR Juniper 211
CAR Pacific 258
CAR Remarkable 821
CAR Bravo 151
S&V Rainmaker 4044-1191
RA Justified 124
Windy Ridge Swagger





BW +.4 WW +68 YW +117 SC +.65 MILK +18 MARB +1.28 RE +.14 \$W +60 \$F +63 \$M +52 \$B +137



BW +3.3 WW +78 YW +134 SC +1.52 MILK +27 MARB +.37 RE +1.04 \$W +72 \$F +97 \$M +83 \$B +143



BW +1.1 WW +90 YW +143 SC +1.71 MILK +27 MARB +.72 RE +.81 \$W +93 \$F +117 \$M +118 \$B +179

## President's Message

What a fall we had here in central Montana! I cannot remember a more pleasant run of beautiful fall weather. It should have given everybody a chance to take care of some extra ranch projects they have been meaning to get done for a while. Although our friends to the east are in much need of significant moisture, we are praying things turn around this winter and spring for them.

What a fall sale season we had! Kurt Kangas reported 3,141 bulls sold this fall with an average of \$8,622! A strong reflection of this hot feeder calf market. We had a good attendance at the American Angus Association Annual Convention in Fort Worth. I would like to congratulate the Sitz and Hinman families for a couple of well deserving and prestigious awards. The Sitz family received the 100-year Angus Legacy award. The Hinman family was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation also.

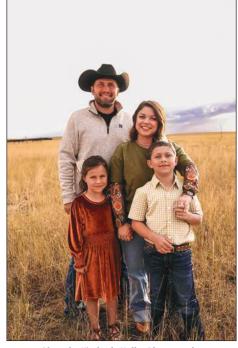


Photo by Kimberly Heller Photography

We recently held a webinar with Troy Marshall, Director of Commercial Industry relations of the American Angus Association, to discuss the Angus Link program. It was very informative and encouraging to see the growth and recent success of the program. There have been significant premiums for cattle enrolled in these Angus Link programs, including Angus Verified. Troy stated that they are seeing \$10/hwt premiums for verifying 100% Angus calves over their black hided counterparts. I encourage all Angus breeder and commercial cattlemen alike to check out the Angus Link programs.

We held our annual Montana Angus planning meeting in mid-December as well. The Montana Angus Association is in a very strong financial position and we brainstormed on the best way to benefit our membership. We will continue with and build on our spring ad campaign promoting registered Angus bulls. I am looking forward to calving and spring bull sale season, because we are truly in historic times in the beef industry!

-Kevin Arntzen, Montana Angus Association President

## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

*March/April Montana Angus News Deadline:* February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Annual Calving Photo Contest Deadline:** February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Membership Form Due Date: June 1st, 2025

## Montana Angus Association Board of Directors

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WW+96 / YW+163 / \$C+298





WW+91 / YW+154 / CLAW+.42 ANGLE+.37 / \$C+299



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WW+84 / YW+143 / MARB +.79 RE +.95 / \$C+305

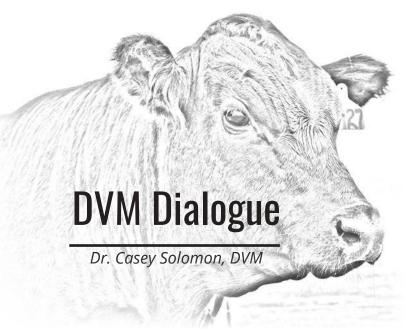


WW+85 / YW+146 / MARB+.92 \$M+93 \$C+312



John (406)855-7839 \* Brian (406) 861-3151 \* Ben (406)860-7331 \* Joe (406)861-1020 Or come visit the ranch anytime!





Happy New Year from North Central Montana! What a beautiful fall we were blessed with, and now some good moisture and some true winter weather. I am sure looking forward to calving season, breeding season and a GREEN summer. I hope you all had a nice holiday season filled with family, friends and memories!

As we head toward Calving Season 2025, I thought some of you might find value in an article about fractured legs in baby calves; some thoughts on when to pursue fixing them, factors that affect success rates and the basics to fracture stabilization that are important to remember.

We certainly see fractures during calving from a variety of causes – chain injuries when pulling calves, cows stepping on calves in jugs or out in the close up lots, calves putting themselves in situations where they don't quite fit and removing themselves too rapidly, etc etc. We'll go through some different fracture locations and the success of treating them, in the hopes you will feel better equipped if you find yourselves with a calf and a broken leg this spring!

Calves are pretty motivated to heal, youth is a beautiful thing. The primary rules for a successful repair are prevention of infection, absolute stabilization of both sides of the fracture in close proximity to one another, and appropriate splint/ cast changes to accommodate growth, if needed. In addition, these calves need to avoid further stressors – so a bit more management may be necessary to keep them healthy and growing (pain management, dry ground to prevent sores and infection from developing under the splint or cast, management of how much they travel every day = less during the first week and gradually increasing as they get used to the cast and the fracture begins to heal).

Lower limb fractures (below the knee/hock) are very common and are usually very favorable for repair and recovery. These types of injuries are frequently seen right around birth with calving chain injuries or being stepped on, but we can also see them later on when calves get mobile and get their legs stuck in feeders etc. The locations may be slightly different, but the principles remain similar:

1. The duration of time to remain in splint or cast averages

6-8 weeks for repair but it is important to assess - Is the fracture complete? In other words, Is the limb dangling? Or do you have a lame calf with a limb deviation?

A. If the limb is dangling, the time in a cast or splint will be longer, and one or more rechecks and recasts will probably be necessary for full fracture repair. In some cases, X-rays may also be implemented to fully evaluate how the fracture site is healing.

- 2. Wound management Are there wounds around the fracture site (scrapes, cuts)? Is the fracture site open to the bone?
  - A. "Open Fractures," that have punched a hole through the skin carry a much more guarded prognosis for healing and recovery. Appropriate medicines are necessary to attempt to treat infection and allow the bones a chance to start healing.
  - B. Wounds that are not fully penetrating to the bone still need appropriate cleaning, bandaging and antibiotics because they will remain under the bandaging for a period of weeks while the bone heals. In some cases, the splint will have to be changed more frequently to properly care for the wounds to the skin.
- 3. Fracture stabilization must extend BOTH above the fracture one joint and below the fracture one or more joints to the ground. This is probably the most common error I see when people apply splints on the ranch. A person can apply the most beautiful splint, but if it does not provide appropriate stabilization of the fractured bone healing will not occur. In words, this means that the joints of the leg (one above the fracture and one or more below the fracture) must be splinted or casted to be kept straight, with no motion of those joints or that part of the leg even if/when the calf runs across the pasture.
- 4. Bandage "Stirrups" are absolutely essential in keeping the splint or cast in place. And enough bandage cushion layers need to be applied to protect the skin, muscles, nerves and blood vessels. This is a fine balance, because you need enough cushion to protect the soft tissues, but too much padding will allow motion at the fracture site and a failure of the bone to fuse.
- 5. Also important, is pain management and/or injectable antibiotics! Depending on the fracture and the individual calf these may need to be repeated at intervals for calf comfort and healing.

Upper limb fractures (above the knee or hock) are more difficult to stabilize, but still carry a good prognosis if caught and treated early. Splints for upper limb fractures are more elaborate but can be very effective for certain cases.

I feel it is important to know how to apply an effective splint for a lower leg fracture on the ranch. If further evaluation is necessary, after splinting, the calf can be more safely transported to a veterinary clinic. The art of applying a bandage, splint or cast would take the full space of another article entirely! But if you are interested in knowing more, touch base with your veterinarian and they will help guide you on how to triage a broken leg in the field and can outfit you with a good supply kit!

Until the next time  $\sim$  I pray you continue to have a beautiful and productive start to 2025!

~ Casey

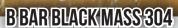
# IMM ANGUS

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## Trexler Family Honored as Great Montana Rodeo Family

The Trexler family of the Bitterroot Valley was honored as one of the Great Montana Rodeo Families by the Montana Pro Rodeo Hall and Wall of Fame at a special banquet in Billings on October 5.

"There are so many deserving families out there," said Peggy Trexler. "We are pretty humbled by the award. It is quite an honor."

As the name would suggest, the award honors important Montana rodeo families and the Trexlers certainly qualify.

At the award presentation, the Trexlers were given the following introduction: "The Trexlers are a five-generation Montana family involved in ranching, showing registered cattle, and working in the legislature for horse racing and rodeo. They've had champion bulls, heifers, 4-H steers, four National High School Rodeo qualifiers, a Junior High School World Champion, a Reserved Junior High School World Champion, and a CFR qualifier. They are members of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, the American Angus Association, the Montana Angus Association, and the Shorthorn Association."

The Montana Pro Rodeo Hall and Wall of Fame (MPRHWF) is dedicated to honoring Montana professional rodeo cowboys and cowgirls who exemplify Montana's western heritage.

They do this through the maintenance of a monument site located near the entrance to the MetraPark Arena in Billings, Montana. The monument site includes an 18-foot bronze sculpture of six-time World Champion bronc rider Dan Mortensen, with brick and granite walls honoring Montana's professional rodeo champions, legends, queens and personnel.

"The award is a really special thing for our family," said Cliff Trexler. "It might seem like just another award, but to us, it means the world."

The Trexler family has deep roots in Montana and the Bitterroot Valley. In 1927,19-year-old Clifford "Trex" Trexler married 15-year-old Marion Nehring and the two began their life at the Nehring Homestead in Byrum, Montana. They raised cattle and horses, and hunted and trapped. Marion raced horses in Browning and Great Falls and was a saddle bronc rider and a barrel racer.

Their son Clifford was born in 1933. Cliff grew up raising cattle and ranching on the family ranch and in 1952 he married Jane Sessions of Byrum. They left the family ranch and Cliff got a degree in education at Montana State University in Bozeman.

The couple moved to Victor in 1958, where Cliff taught junior high and high school science for 24 years, retiring in 1972 and going into real estate.

The couple had three children: Larry, Debbie and Daniel, and they had a ranch and raised Shorthorn cattle. Cliff and Larry traveled all over the West showing and selling the cattle. Debbie was the Montana Shorthorn Lassie Queen in 1974 and she also rode bareback in the Ravalli County Fair.

Daniel married Carrie Fite in 1986. Their two girls, Megan and



Kelsey, competed in high school rodeo and Kelsey went to the National High School Rodeo finals in 2013.

Larry married Peggy Muir and they have been active in ranching and rodeo their whole lives. Their two kids, Reed and Karri, showed market steers in 4H and competed in junior and high school rodeos. Karri was an All Around High School Rodeo Cowgirl who made the National High School Rodeo finals for four years. Karri married Dustin Miles, a bull rider from Whitefish. They live near Corvallis and their two kids, Hailey and Wyatt, showed livestock in 4H and FFA. Wyatt Miles was last year's Class A State Champion in the Shot Put.

Reed was an All Around High School Rodeo Cowboy who rode bulls in both college and in the Northern Rodeo Association. He married Kari Tinsley from Dillon and they have two boys, Cole and Cash. Both boys showed market steers and were outstanding in high school rodeo, going to Nationals in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. They are now in college and compete in tie down roping and team roping. Cole is going to college in Dillon and Cash is going to school in New Mexico.

"Rodeo and ranching just kind of all went together for us," said Larry Trexler. "We had horses and we ran cattle. So in the big picture, rodeo was just a part of our whole overall lifestyle. It's hard to separate one from the other. We're just lucky to be able to do what we love to do, and to be recognized for it is an honor."

Cliff Trexler has fond memories of the family's rodeo heritage and history. "Back in Byrum, when my mother was 13 or 14, she would go to the rodeo and races in Great Falls," said Cliff. "Because it was so far away, she would get up and leave at 3 a.m. so she could make it to the afternoon races. Then after a long day of competing, she would ride back and get home at around 3 a.m. Before and after the races there were all sorts of rodeo events going on. I imagine I've seen as much rodeo in my 90 years as anyone around."

-Written by Scott Sacry, Bitterroot Star



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## Knoll, Denowh, and Thomas Win Big at Angus Convention

Angus Convention attendees take home exciting grand-prize giveaways

Angus breeders and beef industry enthusiasts gathered in Ft. Worth, Texas for the 2024 Angus Convention and three fortunate individuals left with prizes to help them expand their operations' potential.

Working cattle will become a more efficient and lowstress task for Steve Knoll's operation in Texas as he installs his new Priefert and Datamars Complete Cattle Handling System, valued at \$42,000. Knoll says many of their current cattle handling facilities are outdated and were built by him and his dad over 50 years ago. Knoll says he will be able to use this technology to make necessary and needed enhancements to his cattle-handling facilities.

"There's actually a 50-year-old Priefert headgate at my dad's place we've needed to replace for a while," said Knoll. "We're excited to be able to make upgrades to some of our locations that really need it."

The second grand prize give-away winner was **Debbie Denowh of Montana**, who took home a John Deere 845M
HVA Gator valued at \$24,000. Denowh's new John Deere

845M HVA Gator features a three-person cock pit, power steering, 54 HP, 2,000 lb. towing capacity, 1,000 lb. cargo box capacity and speeds up to 45 MPH.

The third winner, Lori Thomas of Oregon, received a Trans Ova service voucher valued at \$5,000. The voucher will help cover one genetic preservation, an IVF cycle and up to five fresh implants into Trans Ova or client recipients and more.

"It's quite exciting to win something like this," said Thomas. "We do a lot of embryo transplant work on our operation, so it's going to come in very handy. It'll be put to good use, for sure."

Caitlyn Brandt, director of events and junior activities says these giveaways would not be

possible without the continued support of sponsors.

"Thank you to Priefert, Datamars, John Deere and Trans Ova for their continued partnership in many of our events throughout the year," says Brandt. "These special donations continually help make the Angus Convention a priceless experience for attendees."

-Written By Molly Loughridge, Communications Specialist



Debbie Denowh, Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch, of Montana was the winner of a John Deere XUV835M Gator at the Angus Convention in Ft. Worth. Pictured from left are Michael and Debbie Denowh, and Lance Benz, John Deere representative

"Our operation is scattered across 200 miles, and we have several locations in need of better panels. Before now, we've just been making do."

The new corral system features a solid sweep with a straight, adjustable working alley, leading to a Priefert Model S04 Squeeze Chute. The set-up is completed by a Tru-Test by Datamars complete weight and water management solution, electronic identification reader, and WaterWell 2 automatic waterer.

# Ridin for the Brand

Apex Angus remains dedicated to producing seed stock that will enhance the commercial cattlemen from "birth to plate".

The bulls and heifers offered on 3/4/2025 will keep on doing for you what they've done for years at APEX ANGUS, an honest and trustworthy job.



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   And Others



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### 52nd PRODUCTION SALE

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- Solid Foundation Yearling Heifers
  - Bangs Vaccinated Ready to Breed



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									FAT		
+6	+2.7	+63	+114	+.81	+11.2	+24	+.76	+.63	+.064	+60	+53

## **APEX**

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## New Leadership Elected to the American Angus Association Board of Directors

Association leadership selected for 2025 at the Annual Convention of Delegates

The American Angus Association® 141st Annual Convention of Delegates gathered November 4 in Fort Worth, Texas. Five members were elected to the board of directors. They are Paul Bennett (second term), Red House, Virgina; John Dickinson (second term), Auburn, California; Ron Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kansas; Mark Johnson, Orlando, Oklahoma; and Danny Poss, Scotia, Nebraska. The delegation also elected new officers; Jonathan Perry, Fayetteville, Tennessee, president and chairman of the board and Jim Brinkley, Milan, Missouri, vice president and vice chairman of the board. **Darrell Stevenson, White Sulphur Springs, Montana** will serve as the treasurer for the 2024 to 2025 term

"We have got to continue to make the American Angus Association relevant to its breeders and its members," said Jonathan Perry, president and chairman of the American Angus Association® Board of Directors. "We have got to embrace diversity. We have got to continue to create tools that touch every member. The diversity of our breeders and our breed is our greatest strength."

Directors can serve up to two, three-year terms on the board and, if elected, they serve an additional one-year term in office as president/chairman and/or vice president/vice chairman.

More about the re-elected directors:

#### Paul Bennett, Virginia

Paul Bennett, will serve a second term on the Board of Directors. In his first term, he served on the Certified Angus Beef (CAB) Board of Directors, as Chairman of the Breed Improvement committee, and served on the Member Services committee. Bennett and his wife, Tracy, have two

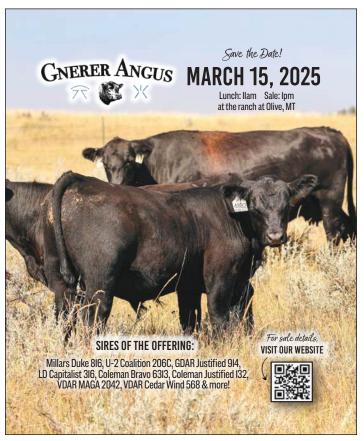


The 2024-2025 American Angus Association® newly elected leadership. Pictured from left to right: Vice President Jim Brinkley, President Jonathon Perry and Treasurer Darrell Stevenson.

children, Scott and Sarah. In 2024, they were richly blessed with three grandchildren born in a span of three days. The family operation, Knoll Crest Farm, Inc., is now a fourthgeneration seedstock operation, with Bennett's grandfather, Paul D. Bennett, establishing a registered cow herd in 1944. The family transitioned the farm from a typical southside-Virginia tobacco, livestock and crop farm to a beef seedstock operation in the 1980s. Today, Knoll Crest is operated by the team of brothers - Jim, Brian and Paul - along with Paul's nephew, Dalton. Bennett is honored to continue sharing his enthusiasm, experience and understanding of the Angus breed and its industry and pledges to remain accessible and highly engaged.

#### John Dickinson, California

John Dickinson finished his first term on the board as a member of the committees for Member Services, Events and Activities, Breed Improvement; and Commercial Programs. He also served for a time on the Angus Genetics Inc. Board and the Angus Productions, Inc. board. Dickinson and his brother are fifth-generation Angus breeders. His great-grandfather, Senator Simon E. Lantz, a former American Angus Association® president, first brought registered Angus cattle to their farm in 1896. Upon graduation from the University of Illinois, Dickinson served as a regional manager



## SPLIT DIAMOND BULLS <>



## ALWAYS A LASTING VALUE



This year's sale will showcase 18 sons out of our herd sire Sitz Logo 8148. His sons have been topping many sales throughout Montana. "8148" has been identified as the #1 bull in the Angus Breed for Udder and Teat quality adding to his many desirable traits propelling his daughters to the top of our program and the breed. These are the replacement keeping kind. When you want performance from your calf crop-80% of the sale bulls exceed the breed average for weaning weight EPD! You will see the difference! We see it in our heifers too!

You will see the difference!

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With a strong commitment to using the best Herd Sires possible we have stayed on the path of Range Functional, easy fleshing, good mama cows with shape and style. This year is no different with the new Sire groups of Sitz Royalty 1299 high selling bull and Sitz Threshold 9901-second-high selling bull in the 2022 Sitz fall bull sale, we are sure to continue this progress! Other highlights of the sale include Select Sires standout EZAR Step Up 9178 known for his extra length, capacity, added carcass and muscling ability.

4004 Yearling Black Angue Bulle Self

Fertility Tested > Maternally Minded > PAP Tested! > Easy Calving > with lots of performance!

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for the Association for 10 years. In the spring of 2007, Dickinson left the Association and formed Parnell Dickinson, Inc. (PDI) with his two partners. He works 85 auctions annually. Dickinson also serves as the bull development manager and head of sire procurement for Grimmius Cattle Company. Dickinson is a life member of the Association and has served two terms as president of the California Angus Association (CAA). In 2007, Dickinson was the youngest recipient of the CAA Hall of Fame Award. John and his girlfriend, Katie Bishop, reside in Caldwell, Idaho, and have two children, Blakely (12) and Silas (3).

#### Ron Hinrichsen, Kansas

Ron Hinrichsen of Westmoreland, Kansas, has been involved in multiple sectors of the beef cattle industry throughout his professional career and is a third-generation Angus breeder. Ron and his wife, Lynne, established R&L Angus/Hinrichsen Ranch in the Flint Hills of Kansas upon graduating from Kansas State University. While raising highquality cattle, Ron and Lynne have focused on bringing in the fourth generation—their children Cale and Eva—to continue the legacy they have established. They raise cattle to fit the environment and sell bulls to commercial cattlemen based on their needs. With another family, they host an annual bull sale in the spring. Angus Herd Improvement Records, ultrasound data, and genomic testing are used to continually improve the predictability of their cattle. Along with the cattle operation, Ron's professional career started in semen sales and later moved into animal health sales. Today he works for Boehringer Ingelheim as a senior territory manager. Ron has played an active role in the Kansas Angus Association, serving on the board and as president and junior advisor. Other leadership roles have included serving as the American Royal beef superintendent for 20 years, as the Kansas State Fair board president, and on the Kansas Livestock Association and National Cattlemen's Beef Association animal health committees.

#### Mark Johnson, Oklahoma

Mark Johnson of Orlando, Oklahoma, is a lifelong cattleman with more than 50 years of experience in beef

production. Along with his wife, Brenda, and two daughters, Sydney and Charley, he operates J&J Beef Genetics, LLC. Johnson grew up on a centennial family farm in Deerfield, Missouri. He attended Northeastern Oklahoma A&M junior college and later Oklahoma State University (OSU). He then completed his doctorate at Kansas State University in 1992. Since then, Johnson has been a professor of animal and food sciences at OSU and has served as supervisor of the OSU Purebred Beef operation for 32 years. At OSU, Johnson has held the Totusek Endowed Chair, been recognized with awards for teaching and advising, conducted youth and beef cattle extension programming and coached the livestock judging team. He is also the lead author of four chapters in the OSU Beef Cattle Manual. Johnson has served as president and vice president of the Oklahoma Angus Association (OAA) and has been honored with the Mr. Angus Award. He and his wife have served as Oklahoma Junior Angus Association Advisors and were inducted into the OAA Hall of Fame in 2024.

#### Danny Poss, Nebraska

Danny Poss, a first-generation Angus breeder and lifelong resident of Scotia, Nebraska, grew up on a diversified, family farming operation. The early foundation of the family's commercial cattle operation was established by his parents, Melvin and Elizabeth. In 1985, as a sophomore in high school, Poss purchased his first registered Angus heifer. Poss attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) where he majored in animal science. After graduating from college, Poss returned home to the family operation and began growing his Angus cow herd, while working with his parents on their farming operation. That same year, 1993, he sold his first three bulls privately. In 2005, Poss purchased his own ground and continued to help his dad farm. Sadly, in February 2012, Poss lost his dad to brain cancer. In 2017, he and Kristi moved the bull sale to their ranch in Scotia, Nebraska. Today, with the help of their boys, they market more than 300 bulls a year. To Danny and Kristi's 30 years of marriage, they have four children: Nolan, Nathan, Neleigh and Natalie.

- Written by Jessica Hartman, Communication Specialist



AAA Convention Delegates from L to R: Chad Denowh, Darrell Stevenson, Dave Hinman, Doug Stevenson, Roger Jacobs, Kim Skinner, Jim Sitz, Cory Poser, Kevin Arntzen, Brad Arntzen, Kathy Dubs, Dale Vitt, Mick Denowh, and Ron Frye. Photo by Kurt Kangas

## Featured Sires

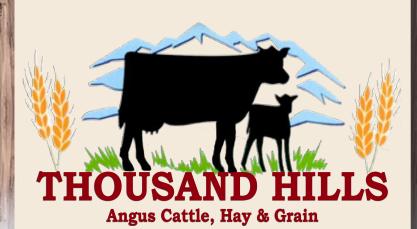
**TH Legacy** Resilient x Gunsmoke

Sitz Resilient 10208

Heiken Incentive 2030
Incentive x Logo

Ellingson Badlands 0285

Pine Coulee Resource @708



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1 pm | Headwaters Livestock Auction Yards | Three Forks, MT







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The 13th Annual NILE Angus Heifer Futurity and the brand new NILE Angus Phenotype/Genotype Show were the highlight of the 2024 Angus events held during the NILE stock show in Billings, MT. The NILE Angus Heifer Futurity is designed to profile the development of the open heifers purchased through the Montana Angus Association's NILE Angus Female Sale. The show is open to Angus Juniors who purchased and registered a heifer in their name from the previous year's NILE Angus Female Sale.

In the Phenotype/Genotype show, the judge was asked to evaluate the cattle based on looks and expected performance through EPDs. This is a new type of show for Montana Angus and we're looking to grow it in the future. We also hope that this will be an educational opportunity for the youth as they will learn about EPDs and \$Values as part of the process of selecting feedstock. Cheramie Viator was the judge of both these shows.

Payouts are based upon entries and the 2024 show had 7 head shown by 6 juniors. All participants received a coat, & cash award. Every Junior received at least \$250 for participation. Grand Champion received \$1,000 and Reserve

Champion received \$800. If you're a Montana Angus Junior member and purchased a female or bred heifer through the 2024 Sale, look for an entry form for the 2024 Futurity Show in the NILE premium book The show premium is published each year by mid-summer. Please contact Jake Callantine at (406) 581-4764.

Grand Champion



\$1,000 was awarded to the 2024 NILE Grand Champion Futurity Female. Basin Winnie 3562 is owned by Bayler Hurlbut of Council Grove, KS, and the heifer was bred by Nicole Stevenson, Basin Angus, of Laurel, MT. Basin Winnie 3562 is the daughter of PVF DLX King Pin 0058 and Basin Winnie 8166.



\$1000 was awarded to the 2024 NILE Angus Grand Champion Phenotype/ Genotype Female. Basin Winnie 3562 is owned by Bayler Hurlbut of Council Grove, KS, and the heifer was bred by Nicole Stevenson, Basin Angus, of Laurel, MT. Basin Winnie 3562 is the daughter of PVF DLX King Pin 0058 and Basin Winnie 8166.

Reserve Champion



\$800 was awarded to the 2024 NILE Reserve Champion Futurity Female. Basin Winnie 3563 is owned by Jagger Flesch of Shelby, MT, and the heifer was bred by Nicole Stevenson, Basin Angus of Laurel, MT. Basin Winnie 3563 is the daughter of Stag Good Times 201 ET and EXAR Winne 2075.



\$800 was awarded to the 2024 NILE Angus Reserve Champion Phenotype/Genotype Female. Woirhaye Blackcap Empress 2303 is owned by Kale Cordill of Cheney, WA, and the heifer was bred by Woirhaye Cattle Co, of Darby, MT. Woirhaye Blackcap Empress is the daughter of Beal Breakthrough and Woirhaye Blackcap Empress 2109.

# PINE COULEE BULL SALE

Monday, March 10, 2025

Wagon Box Ranch, Hardin, Montana SELLING 130 BULLS

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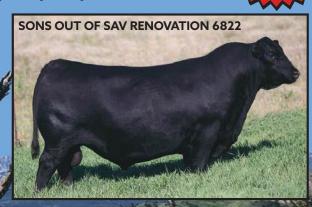


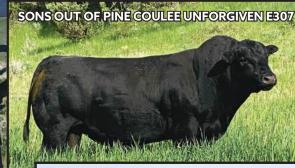


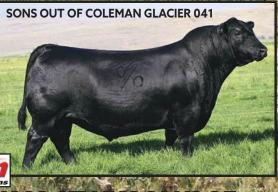




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| | Grand Champion Cow Calf Pair | |

3C Lorrie Darlin 2040 won grand champion cow-calf pair at the 2024 Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE)
Junior Angus Show, Oct. 17 in Billings, Mont. Teah Vennes, Wilsall, Mont., owns the February 2022 daughter of Sitz
Accomplishment 720F. A March 2024 heifer calf sired by Tehama Patriarch F028 complete the winning duo. Matt Leo,
Snelling, Calif., evaluated the 88 entries. Photo by Next Level Images.



#### | | Reserve Grand Champion Bull | |

PVF High Times 3014 won reserve grand champion bull at the 2024 Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Oct. 18 in Billings, Mont. Hilltop Angus Ranch and Caitlynn Poser, both of Denton, Mont., own the January 2023 son of STAG Good Times 201 ET. He first claimed junior champion. Cheramie Viator, Tomball, Texas, evaluated the 104 entries. Photo by Next Level Images.



#### | | Owned Senior Heifer Calf Champion | |

Colburn Saras Dream VA 3305A won owned senior heifer calf champion at the 2024 Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) Junior Angus Show, Oct. 17 in Billings, Mont. Cooper Murnin, Pompeys Pillar, Mont., owns the winning heifer.

Photo by Next Level Images.



### | | Reserve Grand Champion Cow-Calf Pair | |

3C Lorrie Darlin 2040 won reserve grand champion cow-calf pair at the 2024
Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus
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Patriarch F028 is at side. Cheramie Viator, Tomball, Texas, evaluated the 104
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## VELTKAMP PRODUCTION SALE

Selling 90 Yearling Angus Bulls

MARCH 11, 2025



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BW WW YW Milk

+1.6 +75 +131 +37



24 SONS SELL VA GALLATIN 1010 AAA: 20185168 BW WW YW Milk

+88 +145 +34



**10 SONS SELL DEER VALLEY BRIGADE 81247** AAA: 19469706 BW WW YW Milk CW

+76 +144 +31



15 SONS SELL **TEHAMA PATRIARCH F028** AAA: 18981191 BW WW YW Milk CW

-1.8 +70 +134 +29

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Celebrating over 40 Years in the Angus business

## Sitz Angus Praised for 100-Plus Years of Angus

The American Angus Association® honors Sitz Angus with Century Award at Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas

Family-run businesses that last 100 or more years often leave a legacy, and when an Angus herd lasts that long the breed comes together to celebrate the accomplishment. At the 2024 Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas the American Angus Association® honored Sitz Angus of Dillon and Harrison, Montana with the Century Award for their 100-plus years as a registered Angus herd.

"Being able to say we've been in the Angus business for over 100 years – that's a feat itself," said Jim Sitz of the Sitz Angus.

William and Frieda Sitz started Sitz Angus in the Nebraska Sandhills in 1923 with the purchase of registered Angus cows from William Williams of Clarks, Nebraska. William and Frieda had four children: Robert "Bob", Bill, Dolores, and Ruth. In 1952, William and Frieda moved with son, Bob (Sr.), to a ranch in Longmont, Colorado. In 1959, two years after Bob married Donna Scriffiny, the young couple purchased a ranch in Harrison, Montana and moved the herd

In Harrison, Bob Sr. and Donna raised two daughters and two sons – Deb, Sherrie, Bob, and Jim - while being early champions of performance testing and Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®). In 1966, Sitz Angus hosted its first bull sale and began offering customers free delivery of their bulls. The family was also early adopters of artificial insemination. All four of Bob Sr. and Donna's children are still involved in the cattle business through Sitz Angus, Bar 69 Angus Ranch and Stockman Angus of New Zealand.

Bob Sr. was inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation

in 1993, four years after his untimely death. Donna and her sons persevered through the loss with a cow sale and rebuilt the herd. The brothers, Jim and Bob, are 2024 inductees into the Angus Heritage Foundation.

Leaving a legacy of leadership within the breed at both the state and national level, Bob Sr. served on the American Angus Association Board of Directors from 1979 to 1985. Donna was an active member of the National Angus Auxiliary and Montana Angus Auxiliary. Jim followed in his father's footsteps, serving on the Board of Directors from 2009 to 2016 and as president in 2016. In 2001, Sitz Angus donated the Angus Foundation Heifer.

Today, William and Frieda's grandsons, Bob and Jim, along with Jim's wife Tammi (Huntsman), run Sitz Angus in Harrison and Dillon, Montana with their families. (The Dillon ranch was acquired in 1997.) The fourth generation, known sometimes as "the Sitz six," are preparing to make their mark on the Angus breed as they each find unique ways to support the ranch through cattle breeding, raising crops, bookkeeping, hosting interns, influencing range management and even managing social media and promotion. They are Taylre, Lane, Amber, Ashley, Tyler and Tucker Sitz.

Speaking of the next generation on the ranch, Jim said, "I see no reason why they shouldn't be able to take it to a whole new level."

Sitz Angus sires have consistently held spots in the list of top 25 sires for breed registration and sell high-quality Angus genetics across the United States and internationally. The family offers yearling bulls each spring and nearly 2-year-old bulls at their annual fall sale. While being well-known for their bulls, Sitz Angus maintains its status as a MaternalPlus® herd, as it has since the program's first year in 2012, proving their focus on producing high-performing, profit-yielding females for their commercial customers. After 100 years with the Business Breed, Sitz

Angus – the family and others who have been dedicated to its success – still exhibits a forwardthinking attitude and a love of Angus cattle.

"My dad always said a long time ago that we have to be a jack of all trades," Jim said. "That would fit Sitz Angus ranch to a T."

-Written by Sarah Kocher, Communications Specialist



Sitz Angus was awarded the American Angus Association Century Award at the 2024 Angus Convention on Nov. 3 in Fort Worth, Texas. Pictured from left are 2024 Miss American Angus Lauren Wolter, Jim Sitz, Tammi Sitz, Amber Konen, Tyler Sitz, Tucker Sitz, Taylre Sitz, Bob Sitz, and Association CEO Mark McCully.



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S A V Resource 1441

DAM: CAR Miss Lucy 717

CAR Miss Lucy 301

 Reg: \*19940742
 DOB: 01/24/20

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Montana Angus News and good disposition

January/February 2025

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CED	\$W	\$B									
+4	1.7	82	143	28	\$82	\$130					



SRS Renovation 6152M reg#21050914										
CED	BW	ww	YW	Milk	\$W	\$B				
+3	1.9	66	113	18	\$59	\$117				



<b>3R3 Reynote 4244</b> ri reg#2104/886										
CED	BW	ww	YW	Milk	\$W	\$B				
+4	1.6	71	119	31	\$76	\$119				



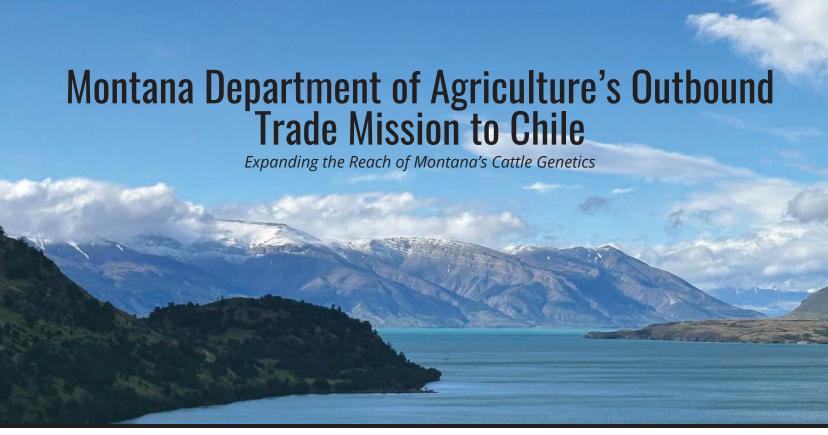
<b>SRS Jackson 2117M</b> reg#21048134						
CED	BW	ww	YW	Milk	\$W	\$B
+6	2.3	77	129	25	\$71	\$124



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In early November, the Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) organized a trade mission to Southern Chile, all in the name of promoting Montana cattle genetics with producers in that country. The trip spanned from November 3rd to the 12th and was packed with exciting visits to local ranches, the Kampenaike Research Station, and a bull sale. The delegation members in attendance included two MDA representatives, a U.S. Livestock Genetics Export (USLGE) representative, a Trans Ova Genetics representative, as well as five Montana cattle breeders. These breeders included three Hereford breeders and two Angus breeders: Ray Gardner from Gaugler/Gardner Angus and Jim Stampfel from Pine Coulee Angus.

The trip left Montana on November 3rd and arrived in Chile on November 4th, with visits to local ranches beginning the next day. On the first day, attendees had the opportunity to visit Complejo Torres del Paine, which is the largest cattle ranch in Magallanes. The second day consisted of a tour of the Kampenaike Research Station. On the third day, attendees visited two different Angus ranches: La Esperanza Angus Ranch and El Cerrito Angus Ranch. Tours

of Estancia
Maria, Estancia
Skyring, and
Estancia Las
Charas, which
are considered
the best
commercial
producers in
the region using
U.S. genetics
took place on
the fourth day.
The Magallanes
Bull Sale was

the main event of the fifth day and the sixth and final day in Chile included two more ranch visits.

It's people like Weston Merrill, MDA international trade specialist, who remain instrumental in the planning and execution of trade missions such as these. His work specifically focuses on connecting our Montana ag exporting companies with markets overseas and further expanding opportunities for ranchers in Montana. In his six years at MDA, he's taken part in as many as 18 of these trade mission trips (2 to 3 a year), taking him to places such as Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, and Nicaragua. When I spoke with Merrill, he gave a lot of insight into how these trips are selected for and planned, stating that it typically all starts with interest from the foreign country themselves. In the case of this trade mission trip, Chile had a lot of interest in what genetics Montana had to offer, and producers had even visited Montana to tour ranches before the organization of this mission.

Selecting the delegation members for these missions is no different than how the location is selected. "These breeders participated partly because this is kind of an ongoing

relationship-building process," Merrill explains, emphasizing his earlier point about how much these trade missions rely on interest. When breeders from Chile first visited Montana, they had the opportunity



to travel to various ranches that had genetics they were interested in incorporating into their herds back home. Jim Stampfel of Pine Coulee Angus in Absarokee was one of those ranches. Stampfel tells me that "[Merrill] had a group come in from this past summer... so we ended up having them come by and had a display for them and they could see a lot of our genetics." Pine Coulee genetics were ones that producers from Chile had specifically expressed interest in, which led to Stampfel having the chance to be a part of this trade mission trip.

As a delegation member, Stampfel found himself getting to experience firsthand how cattle ranchers in Chile are run and gain a better understanding of some of their operational differences and the challenges they face. "Not only do you get to meet some people that are also in agriculture that are also raising cattle like we are, but from a completely different climate in a completely different

country and find out that they have kind of a lot of the same issues that we have," Stampfel says. Cattle ranching in Southern Chile is somewhat different than what we are used to here in Montana. Calving seasons are the opposite of ours and many of the operations are less hands-on and focus on low-input management systems. However, they are still in a moderately harsh climate and can face some of the same issues we do when it comes to weather. While they may not be getting negative temperatures, they still face severely wet weather conditions. Stampfel tells me that in Chile, they have riders out there on the range, "they would basically spend all their time out there watching the cattle." This becomes especially important during calving, as their cattle all calve out in the pasture, rather than coming into corrals or a barn. They also don't feed cattle out like we do, as they can't grow grain or hay like we can. There's a different management style present in Chile and one that was exciting for the attendees to learn about.

Visiting the Kampenaike Research Station was a highlight of the trip. The station has been operating since 1969 and focuses its work on adaptive and demonstrative research, and technology transfer, with special emphasis on processes that allow for increased agricultural productivity in the Magallanes region. Livestock is one of the main areas of research. At the research station, they maintain an Angus herd and a Hereford herd. "Their research center is very much like our USDA research center in Fort Keogh," Merill explains. When thinking about producers all over the region, it's a pretty important center that provides a lot of crucial information.

The Magallanes Bull Sale was another one of the highlights of the trip, especially because bulls are typically sold via private treaty in Chile. "Up until this year, they had not done a live auction bull sale ever," Merrill tells me.

The sale was specially organized with several different consignors and the mission was organized so that the MDA and its delegation members could be there for it. Since it was the first of its kind, the Chile producers made it a whole event. There were producer-focused workshops in the morning, highlighting topics such as genetics and cattle health, followed by lunch, and then the actual bull sale.

Approximately 40 head were sold that day. It was an incredible experience to see these producers doing something they haven't done before, especially with the influence of the Chilean culture. "That was really interesting to see, but really exciting because our international presence really for them put a stamp of legitimacy on the event," Merrill says. Stampfel also reflected on the bull sale, highlighting the differences in how the sale was run and even the bulls being brought through. Unlike most of our sales, the bulls were brought in on horseback, which was



fun for the attendees to see. "Normally they're selling their bulls as two-year-olds because they're not fed up at all and by the time those bulls are two they're looking pretty good. They did sell a few yearlings that day [during the bull sale]," Stampfel explains. Not only was the bull sale a great way to get a look at different cattle, but it was also a great way for the attendees to immerse themselves further into the culture.

"It was a great experience for myself but I also think it's really beneficial to the Montana genetics, which I personally believe are some of the best in the world, if not the best, and I think people out there are seeking something to improve," Stampfel expresses. And Stampfel is right: many of the producers in Chile are looking to improve their herds and their practices, and it's fantastic that they are looking toward Montana for those changes. One of the biggest



changes on the horizon seems to be a shift towards more of a focus on carcass traits. Granted, making a change such as this takes time and careful consideration of genetics. "Most of the breeders we work with try to maintain a good balance between maternal traits and growth traits, but it's definitely [more of] a maternal focus," Merrill states. Part of Chile producers' focus on maternal traits stems from the fact that the demand for carcass traits just isn't there.

These types of changes and global producer connections are exactly what these trade mission trips hope to inspire and foster. They offer incredible opportunities for producers in Montana who are looking to expand the reach of their genetics, whether they've been involved in exporting before or are looking to get started with exporting. "I think that breeders from all over the world are really looking for something new and something different and a way to improve their genetic base," Stampfel says. It also is beneficial for countries like Chile that are on the receiving end of these missions, as it brings opportunity to those producers as well, offering strengthened relationships and advancements in genetics and practices.

But, MDA's work isn't stopping at these trade missions. "We're always looking at the metrics of success from these missions. Sales and exports are obviously kind of like the crowning jewel. That's what you want," Merrill says, "But another piece to this is what are we going to do next? And we have looked at collaborating with the research center [in Chile] and we're going to do some continuing education opportunities for producers down there to further develop the market." Merrill believes that providing an educational program would only seek to further improve our relationship with Chile and help improve cattle operations there. For example, most producers in places like Chile aren't utilizing tools like artificial insemination (AI), but through a program that provides education on the benefits of various advancements in the cattle industry, as well as on topics such as breeding and nutrition, MDA can provide producers with useful knowledge and encourage them to implement tools such as AI into their operations. Ideally,

this program will be a multi-year program that will include bringing breeders or other industry professionals to Chile to discuss and educate on these various topics. As of now, the program is specifically being thought of with Chile in mind, but as Merrill says, this program will be built in a way that it could be implemented in other countries as well. It's an extremely exciting prospect that will continue supporting Montana producers by furthering these international relationships and highlighting Montana cattle.

Trade mission trips like this one are crucial for expanding Montana's markets. Montana is a leader in cattle genetics, so it comes as no surprise that the genetics here are highly sought-after. Not only do these trips drive the demand for Montana's cattle genetics and uplift our producers, but they reward those who take part in these trips with incredible first-hand experiences and knowledge. As

Stampfel tells me, "it's just a real eye-opening experience to meet people from other parts of the world that are also in the same industry." Montana's reputation for high-quality, productive, and healthy cattle is driven by the focused and hard-working producers who continue to strive to improve so that they can offer proven, productive, and efficient cattle.

-Written by Rebekah Clark, Montana Angus News



# MEATING THE GRADE ANNUAL SPRING BULL SALE FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

NEW LOCATION PAYS, BILLINGS, MT

Lunch at 11 AM • Sale at 1 PM



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SALE BROADCASTED ON:

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**Tehama Patriarch F028** Reg: \*18981191 BW: -1.8 | WW: 70 | YW: 134 | M: 29 | \$B: 166



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# Changemakers Recognized as 2024 Angus Heritage Foundation Inductees

The 2024 Angus Heritage Foundation inductees were honored by the American Angus Association during Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas on Nov. 3.

For more than 40 years, the American Angus Association's Angus Heritage Foundation has recognized the passion, dedication and perseverance of individuals whose life's work has made a lasting impact on the Angus breed. Today more than 80% of the U.S. cow herd is Angus-influenced. The forward-thinking action of the 2024 Heritage Foundation inductees contributed to that market share and helped position The Business Breed as a leader in the industry.

The 2024 inductees include: Bill and Sally Bowman, St. Joseph, Missouri; **Dave and Yvonne Hinman, Malta, Montana**; **Bob and Jim Sitz, Harrison, Dillon, Montana**; and Harlan Ritchie (posthumously), East Lansing, Michigan.

#### **Bill and Sally Bowman**

Bill and Sally Bowman traveled separate paths to Angus, but their shared teamwork helped transform genetic tools and producers' ability to use them. Bill's grandfather first taught him about livestock, and his small herd started as a junior high FFA project. He graduated with an animal science degree from the University of Missouri and worked in various roles for the American Angus Association®,

including as a regional manager, director of commercial programs, and assistant director of performance programs.

Sally Northcutt-Bowman, a native of Lexington, Kentucky, earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kentucky and then completed a doctorate in quantitative genetics at Iowa State University. After time at Oklahoma State University, she landed at the Association, bringing the organization's genetic evaluation in-house for the first time.

"We wanted to be more fluid and be efficient and change the environment of the industry," Bill said.

During their time at the Association, the duo led the introduction of \$Value indexes, genomically-enhanced expected progeny differences (EPDs) and helped create Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI®) as a standalone subsidiary of the Association. With Sally working on the data to build tools, Bill was "out in the country" helping to inspire adoption as AGI's first president.

"I am still immersed in Angus cattle and the Angus breed and will be my whole life," Sally said. In 2014, Sally founded Method Genetics, and Bill became her first

employee. The couple was married in 2017 and continue to advance the Angus breed through datadriven innovation and a strong sense of commitment to the cattlemen they serve.

Bill and Sally Bowman, St. Joseph, Missouri, were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation at the 2024 Angus Convention in November.

#### Dave and Yvonne Hinman

Pioneer breeders of performance cattle, Dave and Yvonne Hinman of Hinman Angus, have raised registered Angus cattle since 1973.

"It's a work in progress forever and it will be for the next generation and the next one," said Dave.

The couple and their daughters, Jill and Heidi,



Dave and Yvonne Hinman, Malta, Montana, were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation at the 2024 Angus Convention in November. Pictured from left are Lauren Wolter, 2024 Miss American Angus; Yvonne Hinman; Dave Hinman; Heidi Lulloff; Billy Lulloff; and Mark McCully, American Angus Association CEO.



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ran Hinman Angus in Willow Creek, Montana for over 25 years. In 1988, they had their first production sale, joining with Bill and Jennifer Davis and two other couples as the Performance Breeders, a group that worked together until 2008 to market registered Angus seedstock.

"The reason we wanted to do it together was at the time, we wanted more bulls in one sale," Dave said. "It worked."

In 2000, Dave and Yvonne made the move to "good old cow country" near Malta, Montana, to lease an 8,000-acre ranch and later purchase land in the area. In Malta, they have worked alongside daughter Heidi, and son-in-law Billy Lulloff for many years, mentoring them and now their grandson Tyler Lulloff. Together, the family continues to produce high-quality, reputation cattle as Hinman Angus and distribute their signature, bright yellow-covered sale books annually.

As leaders in the breed, Dave served on the Association Board of Directors from 2017 to 2023. Yvonne served as president of the American Angus Auxiliary in 1999 to 2000 and was honored as the Distinguished Woman Award in 2007. In 2005, the Performance Breeders were recognized with the Certified Angus Beef (CAB) Seedstock Commitment

to Excellence Award.

"If I had advice for young breeders? I'd do this, make some friendships with older breeders that have been in the business and listen to them," Dave said. "I was very, very fortunate to have a lot of them. . . Those friendships, that's what made it so special."

Dave and Yvonne Hinman, Malta, Montana, were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation at the 2024 Angus Convention in November.

#### **Bob and Jim Sitz**

Bob (Jr.) and Jim Sitz of Harrison and Dillon, Montana, lead Sitz Angus as its third generation. They labored alongside their parents Bob (Sr.) and Donna as young men, growing a passion for Angus cattle and the cattle business. In their 20s, they chose to manage the ranch alongside their mother after the untimely death of their father in 1989.

"My dad always said, we had to be a jack-of-all-trades. That would fit Sitz Angus ranch to a T," said Jim.

Together, the brothers and their mother guided the ranch through some lean years that included a mature cow dispersal

Because I have to pay for land selling calves, I have to be a low input, least cost producer focused on profit.

That means smaller cows, more of them, producing more pounds per acre, sold at a higher price per pound.

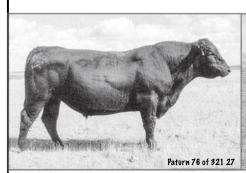
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1pm at the Ranch · Hingham, MT 14504 Road 6 North

2025 bulls are sired by:

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MAR Gratitude 26 - 20514995

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A A R Load Up J277 - 20154050

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January/February 2025

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Montana Angus News

HMA

and subsequent herd rebuilding. In the decades since, they have expanded the ranch from a single location in Harrison to three properties, and they have prioritized customer relationships, adopted new technologies like embryo transfer and genomics, and improved the quality of their cattle.

"What's helped us survive for over a hundred years? I'd say adaptability," said Jim. "The consistency of knowing that the only thing constant in this world is change. When there is new technology that is brought forward, you can't be afraid to embrace it."

Sitz Angus sires consistently claim spots in annual lists of the top 25 sires for breed registration, and their reputation for being a high-quality source of maternal genetics persists. As leaders, Bob serves the Montana Stockgrowers Association in addition to being an active member of the American Angus Association®. Jim followed in his father's footsteps, serving on the Association Board of Directors from 2009 to 2016 and as president in 2016.

Today, Jim and Bob, along with Jim's wife Tammi (Huntsman), run Sitz Angus with their families. Jim also markets customers' cattle as a representative with Northern Livestock Video Auction. The brothers continue to be long-term supporters and collectors of performance data, especially with the pulmonary arterial pressure (PAP) EPD and as a MaternalPlus® herd.

Bob and Jim Sitz, Harrison and Dillon, Montana, were inducted into the Angus Heritage Foundation at the 2024 Angus Convention in November.

#### Dr. Harlan Ritchie (posthumously)

Dr. Harlan Ritchie's profound legacy and influence on the cattle industry is unmatched. Throughout the 1960s, '70s and '80s, the Michigan State University (MSU) professor championed change, driving cattle trends with his bold selections in the show ring, groundbreaking research and published works.

"Dr. Ritchie had the innate ability to foresee the future needs of the beef cattle industry," said Ken Geuns, Ritchie's business partner in Ventura Farms.

Up until his passing in 2016, Ritchie was first and foremost a student, a seeker of knowledge. It was his constant curiosity and passion for learning that laid the foundation for him to become one of the world's leading experts on cattle. The Iowa native traveled the world speaking about his work, seeking out the value in all types of cattle and judging premier cattle shows. In the ring, Ritchie made selections that pushed the industry to think differently.

"Having the courage to walk out in front of thousands and thousands and thousands of people and slap an animal that you deem champion, that nobody else deems champion, requires tremendous courage," said Jason Rowntree, who knew Ritchie and now serves as MSU Faculty Coordinator at the Lake City Research Center where Ritchie did much of his research.

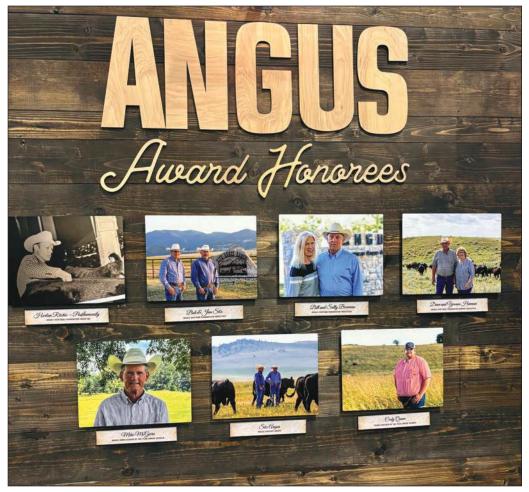
What stands out most to those who had the opportunity to cross paths with Ritchie is his generosity with his time and

wisdom; always willing to have a conversation, answer questions and offer his insights.

"My dad was a very hard working, passionate person about the beef cattle industry," said Ritchie's oldest son, Bill. "He was very humble; very kind and generous."

Ritchie is remembered as a man who dedicated his life to the betterment of the cattle industry, pushing against the grain to drive meaningful and impactful change that continues to play a role in the success of today's market.

-Written by Jessica Hartman, Communications Specialist and Molly Biggs, Communications Specialist and Sarah Kocher, Communications Specialist





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#### 2024 NILE Angus Female Sale Report

OCTOBER 18, 2024 • BILLINGS, MT • SALE MANAGER: RON FRYE MARKETING • AUCTIONEER: JOE GOGGINS

Lots	Gross	Average
27 Open Heifers	\$155,260.00	\$5,750.00
19 Bred Heifers	\$217,750.00	\$11,460.00
1 Open Cow	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
47 Total Registered Females	\$389,010.00	\$8,276.00
24 Embryos	\$16,500.00	\$687.00
3 Pregnancies	\$26,500.00	\$8,833.00
1 Flush	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00

#### **Top Open Heifer**

Lot 26 -Pick of the Heifer Calves - \$18,000 Buyer: Basin Angus Ranch - Laurel, MT Seller: Lund's B Bar Angus - Wibaux, MT

Lot 53 - Willekes Rita M103 - \$15,000 Buyer: Turner Meadow Ranch - Wills Point, TX Seller: Willekes Angus, Choteau, MT

#### **Top Bred Heifers**

Lot 39 - Sitz Shauna 47L - \$39,000 Sire Name: Sitz Incentive 704H Buyer: Elm Tree Farm - Paris, KY Seller: Sitz Angus - Harrison, MT

#### **Top Bred Heifers (cont.)**

Lot 52 - Pick of Bred Heifers - \$20,000 Buyer: Edgar Bros. - Rockham, SD Seller: Vermilion Ranch, Billings, MT

Lot 18 - JCH J&K Rita 3636- \$17,500 Sire Name: Sitz Incentive 704H Buyer: 3C Cattle, Stevensville, MT Seller: JC Heiken & Sons - Billings, MT

Lot 40 - SRS Rose 3120 - \$17,000.00 Sire Name: Sitz Resilient 10208 Buyer: Parker Cattle Co., Twin Falls, ID Seller: Skinner Ranch Seedstock, Hall, MT

#### Top Bred Heifers (cont.)Lot 22 - KG

Enchantress 3199 - \$17,000.00 Sire Name: HA Opportunity H695 Buyer: Lindskov LT Ranch, Isabel, SD Seller: KG Ranch, Three Forks, MT

Lot 51 - VDAR Polly 3729 - \$16,000.00 Sire Name: B Bar Black Mass 3045 Buyer: VLS Angus, Dunn Center, ND Seller: Van Dyke Angus Ranch, Manhattan, MT

#### **Top Open Cow**

Lot 3 - BCC Everelda Entense 58J - \$16,000 Sire: Sitz Stellar 726D Buyer: Bear Mountain Angus, Palisade, NE

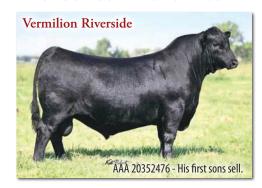
Seller: Barragree Cattle Co, Absarokee, MT



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**Pat Goggins Family** 

Bob Cook - Records & Sales Cell: 406-670-0078 Jeff Mosher - Vermilion North Bill Shaules - South Pryor Brandon Mosher - Pryor Creek Will Ecord - Diamond Ring

Jake Kading - Herdsman Cell: 406-672-5844

PO Box 30758 Billings, MT 59107 Email: bcook@cattleplus.com www.vermilionranch.com



Sale broadcast and videos available online through Northern **Livestock Video Auction** www.northernlivestockvideo.com

# Top 25 Sires for Registration Fiscal Year 2024

<b>Birthdate</b>	Name & Owner	Registration #	# of Calves
11/13/2020	Connealy Craftsman	20132505	4,014
	Select Sires, Inc - Plain City, OH		
	Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX		
10/20/2016	GB Fireball 672	18690054	3,500
	ABS Global, Inc - De Forest, WI		
	Goode Angus - Pampa, TX		
	Grand Bayou Farms - Ruston, LA		
01/22/2017	Deer Valley Growth Fund	18827828	3,368
	Deer Valley Farm - Fayetteville, TN		
02/15/2018	Sitz Resilient 10208*	19057457	3,332
	Bar J V Angus Ranch - Fairview, MT		
	Ingalls, Dan E - Casper, WY		
	Lunds B Bar Angus - Wibaux, MT		
09/06/2013	Tehama Tahoe B767	17817177	2,411
	Midwest Genetics - Long Island, KS		
	Tehama Angus Ranch - Gerber, CA		
	VanDerVeen Farms - Phillipsburg, KS		
01/27/2020	LAR Man In Black	19955191	2,292
	ABS Global, Inc - De Forest, WI		
	Larson Angus Ranch - Sharon Springs, KS		
02/14/2019	DB Iconic G95	19611994	2,273
	Booth, Douglas Family - Torrington, WY		
	Genex Cooperative - Shawano, WI		
01/23/2016	Sitz Stellar 726D*	18397542	2,165
	ABS Global Inc - De Forest, WI		
	Sitz Angus Farm - Dillon, MT		
02/11/2019	Poss Rawhide	19416968	2,090
	Poss, Danny - Scotia, NE		
00/04/2040	Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX	100//510	2.042
09/06/2018	G A R Home Town	19266718	2,068
00/05/0015	Gardiner Angus Ranch Inc - Ashland, KS	10/00054	1.047
02/03/2017	Tehama Patriarch F028	18690054	1,943
	ABS Global, Inc De Forest, WI		
	Goode Angus - Pampa, TX		
01/07/2019	Grand Bayou Farms - Ruston, LA  Myers Fair-N-Square M39	19418329	1 000
01/07/2019	Myers Angus Farm - Harrodsburg, KY	19416329	1,900
	Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX		
11/11/2020	Connealy Commerce	20132642	1,879
11/11/2020	Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX	20132012	1,0//
02/03/2020	HPCA Veracious	19699322	1,769
02/03/2020	FB Genetics - Dumas, TX	1,0,,,,,,,	1,,0,
	Gower, Jeff - Springfield, MO		
	Hinkles Prime Cut Angus - Nevada, MO		
09/05/2021	GAR Fireproof	20370357	1,434
07/05/2021	Gardiner Angus Ranch, Inc Ashland, KS	20370337	1,131
	Goode Angus-Richardson Cattle - Pampa, TX		
	Mi-Hud Angus Ranch - Kuna, ID		
11/09/2018	Yon Top Cut G730	19476453	1,427
	Select Sires, Inc - Plain City, OH	-/	-,/
	Yon Family Farms - Ridge Spring, SC		
	Ton Laming Tanno Tuogo opinig, oo		

01/18/2021	Basin Jameson 1076  Basin Angus Ranch - Laurel, MT  Express Angus Ranches - Yukon, OK  EZ Angus Ranch - Porterville, CA	20071781	1,347
03/01/2021	Ellingson Prolific Ellingson, Chad & Julie - Saint Anthony, ND Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX	20136857	1,315
02/02/2019	S Architect 9501  Genex Cooperative - Shawano, WI Schaffs Angus Valley - Saint Anthony, ND Spickler, Justin & Sara - Glenfield, ND	19437622	1,299
01/28/2020	Hoffman Thedford  Hoffman Ranch - Thedford, NE Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX	19820180	1,272
01/09/2016	S A V Rainfall 6846  Schaff, Kurt - Kansas City, MO  Schaffs Angus Valley - Saint Anthony, ND  Square B Ranch & Cattle - Wasilla, AK	18578963	1,252
02/01/2018	Sitz Barricade 632F*  Genex Cooperative - Shawano, WI  Hoffman Ranch - Thedford, NE  Sitz Angus Farm - Dillon, MT	10978148	1,246
01/25/2021	Poss Winchester  Poss, Danny - Scotia, NE  Sexing Technologies - Navasota, TX	20060473	1,240
10/01/2019	E & B Wildcat 9402  Benoit, Everett L - Esbon, KS  Genex Cooperative - Shawano, WI	19810163	1,216
01/24/2020	BAR Dynamic  ABS Global, Inc - De Forest, WI  Brinkley, Jim & Sherry - Milan, MO	19923789	1,094





### 2025 Membership Renewal

Due Date: June 1, 2025

	Membership ades for 2025
	Return form and payment to:  Montana Angus Association PO Box 25, Whitlash, MT 59545  * Make checks payable to Montana Angus Association
Notes:	
2025 Nambarship Information	Please Note Corrections:
2025 Membership Information	Trade Trade Corrections.
Ranch Name:	
Primary Contact, Name:	
Address:	
(This address will appear on your listing)  City, State Zip:	
Primary Phone(s):	
Alternate Address:	
$\square$ Publish this address This is my: $\square$ mailing $\square$ billing $\square$ physical Fax:	
Email:	
Website:	
Social Media:	
Other Contacts:	
(Dlane list grows /gloon / word of others of files of with your	and that are are all like to have included in a commont list of limits.
(Please list name/phone/email of others allillated with your ra	anch that you would like to have included in your published listing.)
Ranch Description (optional)	Association Activities
	$\hfill \square$ I am interested in consigning to the NILE Angus Female Sale
	☐ I am interested in participating in the Montana Angus Tour Tentative schedule: 2025 South, 2026 North Central, 2027 West, 2028 North 2029 East, 2030 Midland, 2031 Central
Description will be used with your online listing. Please keep it brief, it should fit the space provided.	
Production Sale Information	
Sale Name:	Sale Name:
Winter/Spring 2025 Sale Date(s):	Summer/Fall 2025 Sale Date(s):

Time:

**Sale Location:** 

Sale Day Phone(s):

Time:

Winter/Spring 2025 Sale Date(s):

**Sale Location:** 

Sale Day Phone(s):

D Bella o	D.D., 111.:f.,
□ Bulls Quantity: Age: Aprox Wt: Avail: □ Jan □ Feb □ Mar □ Apr □ May □ Jun □ Jul □ Aug □ Sept □ Oct □ Nov □ Dec	☐ Bred Heifers Quantity: Aprox Wt: Avail: ☐ Jan ☐ Feb ☐ Mar ☐ Apr ☐ May ☐ Jun ☐ Jul ☐ Aug ☐ Sept ☐ Oct ☐ Nov ☐ Dec
Description:	Description:
☐ Bred Heifers Quantity: Aprox Wt:	Open Heifers Quantity: Aprox Wt:
Avail: $\square$ Jan $\square$ Feb $\square$ Mar $\square$ Apr $\square$ May $\square$ Jun $\square$ Jul $\square$ Aug $\square$ Sept $\square$ Oct $\square$ Nov $\square$ Dec	Avail: □ Jan □ Feb □ Mar □ Apr □ May □ Jun □ Jul □ Aug □ Sept □ Oct □ Nov □ Dec
Description:	Note:
Open Heifers Quantity: Aprox Wt: Avail: □ Jan □ Feb □ Mar □ Apr □ May □ Jun □ Jul □ Aug □ Sept □ Oct □ Nov □ Dec Description:	Cows Quantity: Age: Aprox Wt: □ Bred  Avail: □ Jan □ Feb □ Mar □ Apr □ May □ Jun □ Jul □ Aug □ Sept □ Oct □ Nov □ Dec  Description:
□ Cows Quantity: Age: Aprox Wt: □ Bred Avail: □ Jan □ Feb □ Mar □ Apr □ May □ Jun □ Jul □ Aug □ Sept □ Oct □ Nov □ Dec Description:	Location:
Location:	
* Production Sale and Private Treaty Information will be listed on the 2023-2024 on the Association website. These listings are a benefit of your membership.	Sales & Events calendar published in the Annual Directory, Montana Angus News and
Montana Angus News	
I am interested advertising in the following Montana Angus Nev	
☐ Annual Directory ☐ Sept/Oct ☐ Nov/Dec ☐ Jan/Feb ☐	
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Name:  Ranch/Business:  Address:  City, State, Zip:	Name: Ranch/Business: Address: City, State, Zip:  Montana Regional Association
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Name:  Ranch/Business:  Address:  City, State, Zip:	Name:  Ranch/Business:  Address:  City, State, Zip:  Montana Regional Association    West   North   North Central   East   South   Midland   Central   Other

# The Granddaddy of Performance Testing: Midland Bull Test's Continuing Legacy

Located in the heart of Montana's cattle country, Midland Bull Test is a premier bull testing and sale operation. Its focus on rigorous, data-driven evaluations has helped set industry standards for performance testing. Since its humble beginnings, the operation has grown in both reputation and scale, but still maintains its commitment to innovation and excellence, attracting cattle producers

from across the country who seek to improve their herds. Midland has continuously adapted to advancements in technology and changes in breeding practices. This evolution has kept Midland at the forefront of the industry, supporting the success of the producer.

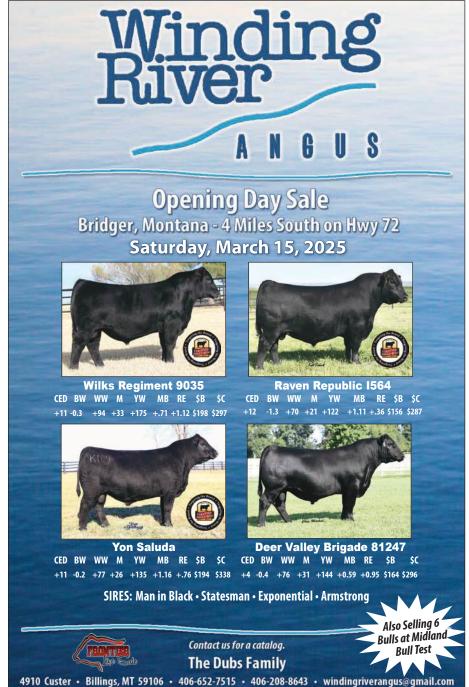
Today, Midland Bull Test remains a trusted name, known for its dedication to providing high-quality, reliable data for

producers and its unwavering support of the cattle industry. Further, their annual bull sales continue to be a highlight for those looking to invest in tested superior genetics.

For decades, the Williams and McDonnell families have run Midland, growing it into the top-notch facility we know. The history of Midland is fascinating and showcases just how much they've been able to do for the cattle industry. What we now know as Midland Bull Test started as a mere discussion in the late 1950s between a small group of purebred producers who decided it was time to start measuring genetic traits of economic importance to ranchers. These purebred breeders, or performance breeders, were comprised of breeders of all cattle breeds, many of which were from Montana. The growth of this idea has been incredible; an idea to start collecting and sharing genetic traits has evolved into a program that uses the most advanced methods possible to produce positive change in any breeding program.

Several years after the initial discussions began, in 1962, Leo McDonnell Sr. created Midland. His goal was to create a place where people could bring their bulls and compare them. Midland had its first bull sale in 1962 as well, featuring around 50 to 60 head.

However, the beginnings of performance testing were met with resistance, seeing as though it challenged a lot of the ways things had been done in the cattle industry. "It wasn't real popular, because people were used to just selling them on looks and making nice marketing claims, right?" Leo McDonnell, Leo McDonnell Sr.'s son, explains, adding that "the breed associations didn't even adopt onto it real early." At the time, genetic ability wasn't



a main factor or priority when it came to selling cattle. And, since there was resistance at the start, many different performance breeders began their own performance associations in their own states. Montana had the Montana Beef Performance Association, which was based out of Montana State University in Bozeman. The university helped collect and compute data on traits such as birth weight, weaning weight, gainability, dam production, and yearling weights.

Midland, the Montana Beef Performance Association, and several performance breeders continued to promote performance as a primary tool in managing cattle and profitability. After around 6 or 7 years, the popularity of the performance program began to pick up and producers were soon requesting these records and data. McDonnell tells me: "When they [breed associations] saw the shift coming,

it was then that the breed associations got behind it and started their own performance deals. And the state organizations kind of went their own way and faded out." This included the Montana Beef Performance Association. But, even though Montana Beef Performance is no longer in existence, many of its guidelines have been incorporated into some of the major breed performance associations.

From here, Midland grew rapidly. "As our numbers grew, we moved the full test station from east of Billings to west of Billings, over by Laurel. Then we moved up here by Columbus," McDonnell says. McDonnell and his wife, Sam, took over the operation in the mid-1980s. Together, they continued to build up Midland. Now, three generations later, the McDonnells' son, Steve Williams is running the operation alongside his wife, Amy. Even though computers have long since replaced hand-testing and manual feeding of the calves has been replaced by a feed truck and the number of bulls has grown from a few to over two-thousand bulls, Williams is still operating from that original concept.

Being in the heart of cow-calf country helped contribute to that growth. Midland also never got into feeding high-energy rations and instead focused on a high-roughage ration, which has helped them stand out from other bull testing facilities across the US. Interestingly enough, Midland was also one of the first stations to start measuring backfat. "Back then we had to do it with a mechanical kind of tool," McDonnell recalls, "I think we were also the first test station to start measuring scrotal sizes and ultrasounding for carcass traits." Anything they could find that

could be of economic relevance, Midland was testing.

Midland began looking at feed efficiency in the early 1990s. Through a lot of research, they chose to use the GrowSafe system, which is a feed intake recording system that enables continuous data acquisition, for their data collection and monitoring. McDonnell and his wife spent about a month traveling across the US and even to Canada before making the plunge. By 1999, they had put in 98 of these feed bunks. Nowadays, Midland has 7 feed bunks, or "nodes" in each pen that monitor the weight of the feed in the bunk every second. The system is equipped to read EID tags, so when an animal comes to the bunk to feed, the system is able to record his consumption for the duration of the time at the bunk. Amy Williams tells me that the system is sensitive to 10 grams, making it incredibly accurate in terms of its weight monitoring. "We take in about 7 million





bytes of data per day," McDonnell says. All cattle at Midland are on an efficiency trial for 49 days. During that time, they measure approximately 7 to 11 partial body weight measurements on each animal per day when they present to an In-Pen Weight (IPW) system to drink water. At the end of a trial, Midland also verifies its data with feed reports in order to ensure the data collected is reliable.

Further, all animals are recorded over 112 days for weight gain in order to gain a more accurate understanding of how these cattle are gaining. They measure beginning and end weights two days in a row for more accurate results. "The results of this information alone are so valuable to any breeder, but we take it many steps further to uncover as much as we possibly can about an animal's ability to produce consistent long-term valuable genetics," Amy Williams says. All of the methods of data collection and testing showcase just how much work goes into performance testing, but it also highlights just how much care goes into what Midland is doing.

Midland might see as many as 2,200 to 2,500 bulls on the place at a time. Of course, this number changes based on the year and how many bulls get placed in a pen. On top of their ability to compare how bulls grow and perform, they also offer herd testing.

Steve Williams tells me that "Midland has evolved more in the regard of what data we provide to prospective bull buyers and for the breeders themselves. In this era of genomics and indexes, it is fairly easy to get wrapped up in the data however, Midland provides data that is reflective

and transparent." Midland strives to provide an objective method by comparing the EPDs and actual performance of the bulls that producers can use to evaluate cattle and select breeding stock to meet their specific breeding program's goals. After all, breeding decisions aren't made lightly, as they'll be impacting the producer when their first calves from that decision hit the ground.

In the 63 years Midland has been in operation, one thing has remained its ultimate focus: balanced performance. Midland continues to focus on capturing and reporting the original herd data, such as birth weight and weaning weight, as well as measuring individual feed intake, monitoring gain on a standardized high roughage ration, genetic testing for defects and performance, carcass ultrasound for quality, and a thorough breeding soundness exam. They also perform assessments for resilience, structure, feet, and docility. Those at Midland continue to forge ahead in the cattle world, both in terms of their testing and in how they care for their customers. "We are very fortunate to work with a lot of top-notch, forwardminded consignors that have the same mindset," Steve Williams states. Everything is done with the producer in mind—both the consignors and the buyers. McDonnell further elaborates on the notion: "I think it's important to know [that] Midland just wasn't built by our family. Midland was built by some very dedicated performance breeders that brought their bulls in here and got this thing rolling."



When asked about Midland's future and what's next, Amy Williams tells me that "one of the most important things to know about Midland is that we don't stop here." With the producer and further improvement in mind, Midland

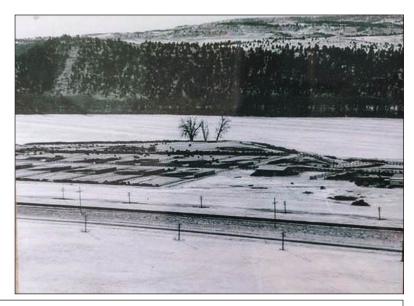
continues to participate in research, try out new products, and run tests to improve the selection process or cost-effectiveness. In terms of the future, "Midland will continue to implement and utilize data acquisition methods to identify cattle that excel in terms of economic importance," Steve Williams says.

The founding concepts of Midland Bull Test still ring true today and are



the guiding principles with which they continue to operate. But more than that, it's Midland's dedication to the producer that has ensured continued success. By prioritizing the needs of the producer, Midland Bull Test has fostered strong relationships and trust. As McDonnell says, "this whole industry starts with the rancher." Their focus on providing accurate, unbiased data helps producers make informed decisions that enhance the productivity and sustainability of their herds. This commitment to excellence and service underscores every aspect of their operations, making them a valued partner in the cattle industry.

-Written by Rebekah Clark





### February 2025

- 1 Beartooth Angus Bull & Female Sale Billings, MT (406) 794-1287 • www.BeartoothAngus.com
- 13 Wittkopp Angus Annnal Bull Sale Glasgow, MT 1pm (406) 974-3552 (406) 228-9306 www.WittkoppAngus.com
- 18 Coleman Angus Ranch Bull Sale Charlo, MT 1pm (406) 833-0117 (406) 644-2697 (406) 240-2751 www.ColemanAngus.com
- 20 VanDyke Angus Ranch Cattleman's Advantage Bull Sale Manhattan, MT • 12:30pm • (406) 580-1606 • www.VDAR.com
- 22 Never Sweat Ranch Production Sale MT Livestock Auction Ramsay, MT 1pm (406) 370-7623 www.NeverSweatRanch.com
- 24 Circle L Angus Bull Sale Dillon, MT 1pm (406) 491-7363 www.CircleLAngus.com
- 25 JC Heiken & Sons Angus Annual Production Sale Miles City Livestock • Miles City, MT • 1pm • (406) 855-7839 www.JCHeikenAngusAndSons.com
- 28 Skinner Ranch Seedstock Annual Production Sale Hall, MT 1pm • (406) 581-1852 • (406) 581-6224 • www.SkinnerRanch.com
- 28 HyLine Angus Bull Sale Manhattan, MT (406) 580-6443

#### **─** March 2025 €

- 1 Kimm Angus 'Focus on the Factory' Bull Sale Three Forks, MT • 1pm • (406) 209-2653 • (406) 580-6172
- 1 3C Cattle Annual Bull Sale Stevensville, MT 1pm (406) 360-1875 (406) 544-0043 www.3CCattleLLC.com
- 2 Stevenson Angus Spring Production Sale White Sulphur Springs, MT (406) 350-5443 www.StevensonAngus.com
- 3 Clear Creek Angus Bull Sale Chinook, MT 1pm (406) 399-0403 • (406) 399-5335 • www.ClearCreekAngus.com
- 4 Apex Angus Value Added Production Sale Valier, MT 1pm (406) 279-3350 (406) 279-3548 www.ApexAngus.com
- 5 Ox Bow Ranch Annual Bull Sale Wolf Creek, MT 1pm (406) 235-4281 www.0xBowRanchAngus.com
- 6 Split Diamond Ranch Annual Bull Sale Dillon Livestock Auction • Dillon, MT • 1pm • (406) 581-0612 • (406) 498-3005 www.SplitDiamond.com
- 6 Anderson Cattle Company Bull Sale Fallon, MT 1pm (406) 945-2657 • (406) 945-4411
- 7 Reminisce Angus Ranch Annual Bull Sale Dillon, MT 1pm (406) 925-1416 (406) 683-6363 www.RemAngus.com

- 8 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Duncan Ranch Production Sale Joplin, MT 1pm (406) 399-6300 www.DuncanRanch.com
- 8 Thousand Hills Angus Maternally Minded Bull Sale Headwaters Livestock Three Forks, MT 1pm (406) 581-2078 www.ThousandHillsAngus.com
- 10 Pine Coulee Angus Annual Bull Sale Wagon Box Ranch Hardin, MT • 12pm • (406) 855-2832 • (406) 780-1230 www.PineCoulee.com
- 11 Veltkamp Angus Annual Bull Sale Manahttan, MT 1pm (406) 539-8564 www.VeltkampAngus.com
- 12 Sitz Angus Ranch Spring Bull Sale Dillon, MT 12:30pm (406) 683-5277 www.SitzAngus.com
- 13 Wheeler Mountain Angus Bull Sale Whitehall, MT (406) 490-2734 www.WheelerMountainRanch.com
- 14 Green Mountain Angus Ranch Spring Sale PAYS 1pm • (406) 220-1915 • www.GreenMountainAngus.com
- 15 South Montana Angus Association Bull Sale Ramsay, MT • 1pm • (406) 580-6973
- 15 Gnerer Angus Bull Sale Olive, MT 1pm (406) 498-6113 www.GnererAngus.com
- 15 Winding River Angus Private Treaty Opening Day
  Bridger, MT 12pm (406) 208-8643 www.WindingRiverAngus.com
- 17 Whistling Winds Angus Bull Sale Hingham, MT 1pm (406) 390-1471 www.WhistlingWindsAngus.com
- 18 Rocking L Genetics & Snowy Mountain Angus Sale Lewistown Livestock • Lewistown, MT • 1pm • (406) 350-1059
- 18 Blevins Angus Ranch Bull Sale 5 Valleys Livestock, Missoula, MT 1pm (406) 728-3052 www.BlevinsAngusRanch.com
- 19 Stevenson's Diamond Dot "Bulls & Beers Sale" Sale
  Hobson, MT 4:30pm (406) 366-9023
  www.StevensonsDiamondDot.com
- 21 Montana Performance Bull Coop w/ Basin Angus
  Midland Bull Test Columbus, MT 1pm (406) 350-0350
  www.BasinAngus.com
- 20 Malek Angus Bull Sale Highwood, MT 1pm (406) 899-4360 www.MalekAngusRanch.net
- 22 Lund's B Bar Angus Annual Bull Sale Bull Palace Baker, MT 1pm (406) 978-3634 (406) 978-3633 www.LundsBBarAngus.com
- 23 Larsen Ranch Angus 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Bull Sale Forsyth, MT 1pm (406) 351-1412 (406) 351-9828 www.LarsenRanch.com



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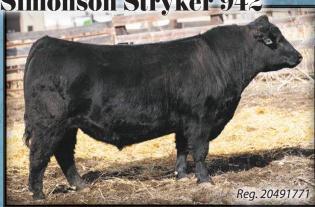
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arntzen@mtintouch.net www.arntzenangus.com APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2025 • 1:00 P.M. 49th Annual Production Sale at the ranch

Selling 210 Bulls & 20 Top End Yearling Heifers All bulls have genomicaly enhanced EPDs.

# ~Event (Alendar

- 24 Cole Creek Angus Ranch Annual Bull Sale Midland Bull
  Test Columbus, MT 1pm (406) 839-7588 (406) 694-7254
  www.ColeCreekAngusRanch.com
- 25 Bar JV Angus Bull Sale Fairview, MT 1pm (406) 798-3506 (406) 798-3653 www.BarJVAngus.com
- 26 Peterson Grain & Cattle Bull Sale Havre, MT 1pm (406) 945-0544 (406) 945-2717 (406) 945-1335 www.PetersonGrainAndCattle.com
- 27 Cactus Cattle Company Bull Sale Location: TBD

  1pm (406) 891-5811 (406) 971-5811 www.CactusCattleCo.com
- 27 Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch Annual Bull Sale Sidney, MT • 1pm • (406) 798-3355 • (406) 798-3541 www.GDAR-Angus.com
- 27-28 Vermilion Ranch Angus Spring Production Sale PAYS Billings, MT 11 am (406) 670-0078 www.VermilionAngus.com



- 1 Hinman Angus Annual Bull Sale Malta, MT 1pm (406) 654-1809 • www.HinmanAngus.com
- 2 Nissen Angus Annual Production Sale Chinook, MT 1pm (406) 949-1101 (406) 262-4125 www.NissenAngus.com
- 2 Pleasant Valley Angus Bull Sale Sidney, MT 1 pm (406) 489-0809
- 3 Arntzen Angus Ranch Production Sale Hilger, MT 1pm (406) 462-5557 www.ArntzenAngus.com
- 4 Midland Bull Test Angus Day Midland Bull Test Columbus, MT 11 am (406) 322-9911 (406) 322-5597 www.MidlandBullTest.com

- 7 Fitzsimmons Baltrusch Angus Production Sale Havre, MT 1pm (406) 570-8646 www.FBARanch.com
- 8 Hilltop Angus Ranch Denton, MT 1pm (406) 366-3461 www.HilltopAngus.com
- 9 Pass Creek Angus Bull Sale Wyola, MT 1pm (406) 343-2551 • www.PassCreekAngus.com
- 10 Carr Angus Ranch Bull Sale Hobson, MT 1pm (406) 570-4264 www.CarrAngus.com
- 11 Regency Acres Bull Sale Sidney, MT 1pm (406) 480-5988 www.RegencyAcres.com
- 12 Math Farms Angus Bull Sale Glasgow, MT 1pm (406) 674-5562 www.MathFarms.com
- 14 **C Spear Angus Annual Bull Sale** Billings, MT 1pm (406) 670-0689 (406) 670-6311
- 15 Treasure Test Bull Sale Western Livestock Great Falls, MT 1pm (406) 788-9869 www.TreasureBullTest.com
- 16 Milk River Bull Sale Chinook, MT 1pm
- 17 Big Dry Angus Ranch Bull Sale Glasgow, MT 1pm (406) 977-2778 www.BigDryAngus.com
- 18 Timber Line Ranch "Bred for Business" Bull Sale Manhattan, MT • 1pm • (406) 581-4764 www.TimberLineAngus.com
- 18 DeGrand Angus Bull Sale Baker, MT 1pm (406) 978-6423 www.DeGrandAngus.com
- 24 North Country Bull Sale Glasgow, MT 1pm (406) 724-3322 (406) 853-5130 www.NorthBenchLivestock.com

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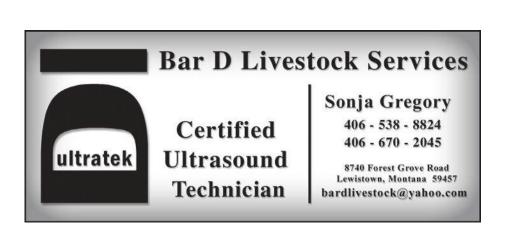




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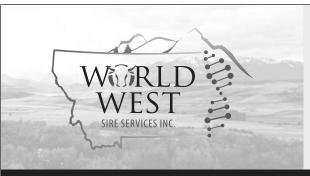
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- 19 Miske Angus Ranch Glendive, MT
- 20 VanDyke Angus Ranch Manhattan, MT
- 22 Never Sweat Ranch Missoula, MT
- 25 Connelly Angus Ranch Valier, MT
- 26 Stortz Angus Ranch Glendive, MT

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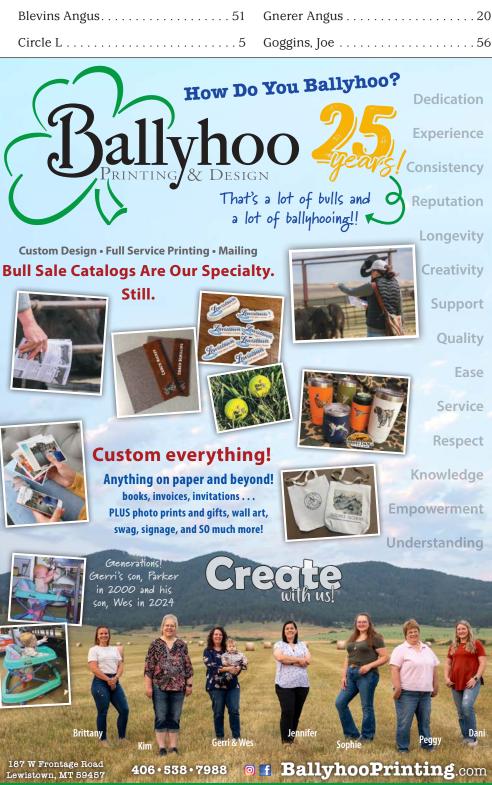
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- 2 Stevenson Angus White Sulphur Springs, MT
- 4 Apex Angus Ranch Valier, MT
- 5 Ox Bow Ranch Wolf Creek, MT
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- 24 Larsen Ranch Angus
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- 28 Vermilion Ranch Billings, MT



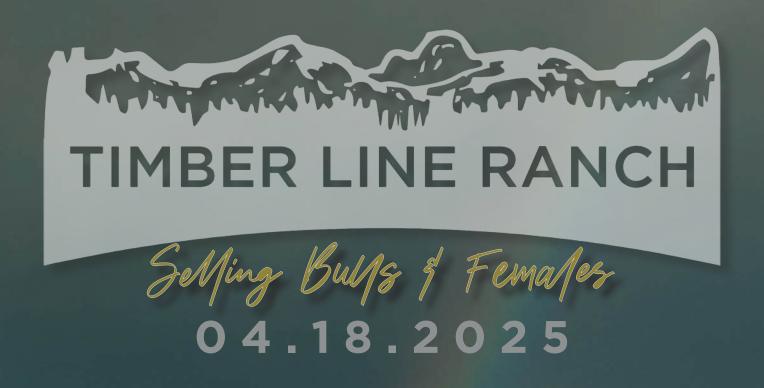


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reg: +20307818 calved: 09/02/21 tattoo: 1818

Basin Payweight 1682# Deer Valley Growth Fund Deer Valley Rita 36113

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HA Rito Lady 3839

HA Rito Lady 0622

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#### SITZ Impact 728K

reg: 20288124 calved: 01/19/22 tattoo: 728K

Poss Achievement#
Sitz Accomplishment 720F
Sitz Barbaramere Nell 166D

Sitz Stellar 726D# SITZ Blackbird 6G Sitz Blackbird 51E <u>Owned by</u> Hilltop Angus Sitz Angus

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**Annual Production Sale** 

**Tuesday** 

APRIL 8

Lunch at Noon Sale at 1:00 p.m. 2025

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58<sup>th</sup>Annual Production Sale March 27, 2025 250 Yearling Bulls 250 Commercial Heifers

1:00 MDT at the ranch • Sidney, MT