

# The Cattleman



November 2016 ★ [tscra.org](http://tscra.org) ★ 800-242-7820

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Grounds Passes Offered for FWSSR



TSCRA has teamed up with the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo (FWSSR) to offer TSCRA members free grounds admission for the full run of the 2017 event. Each membership is eligible to receive 2 grounds passes.

The passes are your admission onto the grounds and should be redeemed for a TSCRA commemorative pin in the International Suite located in the Richardson-Bass Building. The pin will serve as your pass, but quantities are limited. After the pins run out, members will receive a nametag good for the season grounds admission. Commemorative pins are only available through this program. The deadline to request passes is Dec. 31, 2016. After Dec. 31, no passes will be distributed.

Please have your TSCRA member number ready to order online at [tscra.org](http://tscra.org) or find a form in your November issue of *The Cattleman* magazine.

### TSCRA Adopts New Policies During Conference in Austin

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) hosted its annual Policy Conference Sept. 28-30 in Austin, and adopted new policies related to surface water rights, beef sustainability and cash settlement of live cattle contracts. More than 300 TSCRA members and guests attended this year's conference.

TSCRA adopted surface water rights policy supporting the "Prior Appropriation Doctrine," otherwise known as "first in time - first in right," surface water right system in Texas. The policy opposes legislative and regulatory changes to the surface water rights system that would negatively affect agricultural producers. This action also supports the protection of surface water right holders from any efforts or initiatives that would negatively affect surface water flow and remove or diminish the availability of surface water regulated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

TSCRA also adopted new policy to ensure the beef industry's leadership role in the growing global conversation about the topic of sustainably produced beef.

TSCRA approved another policy regarding cash settlement of live cattle contracts, which serves to promote convergence of cash and futures prices and produce a more consistent basis. The new policy states that TSCRA opposes any changes by the CME Group that would create a cash settlement process for live cattle in place of live delivery, or any contract changes that would adversely affect a cattle producer's ability to deliver on live cattle contracts.

### Health Insurance Open Enrollment Begins This Month

The Affordable Health Care Act allows U.S. citizens under age 65 to change individual health care coverage from Nov. 1, 2016, until Jan. 31, 2017, even if you have not experienced a "qualifying event" such as marriage, divorce or death.

Cattle Raisers Insurance staff can help you review your options at any time of the year. However, if you have not experienced a qualifying event, the only time you may change your current individual health care coverage is from Nov. 1, 2016, to Jan. 31, 2017. We encourage you to contact us before the Jan. 31, 2017 cutoff, so we can help you review the plan options and make the earliest change possible.

For more information, contact Cattle Raisers Insurance staff at 800-252-2849 or visit [cattleraisersinsurance.com](http://cattleraisersinsurance.com).

## Crime Watch: Cattle Stolen in North Texas

TSCRA Special Ranger John Bradshaw, Dist. 9 in North Texas, and Wise County law enforcement are seeking information regarding the theft of approximately 10 head of black Angus cattle from a Denton rancher around Oct. 1.

On Sept. 30, the victim's son checked on a pasture on County Road 2740 in the northeast area of Wise County, next to Cooke and Denton counties. The chain and gate were damaged and left unlatched, but it was dark, so he could not tell if any cattle were missing. The next morning, the victim checked the pasture and realized some of the cattle were missing.

The cattle are black Angus with no marks or brands, weighing between 400 and 500 pounds each. Most were bulls, but there might be a few heifers in the group.

Anyone with information on this case is urged to call Special Ranger Bradshaw at 940-389-6123.

## Reward Offered in Case of Missing Mare

TSCRA Special Ranger Harold Dempsey, Dist. 1 in the Texas Panhandle, reports the theft of a 13-year-old bred mare from a property in Dallam County.

The mare is an unbranded AQHA registered bay roan with a white star on her forehead and a black mane and tail. She is 14.3 hands high and weighs 1100 to 1200 pounds. A reward of \$10,000 has been offered for her return or information leading to the mare's recovery.

Tipsters are urged to contact Special Ranger Dempsey at 806-356-6101 or the Operation Cow Thief hotline at 888-830-2333. Anonymity is guaranteed.

## Cattle Raisers Museum Closes for Renovation

The Cattle Raisers Museum has begun renovation of its galleries and public spaces inside the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History (FWMSH). The museum closed Oct. 11, 2016, and is scheduled to reopen in May 2017, with new interactive galleries and exhibits enhancing the stories of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA).

The renovations will be the first major update for the Cattle Raisers Museum since it opened inside the FWMSH in 2009. An interactive chronological timeline interwoven with artifacts and exhibits will allow visitors to understand important historical markers beginning in the late 1600s through present, and will include information on the history of cattle raising in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

In 1979, TSCRA members formed the TSCR Foundation and followed with the Cattle Raisers Museum in 1981, focusing on the history and culture of this iconic industry. For nearly 30 years, the museum was located at the association's headquarters on West Seventh Street until it moved into the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.

Visit [cattleraisersmuseum.org](http://cattleraisersmuseum.org) for renovation updates, or catch them on Facebook and Twitter.

## BQA Program

Are you a certified Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) producer? If not, the training is free and available online or in person at select meetings across the state. Visit [texasbeefquality.com](http://texasbeefquality.com) for more information.

### TSCRA EVENT CALENDAR

*You're welcome to attend!*

- Nov. 1: Ranch Gathering - San Angelo
- Nov. 3: Ranch Gathering & Bull Selection Seminar – Crockett
- Nov. 4: Ranch Gathering – McKinney
- Nov. 7: Ranch Gathering – Bandera
- Nov. 10: Wichita Falls Cattleman's Luncheon - Wichita Falls
- Nov. 15: Ranching 101: Ranch Accounting and Taxes - Fort Worth

TSCRA members — ask about discounts from the following partners!