

News from University of Missouri Extension – Adair County



Dr. Fon E. Owings named 2017 Missouri Livestock Person of the Year

Dr. Fon E. Owings, a long-time veterinarian from Unionville, MO, will be honored at the 2017 Missouri Livestock Symposium on Friday, December 1, 2017, when he will be inducted into the Missouri Livestock Symposium's Livestock Person of the Year Hall of Fame. Hill is the 15th person to be selected for this honor. Those selected have made significant contributions to the livestock industry in northeast Missouri and beyond.

Dr. Owings was born and raised in Putnam County and graduated from Unionville High School with the class of 1947. After high school he attended the University of Missouri School of Veterinary Medicine and graduated with the class of 1955. Dr. Owings opened a private veterinary clinic in Unionville, which he has continued to run for the past 59+ years.

He is a lifetime member of the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association, served on numerous committees of the Missouri Veterinary Association, and is an honor roll member of the American Veterinary Association. He was Veterinarian in Charge for the Putnam County Feeder Calf Sale from 1960-1990, Unionville Livestock Market and Unionville Sale Barn for 55 years and the Centerville Livestock Market in Centerville, IA for 30 years.

Dr. Owings was also a member of the Unionville City Council, serving as Mayor of Unionville for two terms in the 70's. Other roles in the community include Country Club board member; member of the Board of Directors at Farmers Bank; 4-H beef project leader; avid supporter of the Putnam County Jr. Livestock Sale; and member of the Putnam County Booster Club.

Over the years, Dr. Owings has received many awards, including the Farmers Friend of the Year Award, Putnam County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Month; Grand Marshall of the Putnam County R-I Homecoming Parade (1970s); Putnam County Elementary Character Education Award; and honored at the Missouri Livestock Symposium in Kirksville.

He and his wife Norma worked together in his veterinary clinic and raised three boys and one girl. If you were a farmer in Putnam County, you probably had Dr. Owings work on your cattle.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium is proud to add Dr. Fon E. Owings to the Missouri Livestock Symposium's Hall of Fame and recognize him as the 2017 Missouri Livestock Person of the Year.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium will be held Friday, December 1 from 4 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, December 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Symposium features nationally known speakers on beef cattle, horses, forages, sheep, meat goats, stock dogs, around the farm and home topics and more. It also features a free dinner on Friday evening, December 1 and a free Governor's Style Luncheon on Saturday, December 2 at noon. No registration is required to attend and there is no cost to attend.

For additional information on the Symposium program or trade show, visit our Facebook page, visit our webpage at www.missourilivestock.com or call the Adair County Extension Center at 660-665-9866.

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