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## **Myers Family Donates Santa Gertrudis Bull Statue to Texas A&M University**

**COLLEGE STATION, Texas-** Mark and Karen Myers of Myers Cattle and Land Corporation have donated a large bronze statue to Texas A&M University in honor of Carroll D. Myers. The statue of the Santa Gertrudis bull is displayed at the west entrance of the newly opened Veterinary and Biomedical Education Complex, which is part of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. The statue, which measures 9 feet tall by 9 feet long, was installed Nov. 4, and was ready for the grand opening of the \$120 million state-of-the-art facility Nov. 11.

Mark Myers says the statue represents the spirit of the Running M Ranch and Myers Cattle and Land. "It is strong, tough and muscular, with a fierce and determined look. It is competitive and relentless in its pursuits, yet kind and tender hearted," Myers explains. "It is positioned as if approaching the top of a mountain crest, looking down and over its offspring that will follow over the years."

Texas artist Payne Lara designed and created the 1,800 pound golden bronze statue with input from Mark Myers, in honor of his father, Carroll D. Myers, and his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

"It has the Myers Cattle and Land "Running M" branded on its left hip along with the numbers 830 over 33 signifying my father's birthday, August 30, 1933, and representing all of the traits that he has left for all of us – such the name of the bull being Legacy," Myers says.

Myers says the statue is also dedicated to the students, faculty and staff of Texas A&M University. "It is our hope that all who pass through the west entrance of the impressive new college will look at this magnificent Santa Gertrudis bull and be inspired to excel and lead in everything that they do in the spirit of a great teacher, taking time to make sure all have an opportunity to learn," Myers says.

Having a statue of a Santa Gertrudis bull present at the new facility brings added recognition for the breed. "This college could have selected any species of animal that it wanted, as they serve the entire animal kingdom, so in that vein it is incredibly important that they selected a bovine, and specifically a Santa Gertrudis bull," Myers says.

John Ford, executive director of Santa Gertrudis Breeders International (SGBI), is very pleased that the Santa Gertrudis breed is represented at the new facility. "Words do not describe the pride felt by members of SGBI that the first breed developed in the United States and recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture welcomes students and visitors to the College of Veterinary Medicine Complex," Ford says. "We recognize the science of animal agriculture is constantly evolving and are pleased that our breed is represented as a model for progress at a leading institution."

Ford is thankful for the Myers' support of the Santa Gertrudis breed. "I and all members of SGBI are extremely appreciative of the support given by the Myers family to the association. Their devotion and dedication to promoting the breed can't be measured, and we as an association are grateful for all the family does to strengthen the breed's industry presence."

For additional information on Santa Gertrudis cattle or this donation, contact John Ford at [jford@santagertrudis.com](mailto:jford@santagertrudis.com) or visit [www.santagertrudis.com](http://www.santagertrudis.com).

SGBI provides progressive leadership, services, programs and technology to promote and broaden the long-term profitability of Santa Gertrudis-influenced cattle within the beef industry by being member-driven and consumer-focused. SGBI's vision is to provide superior member service, actively seek and use partnerships to leverage success and maintain a focus on profitability for members and their customers. Santa Gertrudis ... the preferred American Beef Breed.

The Myers family has spent nearly a decade committed to breeding the highest-quality Santa Gertrudis cattle possible. Established in 1937 in Kendall County, Texas, Myers Cattle and Land had Herefords as the original cattle on the ranch, and it remained that way until Carroll Myers Jr. introduced the first Santa Gertrudis bull to the herd. Myers Cattle and Land utilizes artificial insemination, embryo transfer, genomic selection and other state-of-the-art technologies to produce the highest-quality Santa Gertrudis cattle. Foundation bloodlines and years of continued scientific breeding have resulted in 76 years of producing top-quality Santa Gertrudis cattle and a legacy of excellence in the cattle industry.

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