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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Iowa Pork Congress

At IPIC, we're getting ready for our part of the trade show during the 2009 Iowa Pork Congress in Des Moines this week. Set-up is tomorrow in HyVee Hall, and the event runs Wednesday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday, Jan. 29, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Colin Johnson has worked with IPPA to organize the ISU area in the comfortable (couches, desk and nearby Internet connections) atmosphere you might remember from the past few years. We'll have new software to show you, the latest listing of swine research and extension faculty and staff at ISU, promotional materials, and registration opportunities for the Iowa Pork Regional Conferences in late February and the distance educational series PorkBridge. You'll see and hear from many of us in the various seminars and educational opportunities at IPC, and we encourage you to stop by the ISU area for a visit. We're in booth 1127, same location as the past few years, in the northwest corner of the trade show in HyVee Hall. Hope to see you there!

NEWS

Welcome to Leah Henkes

Please meet our second spring semester 2009 Science With Practice student, Leah Henkes.

Hi, I am Leah Henkes, working as a Science with Practice student this semester for IPIC. I am a first year student at ISU but am classified as a sophomore because I earned 21 college credits during high school. I am a Dairy Science major with Journalism as a minor. My brother and I are the 6th generation to live on my family farm near Luana, Iowa, where we milk 50 Registered Holsteins. My family's major income derives from embryo transfer work. We sell Holstein bulls to stud services and export embryos around the world. I was active in 4-H, including being on the 2007-2008 Iowa State 4-H Council. I also am involved with showing registered Holsteins at the Iowa State Fair and World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis. I am excited to broaden my agriculture knowledge through working for the Iowa Pork Industry Center.

"Choose Canadian" program is working

The national voluntary labeling initiative "Choose Canadian" is doing what developers hoped: keeping the domestic pork products in front of potential customers in retail meat cases. The program label features the Canadian flag and the words "Canadian Pork-Porc Canadien." This makes it easy to see and identify pork produced in Canada as opposed to that imported from the U.S. and other countries. You can read

more about results of marketing surveys done by the host Pork Marketing Canada program on the Farmscape.ca Web site here <http://sn.im/ar7ix>

More Iowa counties choosing to use Master Matrix

As of Jan. 20, more than two-thirds of Iowa counties (68 of 99) have adopted the construction evaluation resolution that allows them to use the "master matrix" scoring system to evaluate the siting of permitted confinement feeding operations. Counties must readopt the resolution each year between January 1 and January 31 if they want to continue using it. See the Iowa map of counties here <http://sn.im/9xzpj>

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IT'S A DATE

Continuing. PQAPlus certification sessions. See the IPIC web site here <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPlus.html> for date, location and contact information.

Continuing. FSQA training and testing sessions for Iowa 4-H'ers. See the IPIC web site here <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA09.html> for date, location and contact information

Continuing. 2009 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops. These workshops are scheduled for January and February throughout Iowa. See the list of dates, times and locations here <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/2009ConfineSP277.pdf>

Jan. 28-29. Iowa Pork Congress. Hy-Vee Hall, Iowa Events Center. Des Moines. See IPIC in the Iowa State University area, booth 1127 along the north side of the building. See links to the exhibitor listing, seminar schedule, new product showcase and more on the IPC Web site <http://www.iowaporkcongress.org/>

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DID YOU KNOW?

Vilsack names advisors at USDA

Former Iowa governor and current U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack has named his top advisors. New chief of staff John Norris was Vilsack's first chief of staff in 1999, and has been chairman of the Iowa Utilities Board since 2005. Vilsack's new deputy chief of staff Carole Jett of Indiana most recently served as Co-Lead of the President's Transition Team USDA Agency Review Group and was on the Obama Agriculture campaign team in Indiana. Read more in this news release on the USDA Web site <http://sn.im/ar5o4>

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FOR THE RECORD

Once was not enough

Last year, the fall ag career day for ISU's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences drew so much interest and participation that the college's career services office scheduled the first spring career fair. This school year continues the trend, even with a slight impact from the nation's economic downturn. Career services director Mike Gaul said about 75 employers have confirmed their attendance at this year's event, and he expects a total of between 80 and 90 companies and organizations. The fair runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb. 4 in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union on campus. You can see the list of confirmed employers on the career service's Web site here <http://sn.im/4j6vn>

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NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
Editor Sherry Hoyer, phone 515-294-4496, shoyer@iastate.edu

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