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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
IPIC director interview
Next week is a two-day interview process for the candidate for the IPIC director/ ISU animal science swine faculty position. Tim Safranski, associate professor and state extension swine breeding specialist at the University of Missouri, will be on campus for meetings with faculty, staff, administrators, and stakeholders. A seminar is set for Wednesday, April 9 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Ensminger Room in Kildee Hall. After John Mabry stepped down as director in 2012, Butch Baker served as interim director for two years. Jay Harmon currently is IPIC interim director.

NEWS
PEDv -- it’s still around
While it’s possible the worst of PEDv has passed by much of the U.S., this doesn’t mean it’s okay to back off the biosecurity. And the National Pork Board continues to fund research and share findings, updates and information through its website here [http://www.pork.org/pork-checkoff-research/pedv/](http://www.pork.org/pork-checkoff-research/pedv/) From that page, click on research and then choose PEDV 2015 Research to see categories funded this year. Nine projects (including one with Derald Holtkamp from Iowa State) are listed under the general research section and one under the feed section.
Online diagnostic tool from pig333.com
An online tool to help producers narrow disease possibilities in their herds is now available from pig333.com at this URL https://www.pig333.com/ediagnostics/ There's a short list on the instructions panel with the caution that the tool is to be used only as a guide. Choose the diagnosis tab and begin the process with pig age and associated questions and signs. When you've made those choices, possible diseases will be listed directly under that section. One note: when you're on the diagnosis tab, the "clean" button on the lower left means to clear all your choices and start over.

PRODUCTION TIP
Manure and nutrient information at your fingertips
As spring rains come, producers are checking their operations --including their manure and nutrient storage facilities -- to be ready for the coming warm weather. And the Iowa Manure Management Action Group’s website is a great place to go for all kinds of nutrient-related information. This specific page http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/ppr.html provides a comprehensive collection of sources and resources for determining the size and classification of an operation, defining your operation’s specific requirements and needs, and contacting those in governmental and related agencies who can best assist with general and specific questions. Look for the “Subscriptions” line in the left column to sign up for a free monthly email newsletter.

IT’S A DATE
Continuing. PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions. See the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPlus.html for dates, locations and contact information.

Continuing. Food Safety Quality Assurance trainings for Iowa 4-H and other youth. See the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA.html for dates, locations and contact information.

April 8-9. Interview for IPIC director/ISU animal science faculty position with candidate Tim Safranski. Currently, TIm is associate professor and state extension swine breeding specialist at University of Missouri.

April 15. PQAPPlus 2.0 Advisor Certification session. Hansen Ag Student Learning Center, Ames. Applicants must submit two-page form by April 1. Download form here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/PQAP2app041515.docx
DID YOU KNOW?
The right pig for the job
Texas native Norman recently passed all requirements to become a registered Therapy Animal, and he and his handler are already at work. The team also attends trainings at a local therapy animal group, and has performed at various functions as well. However, Norman isn’t your regular therapy dog. In fact, he’s not a dog at all. Norman is a one-year-old Juliana Pig (also known as a Miniature Painted Pig.) Read more about Norman and what he does in this article on the Dallas News website. http://petsinsidersblog.dallasnews.com/2015/03/oink-pet-pig-norman-is-launching-a-new-career-as-therapy-animal.html/.

FOR THE RECORD
Pork sales meets aggressive consumer spending goal
The National Pork Board announced that in 2014, its long-term goal of increasing per capita consumer spending on pork by 10 percent was achieved. While 10 percent growth seemed like a daunting goal in 2009, the actual total consumer spending has grown 15.7 percent during this time period, and 7.6 percent just from 2013 to 2014. In spite of record-high pork prices, consumer demand has stayed strong and even increased. However, with more pork expected to be available later this year, NPB acknowledges the continuing need to promote pork to existing and new consumer groups to ensure continued success in the marketplace. To see the latest U.S. pork export numbers, see the March 2015 monthly report on the U.S. Meat Export Federation website (find pork starting on page 3) http://www.usmef.org.cn/pic/201405071011134797.pdf

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