THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Congratulations to Iowa State students

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- 2015 Best Breaded Pork Tenderloin Contest is open

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- Is bacon on the way out?

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Congratulations to Iowa State students
As the Iowa State 2014-2015 academic year ends, thoughts of returning students turn to -- scholarships and fellowships, of course! Our congratulations to the following recipients working toward agricultural majors, both undergrad and graduates.

From Iowa Pork Producers Association, these four receive $1,000 each as ISU freshmen this fall: Chance Cook, Independence, agronomy; Nicholas Schroeder, Le Mars, animal science/agronomy; Jolee Wessling, Grand Junction, agriculture business; and Trent Westhoff, Dyersville, animal science/pre-vet. IPPA also will provide $1,500 each to six current Iowa State students: Caleb Beer, DeWitt, animal science; Levi Cook, Hubbard, agriculture business; Abigail Collison, Rockwell City, animal science; Garrett Gourley, Webster City, animal science; Mary Heiller, Ames, animal science; and Mitchell Juhl, Ames, agriculture business.

From IPPA and the Iowa Pork Foundation, these two current ISU graduate students each received a $2,500 Nelda Christian Graduate Fellowship: Emily Mauch, Ames, PhD, interdepartmental genetics; and Chris Sievers, Albert City, degree of vet medicine, master's in preventative animal medicine.

Through the Iowa State animal science department: Jacob Seibert received the $1,000 Arthur and Muriel Anderson Scholarship for excellence in academic performance and significant accomplishment in research relative to swine science and/or swine nutrition; and Denise Beam and Joe Stock each received a $3,000 Lauren L. Christian Graduate Fellowship for excellence in academic performance and
outstanding leadership in extracurricular activities relating to swine. The pork production future is bright, thanks to the dedication, determination and hard work by these students.

NEWS
New livestock production cost estimates publication available
A new publication on estimating cost of production for a variety of livestock operations is now available through the Ag Decision Maker website. “Livestock Enterprise Budgets for Iowa - 2015 (File B1-21)” includes various budget tables based on data from farm record summaries, feed consumption research and price projection. Iowa State extension farm management field specialist Shane Ellis and extension economist Lee Schulz created the publication and are available to answer questions through contact info on the publication page http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/livestock/html/b1-21.html Be aware that provided data should be used for planning purposes only. Users should enter their own expected costs and input numbers whenever possible.

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2015 Best Breaded Pork Tenderloin Contest is open
The 13th annual Best Breaded Pork Tenderloin Contest is open for nominations through June 8. A slight change in the judging process this year provides even more opportunity for your favorite tenderloin to be ranked among the top in the state. The top five most-nominated restaurants in each of the eight IPPA districts will be judged. This means the judging panel will visit a total of 40 establishments later this year. The team will evaluate the tenderloins on pork quality, taste, physical characteristics and eating experience. The winning restaurant receives $500, a plaque and banner to display, statewide publicity and, obviously, bragging rights for the coming year. (See the list of past winners.) Don’t have a favorite yet? Get out there and try ’em all. Although nominations are limited to one per household, one lucky person who nominates the eventual winner will receive $100. Nominate your favorite on the IPPA website http://www.iowapork.org/AllAboutPork/4955/2015IPPATenderloinContest.aspx#.VUOIUVjQOUk

PRODUCTION TIP
Plan ahead to lessen transport stress
Transportation can be stressful for pigs and people, but it’s crucial to minimize stress in order to lower morbidity and improve everyone’s well-being. Minimizing stress starts long before animals are moved. It’s important to walk through pens daily and handle the pigs to get them used to positive interaction.
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.

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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.

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June 3-5. World Pork Expo. Iowa State Fair Grounds, Des Moines.

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DID YOU KNOW?
Zoetis caregiver award contest now open
Through June 22, you’re encouraged to submit nominations for the Zoetis Honoring Caregivers Award. Those who submit nominations must be at least 21 years old at time of entry and those who are nominated must be at least 21 by June 30, 2015. The award recognizes those working in a pork production operation who exemplify superior pig care and make positive contributions to the pork industry. Five grand prize winners will each receive a check for $1,000 and a trip to the Zoetis award ceremony in the New York City area in October of this year. Nominations are due June 22 and grand prize winners will be selected around July 24. Winners will be notified within two weeks of the selection. Go to the Zoetis website http://o.zoetisus.com/honoring-caregivers.html to read more about the contest, including a link to the contest rules and a link to the online nomination form. The contest rules have info on how to submit a nomination by regular U.S. mail.

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FOR THE RECORD
Is bacon on the way out?
Not according to Cargill Pork, which recently doubled its bacon production capabilities at its Ottumwa plant. The increased capacity is available because of a newly completed expansion project at the plant that sits on a 10-acre site. More than 2,300 people work at this pork processing plant that slaughters up to 19,000 hogs daily. One side note — Cargill Pork recognizes the local importance of bacon, too. The company started a Bacon Fest in Ottumwa last year that was attended by 4,000 people.

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