THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Congratulations

NEWS
- USDA projects higher red meat production in 2017
- Danish firm helping increase Chinese production

PRODUCTION TIP
- Pork quality: it’s good for producers and consumers

IT’S A DATE
- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- FSQA sessions for 4-H and other youth
- Common Swine Industry Audit sessions
- PQA 3.0 Advisor certification sessions
- Iowa Swine Day

DID YOU KNOW?
- Legislation introduced to help 4-H and FFA youth

FOR THE RECORD
- IPIC is hiring for two positions

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Congratulations
Congratulations to these recently named winners of awards from ISU’s ag honor society, Gamma Sigma Delta. Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey received the 2016 Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award. This award recognizes an outstanding individual for distinguished achievement in agriculture over a sustained period of time. Northey is a 1981 ISU graduate in ag business. Animal science professor John Patience received the organization’s Research Mission Award, Jack Dekkers, distinguished professor in animal science received the International Mission Award, and senior animal science student Sarah Myers of Sabula received the senior scholarship which goes to the student with the highest grade point average in the senior class.
Also, a small pat on the back to ourselves as this issue of NEWS NOW is the first of our 16th year of bringing information and awareness to subscribers. This newsletter is for you, and we couldn’t make it happen without your support. Here’s to another great year of news for you.
NEWS
USDA projects higher red meat production in 2017
According to the USDA’s monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates Report (WASDE) for May, total red meat production in 2017 is expected to be higher than this year. This is partly due to larger current and recent beef calf crops, higher beef and pork carcass weights, and more pigs per litter. It’s also a reflection on the lowered total red meat production forecast for 2016. Prices are expected to decrease because of more supplies of red meat, and imports of beef and pork are expected to decline. Read more about the WASDE on this USDA web page http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/index.htm which includes links to each report and to subscribe to email alerts.

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Danish firm helping increase Chinese production
The DanAvi breeding company from Denmark is building on its initial investment in Chinese pork production through a new facility, the Dan Yu Breeding Farm. An article from Pig Progress takes a look inside the company and the facility through an interview with CEO Jørgen Lindberg who runs three initiatives in China. From the very beginning, Lindberg says, the location, building, technology, biosecurity and operations, all are Denmark-specific and run with exacting management. You can read more about this venture on the Pig Progress website here http://www.pigprogress.net/Sows/Articles/2016/4/Danish-pig-production-in-China-2777896W/

PRODUCTION TIP
Pork quality: it’s good for producers and consumers
Pork quality is a factor of the yield, wholesomeness and eating characteristics of pork. High yielding carcasses return a premium to producers. Low yielding carcasses are a result of gut fill, high fat content, or trim loss associated with bruising or injury. The eating characteristics of tenderness, juiciness and marbling are just a few of the many consumer benefits provided by pork producers using modern genetics, feeding and management practices.

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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Ongoing through July 6. Common Swine Industry Audit sessions. No cost, but preregister to ensure your space at these limited attendance sessions, sponsored by IPIC, ISUEO and IPPA. [http://www.iowapork.org/common-swine-industry-audit-training-sessions-offered-2/](http://www.iowapork.org/common-swine-industry-audit-training-sessions-offered-2/)

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June 30. Iowa Swine Day. Iowa State University. Registrations now open

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**DID YOU KNOW?**
Legislation introduced to help 4-H and FFA youth
U.S. Senator Jerry Moran of Kansas, and U.S. Senator Joni Ernst of Iowa, teamed up to introduce the Agriculture Students Encourage, Acknowledge, Reward, and Nurture Act. This bill is an amendment to the current tax code to exclude the first $5,000 of gross income on agricultural projects under 4-H or FFA supervision, for youth 18 years or younger. The senators said this amendment will help promote the agricultural industry by allowing 4-H and FFA students to stay actively engaged with vocational and educational agriculture. With the demand for farmers increasing, this also could potentially increase the amount of students who do return to farms, continuing onto the next generation. The bill has been referred to the committee on finance. See all the bill information here [https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2774](https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/2774) Introduced in the Senate 4-11-16.

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**FOR THE RECORD**
IPIC is hiring for two positions
If you’re in the market for a swine-related extension-focused position or know someone who is, consider these two positions being advertised now by IPIC. We’re looking for a field specialist who will join an existing team out in the state to create and deliver programming to a variety of audiences, AND for a program specialist who will work with campus and field faculty and staff on program planning and presentation, as well as grant applications and educational materials development. Guaranteed application consideration date for both positions is May 31, 2016, with a start date as soon as possible, so don’t delay. See specific info for the field specialist position here [https://www.iastatejobs.com/postings/18503](https://www.iastatejobs.com/postings/18503) See the program specialist info here [https://www.iastatejobs.com/postings/18502](https://www.iastatejobs.com/postings/18502)