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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Iowa Pork Producers Association champions producers
Sometimes we overlook great things because they're so close to us. We can take for granted those around use who are always there, offering encouragement and assistance. We want to remind you of the Iowa Pork Producers Association, and the ways in which that organization demonstrates its commitment to Iowa producers. Here are some examples:

--IPPA worked with the Iowa Ag Innovations Center to create an identity program: "Choose Iowa Pork™" That logo will help consumers realize that the pork they're buying is from Iowa. (Read more here http://snipurl.com/1jpo4)
--Marketing and Programs Director Alison Dreeszen works with the IPPA Youth Committee and IPIC to design experiences for youth interested in hogs and pork production. (Read more here http://snipurl.com/1jpnv)
--Offers practical and timely advice through its legal counsel, Eldon McAfee. (See a recent article on contracts here http://snipurl.com/1jpo8)
--Cosponsors annual regional pork conferences with IPIC. (See presentations from 2007 speakers here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/presentations.html)
--Developed an online video about pigs for youth and others unfamiliar with the industry (See the video at this URL http://www.relonline.com/videoIPPA/)
--Provides recognition opportunities for the state's pork producers through the Master Pork Producer program. Those interested in learning more or who want to submit nominations can contact Producer Education Director Ali Smith by e-mail at asmith@iowapork.org or by phone at 800-372-7675.
--This listing has just touched the surface of IPPA programming. We encourage you to learn even more about IPPA programs here http://snipurl.com/1jpmh

NEWS
More pigs in Malta in 2007
According to a recent annual survey, the number of pigs in Malta rose nearly one percent from the previous year – to 73,638. But even that's not a record for this archipelago of islands about halfway between the coasts of Sicily and North Africa in the Mediterranean Sea. In 2002, there were 78,303 pigs. Of the 2006 numbers, only the "fattening pigs" segment increased in size. Malta is comprised of five islands, three of which are inhabited. More than 93 percent of the 2006 total of pigs were on Malta, with
the remaining pigs on Gozo and Comino. More information is available in an article on the Malta Independent Web site at http://snipurl.com/1isag?NN507

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Pork-related patent and odor grant for ISU
In an example of successful public-private partnerships, a recently awarded patent at ISU was awarded to folks associated with the ISU animal science department and PIC/Genus from the U.S. and Great Britain. Max Rothschild and Chris Tuggle of Animal Science worked with Amy Vincent (formerly of the same department), and these five from PIC/Genus: Christy Gladney, Alan Mileham, Olwen Southwood, Graham Plastow and Carole Sargent. Collectively, they received patent 7,081,335 for “Prolactin Receptor Gene as a Genetic Marker for Increased Litter Size in Animals.

And, Jacek Koziel and Steve Hoff from the agricultural and biosystems engineering department received a grant of more than $142,000 from the University of Minnesota for “Odor Emissions and Chemical Analysis of Odorous Compounds from Animal Buildings.” ISU scientists continue their applied and practical research to help Iowa producers.

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It’s nearly summer and time for grilling
This year’s Great Pork BarbecueQlossal at the World Pork Expo in Des Moines will celebrate its 20th anniversary of the most flavorful pork and barbecue combinations you’ll find. This year's event begins with a cook's meeting Friday, June 8, and concludes June 9 with the actual cooking. Winning participants will share in the $37,000 cash and prizes available in this year’s event, which has been sanctioned by KCBS, the Kansas City Barbeque Society. Also this year, the Big Green Egg® Scramble competition returns with a Friday night competition. This winner will receive a Big Green Egg® grill. Want to learn more? Go to this URL for all the rules and entry form http://www.pork.org/documents/BBQlossalEntry.pdf Good luck and happy grilling!

IT’S A DATE
Continuing through June. Food Safety Quality Assurance training and testing sessions for 4-H'ers. See the list of dates and locations on the IPIC Web site here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA07.html

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May 8. Dedication of the Lauren Christian Swine Research Center at the Iowa State University Bilsland Memorial Farm near Madrid. Beginning at 1:30 p.m., the event also includes an open hours and tour of the new Baird Swine Breeding and Gestation Facility at the Farm. Visitors will see new hoop buildings for sows and the Baird breeding and gestation facility which has a state-of-the-art manure management system. Location is four miles south of Luther on Highway 17 and 3/4 mile east on 310th Street.

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May 15. Ultrasound certification training. Iowa State University. Emphasis on backfat measurement. Contact Tom Baas by e-mail at tjbaas@iastate.edu for more information.

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May 30. Pork Quality Assurance Plus Advisor training. ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, Ames. Cost is $75 per approved applicant with a limit of 30 people. Applications are due May 21. Additional all-day session on June 1 is possible. Read more here http://snipurl.com/1gre Download the two-page application form here www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPapp.doc

DID YOU KNOW?
Canadian provincial pork promotion
A national initiative is helping some of our pork producer neighbors to the north with promotion efforts. Alberta Pork and Ontario Pork worked together to create the program, Pork Marketing Canada, in order to help boost domestic pork consumption. The primary venture of the program is a joint Web site with
everything necessary for consumers, food service professionals and retailers. It contains information on health, nutrition, recipes, and specific pork cuts, and links to ask questions of dieticians, chefs and butchers. It's a true one-stop location for all kinds of questions, including links to individual province pork producer association Web sites. Take a look at www.putporkonyourfork.com

FOR THE RECORD
Iowa Feed and Nutrition Seminar presentations online
Presentations from the April Iowa Feed and Nutrition Seminar are now available in streaming video through the IPIC Web site. Those links are posted on the IPIC presentations page http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/presentations.html along with .pdf versions of presentations by folks associated with IPIC at other venues. It's organized in alphabetical order, by last name of the presenter. Take a look and let us know what you think.

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