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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Iowa Attorney General offers $100,000 in grants to swine industry
For the second year, the Iowa AG is offering $100,000 in grants, funded by Smithfield Foods, Inc., for projects that advance and enhance swine production in Iowa. AG Tom Miller said the money is to be used for, "... projects related to increasing profits, helping independent producer compete, making market information available, protecting the environment and other goals." During the first year of this grant program, two projects with ISU ties were among the four that received funding. First, Practical Farmers of Iowa, Inc., was awarded $19,453 to develop and deliver educational programming to farmers who presently produce niche pork, farmers who produce conventional pork, and farmers who recently exited pork production, with a focus on niche pork production systems that have not been well researched in the past. PFI is working with ISU Extension and IPIC to develop the topics, materials and outreach opportunities and avenues for past and potential niche pork producers. And second, ISU received $34,261 to develop an economic model that can be used by Iowa swine producers to evaluate the economic viability of utilizing dried distillers grain and solubles and other ethanol industry bi-products as feed ingredients in a wide range of feed input price and supply conditions. The grant program was created as part of a consent decree between Smithfield and the Iowa AG office that was announced in 2005 to provide such funds for 10 years. At IPIC we welcome the opportunity to work with others in the state's swine industry in this and other potential areas. To learn more about this year's grant program details and deadlines, see the news release on the Iowa AG’s Web site at this URL http://snipr.com/1t69j And be sure to contact us if we can offer assistance or help you find more information.

NEWS
Winterizing your swine barns
Sooner is better than later in almost every instance. And with seasonal fall weather, that's even more true for pork producers when it comes to getting facilities ready for winter. The University of Minnesota’s PorkCast series addresses this issue in the next program, set for this Wednesday, Nov. 7. "Winterizing Your Barns," to be held from 1 to 2 p.m., will help producers learn some practical information on preparing their facilities for inevitable seasonal changes, and get ideas on energy conservation practices. Dr. Joseph Zulovich, University of Missouri Extension Agricultural Engineer, is the program presenter. While
the PorkCast seminars are free, participants need either broadband or high speed Internet access, a Web browser, Macromedia Flash Player, and sound capability (speakers.) To take part, go to this URL www.extension.umn.edu/swine/porkcast, click on the link "Winterizing Your Barn" and follow the instructions. Before the session, you’re encouraged to test your Internet connection and make sure your computer has the correct programs and access by checking at this URL https://breeze5.umn.edu/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm. If you need technical support, please e-mail breeze@umn.edu Note that previous PorkCast seminars are archived on the Web site for later viewing. Thanks to the Minnesota Pork Board, Pork Checkoff and University of Minnesota Extension for organizing and delivering these seminars.

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IHOP is buying Applebee's
Stockholders of Applebee's have approved a merger between that company and IHOP. IHOP will buy Applebee's shares for $25.50 in cash for a total of about $2.1 billion. IHOP is headquartered in Glendale, California and Applebee's is a Midwest company based in Overland Park, Kansas. The closing is set for Nov. 29. What's next? IHOP chairman Julia Stewart says they plan to restructure and re-energize Applebee's. Will this mean changes in menus, serving styles, facility design and locations? Stay tuned. You can read the news release from IHOP at this URL http://snipr.com/1syrw

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New look for National Hog Farmer
There's a new look at the National Hog Farmer Web site. A tabbed main page listing near the top with drop down menus, light colored background and "most popular articles" area in the center all contribute to the recently redesigned look. By giving viewers a quick look at much of the site's content, NHF will no doubt increase the time people spend there. By easily finding topics, specific articles and links to more information, viewers are likely to return, too. I know you'll want to take a look, so here's a link to the main page http://snipr.com/1sz9p

IT’S A DATE
Nov. 8-9. Swine Disease Conference for Swine Practitioners. Scheman Building, Iowa State Center, Ames. Early registration (before Oct. 19) is $210. Fee is $245 after that date. One-day registration rates and extra proceedings copies are available for a charge. Web site has links to registration form and agenda here http://snipr.com/1rrqr

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Dec. 12. Pork Niche Market Working Group. 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Ensminger Room, Kildee Hall, ISU campus. Learn more about PNMWG on its Web site http://valuechains.org/pnmwg/

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Dec. 12. IPIC Advisory Board meeting. 2 to 6 p.m. Ensminger Room, Kildee Hall, ISU campus.

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Continuing. PQA Plus™ certification sessions. A two-hour training session for pork producers or individuals who need PQA Plus™ certification. Cost is $25 and preregistration is encouraged. See IPIC’s events page for locations, times and specific contact information. http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html

DID YOU KNOW?
ISU Vet Med College Dean named Veterinarian of the Year
The Iowa Veterinary Medical Association has named John Thompson as veterinarian of the year. This prestigious award recognizes a distinguished IVMA member who has contributed to the advancement of veterinary medicine in the areas of organization, education, research, practice or regulatory service. The announcement was made Oct. 25. Read a news release about the honor on the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine Web site here http://snipr.com/1sz74
FOR THE RECORD
Food gift ideas from Animal Science clubs
Thanksgiving is less than three weeks away, and other holidays aren’t far behind. If you’re thinking about gifts, consider these from two of ISU’s animal science student groups. First, the ISU Graduate Student Meat Science Club is selling high quality semi-boneless hams. The hams are vacuum packed to give a long refrigerated shelf life, and are $3.25 a pound. They’re sold as whole (12-15 pounds) and half (7-9 pounds) portions. Place your order by calling 515-294-1548 or 515-294-8924, or by e-mailing kds@iastate.edu. Be aware that the order deadline is this Friday, Nov. 9 AND that you’ll need to pick up your ham at the Meat Lab Sales Counter from 3 to 6 p.m. on Nov. 14-15 or Dec. 19-20. Second, the Block and Bridle Club is selling its popular summer sausage and cheese sales. One-pound blocks of cheese (three varieties) are $6 each, and a 20-ounce stick of summer sausage is $7. Specially priced boxes also are available, but don’t wait too long to order. Last date to order is Dec. 7, but availability is not guaranteed for orders postmarked after Dec. 1. For more information, contact ssc@iastate.edu or call 515-294-1865.

NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
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