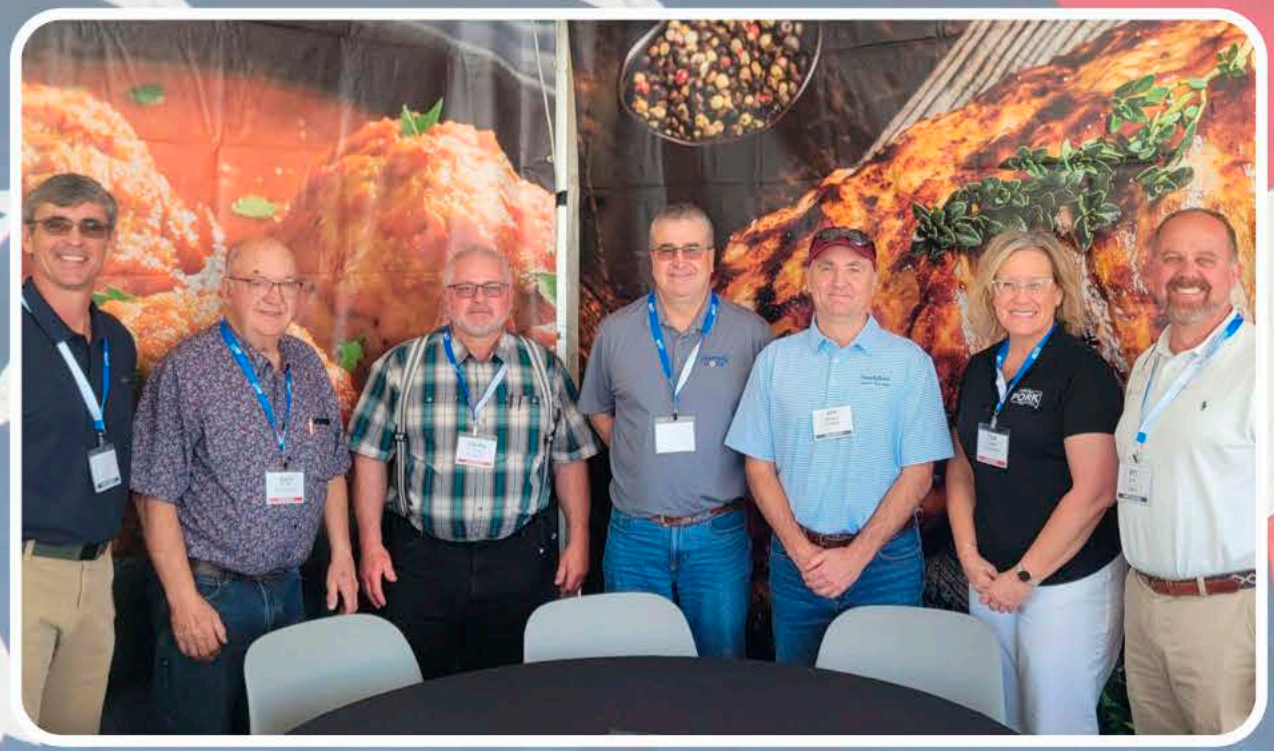
porkline

The official publication of the South Dakota Pork Producers Council

July
August
September
2026

WORLD PORK EXPO 2026

Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines













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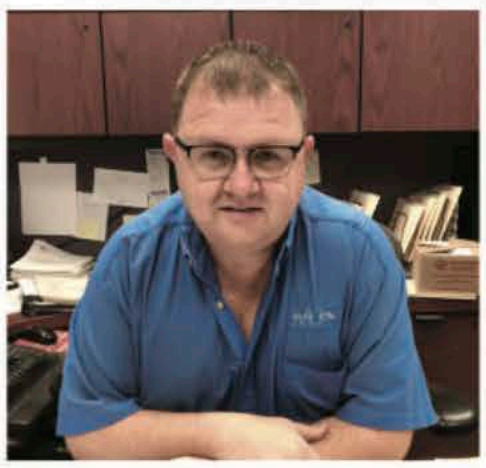
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South Dakota PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL

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South Dakota Pork Producers Council
4615 West Homefield Drive
Sioux Falls, SD 57106
Phone: 605-332-1600
Fax: 605-332-9646
1-800-830-PORK

Office Staff

Tina Erickson - Executive Director
Stephanie Fox - Director of Operations and Activities
Abbey Riemenschneider - Director of Programs and Communications
Mary Duvall - Editor

Mission Statement

The South Dakota Pork Producers Council is a unified and engaged advocate that promotes, with integrity, the image and growth of the South Dakota pork industry through education, research, marketing, and responsible policy.

Vision Statement

South Dakota Pork Producers Council is a respected leader advocating for sustainable, responsible growth of the South Dakota Pork Industry that benefits our producers, consumers, and communities.

Follow us on:

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Calendar of Events

July

July 3 – SDPPC Office Closed
July 11 – Hog Wild
July 12-16 – NPIC, Wisconsin Dells
July 16 – Aberdeen Big Feed, Ken's Superfair
July 17 – Pig Wing Fest Kids event
July 21 – Keloland Living Segment
July 28 – Board meeting

August

August 5 – Ag Appreciation Day at Sioux Empire Fair
August 6 – Pig Pals at Sioux Empire Fair
August 6 – Sioux Empire Pork Day in Discovery Barn
August 7 – Pork Chop Open, Hartford, SD
August 13 – Brown County Fair Pork Day
August 15 – Hog Wild
August 18 – Keloland Living Segment
August 19 – Turner County Pork Day

September

September 2-7 – South Dakota State Fair, Huron, SD
September 14 – When Pigs Fly, Humboldt, SD
September 19 – Hog Wild
September 19 – Jacks Classic at SDSU
September 22 – Keloland Living Segment
September 26 – Corn/Pork/Soy SDSU Tailgate
September 28-30 – Midwest Pork Summit

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President's Message

SDPPC President Jason Foster

Greetings, Swine Enthusiasts! Can you believe we're already halfway through 2026? It's hard to believe how quickly the year is moving.

Like many of you, we've been busy around the farm, from moving pigs and grinding feed to planting, spraying, getting cows out to grass, and putting up hay. It seems like there's always something to do and the list never ends.

Up here in the northern part of the state, we've certainly been dealing with Mother Nature, but she has also brought some much-needed moisture.

SDPPC staff and producers have been busy this spring attending events across the state and beyond.

At the end of March, I was able to attend, along with Executive Board member Jeff Wolff, the groundbreaking for a new feed mill that Agtegra Cooperative is building in Faulkton, South Dakota. This 100,000-ton feed mill will be state-of-the-art, with biosecurity as a top priority, and will produce complete grind-and-mix bulk feed for swine and poultry farms across South Dakota.

Agtegra recognizes the growing need for feed capacity in this region as swine production continues to increase. Governor Larry Rhoden was also in attendance and spoke about how agriculture continues to be the backbone of South Dakota.

Executive Director Glenn Muller and Director of Membership and Outreach Tina Erickson, along with producers Craig Anderson, Ben Klumb, and Tanya Torguson, made the trip to Washington, D.C., for the Spring L.A.C. in April. During the visit, they met with Senator John Thune, Senator Mike Rounds, and Representative Dusty Johnson.

They shared concerns and priorities important to our state's pork producers, including passing a Farm Bill, addressing Prop 12, trade issues, USMCA, and protecting animal health throughout the United States.

In May, we held our first Swine & Dine event of the year at RedRossa Italian Grille in Pierre, and it was very well attended. Producers had the opportunity to talk about their operations and answer questions from local leaders and attendees. It was also an honor to welcome Governor Larry Rhoden and First Lady Sandy Rhoden to the event.

Next came the World Pork Expo in Des Moines, Iowa, held during the first week of June. SDPPC staff, our Ambassadors, and swine producers attended and had the opportunity to see the newest technology developed over the past year, participate in educational seminars, meet with NPPC and NPB staff, and most importantly enjoy the conversations and friendships built over many years with fellow swine enthusiasts.

As I close, many of you know that our Executive Director, Glenn Muller, made the decision to retire, with June 30 marking his final day after 15 years of dedicated service.

We are excited to welcome Tina Erickson as SDPPC's new Executive Director, beginning July 1. Tina brings valuable experience, strong leadership, and a genuine commitment to agriculture. We are confident she will help move SDPPC into the future while continuing to serve our state's pork producers with excellence.

Before closing, I would like to take a moment to recognize Glenn.

Glenn, 15 years is more than a milestone—it represents 15 years of advocating for our producers, strengthening our industry, building relationships, and guiding this organization through both opportunities and challenges.

During your time with SDPPC, you worked with countless producers, board members, legislators, industry partners, and national organizations while always keeping the interests of South Dakota pork producers at the forefront. You have been a steady hand and a trusted voice.



Whether it was promoting pork, advancing animal health, supporting youth leadership, navigating changing regulations, or helping shape the future of our industry, your dedication never wavered.

Those of us who were privileged to serve alongside you know your impact extends far beyond board meetings and policy discussions. You have been a mentor, a friend, and someone who genuinely cared about the people behind the farms.

You understood that our strength as an organization comes from the families who raise pigs every day, and you worked tirelessly to ensure their voices were heard.

On behalf of the South Dakota Pork Producers Council, our Board of Directors, our staff, and producers across this state—thank you for your leadership, professionalism, and faithful service. The foundation you helped build will continue benefiting our industry for years to come.

As you begin this next chapter, we hope you enjoy more time with your family, more opportunities to pursue the things you enjoy, and the satisfaction of knowing you made a lasting difference for SD agriculture.

Glenn, congratulations on your well-earned retirement.

Thank you for 15 years of outstanding service to the South Dakota Pork Producers Council.

Your legacy will not be measured simply by the years you served, but by the lives you touched and the stronger organization you leave behind.

Jason Foster

SDPPC President

Leading With Purpose

Welcome to Tina Erickson!

The South Dakota Pork Producers Council (SDPPC) is built on strong leadership, dedicated producers, and a commitment to the future of the pork industry. On July 1, 2026, the SDPPC will continue this tradition under the new leadership of Tina Erickson, who has been named the organization's new Executive Director.

Tina is no stranger to the SDPPC. For the past four years, she has served the organization as the Director of Membership, Outreach, and Engagement, where she played a key role in strengthening producer relationships, expanded outreach efforts, and built meaningful connections across the industry.

Her experience working directly with producers, industry partners, educators, consumers, and stakeholders has positioned her well for the organization's top leadership role. Known for her collaborative approach and commitment to agriculture, Erickson brings both industry knowledge and a passion for serving others.

As Executive Director, Erickson will lead efforts to advocate for South Dakota's pork producers, strengthen industry partnerships, support continued growth, and advance the long-term success and sustainability of pork production throughout the state.



From left: SDPPC Executive Director Tina Erickson, Director of Programs and Communications Abbey Riemenschneider, and Director of Operations and Activities Stephanie Fox

The SDPPC Board of Directors expressed confidence in Erickson's ability to guide the organization into its next chapter. "We are excited to welcome Tina Erickson as Executive Director," said Board President Jason Foster. "She brings valuable experience, strong leadership, and a real commitment to agriculture. At the end of the day, this job is about serving producers—and Tina gets that."

Foster added that Erickson possesses the mindset and work ethic necessary to continue advancing the organization's mission and representing South Dakota pork producers at the highest level.

As South Dakota's pork industry continues to evolve and grow, Erickson's leadership will help ensure producers have a strong voice and the support they need to succeed. Her focus on collaboration, advocacy, and producer engagement reflects the core values that have long defined the SDPPC.

Working alongside producers, staff, and industry partners, Erickson is poised to help guide South Dakota Pork into a new era—one rooted in tradition, strengthened by relationships, and focused firmly on the future.

For Erickson, the appointment represents more than a career milestone—it is an opportunity to continue serving an industry and a community she has grown alongside throughout her time with South Dakota Pork.



Jason Foster, Craig Anderson, and Tina Erickson had a chance in early June to meet with Senate Majority Leader John Thune to discuss the importance of resolving California's Proposition 12 issue.

Prop 12 has created an unsustainable 50-state patchwork of animal housing regulations, putting small and mid-sized family farms at serious risk of consolidation or closure. The Supreme Court has made clear: this is a problem only Congress can fix.

The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, which passed the House on a 224-200 bipartisan vote, includes a fix to Prop 12. NPPC continues to advocate for a federal fix that preserves a national marketplace and protects producers' freedom to farm.

Thank you, Senator Thune, for your time!

South Dakota Trade Hosts USDA Officials, Ag Leaders



SDPPC Executive Director Tina Erickson recently participated in a USDA Leadership Roundtable to discuss opportunities and challenges in agriculture.

Governor Larry Rhoden, GOED Commissioner Bill Even, DANR Deputy Secretary Brian Walsh, GOED Deputy Secretary and interim CEO of SD Trade Joe Fiala, and other South Dakota agricultural leaders, sat down with USDA Undersecretaries Dr. Mindy Brashears, Richard Fordyce, and Luke J. Lindberg, to discuss USDA efforts to help trade for South Dakota products.

The discussion addressed food safety and labeling standards, as well as market access, trade expansion, research, and producer support. Strong participation from South Dakota's agricultural organizations, processors, educators, and producers reinforced the value of collaboration and direct engagement.

South Dakota Trade helps link South Dakota businesses with global prospects. As a non-profit association, their mission is to promote partnerships between foreign buyers or investors and South Dakota companies in key industries, including agriculture, bioscience, manufacturing, and more.

AgUnited Honors Glenn Muller

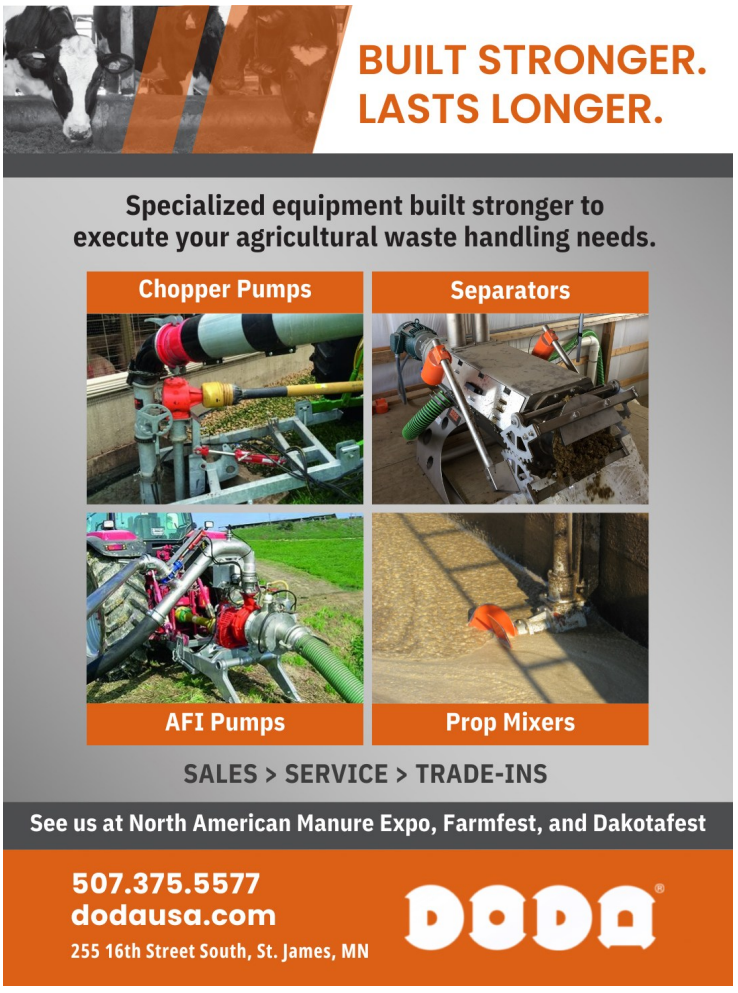


AgUnited honored Glenn Muller by making a $150 donation in his name to the SDSU Swine Unit Enhancement Fund. Glenn has been an active member of the AgUnited board since his service began with SDPPC.

"We are very appreciative of Glenn's years of service to our organization," said AgUnited President Allen Merrill. "His vision and dedication to carrying the good news of agriculture to the consumer are well known. While many organizations have already recognized his contributions to the industry, our board thought the most meaningful recognition we could give would be to further the work of swine research at SDSU."

Now in its 21st year, AgUnited is a coalition of seven South Dakota commodity and advocacy organizations with the mission of promoting and advancing farm and ranch families and rural communities in South Dakota.

Glenn is pictured here with AgUnited President Allen Merrill.



Rick Wahlstrom Endowed Chair in Swine Production Honors Legacy of Longtime SDSU swine professor

By Carter Schmidt, Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications
College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences

The South Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences will soon have another endowed position focused on swine production. The Rick Wahlstrom Endowed Chair in Swine Production will help support a faculty member whose research and leadership will elevate scholarly research productivity and advance teaching efforts within swine production at SDSU.

Rick Wahlstrom, who was a swine professor and head of the animal science department, taught and conducted research at SDSU for 36 years beginning in 1952. He retired in 1988 and passed away just a few weeks shy of his 100th birthday in 2023.

During his tenure, Rick Wahlstrom was named Teacher of the Year in the college, then the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences, three times. He authored or co-authored 437 departmental reports, journal, and magazine articles. He even founded the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity chapter at SDSU.

He and his wife, LaRayne, were very active in the community.

Bob Thaler, Farm Credit Services of America Endowed Chair in Swine Production and SDSU Extension swine specialist, was advised by Rick Wahlstrom for his master's degree.

"Incredible human being," Thaler said. "He fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II then came to SDSU. He was the first distinguished professor in the entire South Dakota regental system — an incredible gentleman. He greatly valued teaching, and he valued research."

South Dakota Corn Endowed Dean of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences Joseph Cassady will appoint an existing faculty member for this new endowment for the 2026-27 academic year. Thaler said the endowment strengthens SDSU's ability to retain top faculty.

"We want the best and brightest here," he said. "We're willing to pay to get that next Rick Wahlstrom here so somebody can build a program, work as a team, value teaching — that's the kind of people we want. That's the kind of people we value."

Richard Wahlstrom, Rick's son, said his family is thrilled their dad is being honored with the endowed chair.

"Rick's groundbreaking research in swine nutrition established SDSU as the premier land-grant university in the field," Richard Wahlstrom said. "A humble man who never sought the limelight, this is the ultimate capstone to his career. His gift for research, teaching, and love of students will be a legacy passed on by future professors. His name will be forever remembered as a family, as well as a university, treasure."

In total, there are nearly a dozen donors for the endowment including industry leaders, individual families and Wahlstrom family members.

Barry Kerkaert, chairman of the board with Pipestone Holdings, said they are proud to support the endowment.



Rick and LaRayne Wahlstrom

"Many of our team members and families have been positively influenced by SDSU over the years, and this endowment felt like a meaningful way to say thank you," he said. "SDSU has consistently contributed valuable research and developed young talent that strengthens our industry. Through this endowment, SDSU can continue advancing impactful swine research while positively influencing the next generation of industry leaders."

The SDPPC also donated to the endowment.

"The South Dakota Pork Producers are proud to have contributed to the Rick Wahlstrom endowment fund in honor of a gentleman who dedicated his entire life to improving the swine industry in South Dakota," Glenn Muller, executive director of South Dakota Pork, said.

The endowment will be appointed by August of this year with a celebration to recognize all endowed faculty in September.

Jacks Classic Hog Show sponsored by SDSU's Swine Club

September 20, 2026 • Brookings, SD

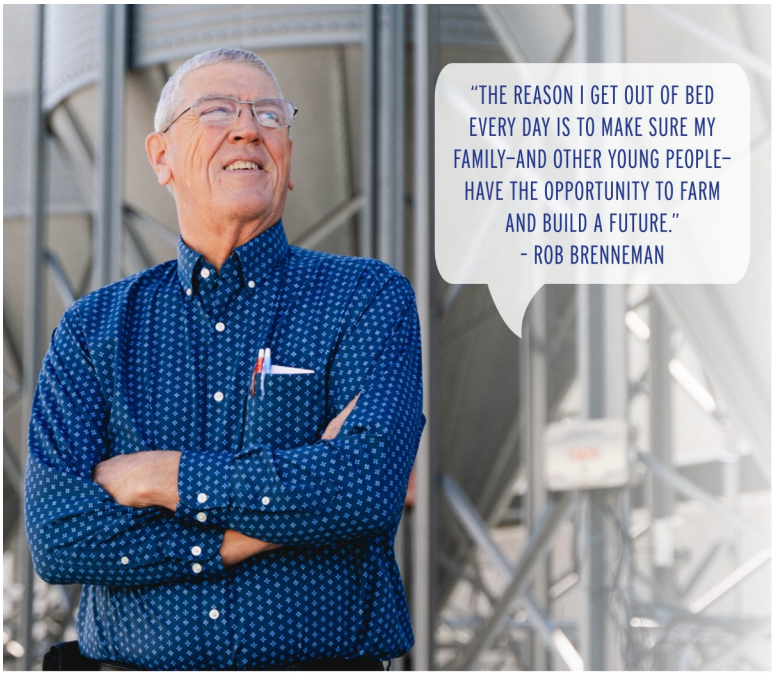
Spring LAC in Washington, D.C.





Glenn Muller, Tina Erickson, Craig Andersen, Ben Klumb, and Tanya Torguson participated in the Spring Legislative Action Conference April 15 and 16 in Washington, DC. The group met with Congressman Dusty Johnson, Senator Mike Rounds, and Ashlynne Beninga from Senator John Thune's office.

The group discussed the Farm Bill and a fix to Prop 12 to prevent an unsustainable patchwork of conflicting state laws, the planned review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), and funding to continue the United States Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) program.



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Update on the 2026 Legislative Interim

By Mary Duvall

Congratulations to Jerry Schmitz on being named as this year's Ag Ambassador by Governor Larry Rhoden. Jerry and the SD Soybean Association have been strong allies for the livestock industry in general, and in particular the pork industry. Jerry's visionary leadership, integrity, and dedication in promoting the future of agriculture make him a truly worthy recipient of this award.

For those involved in agriculture, this is a quiet year for legislative interim activities. There are two special interim committees, neither of which has a direct impact on agriculture. One committee is studying developmental disability service delivery and the other is studying funding for emergency medical services.

However, for those involved in agriculture, an election year is never insignificant. Following the June primary, we already know some of the legislators who will be serving in the 2027 Legislature, as well as some of the legislators who will not be returning to Pierre. In the Senate, 21 of the 35 districts are already settled, even prior to the General Election in November. On the House side, eight of the districts have no General Election contest.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DANR) continues its efforts to reissue the General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Following input from interested groups and individuals on the initial draft rules, DANR issued a response in early May. The next step will be for the Secretary of Agriculture to schedule a contested case hearing, to address issues raised concerning the proposed rules. Those wishing to be a party to the contested case hearing had until July 2 to submit a petition to the Secretary's Office. The date for the hearing has not yet been set.

SDPPC is part of the Ag Unity Group, a coalition of South Dakota agricultural organizations working together to share information, discuss issues that impact agriculture, and serve as a resource for elected officials, state agencies, and stakeholders.

Ag Unity recently met on the SDSU campus in Brookings and received an update on investments and progress made in the College of Agriculture, both on-campus and at the Ag Experiment Stations throughout the state. More than $215 million in infrastructure and facility investments have been made over the past 20 years, including the Swine Unit and the ADRDL. Nearly two-thirds of that investment has come from our state's agricultural producers. This is a testament to the positive relationship we have with our state's land grant university.



Smithfield Vice President of Corporate Affairs Jim Monroe, SDPPC Executive Director Tina Erickson, and Smithfield CEO Shane Smith.

CEO Summit

On June 16 the CEO Summit in Sioux Falls took place and was well attended by Executives and CEOs from the Sioux Falls region.

Tina Erickson attended on behalf of SDPPC and got the opportunity to engage with Smithfield CEO Shane Smith and Vice President of Corporate Affairs Jim Monroe.

Tina shared the importance of Smithfield to our region's pork producers, and thanked the Smithfield team for their decision to build their new plant in South Dakota.

Panel discussions also took place with Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken, Shane Smith, and Sioux Falls Development Foundation CEO Bob Mundt.

The panel discussed Smithfield's history in Sioux Falls and the importance of continuing that relationship as plans move forward with the new facility.

Smithfield Sioux Falls, by the numbers:

- 3,070 employees
- $4 million generated in taxes annually
- $905,000 cash and in-kind community donations annually
- $213 million in wages annually

South Dakota's 58th Annual Pork Congress

2027 Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2027 South Dakota Pork Congress. If you are unable to have a booth at our show or are looking for additional ways to support the SDPPC, please consider a sponsorship.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sponsorship Levels

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Featured as a lunch sponsor on separate sponsorship board and PowerPoint in the lunch area
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Contact Tina Erickson at 605-332-1600 or terickson@sdppc.org for any questions.

World Pork Expo: *SDPPC Ambassador Lacie Weber*

Coming from a background focused on the show pig sector, World Pork Expo in June gave me the opportunity to learn more about the commercial side of the pork industry. Walking through the trade show and speaking with industry professionals allowed me to see the scale of research and collaboration that supports pork producers across the country. It was eye-opening to see how many individuals and organizations work together to strengthen the industry and prepare for future challenges.

One seminar that stood out was *National Swine Health Strategy: Turning Research into Action*. I gained a greater understanding of the current health challenges facing the swine industry and research being conducted to address them.

The National Swine Health Strategy is the industry effort to protect the U.S. pork industry by reducing the impact of domestic diseases and by keeping foreign and emerging diseases out of the U.S. swine herd. It was encouraging to see producers actively involved in finding solutions and supporting efforts to protect the nation's swine production. This seminar further strengthened my interest in animal health and research. Learning about the work being done to protect the industry inspired me to consider a future working alongside researchers who are developing vaccines, treatments, and other tools to safeguard swine health.

I also attended the seminar on the *Long-Term Playbook for Growing Pork Demand.* I gained insight into the efforts of the National Pork Board (NPB) to expand the role of pork and increase pork consumption both domestically and internationally. The NPB focuses on business intelligence, consumer insights, and producer leadership, recognizing that the success of the industry begins with producers.

The goal is clear: encourage consumers to eat pork more often by increasing awareness, accessibility, and convenience. By promoting pork through a variety of platforms that showcase easy and appealing ways to incorporate pork products into everyday meals, these initiatives focus not only on the product itself but also on understanding consumer preferences and buying habits.

One aspect of the seminar that really resonated with me was hearing from show pig breeders who emphasized the important role youth play in the future of pork consumption. Young people who are already involved in the industry have the opportunity to share their knowledge and passion with others.

A key takeaway was that we are not only teaching others about raising pigs; we are also teaching them about pork. By helping consumers understand where their food comes from and how pork can fit into their daily lives, we can play an important role in building the future of the industry.

My time at World Pork Expo was filled with new knowledge, new experiences, and meaningful connections with others who share the same passion for the pork industry. The seminars, conversations, and networking opportunities gave me a broader perspective on challenges and opportunities facing pork producers today, as well as the importance of innovation, leadership, and collaboration within the industry.

I left the expo with new ideas, greater inspiration, and an even stronger passion for supporting and advocating for the pork industry.

World Pork Expo: *SDPPC Ambassador Makayla Fuoss*

Growing up on my family's farm with 4,800 commercial pigs, I had a strong understanding of the swine industry long before attending World Pork Expo. However, Expo gave me an opportunity to build on that foundation and gain a broader perspective on the challenges and innovations shaping the future of pork production.

One of the most impactful parts of my Expo experience was the seminar *National Swine Health Strategy: Turning Research into Action.* I had heard the term biosecurity countless times growing up, but this seminar showed me just how complex disease prevention truly is.

Protecting herd health requires far more than following a checklist—it demands collaboration, ongoing research, and constant adaptation. The speakers emphasized that even routine practices such as washing livestock trailers play a critical role in disease prevention. This reinforced the idea that every step in the production chain matters when it comes to protecting animal health.

What stood out most was the discussion surrounding PRRS elimination and its importance as a major research priority. I have witnessed the devastating impact PRRS can have. The virus is especially difficult to manage because of the many strains circulating throughout the industry, meaning there is no simple solution.

Beyond the seminars, some of the most valuable learning came through conversations with industry professionals. Representatives from FACTA (Farm Animal Care Training & Auditing) provided insight into how animal welfare standards are implemented and evaluated on farms. Auditing programs continue to evolve to meet both producer needs and consumer expectations, while training programs help ensure consistent, high-quality animal care. Hearing about welfare assessments from an auditor's perspective helped me better understand the practical challenges producers face in maintaining certification while managing day-to-day operations.

My conversation with Zoetis offered a valuable perspective on advancements in vaccines, diagnostics, and technologies designed to support proactive herd health management. It was exciting to learn how quickly the industry is moving toward predictive health strategies rather than relying solely on treatment after problems arise.

My conversations with professionals from the National Pork Board were especially interesting. Learning how producer checkoff dollars support disease research, sustainability initiatives, and public outreach gave me a greater appreciation for the extensive network working behind the scenes to support producers and advance the industry.

6th Annual When Pigs Fly Event
Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 6th Annual When Pigs Fly Clay Shooting event **Monday September 14th 12:00 pm at Hunter's Pointe in Humboldt, SD**.
If you are looking for ways to support the SDPPC, please consider sponsorship.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sponsorship Levels

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- Team/4 individuals
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- Company logo on all sponsorship boards, programs & sdpork.org.

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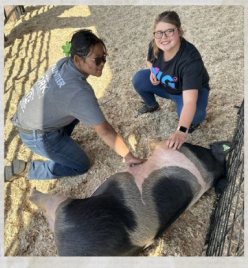


Pig Pals

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026

An opportunity for individuals with disabilities to show a pig at the Sioux Empire Fair!

Where: Sioux Empire Fair Livestock Show Arena
When: 10am arrival time
11am show starts



For Sponsorship, Volunteer, or Participation opportunites, contact Abbey Riemenschneider at abbeyr@sdppc.org OR 605-332-1600

You are invited!

A retirement celebration honoring Dr. Bob Thaler and his nearly four decades of service to the swine industry at South Dakota State University will be held

Friday, August 21 ~ 3-7 p.m.

McCrory Gardens, Brookings, SD

Please join us in thanking Dr. Thaler for his dedication!

STATE FAIR

SDPPC is looking for volunteers to help at the 2026 South Dakota State Fair, September 2-7 in Huron.

If you are interested in helping at the SDPPC Food Booth or the Information Booth, please contact Tina at terickson@sdppc.org or 605-332-1600



Where Are They Now?

Catching up with former SDPPC Ambassadors, interns, and scholarship winners

Audrey Field, 2023 Pork Ambassador

Audrey graduated from SDSU last year with a degree in animal science and minors in agriculture business and agribusiness marketing. She currently works at the SDSU Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory.

"While not directly working in the swine industry, I get the opportunity to assist the swine industry in disease diagnostics and monitoring," notes Audrey.

Her favorite memory from her time as pork ambassador was working the booth at the Sioux Empire Fair. "It was a great opportunity to educate people about the swine industry," she said.

"Throughout my time as the pork ambassador, I had the opportunity to talk with producers from across the state, which has given me strong connections in my current job," she adds.

Then



Now



Please Save the Dates



Pork Chop Open
Friday, August 7
Central Valley Golf Club
Hartford SD

SDPPC When Pigs Fly
Monday September 14
Hunter's Pointe in Humboldt SD
For information, please contact Tina Erickson at terickson@sdppc.org for sponsorship or team entry





2026 State Fair Meal
TICKET ORDER FORM

South Dakota Pork Producers 2026 SD State Fair Meal tickets are valid from Wednesday, September 2, 2026, through Monday, September 7, 2026.

Business: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Deadline to order tickets is Friday, August 15, 2026.

Ticket Options: Minimum of 10 tickets must be purchased. Tickets are NOT refundable for cash.

Pork Proteins Available

- **Pork Loin Sandwich**
- **Pork On-A-Fork**
- **Pulled Pork Sandwich**
- **Pork Bacon Tender Stick** (2)

Meal Coupons include pork protein, chips, and drink

Total Tickets _____ ☐ Pre-Pay $12.00

☐ Post-Pay $15.00

Pork Protein Only Coupons

Total Tickets _____ ☐ Pre-Pay $8.00

☐ Post-Pay $10.00

Payment: **SDPPC** will send you the tickets before the SD State Fair. Post-pay tickets will be invoiced after the fair for the meal tickets that are turned in for your company. Pre-pay tickets will be invoiced when tickets are issued.

Signature _____ Title _____

Please return this form to: SD Pork Producers Council | 4615 West Homefield Drive | Sioux Falls, SD 57106

If you have any questions, please contact office at 605.332.1600 (office) or email sfox@sdppc.org

The Reality of the Show Pig Industry

By Lacie Weber

One of the most common misconceptions about the show pig industry is that success can only be achieved by buying the most expensive pig, using costly products, and investing in fancy equipment. Many people picture elaborate barns with air conditioning, tanning beds, expensive trailers, and shelves lined with specialty products. While those things certainly exist, they are not what determines success in the show ring. The reality is that the show pig industry is built on dedication, hard work, and proper management.

Coming from a show pig background, I have learned that buying the most expensive pig does not guarantee success. In fact, I rarely buy the highest-priced pigs. Instead, I focus on finding pigs that are structurally sound and have the correct angles to their shoulder blade and skeleton. Those qualities provide a strong foundation that cannot easily be changed.

Many other characteristics, however, can improve over time through proper nutrition, feeding programs, and daily management. A pig that starts out as an average prospect can develop into a highly competitive show pig when given the right care and attention. That is one of the things I appreciate most about the industry, the amount of influence exhibitors have through their own work ethic and commitment.

Showing pigs requires countless hours of preparation before a pig ever steps into the show ring. Daily exercise is an important part of that process. Pigs need to be walked consistently so they develop muscle, stamina, and confidence.

During these walks, exhibitors work to maintain a steady pace, teach pigs to keep their heads up, and help them understand what is expected of them in the ring.

The work does not stop there. Depending on the breed and desired appearance, daily care routines can vary greatly. Some pigs spend time outside in the sun to naturally darken their color, while others may need baths with whitening shampoo to brighten their appearance. Skin and hair care also require attention. While there are many products marketed specifically for show pigs, exhibitors often find what works best for them through experience. I use cocoa butter made for humans as a daily moisturizer. It helps keep the skin hydrated and the hair healthy, and with regular brushing, it helps maintain the pig's overall appearance.

There are many ways to achieve the same result, and that is something I wish more people understood about the show pig industry. While some exhibitors may use expensive products or specialized equipment, others achieve the results through simple, practical methods. For example, some utilize tanning beds to darken their pigs, while others simply allow their pigs to spend time outside in the sunshine and achieve the same effect naturally.

Success in the show ring is not determined by the size of a person's budget. It comes from understanding animal husbandry, making sound management decisions, and being willing to put in the work day after day. A less expensive pig that receives excellent care can be just as successful, if not more successful, than one that costs thousands of dollars.

The show pig industry is about far more than ribbons and banners. It teaches responsibility, patience, work ethic, and problem solving skills. It teaches young people how to care for animals, manage their time, and work toward long-term goals. While there will always be misconceptions about what it takes to succeed, those involved in the industry know the truth: success is not bought. It is earned through dedication and one day at a time.

Congratulations, Glenn, On Your Retirement!









Family, friends, and colleagues gathered in Sioux Falls on June 12 to honor and thank Glenn Muller for his 15 years of service as SDPPC's Executive Director.

Thank you, Glenn, and congratulations!



Advertise with SDPPC

The Porkline is SDPPC's primary source for providing pork producers and allied industry members with information on current topics in the pork industry including legislative, research, promotion, education, and so much more!

Over 3,000 pork producers, allied industry, and community members throughout South Dakota and its surrounding states receive this publication.

Make sure they see your ad!

SCAN ME!

South Dakota PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL

Swine + Dine in Pierre



On May 14, SDPPC hosted a Swine + Dine event in Pierre at the RedRossa Italian Grille.

We were honored to host Governor Larry and First Lady Sandy Rhoden, as well as Ag Secretary Hunter Roberts, Deputy Secretary Brian Walsh, State Veterinarian Dr. Mendel Miller, and a number of locally-elected officials.

Thanks to Brad Greenway, Mark Fuoss, and Jeff Wolff who were able to share their producer perspectives with our guests.









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Passport to Pork

SDPPC is now accepting applications from South Dakota High Schools for the Fall semester of the "Passport to Pork" program.

This program allows high school culinary students to learn about pork production practices and create a pork dish using ingredients from a randomly-selected country from around the globe.

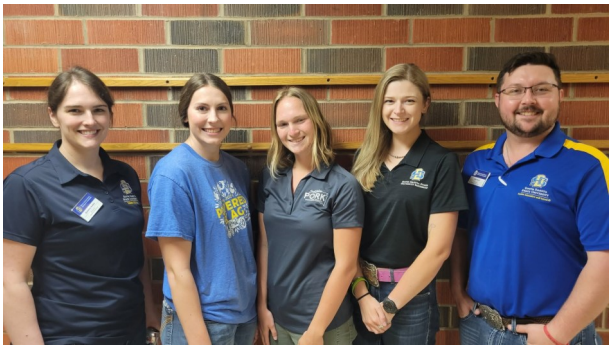
Future chefs are encouraged to think outside of the box and look to other countries for inspiration to see how they utilize our pork products or adapt recipes to use pork in some way.

For more information, please contact Abbey Riemenschneider, Director of Programs and Communications at abbeyr@sdppc.org or by calling our office at 605-332-1600.



SDSU Swine Summit 2026







Swine Summit 2026 took place on June 6 at South Dakota State University in Brookings. Attendees were educated on all things SWINE! Sessions were held on anatomy, meat cuts, nutrition, and health.

During the lunch and learn portion, attendees had an opportunity to engage with some of the best pork producers in South Dakota and learn about the different aspects of pork production.

Thank you to all who attended — you are the future of South Dakota Pork!

Customer Appreciation—Celebrating with Pork









Kibble Equipment, a full service John Deere dealer, recently celebrated its 50th anniversary with a little help from Dan Howell, Shane Odegaard, and the pork industry. Congratulations on 50 years!

2027 PORK AMBASSADOR

Details

- **What will you learn?**
  You will learn about pork production, allied industry members, build communication skills, and work on consumer demand.
- **Requirements**
  Must be a minimum of a senior in high school through college student, a SD resident, and have your own transportation.
- **Applications Open**
  Applications are due October 1, 2026
  Applications and more information can be found on our www.sdpork.org website.

About

Do you have a passion for the Pork Industry? The Pork Ambassador program is designed to develop strong relationships with both pork producers and allied industry members.

605-332-1600
www.sdpork.org
abbeyr@sdppc.org
4615 W. Homefield Drive,
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SDPPC Board Spotlight: District 3

Brent Greenway, Mitchell, SD



Tell us about your farming operation. I farm with my parents and our business partner Thomas Smith west of Mitchell, SD. We have a wean to finish pig operation and our sow barn is managed by Pipestone. We sell our pigs to Wholestone Farms, Smithfield, and Tyson. We also have a cow-calf operation and background our calves until about 9 months of age. We grow soybeans, corn, and some alfalfa to utilize in our cattle herd. We use a fair amount of our corn to grind in our on-site feed mill using soybean meal procured locally from High Plains Processing in Mitchell, SD. In addition, we own and operate Greensmith Precision Application, a custom manure application operation.

How long have you been with SDPPC, and how did you get started with the organization? I started on the SDPPC board in 2020 by finishing out somebody else's term, and started my first full term in January 2021.

What is your favorite part of being involved with SDPPC? The camaraderie of working with other producers to better the profitability of pork producers in South Dakota and the region.

Tell us about your family: My wife, Mollie, and I have a two-year-old daughter named Margo and a golden doodle named Copper.

What are your hobbies? I like to design and cut out signs and parts on my CNC plasma table. Its fun to come up with parts and designs that make tasks easier on the farm. We also enjoy camping and boating during the summer.

Fun fact about me: I am the fourth generation of Greenways to live in our house which we moved into after an extensive remodel in 2024. I also serve on the SD Soybean Association board.

Ben Klumb, Ethan, SD



Tell us about your farming operation. Our family operates a diversified farm where we raise pigs from isowean to finish, maintain a cow-calf herd that we finish ourselves, and grow corn and soybeans. Every day brings something different, which is one of the things I enjoy most about farming. It's rewarding to see all the pieces of our operation work together while producing quality food and caring for the land for the next generation.

How long have you been involved with SDPPC, and how did you get started with the organization? My involvement with the SDPPC started at the local level by volunteering with the Davison County Pork Producers. As I became more involved, I realized I wanted to do more to support and promote the pork industry. I've now served on the Board of Directors for the past four years, and it's been a great opportunity to represent fellow producers and give back to an industry that has given so much to my family.

What is your favorite part of being involved with SDPPC? My favorite part of serving with SDPPC is having the opportunity to advocate for the pork industry. It's important to share our story and help consumers better understand how their food is raised. I've also enjoyed meeting producers from across the state, building relationships, and networking with people who are just as passionate about agriculture as I am.

Tell us about your family. My wife, Jen, teaches preschool and junior kindergarten at Ethan School, and together we're raising our three kids: Taite (20), Creighton (17), and Tenlee (13). We also have a spoiled corgi named Knox who definitely keeps life entertaining. We live on the home place of our family farm and love the country lifestyle. We're grateful to be raising our family where hard work, faith, and agriculture are a part of everyday life.

What are your hobbies? At this stage of life, most of my free time is spent following our kids to their sporting events. Whether it's basketball, baseball, football, volleyball, or softball, you'll usually find me in the stands cheering them on. I wouldn't have it any other way.

Fun fact(s) about me? I only have nine fingers after losing one in a roller chain accident on the farm. Another fun fact is that I finished second in the one-mile race at the South Dakota State Track Meet when I was in high school.

43RD ANNUAL

AG APPRECIATION DAY

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FREE LUNCHEON

Wed., August 5, 2026

W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds, Sioux Falls

held in conjunction with the Sioux Empire Fair

GREATER SIOUX FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Pork sponsored by:

Smithfield
Good food. Responsibly.

Lunch will be served 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Meal includes pork smoked on-site, chips and drink.

Free admission to the fairgrounds until 1 p.m. courtesy of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.

The event will feature live entertainment by Mogen's Heroes, along with a short program and appearances by elected officials.

Free Fair admission sponsored by:

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives
The power of human connections®

Nutritious: Pork is a versatile, nutritious protein that fits into a variety of meal solutions to support an active lifestyle

Lean: Eight cuts of pork meet USDA guidelines for "lean," and pork tenderloin is as lean as a skinless chicken breast.

Heart-Healthy: For your heart-healthy protein choice, choose boneless pork sirloin roast or pork tenderloin, which are American Heart Association Heart-Check Certified foods.

Source: pork.org/inspirations

Thanks to SDPPC's Alliance Members!

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Grilled Prosciutto and Peach Pizza

Ingredients

6 oz prosciutto, thinly sliced
1 lb prepared pizza dough
½ cup crushed tomatoes, canned
1 cloves garlic, minced
2 ea peaches, sliced into wedges
½ cup parmesan cheese, grated
8 oz burrata
2 cups arugula
1 tsp lemon juice

Directions:

Allow pizza dough to rest at room temperature for 2 hours.

Preheat grill to 400-450°F.

Combine crushed tomatoes and garlic. Set aside. Stretch pizza dough out to roughly an 18-inch oval that is 1/8-inch thick. Place dough on a baking tray or cutting board to transfer to the grill.

Grill peaches for 2-3 minutes per side until they are lightly charred. Remove from grill and clean and oil grill.

Brush stretched pizza dough with olive oil. Place dough, oiled side down, onto grill. Close lid and grill for 2-3 minutes.

Brush ungrilled side of dough with oil and flip. Evenly spread crushed tomatoes across crust. Sprinkle with parmesan. Break up burrata and distribute evenly across crust.

Once cheese has begun to melt and dough is slightly charred and cooked through, remove from grill.

Toss arugula with lemon juice and distribute over pizza. Decoratively place grilled peaches and tufts of prosciutto on top of arugula. Slice and serve.





Pork Taquitos

Ingredients

1 lb ground pork
1 pkg taco seasoning
¼ cup water
1 4-oz can mild hatch chiles, drained
1 cup mild cheddar cheese, shredded
15 6-inch corn tortillas, good quality
As needed toothpicks
As needed cooking spray
To taste salsa (optional)
To taste sour cream (optional)

Directions:

In a skillet over medium high heat cook ground pork, breaking up, until cooked through, about 5-7 minutes.

Add taco seasoning and water. Stir to combine and bring mixture to a simmer for 2-3 minutes until thickened. Remove from heat and cool.

Stir in hatch chiles and cheese until well mixed.

Wrap tortillas in a damp paper towel and microwave for 30 second to make tortillas more malleable. Evenly portion filling across tortillas, about 2-3 tablespoons each. Tightly wrap tortillas and secure with a toothpick.

Preheat air fryer to 400°F for 2-3 minutes.

Spray wrapped tortillas with cooking spray. Air fry in 2-3 batches until crisp, about 5-7 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before serving.

Serve with salsa and sour cream as desired.

* Could also be baked in a preheated 400°F oven until crisp, about 10-15 minutes.
* Could also be pan fried until crisp.

NOTE: good quality corn tortillas are necessary in this recipe to ensure they are able to wrap up and not crack. This recipe can also be made with flour tortillas (would be called flautas). These can also be frozen after being wrapped and cooked directly from the freezer by adding 3 -4 minutes to cook time for any of the above methods.

*Ground pork is safe to eat when cooked to 160 degrees.

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SDSU SWINE DAY

Join us in Brookings on Sept. 29
Spend the day with SDSU faculty, researchers, alumni and industry leaders as they break down the trends, data and innovation shaping pork production today.

What's on the agenda?

- **Latest SDSU Research** – fresh findings from our swine research team
- **10 Years of Impact** – major discoveries from the Swine Education and Research Facility's first decade
- **Market Outlook** – hog and commodity trends and what's ahead
- **National Swine Health Update** – insights from the National Pork Board
- **Keynote Alumni Panel** – SDSU graduates tackling today's biggest industry challenges and how producers can stay ahead

Join us the night before for a producer-driven dinner and listening session to discuss critical areas of research for the next 10 years.

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