

THE Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City

May 8, 2009

Awards Luncheon to Honor Ag Leaders



Four Kansas City area leaders will be honored for their extraordinary contributions to agriculture and economic development in the area at the Council's May 22 awards luncheon. The 2009 Award for Agricultural Leadership and Excellence, named in honor of the late Jay B. Dillingham, will be awarded to:

- R. Crosby Kemper, Jr., UMB Financial Corporation;
- Joerg Ohle, Bayer Animal Health and
- Morton Sosland, Sosland Publishing.

In addition, Agricultural Business Council founder, Gina Bowman, will be honored as the Council's Outstanding Volunteer. Bowman is vice president for government and corporate affairs with CVR Energy.

"These individuals have had a positive and lasting effect on our community and the way the public perceives modern day agri-business. Agriculture is no longer just farming, ranching and processing - it also includes bio science and security, animal pharmaceuticals, energy and commerce. Their personal success and excitement for their own business enterprises has spilled over to create new business opportunities for so many others. That's worth celebrating," says Council Chairman Bob Petersen.

The May 22 event will be hosted at The Kansas City Club (918 Baltimore Avenue in Kansas City, MO) at 11:30 a.m. for networking and noon for lunch. Petersen said the Council is very pleased to announce that the honorary co-chairs for the event are four Congressional leaders from the Heartland:

- Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II (D-MO)
- Congressman Sam Graves (R-MO)
- Congressman Dennis Moore (D-KS)
- Congressman Jerry Moran (R-KS)

Tickets are \$50 per person or \$350 for a table of eight. Reservations can be made by contacting Erica Venancio at

Thorton to Address June Council Luncheon

Tom Thorton, president and CEO of the Kansas Bioscience Authority (KBA), will be addressing the Agricultural Business Council's luncheon on June 18 at the American Royal. His topic will be "The Kansas Bioscience Authority: Focused Strategy, Big Results." Thorton will provide an overview of the KBA's investment strategy and outcomes, and will take a look at they year ahead and offer a perspective on the impact the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility will have on the KC Animal Health Corridor.

Thorton was named CEO of KBA in 2006 where he leads the effort to stimulate growth in bioscience research and business in Kansas through the investment of approximately \$580 million generated by the Kansas Economic Growth Act.

He previously served as president and chief executive officer of the Illinois Technology Development Alliance, establishing it as one of the most respected technology development organizations in the country. He was the senior vice president for Convergent Technology Group, a Seattle-based mergers and acquisitions advisory services firm, and managing partner for divine interVentures, an early-stage venture investment fund.

The June 18 luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. Reservations may be made by contacting Erica Venancio at erica@petersenconsultingllc.com, (816) 628-1231. The cost is \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Powell Gardens Plans Opening Festivities for Heartland Harvest

erica@petersenconsultingllc.com or by going to <http://agribusinesscouncilofkc.com>.

California Rules Threaten Agriculture

-- Is CARB Taking A Wrong Turn?

By Dennis McLaughlin, McLaughlin Writers Group



The global warming debate seems to have moved beyond whether it is happening or not to who might be causing it. The popular culprits, of course, are humans and their industrial development activity. But nationally recognized agribusiness analyst, author and consultant Bill Hudson, founder of The ProExporter Network®, said in effect, *not so fast*, as he addressed members of the Council on April 9 about California's proposed new rules for Low Carbon Fuel Standards and the state's interpretation of Land Use Changes.

For one thing, he challenged the reliability of the modeling global warming alarmists use, and illustrated his point by noting the Goddard Space Institute's official March global temperature reading showed the month was just 0.03 degrees C warmer than March 1981. Ironically, the director of Goddard is one of the more influential climate change doomsayers. But corresponding studies of sunspots more than 30 years ago accurately predicted rising temperatures from 1976 to 1998; and further sunspot research forecast a cooling trend that began in 2000.

The more pressing concern, however, for Hudson is the integrity of the modeling the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is employing as it proposes new rules for Low Carbon Fuel Standards and quantifies Land Use Change. According to Hudson, CARB's conclusion that "land use conversions release the carbon sequestered in soils and vegetation" is hypothetical and does not constitute an empirical test of what may or may not happen to world land use with the advent of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

Hudson took particular issue with CARB's enlistment of the Purdue GTAP (Global Trade Analysis Project) to rationalize its interpretation of Land Use Change. The Purdue GTAP is a "computable general equilibrium model" utilizing a 2001 baseline. The proposition that the world economy today can be treated by a static model, Hudson said, is questionable. "It is not completely clear that the world economy today is actually in equilibrium, and certainly not on the same terms as it might have been in 2001."

To stress his position, Hudson asked the audience if static economic data for 2001 could be expected to model land use changes "following the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers, the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, the emergence of China and other parts of Asia as fully industrialized and rapidly growing economies, the quadrupling of crude oil price, the investment bubble in U.S. real estate (including farmland), the creation of tens of trillions of dollars of new financial

Garden

Eric Tschanz, president of Powell Gardens, is inviting area leaders to join Senator Claire McCaskill for a preview tour and lunch in the new Heartland Harvest Garden at Powell Gardens on May 27 at 11:30 a.m.

Powell Gardens is Kansas City's Botanical Garden™ and the new \$9.2 million Heartland Harvest Garden is its largest expansion in history. Beginning with the Seed to Plate greenhouse and ending with a taste of fresh-picked produce, visitors will use all five senses to explore the origins of both everyday and unusual foods. Education programs and an area dedicated to hands-on school learning will help teach our next generation to make wise and deliberate choices about the foods they eat.

Dusti Fritz Named to Sorghum Position

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program introduced Dusti Fritz as the director of Western States Field Services. Fritz, of Wamego, Kansas, had been CEO of the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers. Her departure from the Wheat Commission is effective May 15, although she has accepted a half-time role as interim CEO until June 30.

"This was a very difficult decision to make. For the last nine years, I have been proud to work for Kansas wheat producers and am honored to be a part of so many accomplishments," Fritz said. "As the first CEO of Kansas Wheat, I am proud of the progress and efficiencies both organizations have achieved to give producers a unified and more effective voice."

Fritz has led Kansas Wheat to a number of new initiatives. Under her leadership, the Kansas Wheat Commission and Kansas Association of Wheat Growers developed a strategic plan that resulted in greater efficiencies and communications, with streamlined goals and objectives. She led the effort to increase the wheat assessment from 1 penny to 1.5 cents per bushel, resulting in greater investment in wheat research, education and promotional efforts. Fritz also laid the foundation for a Small Grains Innovation Center which, if funded by the Kansas Bioscience Authority, will generate even greater potential for improved wheat varieties and end-uses for Kansas wheat.

derivatives and the subsequent collapse of the world economy."

His answer is no. But CARB has a different view, and Hudson fears the EPA will not see it any differently - especially if a coalition of 13 other states adopt California's LCFS. As a result, says Hudson, the American cornbelt faces an acute economic threat and the U.S. will likely not attain energy independence or security.

Editor's Note. As feared by Mr. Hudson, on April 23, 2009, by a 9-to-1 vote, the CARB adopted the LCFS regulation proposed by its staff, based on Land Use Change - under which the average corn ethanol produced in the Midwest will not comply, beginning in 2011.

Texas May Challenge Site Selection for NBAF



In a statement issued in late April to agribusiness and animal health leaders in the Kansas City area, Tom Thornton, president and CEO of the Kansas Bioscience Authority (KBA), warned of legal action the Texas Biological and Agro-Defense Consortium is contemplating in regard to the site selection process for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility.

The KBA is monitoring the situation appropriately with full confidence in the exhaustive, fair and open process that ended with the unanimous decision by experts in the field to build the NBAF at Kansas State University. "We were clearly selected for this mission on the merits," said Thornton, "because Kansas offers a solution, not a site, when it comes to the critically urgent work of protecting America's food supply."

In noting Texas' possible litigation, Thornton cited the positions and sentiments of several state leaders:

- **Former Gov. Kathleen Sebelius:** "The three-year process to select an NBAF site was thorough, free of politics and fair. Kansas played by the rules and was chosen solely on its merits. Kansas is recognized around the globe for its animal health research expertise, state-of-the-art research and industry infrastructure, and deep agricultural heritage.

"Kansas presented a credible pathway to jumpstart the NBAF's critical research mission and committed funding to do so. The Department of Homeland Security deserves commendation, not litigation, for their appropriately comprehensive, fair and unbiased selection process.

"I am deeply concerned that legal action will only delay the NBAF mission, placing our national security and food supply at risk."

"Dusti has been an exemplary leader in her tenure as CEO of Kansas Wheat," said Doug Kesling, chairman of the Kansas Wheat Commission and a farmer from Chase. "She has worked diligently to improve the livelihoods of wheat farmers in Kansas by raising the awareness of Kansas wheat around the world. We wish her the very best as she seeks this new opportunity."

As director of Western States Field Services for the USCP, Fritz will be responsible for program development as well as research, market development and communications for western sorghum producing states.

"We are very excited to have Dusti join us," said Virgil Smail, USCP Executive Director. "Her strong background in association and commission management as well as in checkoff work will give us the needed experience to run our programs from Kansas to California efficiently for the betterment of the sorghum industry."

The United Sorghum Checkoff Program is a producer funded organization that strives to increase the profitability of sorghum through research, promotion and information.

Turley Named Osborn & Barr CEO

Osborn & Barr (O&B) announced on April 15 the promotion of Michael Turley to chief executive officer (CEO). The announcement represents the agency's continued commitment to delivering forward-thinking solutions to the agricultural, rural-lifestyle and outdoors markets by utilizing the knowledge and expertise of its high-caliber employees to provide innovative new strategies. The move enables the agency to continue its consistent growth and stay true to its roots, while pursuing new opportunities.

Turley, who has been with O&B for 17 years, will apply his extensive agricultural and marketing communications background to continue driving the agency's innovation in the industry. He will lead the agency, providing the strategic vision needed to continue its growth and develop new client offerings.

"It's an exciting time to be in the agricultural and rural marketplaces right now," said Turley. "There are tremendous opportunities, and I'm looking forward to exploring those as we continue to grow as the

- **U.S. Sens. Pat Roberts and Sam Brownback:** "Kansas was selected on the merits because it has the right expertise and infrastructure to protect the American food supply. Threats of frivolous lawsuits only delay the critical research to be conducted at the lab and create an undue risk to American agriculture and our national security.

"Kansas has met every deadline and every requirement in a full and open manner on both the state and the national level. An independent, interagency task force determined that Kansas was the best site for the NBAF, and that recommendation was approved by the Bush Administration. That decision has since been reviewed and supported by the Obama Administration and DHS Secretary Napolitano."

Thornton reiterated Kansas remains intensely focused on accelerating efforts to protect the American food supply and agriculture economy in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security.

The Flu by Any Other Name Would Hurt as Badly



Although the H1N1 flu appears to have moderated its intensity in the Northern Hemisphere and Mexico has begun to return toward normalcy, people south of the equator are bracing for the impact of a potentially stronger strain of the *swine flu* as winter approaches. Some epidemiologists say colder temperatures make it easier for the

virus to infect people - if only because they spend more time indoors avoiding the cold weather, which increases the opportunity for the virus to hop from person to person. Experts also warn that regular flu that typically spreads in winter may collide with swine flu and recombine to make it more transmissible or more dangerous.

In the meantime, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack is recommending the virus undergo a name change from *swine flu* to *H1N1 influenza*. This would reduce public confusion about the illness and more accurately characterize it as a human-to-human transmitted virus. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), this flu cannot be transmitted by food, and people are not infected by eating pork or pork products or coming in contact with pigs. But the CDC and other health organizations continue to warn the virus is contagious and is spreading from human to human.

Further, the CDC has described the H1N1 flu virus isolated from the human as "very different from that found in pigs." At this time, there is no evidence that this influenza subtype is present in pigs in the U.S. or anywhere in the pig herd in the world.

The Missouri Pork Association represents the state's pork producers in the areas of promotion, research, education and legislation, and has encouraged them to maintain strict biosecurity procedures on their farms to ensure the health and safety of their employees and their

advocate for agriculture and rural America."

Osborn & Barr's staff of more than 120 professionals provides brand management, strategic planning, event planning and marketing, creative services, public relations, media services, social marketing, digital marketing and channel marketing. The 20-year-old agency has \$125 million in capitalized annual billings. The agency's headquarters office is located in St. Louis, and it has additional U.S. offices in Kansas City and Des Moines.

Successful Farming Promotes Blades

Successful Farming on April 13 announced the promotion of Curt Blades to sales and marketing manager. In his new role, Curt will direct and manage all interactive advertising and sponsorship programs online and at www.agriculture.com. This will include providing overall direction for the creation and implementation of integrated marketing programs with the **Successful Farming** editorial team and sales staff. He will also be responsible for managing and establishing strategic direction for **Successful Farming's** research, database, and trade marketing activities. Curt will be relocating from Kansas City to the Des Moines area.

Japan Looks to Agriculture for Job Growth

The Japanese are turning conventional demographics and historical migratory patterns upside down as it faces - like every nation in the world - its worst recession since World War II. Instead of watching workers leave the farms for the coastal cities, Japan is seeing a steady stream of workers heading for the fields. With thousands of factory and office jobs in Japan's industrial complex getting axed, farming has emerged as a promising new career track, according to a weekly Tokyo-based business magazine.

The government sees agriculture as one of the few industries able to create jobs and has earmarked \$10 million to provide 900 people with job training programs in farming, forestry and fishing. But the action is also designed to address a labor situation that runs deeper than job losses in the city. Policy makers, mentions a *Wall Street Journal*

animals. For more information about this or any other programs of the Missouri Pork Association, go to www.mopork.com, or call the Missouri Pork Association office at (573) 445-8375. Additional information is available at www.pork.org or www.cdc.gov/swineflu/.

Missouri Pork Association Initiates PQA Plus® Action



With the introduction last month of its Pork Quality Assurance Plus® program, the MPA's Executive Board demonstrated a new level of commitment to the production of safe and wholesome pork, while at the same time promoting the well-being of their animals, families, employees and the communities in which they live and operate.

The initiative strongly recommends all of the state's pork producers participate in the pork industry's 'We Care' program by a target date of December 31, 2010. The motion states: *Through their participation, producers would abide by the statement of ethical principles, become Pork Quality Assurance Plus® (PQA Plus®) certified, achieve PQA Plus® site status, and have their employees who are involved in handling and transporting of animals become Transport Quality Assurance® (TQA®) certified.* The Board went on to encourage market points/packers to support this effort by requiring the We Care, PQA Plus and TQA certification as a condition for the sale of animals.

"Thousands of responsible pork producers from around the nation have demonstrated their commitment to the health and well-being of the animals in their care, and to providing a safe and wholesome product to their customers by participating in PQA Plus and in TQA," said Erik Risa, manager of education programs for the Pork Checkoff. "We are excited that the momentum behind the program continues to build with the support of producers from Missouri."

As of April 20, over 27,300 pork producers in the United States had received PQA Plus certification, 2,263 from the state of Missouri. Over 17,200 individuals have been certified in TQA.

"As a pork producer, I feel it is my responsibility to care for the health and well-being of my animals, as well as to provide a safe and wholesome product to my customers," said Bill Kessler, a pork producer from Mexico and chairman of the Missouri Pork Association. "Participating in the 'We Care' program reflects the industry's commitment as a whole to social responsibility and accountability."

Ag Hall of Fame News

-- New Poultry Museum; World of Wheat Display



The National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame saluted the "World of Wheat" with

report last month, are "hoping newly unemployed young people will revive Japan's dwindling farming population." Two-thirds of the country's full-time farmers are 65 and older; and only 6% of Japan's work force is involved in agriculture.

Most of the transplanted urbanites are finding the work and the rural setting rewarding. One 25-year-old former on-line retail employee carries a translated copy of Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*. But they all note one major drawback: there's neither time nor facilities to sooth their aching muscles in a traditional Japanese hot tub.

Agriculture in Every Classroom Every Day!

That's the vision of the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC). Each year over 20,000 Kansas students learn to connect the dots from agriculture production to consumption through materials and programs developed and distributed by KFAC.

Lesson plans such as "The Secret Life of a French Fry" and "Farm Web" introduce students and teachers to the connection of agriculture in their daily lives.

Learning labs in summer courses provide teachers the ability to confidently integrate plant, animal and food science into their regular math, social studies, science, and reading curriculum.

Assembly programs integrate with core curriculum as students learn to recognize crops, animals and the items that are produced and consumed from these sources.

The *Exploring Kansas Natural Resources Guide* provides teachers and students information about the state's prairie biomes, cropping and water systems. Complimentary lesson plans emphasize care of natural resources such as soils and water. Educator guides and lesson plans for teaching about crops and livestock are also available.

Career exploration is an integral part of all the educator guides introducing youth to many ag-related careers that could be a part of their future. Careers

an April 2 event and is opening the National Poultry Museum, said Center Executive Director Tim Daugherty.



The Hall of Fame sponsored a World of Wheat program for Gifted Students in the Leavenworth, Fort Leavenworth, and Easton school districts which culminated with an April 2 public program featuring skits and music at the Center. As part of the program, students used wheat as the

basis for science experiments, math problems, and practiced wheat weaving. The April 2 program concluded with the unveiling of an interactive exhibit that teaches museum attendees how wheat came to Kansas, what products can be made from wheat, how to "make" a wheat plant and offers a host of other activities. The display will be on display until June 1. The Leavenworth County Farm Bureau contributed funding to the project.

More recently, Daugherty says the National Poultry Museum formally became a permanent fixture May 8 at the National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, Kansas, with a ribbon cutting ceremony and a program of introductions and remarks by key donors and supporters.

The initial exhibits of the National Poultry Museum were unveiled in 1994 with the completion of the Hatchery Building within FarmTown USA - an early 1900s farm town constructed on the Ag Hall grounds. But the new poultry museum is not designed to be a static exhibit, according to Daugherty. "We're positioning it as a learning center showing, for example, how poultry production was basically a backyard business," Daugherty says.

From that backyard heritage - where 88% of U.S. farms in 1910 raised chickens and produced eggs - poultry production has grown into a \$40 billion industry of about 500 companies dominated by about 50 firms like Tyson, Pilgrim and Perdue. Currently less than 5% of U.S. farms have chickens.

Fertilizer Innovator SFP Marks Ten Years



Research and development company SFP, specializing in fertilizer enhancement, management and efficiency, celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house at its new

world headquarters in Leawood, Kansas. SFP highlighted the occasion by unveiling a scholarship program awarding three college students with \$2,500 in financial aid as they pursue their studies in agriculture, agronomy, crop, soil and environmental science. SFP is also providing a \$2,500 scholarship to one law student enrolled at the UMKC School of Law.

"We are proud of this corporate milestone," said Jake Sanders, SFP's vice president of market development. "The SFP Scholarship Program

highlighted go well beyond production agriculture and include food science, biotechnology, agri-tourism, genetics and horticulture services.

"Today's consumers want a closer connection to the sources of products used every day in their households," states Cathy Musick, KFAC Executive Director.

"Education is the key to this connection. It's the key to greater understanding as consumers form policy affecting agriculture production. It's the key to protecting the infrastructure that allows consumers to benefit from U.S. agriculture production world wide."

Help Connect the Dots!

Want to get involved? Connect to our website at: www.ksagclassroom.org or give us a call at 785-532-7946. KFAC is continually searching for partners who are committed to agriculture literacy and education. "We enjoy working with partners who share the same passion and commitment to agriculture that we do!" says Musick. "We look forward to future conversations with the Kansas City Ag Business Council and its members on ways we can work together to educate students about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives."

Sleeping Giants

Americans pride themselves not only on their ingenuity but, maybe more so, on their industriousness. Consequently, a new finding by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) could be a little unsettling. The OECD study released early this month shows the French sleep more than any other industrialized nation - averaging 530 minutes of shuteye a day (or 8.8 hours); but Americans are only a few winks behind at 518 minutes.

The French, however, leave Americans in the dust - or in the wake of the sandman - is at the dinner table and in leisure time. French consumers lead all the world's diners as they spend more than two hours eating and chatting. That's almost double the time Americans use to bolt down their breakfast, lunch and dinner. When they're not eating or sleeping, the French are planning for, enjoying and reminiscing about their mandatory 30 days of annual paid leave. By comparison, the English and Japanese have 20 and 10 days, respectively, of compulsory time

was created to honor the people who've been devoted to SFP since its inception, and it represents our commitment to the future of agriculture."

The SFP Scholarship Program includes four annual scholarships:

- *The SFP and Dr. J. Larry Sanders Agriculture and Innovation Scholarship* benefits an enrolled student in the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Science in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas. The scholarship honors SFP co-founder Dr. J. Larry Sanders, president and CEO, SFP.
- *The John Hardy Academic Achievement Scholarship* benefits an enrolled student in the University of Missouri-Kansas City, School of Law. The scholarship honors SFP co-founder John Hardy, executive vice president, SFP.
- *The SFP and Dr. George Walter Wallingford Agronomy and Soil Science Scholarship* benefits an enrolled student in the Department of Agronomy in the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University. The scholarship was established in memory of Dr. George Walter Wallingford, co-founder and former chairperson, SFP.
- *The SFP and Dr. Larry Murphy Agronomy and Soil Science Scholarship* benefits an enrolled student in the Department of Agronomy in the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University. The scholarship honors Dr. Larry Murphy, president of Murphy Agro and third-party research consultant for SFP.

SFP has spent a decade solving some of agriculture's long-standing fertilizer inefficiency challenges. Its two products - AVAIL®, a phosphorus fertilizer enhancer and NutriSphere-N®, a nitrogen fertilizer manager - help today's growers maximize the efficacy of the fertilizer they apply. In 2007, SFP's NutriSphere-N was voted *AgProfessional* magazine's "Editors Choice New Product of the Year" and "Readers Choice New Product of the Year." In 2008, SFP was recognized by *Inc.* magazine as one of the 500 fastest growing privately-held companies in America, ranking No.8 in the manufacturing category.

Executives from the Leawood Chamber of Commerce, business and civic leaders, agricultural association affiliates and business partners attended the event, both to celebrate SFP's 10 years in business and to inaugurate the new 12,199-square-foot office. Peyton Sellers, the SFP sponsored NASCAR Nationwide Series driver, was on hand to sign autographs for guests and showoff the car.

Agriculture: More Than Food on the Table

By Dennis McLaughlin, McLaughlin Writers Group



Breakthroughs in science, engineering and technology aren't always inspired

off. Americans don't find such largess in their employee manuals. But they apparently console themselves by spending 44% of their free time watching television, second only to Mexicans who glue 48% of their downtime to the tube.

Source: *Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development*

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by laboratory testing and the crunching of reams of data. A divot on a



Japanese golf course initiated soil studies that led to the development of *ivermectin*, the remarkable broad spectrum anti-parasitic drug that has controlled heartworm in animals and curtailed river blindness in Africans.

In the same vein of serendipity, Oregon State University researcher Li Kaichang, an expert in wood adhesives and composite materials, was gathering mussels for dinner about ten years ago, and came up with additional food for thought. As he pried the crustaceans loose, Li was amazed at the strength of their hold on the rocks. He decided to see what made them cling so tenaciously despite the action of the water and the waves.

Researchers like Li had been trying for years to develop a substitute for the urea-formaldehyde-based glues used to produce interior wood composite panels such as plywood and particle board. Formaldehyde can be carcinogenic; and other replacement glues without urea formaldehyde were more expensive.

Back in the lab, Li discovered mussels had a specific protean responsible for their vice-like grip; and he reproduced it using low-cost, non-toxic soybeans. In the beginning, Li notes, few believed in his work. In 2001 he patented the process.

It took much longer to commercialize the discovery, writes Teresa Burney in *Big Building News* (August, 2008). "Finding an equal-cost replacement for the cheap urea-formaldehyde-based adhesives was a holy grail that seemed impossible at times to reach."

Agribusiness Council member Jim Martin, vice president of Omni Tech International, estimates that 30 million sheets of 4 x 8 foot interior grade plywood for cabinetry will consume 180 million pounds of soy flour this year to make the adhesive to bond the layers. "Over a billion pounds of soybean oil will be used to make industrial products in 2009," said Martin, whose company supports the research and development efforts of the United Soybean Board (USB).

Special Thanks to --

Dennis McLaughlin, *McLaughlin Writers Group*, for his volunteer editorial services to bring you this issue of the Agricultural Business Council's Newsletter.

Formatting and graphics courtesy of Erica Venancio.

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