For Immediate Release

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NEBRASKA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION NEWS RELEASE

Lincoln, February 13, 2018 – Russ Verig, President of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association has named the Hall of Fame Inductees. The announcements were made in conjunction with the annual Ribs & Bibs Banquet on February 13, 2018 at the Graduate in Lincoln. Named to the Voluntary Check-off Hall of Fame were Scott Spilker of Beatrice and Gary and Liz Doerr of Creighton were inducted into the Check-off Hall of Fame.

Scott Spilker, owns a wean-to-finish pig farm and diversified crop operation near Beatrice, Nebraska. He is also president of Rolling Hills Pork, LLC, a 2,500-sow farrowing operation outside of Washington, Kansas where he gets his young stock for the nursery. Prior to serving as a State Director, Scott was an active member if the Blue Valley Pork Producers Association serving as President in 1991. Scott was first elected to Association’s Board of Directors in 2010 and served as President in 2016. Scott has been especially effective in speaking out on the issues of the industry. Scott is member of the NPPA Legislative/SIP Committee that gives directions at the state and local level. He has traveled to Washington D.C. on numerous occasions to speak directly to Nebraska’s Congressional Representatives, offered testimony before the State Legislature and served as a National Pork Producers Council delegate. Most recently, Scott was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue to serve as Chairman of the Nebraska USDA Farm Service Agency state committee. The state committee is responsible for the oversight of farm programs and county committee operations, resolving appeals from the agriculture community and helping to keep producers informed about FSA programs.
Gary and Liz Doerr started out buying feeder pigs and then added a few sows after they were married in 1980. Today the operation is a 275-sow farrow to finish hog operation near Creighton, along with twelve hundred acres of row crops. They were members of the Knox County Pork Producers in the early 1980s and Gary was President in 1998. The Knox County Pork Producers started the "Brumm Speaks Out" meetings while Gary served on the board and they were members of Mike Brumm's Swine Enterprise Analysis group. This was a group of producers, all with sows that met quarterly to discuss and share production information. In 1998 the Doerrs were named "Pork All-American" by National Pork Producers Council (NPPC). Established by the NPPC in 1970, the Pork All-American Award Program has recognized more than 1,000 pig farmers for their contributions to the pork industry and their communities. Gary was first elected to the NPPA Board of Directors in 2004 and served as President in 2005. Gary did a second run on the Board of Directors, from 2011 to 2015 when he filled a vacancy. Gary’s partner in life and on the farm, Liz assists with artificial insemination, working with sows, weaning pigs, and sorting the hogs to be sold. She also does the accounting for the operation, in addition to downloading and analyzing data from their feed mill and maintaining hog production records.

Liz is the Knox and Antelope County Zoning Administrator and served on the committee for the Nebraska Department of Ag for developing the Livestock Siting Matrix.

*The Nebraska Pork Producers Association is a grassroots, incorporated, non-profit organization established in 1961. NPPA was developed to promote the pork industry through the enhancement of consumer demand, producer education and research. For more information, visit NPPA’s website at www.NEpork.org.*