

● DECEMBER 2020

SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS



SRNS Today

South Carolina celebrates the Site

State proclamation marks SRS 70th anniversary on Nov. 28



This month

Area apprenticeship program announced • Employees raise \$1.1 million for United Way • Toys for Tots make Christmas bright • Tritium trains in virtual reality • All steamed up at SRS



Stuart MacVean
SRNS President and CEO

Welcome

to the December 2020 edition of

SRNS Today

As the calendar year draws to a close and I think about all we have accomplished in 2020, despite the challenges faced due to COVID-19, I am yet again reminded of how great our company really is and how proud I am to work here. SRNS is a company of strength, integrity and values and we continue to prove it year after year.

On the cover

S.C. Sen. Tom Young and S.C. Rep. Bill Taylor present a Senate Resolution designating Savannah River Site Day in S.C. on Nov. 28, 2020, to Mike Budney, DOE-SR Manager, Savannah River Operations Office; Jeffrey Allison, Acting NNSA-Savannah River Field Office Manager and Thomas Johnson, DOE-SR Deputy Manager, Savannah River Operations Office.

SRNS recently joined S.C. Gov. Henry McMaster at the State Capitol to announce a regional task force commitment to create hundreds of new registered apprentice opportunities over the next year in the Central Savannah River Area. SRNS has committed to do our part by setting a goal to create 100 apprenticeships at SRS by October 2021.

Our company was also recently nominated as a National Minority Supplier Development Council's Corporation of the Year, Class 1. It is an honor to have been nominated beside companies like Microsoft, CVS and the Walt Disney Company.

SRNS also continued its history of community giving with the recent successes of our United Way and Toys for Tots campaigns. Our employees give from the heart, and our company is continuously recognized as one of the top donors in the area to these important charities.

SRNS continues to make strides to be recognized as a company of excellence and a proud supporter of our community at both the state and national levels. I look forward to 2021 and continuing our proud tradition of support to our Department of Energy Environmental Management and National Nuclear Security Administration missions.

I wish each of you the happiest of holidays, and a New Year filled with health, peace and prosperity.



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell. Since August 2008, SRNS has been the management and operating contractor for the Savannah River Site, a Department of Energy-owned site near Aiken, South Carolina, including the Savannah River National Laboratory. The SRNS corporate and community offices are located in the renovated 1912 "Old Post Office" building in Aiken, S.C. The primary initiatives of SRNS are national security, clean energy and environmental stewardship. SRNS Today is published monthly by SRNS Corporate Communications to inform our employees and other stakeholders of the company's operational- and community-related activities. If you have questions or comments, please contact us at 803.952.6131 or visit our website.

www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com



Stuart MacVean and S.C. Gov. Henry McMaster announce the SRNS apprenticeship program at a recent press conference in Columbia, S.C.

S.C. Gov. Henry McMaster and SRNS announce major apprenticeship program for SRS, CSRA

SRNS joined S.C. Gov. Henry McMaster recently at the State Capitol to announce a regional task force commitment to create hundreds of new registered apprentice opportunities over the next year in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA).

"The challenge has been issued for our region to promptly create 300 registered apprenticeships within the South Carolina Technical College System from the counties of Aiken, Barnwell, Allendale, Bamberg, Edgefield and Orangeburg," said Stuart MacVean. "We're working to do our part, and we have set a goal to facilitate the creation of 100 apprenticeships at SRS by October 2021."

The CSRA Apprenticeship Task Force is led by Apprenticeship Carolina and Denmark Technical College President Dr. Willie Todd, and includes the Aiken County Public School District Career and Technology Center, Aiken Technical College (ATC), Aiken Works, Economic Development Partnership, Lower Savannah Council of Government (LSCOG), Aiken-Edgefield Manufacturers Council, SRS Community Reuse Organization and the Southern Carolina Alliance.

"This apprentice effort is a great addition to the outstanding work that Apprenticeship Carolina and the S.C. Technical College System are building upon across our state," said Gov. McMaster. "We know that apprenticeships can help South Carolina create a stronger workforce development pipeline that can help create career opportunities for our people and encourage economic growth across the entire state."

Registered apprenticeship programs traditionally support careers related to manufacturing and construction but can also include a variety of jobs found at SRS including production operators, radiation protection personnel, IT professionals and aspiring engineers.

Apprentices become highly skilled individuals possessing the benefits of scalable wages, on-the-job training, and classroom learning.

“

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S.C. Gov. Henry McMaster

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SRNS recently succeeded with a pilot apprenticeship program for production operators in association with ATC. This program began with 10 individuals obtaining the basic qualifications required for an SRNS production operator—including conduct of operations principles and radiation worker training—resulting in full-time offers to several of the participants. A second group of candidates have been interviewed to fill 14 openings based on the success of the pilot program.

More than \$11 million in federal grants is available from the U.S. Department of Labor to expand registered apprenticeship programs in South Carolina. This funding will be used to further ensure the continued success of the SRNS apprenticeship program at SRS and the CSRA.

This registered apprenticeship program at SRNS is based on a partnership between several local organizations including Apprenticeship Carolina™ (AC). AC, a collaboration between Ready South Carolina and the South Carolina Technical College System, is dedicated to furthering economic and workforce development. With the guidance of AC and the LSCOG, apprenticeships will be registered both with the state and nationally.

SRS Day proclaimed

State delegates designate Nov. 28 as SRS Day in S.C.

On Nov. 28, 1950, newspapers and radio stations announced that the then-Savannah River Plant—and now SRS—would be constructed in Aiken and Barnwell Counties at the direction of President Harry S. Truman. The announcement brought forth tens of thousands of skilled workers from across the area and the nation. Seven decades later, SRS has been honored by the S.C. legislative body with a Senate Resolution commemorating Nov. 28 as “SRS Day in S.C.”

Elected officials gathered with Site leaders on the steps of the Aiken Municipal Building on Nov. 16 to bestow the framed resolution to SRS.

“SRS and its 11,000 employees have an enormous, positive economic impact in our region,” said S.C. Sen. Tom Young, who sponsored the resolution, which was co-sponsored by the Aiken legislative delegation along with other representatives from counties south of SRS. “Because of the importance of the Site to our region and our state, it was important to recognize Nov. 28 in our state as ‘SRS Day,’ to honor all current and former SRS employees for their important contributions to our national defense over these past 70 years.”

Since the announcement in 1950, the key production reactors and support facilities needed to execute the Site’s mission were constructed in only five years with a peak workforce greater than 38,000. This monumental industrial and engineering feat is often compared to the construction of the Panama Canal.

Since then, SRS has played a vital role in delivering materials and technologies of national significance, including fuel for NASA’s deep space program, building and operating the nation’s first and world’s largest radioactive waste vitrification facility, and serving as the nation’s primary source of tritium to support the nuclear stockpile, just to name a few.

“In its 70-year existence, SRS has served as a major cornerstone of America’s national defense infrastructure,” said Jeff Allison, Acting Manager, NNSA-Savannah River Field Office. “The efforts of our predecessors directly contribute to the achievements we have enjoyed for decades. The SRS of today is continuing the traditions of the past—dedicated, patriotic, safe, secure, hard work—to ensure a continued legacy of success for decades to come.”

“Our history aligns with key events in America’s history over the past 70 years. The Site was constructed in response to the Cold War to serve a vital role in America’s nuclear deterrent and nuclear nonproliferation and, along the way, we have developed countless innovative technologies that have strengthened national security, environmental



SRS 70th anniversary banners are displayed at Aiken intersections.

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S.C. Sen. Tom Young

stewardship and even propelled America into the stars,” said Mike Budney, DOE-SR Manager. “SRS is a one-of-a-kind asset, and I have no doubt our future will be as impressive as our past.”

During 2020, SRS’ platinum anniversary has been celebrated throughout Aiken County, recognizing the contributions of the workforce and support from the community, while also offering citizens an opportunity to learn about the Site’s significance in its 70-year history.

For more information on SRS history and missions, please visit the SRS website at www.srs.gov, and the SRS Museum in Aiken, S.C.



Aiken County recognizes SRS 70th anniversary

Aiken County Council Chair Gary Bunker (right) recently presented National Nuclear Security Administration-Savannah River Field Office Acting Manager Jeff Allison a copy of Aiken County Council’s resolution recognizing SRS on its 70th anniversary. “SRS has been one of Aiken County’s cornerstones for seven decades,” said Bunker. “At the Site, thousands of local citizens forged the materials for our strategic nuclear deterrent; contributed to victory in the Cold War; and gave the world an unprecedented period of general peace. Aiken County fully supports ongoing and future scientific and national security missions at SRS.”

SRNS nominated by NMSDC for Corporation of the Year for small business support

During the COVID-19 pandemic, support for many local small businesses has weakened, forcing many to close or continue to struggle to exist. SRNS believes in the value of small and minority-owned businesses and continues to work closely with grow small businesses throughout the region.

This ongoing, in-depth support was recently affirmed with the nomination of SRNS as a National Minority Supplier Development Council’s (NMSDC) Corporation of the Year, Class I.

The NMSDC virtually hosted its annual Conference and Business Opportunity Exchange Oct. 26-29, culminating with the Awards Gala, which was also a virtual event. This premier event attracts America’s top public and privately-owned companies and boasts representation of more than 12,000 minority-owned businesses, 1,450 corporations, their procurement executives and supplier development leaders.

Only a small number of companies were nominated for this national honor, each representing organizations of a similar size in five different classes. SRNS was nominated along with such recognizable corporations as Microsoft, CVS, Toyota, ExxonMobil, Comcast, Johnson & Johnson and the Walt Disney Company.

“Though we were not named the winner in our class, being nominated for this prestigious award clearly places SRNS in the discussion for the best supplier development program in the nation,” said Alex Agyemang, SRNS Small Business Liaison Officer. “SRNS is interested in doing business with the best small businesses. We brand that way and join organizations that will help us gain access to outstanding suppliers.



Employees from SRNS mentor protégé company Strativia assist numerous SRS employees each day with computer help desk issues. Jeremy Collins, Help Desk Technician, (left) is assisted by SRS Help Desk Manager Kyle Olds.

And, as a result, we’re being recognized as one of the top companies in the U.S. for supplier development. I’m extremely excited about it.”

This achievement, combined with the fact that over the last four years SRNS has committed \$1 billion to small businesses, validates the strength of SRNS procurement policies related to supporting and growing small businesses. Since SRNS became the SRS management and operations contractor in 2008, this innovative program has received 17 awards, with 15 of these recognitions coming in the last three years.

“Because we’re so specialized in our type of industry, this honor gives SRNS, the Site and DOE an increased level of visibility. This will help draw the best of the best small business suppliers to us,” said Agyemang.

Giant silver pipes crisscross the Savannah River Site, through the pine woods and along many roadways. Visitors and new employees alike ask the same question:

“What ARE those things?”

“Steam is generated and distributed across the Site through 10 miles of insulated pipe for a wide variety of purposes, most of which are largely left over from when SRS was built in the 1950s,” said SRNS Maintenance Coordinator Andrew Ellsworth.

“During that era, using coal to produce steam was an extremely cost-efficient way to heat facilities and provide an effective source of energy for operations,” Ellsworth continued. “With stricter Environmental Protection Agency emission standards and aging plant conditions, replacing coal-fired plants with state-of-the-art biomass steam plants was the best option. Our steam generation and distribution systems are now in excellent condition.”

Biomass plants burn wood from the logging industry and other sources to heat huge boilers, which create steam for export to customers. The biomass process produces lower environmental emissions, lessens energy consumption and costs, and maintains compliance with Federal Clean Air and Water Act standards.

There are four biomass plants at SRS, with the first built in 2008. SRNS is responsible for the maintenance and operation of one plant. The remainder are operated by DOE contractor Ameresco Federal Solutions.

The largest SRS biomass plant uses a portion of the steam produced to drive a turbine, which can generate up to 10 megawatts of electricity to meet approximately 30 percent of the Site’s electrical needs. The electricity generated by this plant reduces the amount of power SRNS is required to purchase from an offsite utility.

To ensure a continuous supply of water for steam production, approximately 800 gallons per minute of water from the Savannah River is delivered to Ameresco’s primary facility. A 1,000-horsepower pump feeds the existing underground network of river water pipes. The pump house was originally built to provide cooling water to SRS reactors, but was repurposed as missions changed.

“Some things stand the test of time,” said Ellsworth. “The steam generation and distribution system is certainly one of them. We recently completed a major steam maintenance outage, which included over 175 maintenance tasks just on the steam lines. Steam users took advantage of the outage to perform repairs on their systems to ensure efficient operation. Our engineers, operations and maintenance teams work together to ensure the system continually operates at peak efficiency.”

STEAMED UP

SRNS transforms 1950s technology into cost-efficient energy source



Brad Clark, SRNS Operations Support Specialist (left), and Andrew Ellsworth, SRNS Maintenance Coordinator, inspect a steam trap used to exhaust excess steam.



Site employees recently celebrated the collection of more than 5,500 toys during this year's SRS Toys for Tots campaign

Christmas to sparkle more brightly for area kids thanks to Toys for Tots donations

More than 5,500 toys and \$28,735 were donated by SRS employees for this year's Toys for Tots and Angel Tree campaigns, which brings the total number of toys donated since 1991 to more than 400,000.

As part of an important annual tradition that benefits less fortunate children in the CSRA, the contractors at SRS have partnered with the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots and the Salvation Army's Angel Tree programs. SRNS, Savannah River Remediation (SRR) and Centerra provided corporate checks to further add to the success of this year's toy drive.

"We are annually amazed and greatly pleased with number of toys and monetary donations contributed to us and the Aiken Toys for Tots organization by the employees of SRS," said Gregory Smith, Coordinator, Augusta Toys for Tots.

At the close of each year's SRS Toys for Tots celebration, Santa leads trucks full of unwrapped presents in a parade formation from the Site to area distribution centers.

"Due to the COVID pandemic, a lot of things look different while we face new and unique challenges," said Seneca Johnson, SRS Toys for Tots Chairperson. "However, our employees are passionate about supporting kids in need throughout the entire region, especially during the holiday season. This will be a very special Christmas to remember for thousands of children, thanks to all of the big hearts found here."

For nearly two decades, employees also sponsored the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program, enabling SRS employees to adopt more than 560 children, giving toys and clothing to specific Angel Tree recipients.



Jennifer Abraham (left) and Candice Gordon, both of SRNS, ready a Toys for Tots donation box.

Once the toys are sorted, Aiken Marines distribute the gifts in Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell and Edgefield counties, as well as the cities of North Augusta, Beech Island, Belvedere, Williston, Salley and Couchton. The Marines from Augusta supply toys to Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington and Wilkes counties and the town of Wrens.

This annual event is managed by SRNS and supported by DOE-Savannah River, NNSA-Savannah River, SRNS, SRR, Centerra Group, Augusta Building Trades and Parsons.



2020 SRNS United Way Chair Marion Cofer (right) and Co-Chair Rachael Simon recently revealed that SRNS raised \$1,105,633, surpassing their \$1 million goal.

Impacting lives

Despite pandemic, SRNS employees raise more than \$1.1 million for United Way

SRNS employees gave back to surrounding communities through another successful United Way campaign, raising \$1,105,633, which includes the employee campaign and corporate match. The match totaled \$94,962 and was provided by Fluor Corporation, the parent company of SRNS.

This year's theme was "Impacting Lives Now More Than Ever," and because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's campaign was extremely important.

2020 United Way Chair Marion Cofer was astonished by the immense support from employees throughout the campaign. "With the many challenges we faced this year, it means a lot that our employees still came together to show their incredible support for the United Way campaign," said Cofer.

"We would not have been able to have such a great campaign without the help from our committee," he continued. "I especially want to thank my Co-Chair Rachael Simon for being the best teammate this year and helping us reach our goal, and to the entire SRNS workforce who continue to make each campaign a huge success."

A virtual celebration was held in November to celebrate a successful campaign. During the celebration, Cofer and Simon revealed the total amount raised and presented the donations to the United Way agencies. Among these agencies were representatives Sharon

Rodgers, United Way of Aiken County President, and Brittany Burnett, United Way of the CSRA President and CEO.

"SRNS continues to be an amazing partner in our community and has been the top contributor to United Way of the CSRA for many years. At United Way, we are continuing to assess the ongoing needs of our community due to the impacts from COVID and beyond," said Burnett. "Knowing that we have the support from SRNS employees will ensure that we are able to provide programs and services to those with immediate needs and the children, young adults and families with long term needs as well."

Rodgers said the United Way of Aiken County is very grateful for the faithful support and overwhelming generosity during this year's campaign. "SRNS is our largest contributor, so your impact is truly significant. As a result of your donations, our 30 partner agencies and 45 critical need programs will receive funding in 2021. These programs benefit over 200,000 children, seniors, disabled, underemployed and folks in crisis in our community," she said.

This year's campaign benefits these agencies near SRS: United Way of Aiken County; United Way of the CSRA; United Way of Edgefield County; United Way of McDuffie County; United Way of the Midlands; United Way of Screven County; United Way of South Carolina, including Bamberg, Colleton and Hampton counties; United Way of Anderson County; and United Way of Barnwell County, including Allendale County.



Knowledge Preservation and VR Programs employees using VR training equipment

Future of training arrives at Tritium Facilities

The future of training has arrived at the SRS Tritium Facilities by way of virtual reality (VR).

Three VR programs covering Operations, Maintenance and Radiation Control (RadCon) were developed to facilitate training for employees supporting the nation's nuclear deterrent.

SRS is the only place that prepares and ships tritium-loaded containers, called reservoirs, to the Department of Defense, where they are installed in weapons. Training is vital to ensure the Site's continued support of the nation's nuclear deterrent. VR provides new opportunities not possible through conventional classroom instruction and on-the-job-training.

"Employees can participate in situations that would be too hazardous, complex, expensive or occur too infrequently to conventionally train," said Adam Reese, Knowledge Preservation Management and VR Programs Manager, who led the implementation.

The Operations program virtually guides employees through an internal process as if it were real, creating random errors they must

identify and resolve. The training is different each time an employee goes through it, ensuring they pay strict attention to detail. The Maintenance program guides employees through a virtual rebuild of a \$70,000 equipment piece. VR allows employees to repeatedly rebuild the equipment while being evaluated, at no additional cost and without concern of damaging the real equipment. Lastly, the RadCon program is a virtual room where technicians take smears and surveys of contaminated surfaces, enabling them to practice detecting contamination while remaining in a completely safe, non-radioactive environment.

Virtual environments for the three programs were created in partnership with the Savannah River National Laboratory, who coded the programs and built the Computer Aided Design files.

"These programs are just the beginning of the possibilities with VR training," said Mark Davis, SRNS Senior Vice President for NNSA Operations and Programs. "They ensure we continue to execute our missions safely and proficiently, keeping us the backbone of deterrence in support of peace."



L Area Operator Chris Billings (left) receives software training from eRounds team member Michael Staley (standing), while L Area Operator Kevin Thomas learns from eRounds team member Mike Sexton (right).

Modern GoPlant software offers improved functionality, cost savings

The SRNS Facility Support Services group is implementing a new software called GoPlant, which will replace outdated software currently being used by Environmental Management (EM) Operations, resulting in an annual cost savings of approximately \$74,000.

"Among other benefits of changing software, GoPlant will provide immediate operator feedback, the ability to generate email alerts, and offers detailed data analysis and trending," said SRNS Facility Support Systems/eRounds Lead Karen Bodiford. "It includes a management platform providing drafts, completed rounds and forms, reports and notifications."

Currently, the eRounds Group is conducting overview training in the EM facilities for Shift Operations Managers, First Line Managers, Engineers and Operators, with further training ongoing. Full implementation of the GoPlant software is scheduled for completion in mid-2021.

"Implementing the new software has taken a lot of hard work by my team, but the benefits of having a more modern and capable software will be well worth the man-hours," said Bodiford. "We are constantly looking for ways to improve our processes, and this new software will not only save money but help facility operators become more efficient in their rounds."

GoPlant additional benefits

- Functions online and offline allowing users to work regardless of network coverage within the plant
- Compliant with Software Center, makes it easier to install than previous software
- Synchronization reinforces revision control by automatically completing transfers as soon as a user logs in, instead of relying on an operator-initiated action to transfer



Russell's at The HUB brings H Area cafeteria back to life for employees

The SRS main cafeteria in the 766-H Training Facility has been closed since the appearance of the pandemic in March 2020. However, with COVID-19 protocols in place and a new vendor, the facility has reopened with a revised menu and enthusiastic patrons.

Russell's at The HUB, is now operated by a small, family-owned business from Blackville, S.C. They bring a reputation for excellent service and their own special menu item, the Smash Burger.

"It's important to me to get immediate feedback from our customers on what they like and how we can improve," said Manager Donna Croft. "You'll see that I spend just as much time in the dining area conversing with customers, as I do in the back of the kitchen. If our goal is to make Site employees happy, we need to understand what they are looking for in their food service."

According to SRNS Director of Site Services Geoff Reynolds, it was time to resume food service in the cafeteria. "After a long wait, this is another sign that SRS is moving closer to post-COVID-19 activities."

As in past years, breakfast and snacks will also be available.

INNOVATION • DEFENSE

NONPROLIFERATION • ENVIRONMENT

SRNS

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
We make the world **safer.**