

MAY 2026

SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS



# SRNS Today

## Safety Expo hits the mark

Site employees kick off annual event



**SCAN ME**  
to connect with  
our social media

## This month

Campus plan for infrastructure • NNSA, USACE partnership • STEM Pals • Heart Walk



**Jeff Griffin**  
SRNS President and CEO

**On the cover**

Employees engage in all aspects of safety and security through interactive games and discussions at the annual SRS Safety Expo. Leeanna Biery, K Area Complex Deputy Facility Manager, is seconds away from getting “dunked” at the 2026 Safety Expo.

# Welcome

to the May 2026 edition of

# SRNS Today

As we approach the halfway point for the calendar year, SRNS continues to swiftly meet our mission goals to keep the nation secure while emphasizing the value of a safety conscious and growth-minded workforce.

This year, we brought our annual Safety Expo back on-site for the first time in over a decade, welcoming 4,000 employees from all SRS contractors. The event featured 80 interactive booths that reinforced safe work practices and a food drive to benefit our neighbors in the CSRA. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success.

Our workforce continues to grow, with 11 nuclear operator apprentices recently graduating from the SRS Apprenticeship School and preparing to take on critical roles at SRTE.

SRNS remains committed to supporting the American Red Cross, contributing \$20,000 to this year’s Boot Scoot Boogie. The event honored courageous and compassionate individuals who demonstrated lifesaving assistance in emergency situations. Honorees included: SRNS employees Joseph Gray, Russell Hannah and Josh Givens; and retired employee Charles Moore.

Reflecting on these recent accomplishments—within the workplace and throughout our community—reinforces our commitment to make to make sure that “Every Day Matters” at SRNS. Enjoy this month’s issue of SRNS Today.



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor and HII partnership company, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina. The SRNS corporate and community offices are located in the renovated 1912 “Old Post Office” building in Aiken. 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.

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**COMMON ACRONYMS**

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) • Savannah River Site (SRS) • Department of Energy (DOE) • National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) • Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE) • High-Fidelity Training and Operations Center (HFTOC) • Pit Production Operations and Programs (PPOP) • Plutonium Disposition Operations and Programs (PDOP) • Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) • Savannah River Tritium Enterprise (SRTE) • science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)

# Campus plan strengthens mission delivery

A rendering of the proposed Jackson Warehouse Campus

SRNS recently completed a comprehensive 20- to 30-year Campus Master Plan (CMP) to modernize infrastructure across SRS. The long-range plan establishes an integrated blueprint for future development, while aligning major capital investments with NNSA mission needs and addressing decades-old infrastructure, expanding mission requirements and logistical challenges across the Site.

As a key player in the NSE, SRNS continues to expand capabilities to meet both immediate and long-term national security demands. The CMP provides a strategic roadmap for modernizing and consolidating facilities, optimizing utilities and guiding the development of state-of-the-art campuses that will serve SRS missions for generations.

“This comprehensive approach ensures SRS remains resilient and responsive to evolving national security needs. We must modernize, consolidate and recapitalize aging infrastructure to ensure uninterrupted delivery of NNSA’s core missions for the next 50 years. This plan provides the path to get there,” said Freddie Grimm, SRNS Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning and Integration (SP&I).

While life-extension strategies have kept operations stable, permanent solutions are required. Over the next decade, targeted reinvestments will focus on replacing or upgrading obsolete facilities, integrating modern technologies, enhancing workspace design and building infrastructure that supports new and emerging missions.

Grimm emphasized the need for sequencing investments to support startup, continuity and workforce expansion for the Site’s three major production missions: Tritium, Pit Production and Plutonium Operations.

With the CMP now established, the team is transitioning to a more forward-thinking posture, ensuring daily planning and long-range strategy remain tightly aligned.

“We’re evaluating how evolving sitewide needs and infrastructure plans align with the CMP, identifying gaps early, and preparing now for the studies and groundwork these projects will require,” said Sean Musick, SRNS SP&I Deputy Director. “This proactive approach helps us stay ahead of mission shifts across NNSA and DOE and ensures we’re prioritizing the right investments. This is about being ready for evolving infrastructure demands, program transitions and delivery to the nation with a commercial delivery mindset.”

Developed in partnership with SmithGroup™, the CMP reflects extensive stakeholder engagement and NSE benchmarking. Key conceptual facilities include:

- **Machine Shop Complex:** A centralized and consolidated machining center supporting pit production and other key missions, adding additional maintenance and construction capabilities.
- **Jackson Warehouse Campus:** A high-security logistics hub at the Site boundary modeled after the Kansas City National Security Campus, designed to streamline deliveries and expand capacity.
- **Badging, Medical and Training Campus:** Located outside the security perimeter and modeled after Y-12’s approach, this campus will centralize onboarding, medical screening, training and interviews while reducing congestion at security barricades.

“As mission needs grow, our approach aligns long-term strategy with near-term development, ensuring SRS evolves with purpose,” said Brent Cole, SRNS CMP Manager. “By optimizing Site needs early and designing with efficiency in mind, we’re able to streamline operations, reduce long-term costs and deliver smarter, more sustainable solutions for the decades ahead.”

As SRS prepares for a significant increase in small and large construction projects, the CMP ensures that infrastructure investments remain deliberate, coordinated and mission-aligned, while serving as prudent stewards of the funds entrusted to the Site.



The Campus Master Planning Task Force and SmithGroup team

NNSA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers celebrate the start of construction for a procurement warehouse that will be a non-radiological support facility for the SRPPF project at SRS.



# NNSA, USACE partner to support SRPPF

On April 23, the NNSA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) marked the start of construction for a new procurement warehouse supporting the SRPPF mission at SRS.

Kevin Buchanan, NNSA Federal Project Director for the SRPPF procurement warehouse project, emphasized the partnership between the two entities as integral in advancing construction of the support facility for the NNSA's pit production mission.

"We are celebrating the successful collaboration and teamwork between NNSA and the U.S. Army Corps to move this SRPPF support project forward," Buchanan said. "This is the first time NNSA and the Army Corps have teamed up for a construction job of this magnitude at SRS since before the establishment of the NNSA over 25 years ago. Mobilization for this commercial construction project demonstrates NNSA's priority to drive the SRPPF mission forward and marks a strategic shift to use commercial standards whenever possible to deliver needed infrastructure for our nation."

The \$13.8 million, 22,000-square-foot SRPPF procurement warehouse will be a non-radiological support facility to be utilized for warehousing needs for the overall SRPPF project.

"We're excited to initiate this important project for our partners in the NNSA at SRS," said Lt. Col. Todd Mainwaring, USACE

Charleston District commander. "This support is part of our robust Interagency and International Support program, where we provide technical assistance to non-Department of War federal agencies. We're looking forward to collaboration between our agencies, and I'm grateful for your confidence in our engineering prowess."

NNSA partnered with USACE to supervise design and construction of the warehouse. Hensel Phelps was selected as general contractor for the project, and Burns & McDonnell is serving as architect-engineer. The SRPPF procurement warehouse is forecasted for completion in the third quarter of fiscal year 2027.

The overall SRPPF project involves repurposing an existing Hazard Category-2 structure and constructing numerous support facilities to establish an enduring pit production mission at SRS. Once constructed and fully operational, SRPPF will be responsible for plutonium processing and the production of plutonium pits, which are critical components of every nuclear weapon.

SRPPF is part of the NNSA's enterprise solution to produce no fewer than 80 plutonium pits per year in accordance with federal law. The pits will be produced in facilities at SRS and Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.



## AFGSC interns tour the Site

The Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) Intern Program recently visited the Site for tours of multiple facilities, including SRTE and SRPPF. The AFGSC intern program provides participants with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with projects related to nuclear deterrence and global strike operations.

# SRNS hosts Weapons Quality Division Program

Representatives from the NA-121.3, Weapons Quality Division (WQD), recently visited SRS to support the expanding nuclear weapons mission of SRNS. The visit highlighted the partnership and shared commitment in ensuring the reliability of the nation's nuclear stockpile.

The WQD, operated under the NNSA, is responsible for developing and maintaining policies, requirements and plans to ensure the effective implementation of quality assurance standards for weapons and weapon-related products. The visit allowed for opportunities to evaluate best practices, share innovative ideas and ensure alignment with weapons quality standards.

“The visit at SRNS truly championed an opportunity to discover efficiencies and production quality advancement efforts by accentuating Weapons Quality Assurance (WQA)-related policies and processes. This collaborated effort places expeditious stockpile deliverables as a dynamic focal point in our commitments to the U.S. military,” said Director of NNSA Weapons Quality Division Max Lopez.

During their visit, WQD representatives delivered briefings, offering foundational knowledge into the interconnectivity between weapon product realization processes and weapon quality management systems. These briefings were presented to both the executive leadership team and staff at SRNS.

“The WQD plays a vital role in maintaining the nation's deterrence by assuring the delivery of safe, effective and reliable nuclear weapons



SRNS executives participate in a Weapons Quality Assurance (WQA) 101 briefing presented by members of the Weapons Quality Division (WQD) team.

to the Department of War,” said Jeff Griffin. “It is essential that we continue to strengthen our relationships, collaborate effectively and learn from each other to ensure we remain steadfast in fortifying America's strategic deterrence and advancing our nation's critical missions.”

Demonstrating this commitment to collaboration, the WQD team visited the NNSA-managed SRTE, SRPPF and Manufacturing Technology Center to meet with program leaders and WQA personnel. During these visits, they engaged in work process overviews and facility tours, sharing best practices to further enhance the quality and reliability of our nation's defense capabilities.

“SRTE and PPOP have worked diligently to advance the SRNS Weapon Quality Management Description and Systems assuring that both missions can execute appropriate quality principles in their business units. This collaboration is critical, as SRPPF presses forward in pit production,” said NNSA WQD Quality Assurance Specialist Randy Knox.



The SRTE WQA team hosts members of the WQD for a tour of the SRTE facilities.



SRS, Denmark Technical College and Aiken Technical College representatives celebrate alongside this year's graduates.

## Celebrating successes

### SRTE Nuclear Operator Apprentices graduate

SRS continues to strengthen its nuclear workforce, recently celebrating the graduation of 11 apprentices from the SRS Apprenticeship School's Nuclear Operator Apprentices Graduation. The graduation took place at the North Augusta Community Center with the respective schools and university partners, Aiken Technical College (ATC) and Denmark Technical College (DTC), in attendance.

The celebration recognized the eight months of hands-on technical training and classroom instruction required for operators to earn their Nuclear Fundamental Technology certificates.

Senior Vice President (SVP) of NNSA's Tritium Operations and Programs Nick Miller was a speaker at the event and commented on the impressive career milestone the graduates completed.

"These graduates are prepared to take on critical roles at SRTE, bringing both advanced technical expertise and a strong commitment to safety and excellence," said Miller. "Their contributions will be vital in supporting national defense, as they help ensure the reliability and security of our nuclear stockpile for the future."

Other speakers included Duane McLane, SRNS SVP of Environment, Safety, Health and Quality, and keynote speaker Edwin DeShong, Department of Energy Site Manager for SRS, along with reflections from graduates Cameron Symms and Jessica Drayton.

During their remarks, both Symms and Drayton commented on the impact of the program not only for professional development but also for the community the SRS Apprenticeship School provided—community that the Apprenticeship Program Lead David Jackson stated "went a long way both in and outside of the classroom."

"During these eight months, each of these individuals went through a lot—from learning the required materials to life milestones. Some dealt with death in the family or children being born. Some saw the end of relationships and so much more," Jackson said. "We always encouraged them to talk, to concentrate and to persevere."

Graduates honored at the ceremony included: Jason Brooks, Xavier Carter, Colton Dockal, Jessica Drayton, Brandon Dunbar, Cody Jackson, Brian Penvose, Aaron Stallings, Cameron Symms, John Beckham Jr. and Erika Kitchings.

## Investing in future STEM innovators

SRNS recently sponsored over \$18,000 toward the Aiken County Public School District (ACPSD) Coding Camp, helping expand hands-on learning opportunities in information technology (IT) and coding for students across the district. More than 115 students from 24 elementary and middle schools attended this spring's Coding Camp at Aiken and Redcliffe elementary schools.

"The demand for cybersecurity and advanced IT talent grows every single year, and it starts with inspiring students early," said Jeff Griffin. "When students get hands-on experience with coding and robotics, they begin to see themselves in careers that keep our nation secure and our technologies strong. We're proud to help expand opportunities that ignite a passion for STEM and ultimately cultivate the skilled workforce our mission depends on."

SRNS' sponsorship supplied ACPSD with 20 iPads, two Micro-Bit kits, 18 Ozobot Ari robots, 15 Sphero robots, and Makey Makey kit technology. These tools allow students to bring code to life through robotics, creativity and problem-solving—essential skills for future technologists and cybersecurity professionals.

"As SRNS missions evolve, the need for a highly skilled workforce continues to grow. By supporting programs like Coding Camp, we're ensuring young learners have access to the tools and experiences that spark curiosity and build confidence," said Taylor Rice, SRNS Education Outreach Programs Lead.

The ACPSD Coding Camp began during the 2023–2024 school year as an enrichment program serving 60 students. With community partnerships and sponsorships, the program has now tripled in size.

"Because of this generous sponsorship, we were able to expand Coding Camp to two locations across the district this spring, easing transportation challenges and allowing more students to participate," said Erica Millwood, ACPSD Instructional Services Division. "It means so much to know that our efforts are noticed and valued by one of the largest employers in the area."

Since 2008, SRNS has invested approximately \$1 million annually in nonprofit initiatives, service organizations and STEM programs, totaling more than \$17 million and impacting over 600,000 students, educators and community members.



SRNS Education Outreach Specialists Taylor Rice and Rebekah Trull assist students using littleBits, magnetic and color-coded electronic modules that snap together to create circuits.



Outdoor Dream Foundation member William Durabos, alongside his hunting escort Courtney Sumner, harvested his first wild turkey during the SRS Ultimate Turkey Hunt.

## SRS hosts annual Ultimate Turkey Hunt

A two-day hunt at SRS created a lifetime of memories for 15 disabled hunters and their escorts during the SRS Ultimate Turkey Hunt.

Made possible through the collaboration of the U.S. Forest Service, the NNSA, SRNS, the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Outdoor Dream Foundation, this annual event provides a unique turkey hunting experience for disabled hunters from across the country. Participants and their escorts are given access to the Site's pristine woodlands spanning 90,000 acres.

"The SRS Ultimate Turkey Hunt offers a truly unique experience for passionate outdoorsmen, especially those who may not always have easy access to such opportunities," said Tal Mims, Wildlife Program Manager for the U.S. Forest Service at SRS. "By working with volunteers, we make the outdoors welcoming and accessible, allowing participants to enjoy the beauty and excitement of hunting in the SRS woodlands."

Austin Scott, who was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness at a young age, was one of the hunters selected to participate in this year's event. Within the early hours of the first morning, Austin was able to harvest a turkey, alongside his father Marty Scott and SRNS escort Chas Shiels.

"I truly enjoyed watching Austin harvest a turkey, but what I value just as much are the friendships that are made through this event," said Marty Scott.

Employees from various contractors across the Site including SRNS, Savannah River Mission Completion, U.S. Forest Service and Savannah River National Laboratory were selected to serve as hunting escorts. Their role ensures the hunters have a safe and successful experience.

SRNS' Courtney Sumner has been an event volunteer for the past three years.

"This annual hunt is something I look forward to every year," said Sumner. "The land and wildlife resources that SRS generously provide create an incredible opportunity for these hunters to escape their everyday life, immerse themselves in nature and create lasting memories. I take great pride in sharing with others that the place I work supports such a meaningful and extraordinary initiative."

## Going for gold

### SRNS kicks off summer safety campaign

Rising temperatures bring unique safety challenges that require increased awareness and proactive measures. To address seasonal risks, SRNS runs its annual 100 Days of Summer campaign from Memorial Day to Labor Day, promoting vigilance and encouraging employees to prioritize safety during a period when seasonal hazards are more prevalent.

SRNS proudly promotes this year's theme, "Gold Standard Safety—Doing it right the first time," inspiring employees to strive for excellence and keep safety at the forefront of their daily activities. The campaign underscores the importance of approaching every task with precision, urgency and care. By fostering a culture of 'doing it right the first time,' SRNS reaffirms its dedication to creating a workplace that values safety and timeliness without compromising excellence.

Over the next 100 days, SRNS is challenging employees to set the "Gold Standard" for safety by embracing teamwork and a strong safety culture. With support from Local Safety Improvement Teams, employees are encouraged to stay vigilant not only in the field but also in their personal lives—applying the same mindfulness to vacations, outdoor activities and family time to achieve safety excellence.

"Our workforce is our most valuable asset, and their safety is our highest priority," said Director of Safety, Health and Medical Diana Bowers. "The 100 Days of Summer campaign reminds us to approach every task with focus and care, both on and off the job. By embracing 'Gold Standard Safety—Doing it right the first time,' we empower everyone to intentionally plan and look out for one another. Safety is achieved through teamwork, accountability and a shared commitment to excellence."

### This year's campaign focuses on THREE CRITICAL SAFETY AREAS



#### Heat stress awareness:

Preparing for summer months by understanding heat-related illnesses and ways to mitigate them.

**Ergonomics:** Ensuring equipment, tasks and workspaces are designed to reduce physical strain and prevent injuries.

**Hand safety:** Protecting hands, one of the most used and at-risk parts of the body in the workplace.

# SRS springs into safety with the **SAFETY EXPO**





**SRS HELD ITS ANNUAL SAFETY EXPO** on April 21 and 22, marking the first time in over a decade that the event has been held on-site. The two-day event welcomed nearly 4,000 employees from all SRS contractors.

Nearly 80 booths offered information about workplace safety, environmental stewardship, personal health and local community services. Among these were 23 interactive booths hosted by Local Safety Improvement Teams (LSITs). Additional booths were hosted by organizations such as Savannah River Mission Completion, Savannah River National Laboratory, U.S. Forest Service, Centerra and other community groups. Through games, quizzes and other activities, employees reviewed critical safety and security principles, while having fun.

Expo attendee/volunteer and SRNS Software Engineer Jaylon Tharp enjoyed the opportunity to interact with individuals from across the Site. “As a first-time attendee, I valued the chance to engage with the various booths and organizations to further understand the work they do to support the Site’s missions, especially in terms of safety. The experience was both informative and rewarding, and I look forward to attending again in the future.”

The event’s vibrant atmosphere included plenty of food. Vendors set up food trucks, and a food drive gathered donations to assist the local community, reflecting the Site’s dedication to supporting its neighbors.

“I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this year’s Safety Expo a success,” said Safety Expo Planning Lead and Health and Safety Manager Lea Simons. “The Expo is the result of months of dedication and teamwork from our planning teams, who continuously strive to deliver an informative and engaging experience for everyone. Their commitment and collaborative spirit truly reflect our values at SRS, and I couldn’t be more proud of what we accomplished together.”

“The 2026 Safety Expo highlights SRS’ unwavering commitment to fostering a safe, healthy and secure environment for our workforce and the surrounding communities,” said Senior Vice President, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality Duane McLane. “This year’s event was a testament to the collaborative efforts of our contractors, LSITs and community partners. Hosting the Expo on-site for the first time in a long time not only increased accessibility but also provided employees with meaningful opportunities to engage with important resources, making this year’s event an outstanding success.”





# SRNS transforms receiving operations

SRNS Supply Chain Management (SCM) has improved the efficiency and reliability of its Central Receiving Warehouse through the transformation of the Receiving Problem Area. To support the Site’s expanding missions and increasing material throughput, SCM modernized warehouse operations to ensure every part of the receiving process could keep pace.

The Receiving Problem Area, serving as the staging point for items requiring additional review, was identified as a key opportunity to strengthen reliability and streamline the flow of materials at SRS.

“This initiative demonstrated SRNS’ commitment to efficiency and reliability, highlighting how targeted improvements in warehousing operations strengthen the broader goals of the complex,” said Tammy Rimes, Senior Director, Supply Chain Operations and Programs.

Initially, this area faced delays and limited performance visibility that disrupted inventory flow and created downstream impacts for SRS customers who rely on timely material availability. In 2024, SCM launched the first improvement effort to restore reliability, strengthen inventory management and prepare warehouse operations for increased demands. The initiative emphasized standardized processes, targeted training and increased collaboration with supplier and procurement teams.

By the end of 2024, average problem counts dropped from 47 to seven items, maximum item aging decreased from 48 to 13 days, and average age decreased from 16 days to six days. The focus shifted to proactive problem prevention and smarter, data-driven decision-making. Daily metric reviews helped identify trends and guide resource allocation. Structured root-cause analysis reduced repeat discrepancies, while expanded coordination with supplier engagement and procurement teams addressed issues before materials arrived on-site.

According to David Gowdy, Receiving and Warehouse Operations Manager, the warehouse stands as a model of continuous improvement, supporting faster resolution times, cleaner incoming shipments and greater operational readiness.

“By moving from reactive problem solving to proactive prevention, we’ve strengthened material flow and improved reliability across receiving operations,” he said. “This team has standardized processes, set clear expectations, strengthened relationships, and provided strong oversight to create a sustainable and repeatable framework that keeps improvements in place.”

# SCMC Small Business MVP Award winner

SRNS is proud to announce that Lisa Tanner, Director of Supplier Mission Readiness and Engagement, has been awarded the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Supply Chain Management Center Small Business Most Valuable Player Award for her exceptional contributions in support of NNSA and DOE.



FY25 marked a year of progress under Tanner’s leadership, as SRNS prepares for a historic acceleration of missions, including expanded NNSA responsibilities, construction of SRPPF, new nuclear material processing work and long-term environmental stewardship.

“Ensuring a resilient, capable and diverse supplier base is essential to achieving this mission growth. It is her blend of strategic vision and a people-first leadership style that continues to elevate SRNS’ supply chain performance and strengthen its contributions to national security,” said Staci Peters, SRNS Senior Vice President, Business Services.

The recognition marks the second time Tanner has received this honor, underscoring her sustained leadership and impact.

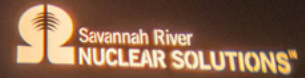
In FY25, SRNS delivered historic results:

- \$572 million in total procurement commitments
- \$362 million (63.3%) awarded to small businesses, well above DOE’s 50% requirement
- Monthly on-time supplier delivery rates above 90%, ending FY25 at 93.1%

Tanner modernized how SRNS engages and develops suppliers, introducing new digital tools, education pathways and technical assistance resources to strengthen supplier readiness and expand opportunities for small businesses. One of Tanner’s most notable accomplishments was leading the development of the new SRNS Supplier Portal, a platform that streamlines supplier onboarding, improves buyer efficiency and later became a NNSA/DOE readiness model.

Although the award recognizes her individual achievements, Tanner emphasizes that the success of SRNS’ Small Business Program is the result of a collaborative, team-driven effort.

“These outcomes reflect the disciplined execution and intentional efforts across our entire team,” said Tanner. “It takes every person contributing their unique talents, working together towards a common goal, to build the resilient and capable supply chain that is so vital to our national security missions.”



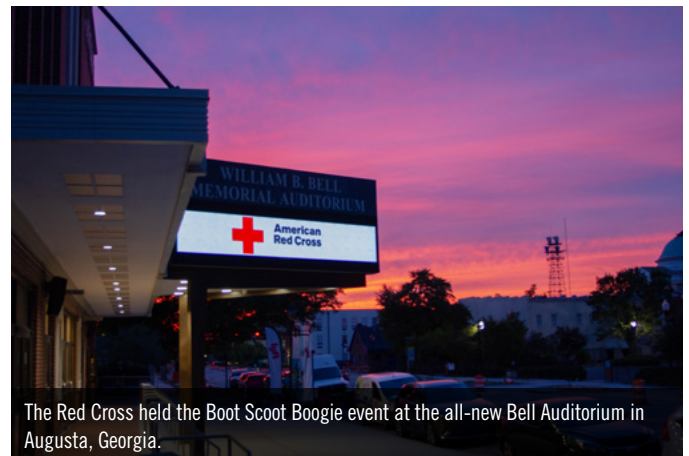
# Red Cross honors SRNS heroes

**S**RNS continues its longstanding support of the American Red Cross of East Central Georgia and its mission in the community. This year, two signature Red Cross events—the Dueling for Disaster fundraiser and the Heroes Breakfast—were combined into one: the Boot Scoot Boogie. The evening united the community to honor those who exemplify courage and selflessness, while raising vital funds for Red Cross programs. SRNS contributed \$20,000 as a sponsor, which helps the Red Cross continue essential work.

On Saturday, May 9, the all-new Bell Auditorium came alive as guests enjoyed food, music and camaraderie. Red Cross Heroes honorees were recognized during an exclusive reception held prior to the main event.

Four SRNS employees were recognized for their outstanding actions:

- **Joseph Gray, H Canyon Operations Manager:** An avid fisherman, Gray acted heroically when he rescued a child whose sailboat capsized on Clarks Hill Lake. The child had been separated from their father, who was on a separate boat, when the incident occurred.
- **Russell Hannah, Site Services Shift Operations Manager, and Josh Givens, Fleet and Fuel Manager:** During a Heroes and Hope deer hunt, Hannah and Givens responded swiftly when a veteran fell ill. Hannah contacted emergency medical services, and Givens accompanied the ambulance, keeping the veteran's family informed. The veteran later underwent a life-saving procedure.
- **Charles Moore, retired Senior Work Control Planner:** Moore assisted a co-worker who collapsed and was unresponsive, ensuring prompt medical help. The employee was hospitalized and later returned to work.



The Red Cross held the Boot Scoot Boogie event at the all-new Bell Auditorium in Augusta, Georgia.



SRNS heroes Russell Hannah, Josh Givens, Joseph Gray and Charles Moore.

# Mental Health America gives highest award

SRNS has been awarded the 2026 Platinum Level Bell Seal Award for Workplace Mental Health for the second year in a row. This is the highest award offered by Mental Health America.

SRNS was recognized under several categories for establishing a strong workplace culture surrounding employee mental health. This includes policies and procedures, holistic wellness at the workplace, the total benefits package offered at SRNS and encouraging employees to use tools for early intervention benefits such as the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

In comparison to other organizations, SRNS exceeded or met the national employer average of the Bell Seal score based on 1,177 participants.

The Total Rewards Employee Wellness Services (EWS) team helps to make this score possible across SRNS by providing employees with numerous ways to receive benefits in support of their mental and physical health. The EAP provides access to therapy services, mental health resources, including seminars, wellness programs and more.

Cheryl Cummings, Total Rewards EWS Manager, said, "The Bell Seal recognition represents more than an award—it reflects who we are. It affirms our belief that people come first, and that supporting mental health is essential to sustaining a resilient, engaged and mission-driven workforce."

Mental Health America is committed to recognizing employers such as SRNS that help build mentally-healthy workplaces and provide benefits to assist their employees.



# BlueCross BlueShield honors SRNS program

The SRNS Total Rewards Employee Wellness Services (EWS) organization was recognized as the "Best Overall Wellness Program" through the LiveLifeBlue Award, presented by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, a new major milestone for the team.

The LiveLifeBlue Award honors organizations across South Carolina that highlight excellence in promoting employee health and well-being, through innovative and comprehensive wellness programs.

At SRNS, the Total Rewards EWS team goes beyond providing traditional benefits to personnel by creating a culture of wellness all employees thrive within by supporting the whole person. This includes mental health resources, wellness initiatives, financial well-being programs and attention to the employee's work-life balance.

Bryan Ortner, Senior Vice President of Workforce Services and Talent Management, stated that the recognition belongs to both the EWS organization and the personnel at SRNS for participation, engagement and commitment to their own well-being, which helped to make all this possible.

"This recognition is truly a shared achievement," said Ortner. "Our Total Rewards EWS team leads with purpose, and our employees bring these programs to life through their engagement and commitment. Wellness is more than an initiative at SRNS—it's a partnership, and this award reflects the strength of that partnership."

In 2024, SRNS received the honor for Best Wellness Program in the region. In 2025, the Total Rewards EWS took it a step further, earning Best Overall Wellness program across all regions in South Carolina.



*"Wellness is more than an initiative at SRNS—it's a partnership, and this award reflects the strength of that partnership."*

**Bryan Ortner,**  
**SRNS Senior Vice President of Workforce Services and Talent Management**



# You've got mail!

## STEM Pals links experts and students

The long-lost art of letter writing is making a comeback at SRS, where students are building real connections with professionals through the STEM Pals Program. This yearlong initiative pairs K-12 classrooms with SRNS experts, giving students the chance to ask questions, explore career paths and see the human side of STEM.

According to Cindy Hewitt, SRNS Education Outreach Specialist, the program engages over 500 students, 15 educators and 15 volunteers each year. "In FY25 alone, 21 SRS STEM professionals corresponded with classrooms across Aiken, Columbia and Richmond counties," said Hewitt. "STEM Pals makes it easy for employees to volunteer and broaden students' range of career possibilities as they advance through school."

Recently, SRNS Education Outreach Programs (EOP) hosted two STEM Pal reveals, the moment students finally meet the professionals behind the letters, at Richmond County Technical Career Magnet (RCTCM) School's Cyber Academy of Excellence and Jackson STEM Middle School.

### Meeting the minds behind cyber defense

After months of handwritten exchanges, RCTCM students met SRNS Cyber Defense professionals Benjamin Jollie, Henry Bryant and Paul Smith.

"Students need help connecting the dots," said Smith. "When young people feel free to ask questions, they discover that cybersecurity isn't mysterious, but meaningful, approachable and within their reach."

Cybersecurity plays a critical role at SRS, where protecting national security systems, critical infrastructure and nuclear materials requires highly skilled specialists. With cyber talent shortages growing nationwide, early exposure to real-world cyber roles is more important than ever.

"Programs like this provide a powerful reward for our cyber professionals, who take great pride in mentoring the next generation of technologists," said Bruce Page, SRNS Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer. "By breaking down concepts such as threat detection, system hardening and secure digital habits, our experts help students build a mindset that is essential to protecting our operations."

### Career curiosity takes center stage

During the second STEM Pal reveal at Jackson STEM Middle School, nuclear operators from the SRS Apprenticeship School introduced AVID (Advanced Via Individual Determination) students to new career paths, offering a personal look into the daily work, experiences and opportunities available to apprentices at SRS. Students heard firsthand how their 'Pals' prepared for their careers and what inspired them to pursue STEM pathways within their own community.

SRNS Nuclear Operator Apprentices Jessica Drayton, Cameron Symms, Cody Jackson and Zachary Causey showed the strength of their cohort.

"We decided to partner with SRNS EOP and participate in the STEM Pals Program to connect our apprentices to the community," said



Jackson STEM Middle School eighth-grade students ask questions about joining the SRS Apprenticeship School.



SRNS Nuclear Operator Apprentices Jessica Drayton, Cameron Symms, Cody Jackson and Zachary Causey meet Jackson Middle School students.

Patrick Ott, SRS Apprenticeship School Program Lead. "Many of our apprentices come from different backgrounds and showing that helps students realize this is an attainable opportunity for anyone. It also builds a strong pipeline for future talent at SRS."

"This program brought learning to life for my AVID students, turning writing and inquiry into conversations with STEM professionals," said Jennifer McMillian, AVID Elective Teacher. "As their confidence grew, so did their curiosity, and suddenly these careers felt tangible and within reach. Watching my students build genuine relationships with their 'Pals' showed me how powerful community connection can be, and it's why I recommend this program to every educator."

The STEM Pals Program exemplifies how small, personal connections can spark curiosity, broaden career horizons and build meaningful relationships between students and STEM experts.

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*"STEM Pals makes it easy for employees to volunteer and broaden students' range of career possibilities as they advance through high school."*

**Cindy Hewitt,**

**SRNS Education Outreach Specialist**

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SRNS employees gather during the 2026 CSRA Heart Walk in support of the American Heart Association's mission to improve heart health and save lives.

SRNS recently gathered to celebrate a year of generosity, team spirit and community impact during the 2026 Heart Walk Awards Celebration, themed “Glow for the Goal.” The event recognized the employees, teams and partner organizations whose efforts helped raise more than \$127,000 in support of the American Heart Association (AHA).

The celebration opened with remarks from Sean Alford, SRNS Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer and Executive Sponsor of the SRNS Heart Walk Campaign, who reflected on the impact of this year's efforts.

“This campaign reflects the very best of who we are at SRNS,” Alford said. “When we support the American Heart Association, we are supporting the health and futures of our families, coworkers and communities. Every volunteer, every step taken and every dollar raised helps move this mission forward.”

Of the total amount raised, \$102,667 came directly from SRNS employees. In addition, SRNS presented a company contribution of \$25,000 to the AHA, during the event.

Representatives from the AHA Central Savannah River Area (CSRA), including Blaire Marvin and Amanda Mines, joined the celebration and expressed appreciation for SRNS' continued leadership and commitment to improving heart health throughout the region.

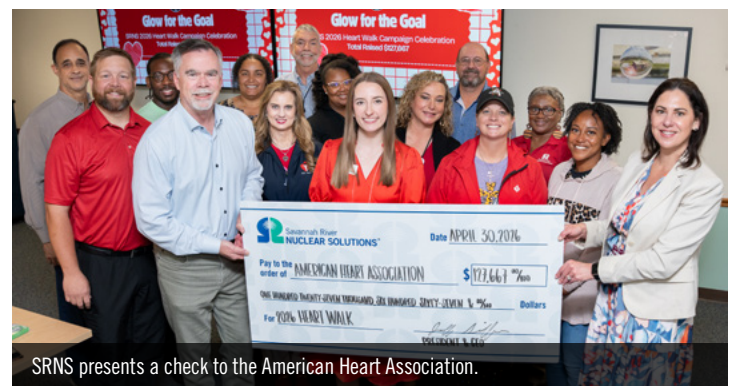
The event also highlighted the accomplishments of top fundraising teams and individuals whose dedication helped make the 2026 campaign a success.

“Every year, our workforce shows what can happen when people unite behind a purpose bigger than themselves,” said Brad Clark, SRNS

Local Safety Improvement Team Liaison and Heart Walk Campaign Chair. “The Heart Walk represents the compassion, service and commitment that define SRNS, and I'm incredibly proud of what our teams accomplished together.”

The celebration concluded with recognition of the employees, volunteers and supporters who helped advance the mission of the AHA through fundraising, advocacy and community engagement. The 2026 campaign once again demonstrated the strength of the SRNS community and its commitment to creating longer, healthier lives in the CSRA and beyond.

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for one in every five deaths nationwide. Funds raised through the CSRA Heart Walk support the AHA's mission to fund lifesaving research, provide CPR education, advance stroke awareness and improve heart health outcomes in communities across the country.



SRNS presents a check to the American Heart Association.

# THE PEOPLE OF SRNS



**Brad Clark**

**AT SRNS:** SRTE Local Safety Improvement Team Liaison

**IN THE COMMUNITY:** American Heart Association SRNS Heart Walk Chair, United Way Team Lead, Toys for Tots volunteer

Brad Clark's path at SRNS began long before his first day on-site. Before joining SRNS, Clark spent eight years as a Chemical Operator at DSM Chemicals, gaining extensive experience in process operations, safety procedures and high-stakes industrial environments. These early experiences laid the foundation for his technical expertise and commitment to safety.

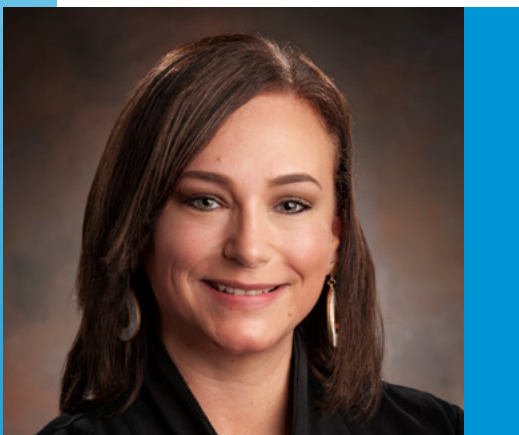
Upon joining SRNS, Clark first worked as a Maintenance Mechanic, then moved into the role of Inventory Manager, where he managed equipment reliability and inventory needs to support daily operations. These roles provided both a solid technical foundation and a people-focused approach.

For the past two years, Clark has served as the Local Safety Improvement Team (LSIT) Liaison at SRNS, acting as the primary connection between LSITs, the Executive Leadership Team and the Safety Culture Steering Committee. He coordinates engagement, wellness checks and involvement in safety initiatives, ensuring that programs and communication support a strong, unified safety culture.

Clark's favorite part of working at SRNS is the collaboration—partnering with diverse teams and making a meaningful impact on colleagues' well-being and site missions.

Outside of work, Clark is deeply committed to service and community. He holds a U.S. Soccer Coaching License and coaches youth soccer, participates in church activities and leads charitable efforts, including the American Heart Association fundraiser, United Way's Softball Team and Toys for Tots.

Originally from Clearwater and Graniteville, Clark now resides in Johnston, with his wife, three daughters and a lively assortment of pets.



**Ashley Allen**

**AT SRNS:** Senior Operations Support Specialist

**IN THE COMMUNITY:** American Heart Association Heart Walk Co-Chair, volunteer for United Way, Toys for Tots and Project VISION

Known for her dedication, professionalism and passion for continuous improvement, Ashley Allen has become a key contributor to operational excellence at SRNS.

As a Senior Operations Support Specialist, Allen provides high-level support for Site operations and serves as the Solid Waste and Deactivation Management Review Board Coordinator and Self Assessment Coordinator. Her work focuses on resolving material issues, strengthening processes and fostering collaboration across multiple organizations—ensuring operations run efficiently and safely.

Allen joined SRNS seven years ago, bringing with her strong customer service and leadership skills developed during her time as a retail banking associate. In that role, she managed the teller line and vault, assisted with loan processing and provided consistent support to customers.

She enjoys working at SRNS because of its strong safety culture, professionalism, and leadership development opportunities. She also appreciates working alongside people who genuinely care for one another.

She is actively engaged in safety and employee programs, serving as Co-Chair of the Eagles LSIT and lending her support to the Safety Expo Core Team, AMP (Aspiring Mid Professionals), Voluntary Protection Program Core Team, Unified Safety Subcommittee and the National Safety Council Core Team. She also supports community efforts such as the Heart Walk, United Way, Toys for Tots and Project VISION—often taking on leadership roles in these programs.

# FEATURE FRIDAY

The following employees were highlighted as part of the SRNS Feature Friday series on social media.



**SCAN ME**  
to connect with  
our social media



**N. Cody Fee**  
Senior Program  
Planner



**Candice Varnell**  
SRPPF Procedures  
Manager



**Brianna Behm**  
Business  
Analyst



**Brad Clark**  
Local Safety Improvement  
Team Liaison



**Ashley Allen**  
Senior Operations  
Support Specialist

# SRNS

Supplying products and services necessary  
to maintain the nation's nuclear deterrent

Securing nuclear materials to prevent  
unwanted proliferation

Developing innovative approaches to deliver  
on our environmental commitments and  
nuclear materials challenges

Transforming nuclear materials into assets  
and stable wasteforms



Savannah River  
**NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS**<sup>SM</sup>