

SOURCE

Summer 2026

Volume 13 | Number 3



Photo taken by Eric Bruning, Stephenson Service Company plant manager

On April 8, firefighters from Freeport Rural Fire Department in Freeport, Illinois, received training on how to safely extinguish a propane tank fire. The training was provided by the Illinois Fire Service Institute, and Stephenson Service Company donated the propane for the event

Serving the people of the GROWMARK System

GROWMARK

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Do you know an employee, program, or story that should be published in SOURCE? Do you have feedback on the magazine? Email story ideas, comments, or questions to SOURCE@growmark.com.

SOURCE is published four times per year for employees, directors, retirees, and friends of the GROWMARK System. The GROWMARK System is comprised of farmers; local FS, supply, and grain member cooperatives; the agricultural cooperative, GROWMARK, Inc.; and its subsidiaries and affiliated companies.

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Brendan Bachman, GROWMARK's Director of Agronomy Marketing Services, pauses to look at soil in a field in rural McLean County. Bachman was hosted by Bittner Farms, a fifth-generation grain farm, for a photoshoot to promote the new AI agent in the myFS Agronomy app.



Photo by GROWMARK's Lexi Schweigert

Building the Future of the GROWMARK System

MESSAGE FROM GROWMARK CEO MARK ORR



One of the greatest strengths of the GROWMARK System has always been our ability to accomplish more together than any one organization could accomplish alone.

For nearly 100 years, our cooperative System has been built on a simple but powerful idea: when cooperatives work together with a shared purpose, shared values, and a long-term commitment to one another, we create opportunities that strengthen local agriculture, support rural communities, and help farmers succeed.

That spirit of “cooperation among cooperatives” remains just as important today as it was when our System was founded.

This month, we are excited to highlight the addition of Luckey Farmers as an associate member of GROWMARK. We have also recently signed another associate member in Tennessee and continue to actively pursue growth opportunities across our geography.

These additions are more than just new business relationships. They represent a strategic commitment to building the scale, reach, and

influence of the GROWMARK System as we pursue our 2030 strategy of generating \$1.5 billion in profitable sales growth.

As agriculture continues to evolve, scale matters. Supply chain efficiency matters. Access to technology, talent, logistics, agronomic expertise, and proprietary products matters. By growing our network of aligned cooperative partners, we strengthen our ability to compete while creating long-term value for existing members and customers alike.

Associate membership is a newer classification within GROWMARK designed for cooperatives that want a deeper, longer-term strategic relationship with our System, but may not yet be ready for the full integration and structure of a traditional FS membership agreement.

It is a meaningful commitment from both organizations.

Through associate membership, GROWMARK invests more deeply alongside the local cooperative by providing field staff support, technical expertise, leadership development, training, product support, and access to differentiated FS products and services. We work side-by-side with these cooperatives to help drive growth at the farmgate while supporting their employees, customers, and communities.

At the same time, these cooperatives make a stronger commitment to the GROWMARK System through aligned business relationships, strategic collaboration, and shared growth objectives.

Importantly, this strategy is not simply about increasing sales

volume. It is about building committed and efficient market access through trusted partnerships and shared values. It is about creating stronger alignment across our supply chain while allowing local cooperatives to remain locally governed and deeply connected to their communities. Culture matters in these relationships.

When we evaluate potential associate members, we are looking for organizations that believe in the cooperative model, value long-term relationships, embrace growth, and want to be part of something bigger than themselves. We look for partners who understand the importance of innovation, customer focus, employee development, and the Seven Cooperative Principles that continue to guide our System today.

That alignment creates opportunities for everyone involved.

As we continue advancing toward our 2030 growth objectives, strategies like associate membership will play an important role in expanding our reach, strengthening our scale, and positioning the GROWMARK System for continued success in the next generation.

The cooperative model has endured for nearly a century because it adapts, evolves, and grows while remaining grounded in shared purpose and shared success.

That future remains bright because of the partnerships we continue to build together.

Mark Orr



GROWMARK Welcomes 87 Summer Interns

Students competed for internship positions, but only the best and brightest were chosen

GROWMARK Staff

The GROWMARK System welcomed a new class of 87 interns for the summer of 2026 in May. Through a competitive application process, interns were selected for placement in two different internship programs within the GROWMARK System.

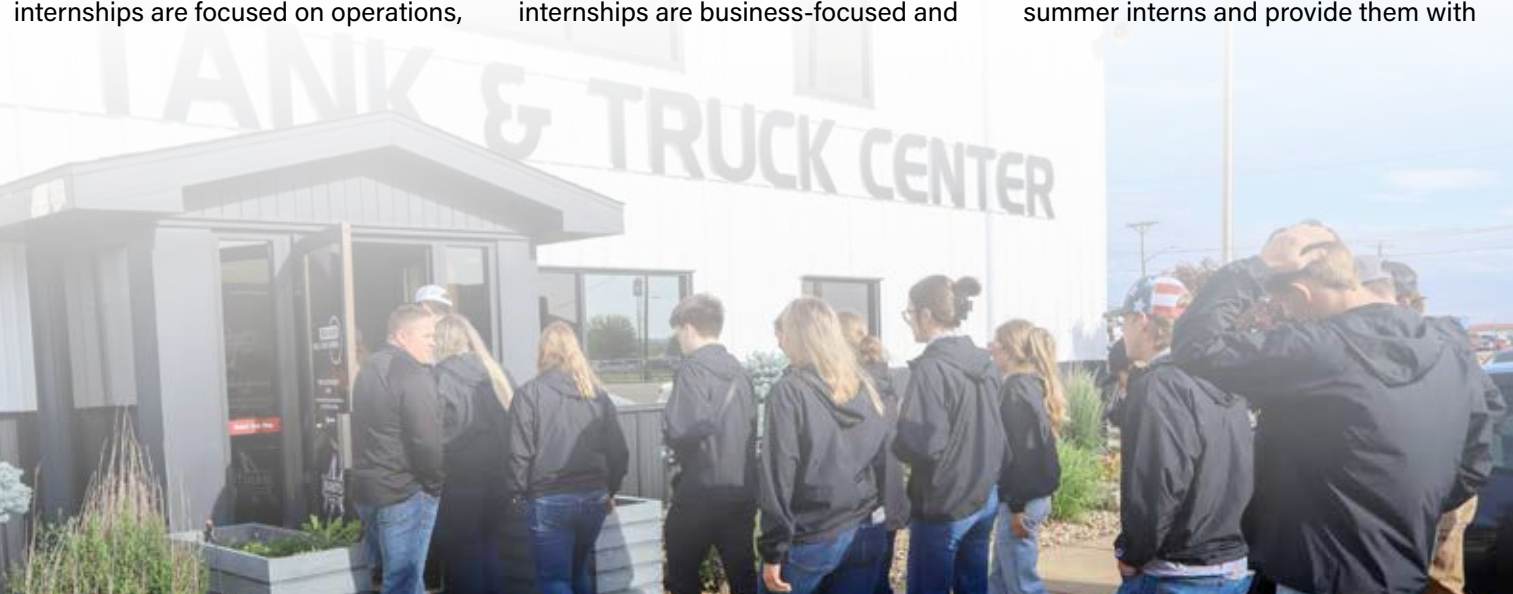
The Exploring Agriculture Internship Program welcomed 42 students whose internships are focused on operations,

equipment, and technology for scouting, facilities, maintenance and repair, and learning about the GROWMARK System. This program is designed for first— or second-year college students seeking to explore agriculture as a potential career path.

The GROWMARK Internship Program welcomed 45 students whose internships are business-focused and

offer opportunities for networking and development throughout the summer. The GROWMARK intern class provides students with exposure to areas such as business, sales and marketing, human resources, accounting, IT innovation, and product- and service-related activities.

“We’re proud to welcome the 2026 summer interns and provide them with



a hands-on, meaningful experience that connects what they’ve learned in the classroom with real-world careers,” said Kayla Tobias, GROWMARK’s Senior Talent Acquisition Manager. “GROWMARK’s programs are designed to help students explore their interests, build practical skills, and gain a clearer understanding of the diverse career paths available in the agriculture industry as they prepare for life after graduation.”

Interns are listed below, organized by program and then alphabetically by college or university.

2026 GROWMARK Intern Program Participants

CHIPPEWA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Alex Heeg

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY (CANADA)

Carter Karan

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Seth Kollross

Amanda Lesley

Tom Hrycenko

Trenton Hobby

Sydney Eades

Evan Kraft

Allie Coriell

Easton Nowaskie

Lindsey Ropp

Alexus Calhoun

ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Keira McClelland

Ethan Godsey

Iowa State University

Cole Wessel

Peyton Anderson

Weston Steinbrech

Emily Saddoris

Trinity Swart

Claire Sorensen

Jolie Johnson

JOHN WOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Abby Chamberlain

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Brooke Rogers

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Darby Mitchell

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Taylor Kapp

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Allyse Ray

Beth Cowan

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Abigale Bricker

Jack Kelly

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Gavin Timmer

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Lydia Heck

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

Lydia Phelps

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT COBLESKILL

Maggie Koenig

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Owen Middleton

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH (CANADA)

Erin O’Farrell

Ella Smith

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Brendan Brady

Alexis Putman

Hallie Harms

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Brandon Boyd

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

Peyton Schmandt

Mason Vande Voorde

Kaylee Neff

Ellie Hildebrandt

WILMINGTON COLLEGE

Addison Naus

2026 Exploring Ag Intern Program Participants

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Grace Hoffman

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Kathryn Donnelly-Taylor

DELAWARE VALLEY UNIVERSITY

Kylene Stierly

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Jay Bru

Jadyn Joyce

Holly Zahurones

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Addison Ness

ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nelson Stolp

Noah Steiner

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Paige Wexell

Mike Valentine

Lizzy Kremer

JOHN WOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Drew Markert

KASKASKIA COLLEGE

Sam Shelton

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Logan Crock

Jacek Wauters

LAKE LAND COLLEGE

Issabell Reed

MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Madeleine Cherry

MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Brandi Neidlein

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Megan Waeltz

Molly Harris

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Miller Browne

NORTH IOWA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Marshall Zeien

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Logan Bullock

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT MORRISVILLE

Kaylie Petteys

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Ava Cramer

THE UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY

Justin Good

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH (CANADA)

Daniel Glasier

Sydney Landry

Katie Perry

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Alexis Nall

Grant Alexander

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Ford Hamilton

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

Billie Dieterich

Ellie Vannatta

Sam Martin

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS

Laura Gilmeister

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER

Molly Edler

Grant Braskamp

Virginia Tech

Jacob Householder

Frank Miserentino

WABASH VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Glenna McVaigh

Great Lakes Grain Launches Regenerative Program Leading to a Grain-to-Glass Experience for Consumers

Read how Canadian farmers' use of regenerative practices is opening new markets for their corn

Aiden Davy & Melyse Renwick, Great Lakes Grain, Sustainability Specialists,
sustainability@greatlakesgrain.com

Great Lakes Grain, one of the largest grain marketing and elevator operators in Ontario, serving farmers across Southwestern and Eastern Ontario, recently announced the launch of the 'Regenerative Grains Program' in collaboration with Hiram Walker & Sons Limited, a 160-year-old whisky distillery in Canada, and the Ontario Soil Network (OSN), creating a grain-to-glass pipeline for participating farmers in Canada.

The Regenerative Grains Program is for Ontario corn growers who supply through the Great Lakes Grain elevator system. Specifically, the program focuses on integrating multi-species crop rotation, cover crops, nutrient management practices, and reduced tillage.

In addition to on-farm practices, the program, in collaboration with the OSN, includes a component of measuring outcomes such as biodiversity, watershed health, and greenhouse gas emissions. By collecting agronomic data, the program can demonstrate traceability and verify the adoption of regenerative practices. Central to the program is a per-acre premium associated with corn acreage grown and enrolled in the Regenerative Grains Program and supplied through Great Lakes Grain, recognizing and rewarding farmers for their commitment to sustainable grain production.

It also strengthens connections between growers and end users, such as Hiram Walker & Sons Limited, whose customers are increasingly seeking transparency about where and how the ingredients in their products are made, and allows Hiram Walker & Sons Limited to tell a more compelling story about their products, such as J.P. Wiser's Canadian whisky. "End users are increasingly interested in understanding how crops are grown and the people behind them," said Melyse Renwick, Sustainability Specialist at Great Lakes Grain. "Our boots-on-the-ground approach ensures farmers have a voice in that story; from farm to final product."

The Regenerative Grains Program is a meaningful step forward for Ontario agriculture, creating a practical pathway for corn growers to strengthen both environmental and economic resilience. Through collaboration with the Ontario Soil Network, the program combines on-farm practices with measurable outcomes, including traceability from grain to bottle for customers such as the distillery. With incentives such as per-acre premiums, it underscores the importance of sustainable farming for securing long-term market opportunities. As a result, every harvest carries a story—one that flows from grain to bottle in every pour of J.P. Wiser's Canadian whisky.

Editorial note: For readers with a sharp eye, the Canadian spelling of "whisky" does not include the "e" used in the spelling in the United States.



GROWMARK Announces 2026 Scholarship Winners

The GROWMARK Foundation grants scholarships to 55 talented students

Lainey Scher, GROWMARK Talent Acquisition Coordinator, lscher@growmark.com

Fifty-five students have been selected to receive scholarships totaling \$2,000 each through the GROWMARK Foundation. Nearly 700 students from across the United States and Ontario, Canada, applied for one of the scholarships. Students who received the scholarships will have those funds available for the fall 2026 semester.

“At GROWMARK, we believe investing in students today helps shape the future of agriculture and business,” said GROWMARK CEO Mark Orr. “Our internship programs give students real-world experience and exposure to the wide range of careers within the agriculture industry, while our scholarships support them in pursuing those paths. Together, these opportunities help connect students to meaningful careers with GROWMARK and FS companies after graduation.”

Scholarship recipients are divided into three categories.

AG BACHELOR'S

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Madisyn Henderson
Elle Ruffner
Emma Whitaker

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA CHAMPAIGN

Hana Gillaspie
Tristin Potts

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Shalelyn Armstrong
Jared Pechart

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

Isaac Luebkemann

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Kasandra Hughes

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Bennett Gordon
Kyia Hunter-Kanoff

BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY

Bobby Gross

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Emily Robbins
Caleb Schmaltz

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Will Harrison

HS SENIOR

Alyssa Benningfield - Taylor County High School (KY)
Kadence Leeper - Macon County R-1 High School (MO)
Joshua Miller - Ovid Elsie (MI)
Kara Theis - Osage Community Schools (IA)
Calum Brown - Lafayette High School (MO)

AG ASSOCIATE'S

ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ryan Carlson

LAKE LAND COLLEGE

Jay Bliler
Kaylin Arlene Nolte

LINCOLN LAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Tucker Kade Beckmier

HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE

Emily Cason

SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Avery Drew

ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE

Delaney Engler

BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Faith Traynor

BLACK HAWK COLLEGE EAST

Clay D Jackson

HS SENIOR

Helen Butcher - Northwestern High School (IL)
Garris Warren - North Duplin Jr./Sr. High School (NC)
Graydon Henson - Hamilton High School (IL)
Sydney Stirm - Colonel Crawford High School (OH)
Natalie Zwilling - Richland County High School (IL)
Ryan Jagers - Princeton High School (IL)
Tyler Hoeger - Maquoketa Valley High School (IA)
Rachel Eckert - Henry-Senachwine High School (IL)
Kylie Kocher - Richland County High School (IL)
Amanda Herrin - Moberly High School (MO)
Grace McCarty - Edwards County High School (IL)

BUSINESS BACHELOR'S

MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Avarie Wellman

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

William Vlasek

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Steven Velez

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY

Emily Hawkins

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chelsa Takuebai

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Mary Hails

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

Steven Kim

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Mya Barnes
Audrey Coffey

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Johnna Fulcher

HS SENIOR

Ethan Hoang - Yuma Catholic High School (AZ)
Caroline Spangler - Bushnell-Prairie City High School (IL)
Sophia Kisler - Galesburg Junior Senior High School (IL)
Jonathan Hulce - Boerne-Champion High School (TX)
Mason DiEnna - Holy Ghost Preparatory High School (PA)

New Ohio Cooperative Joins GROWMARK as an Associate Member

Luckey Farmers Cooperative in Ohio is the newest GROWMARK associate member

GROWMARK Staff

The GROWMARK board of directors approved a new associate membership agreement with Luckey Farmers Inc., making the cooperative the newest associate member of GROWMARK, Inc.

Luckey Farmers was established in 1919 and is a grain marketing and farm supply cooperative located in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan, with facilities in Huron, Lucas, Monroe, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, and Wood counties. With over 1,000 members, Luckey Farmers

consists of 13 grain facilities, eight state-of-the-art agronomy centers, and four fuel stations.

As an associate member, GROWMARK will be Luckey Farmers' primary supplier, providing farmers served by the cooperative access to FS proprietary brands such as FS InVISION®, FS HiSOY®, Diesel® Gold, and FS Lubricants. GROWMARK is the fourth-largest agricultural cooperative in the United States, with a membership network that extends into Ontario, Canada.

“We’re excited to welcome Luckey Farmers Inc. into the GROWMARK System as an associate member,” said Mark Weilbacher, GROWMARK Executive Vice President, Member Resources. “This aligns with GROWMARK’s commitment to expanding and strengthening the FS presence in the Eastern U.S.”

Dustin Brown, President and CEO of Luckey Farmers Inc., says their cooperative is pleased to join GROWMARK as an associate member. “Our relationship with GROWMARK goes back a long way, and becoming an associate member is a natural next step. Most importantly, it strengthens the resources we provide to our farmers by aligning our expertise with their individual goals to ensure the continued success of their operations.”



Congratulations
2026 RECIPIENTS

GROWMARK



FFA Student Today, Future GROWMARK CEO Tomorrow

GROWMARK is engaging FFA students to create awareness about employment opportunities in the GROWMARK System

GROWMARK Staff

Supporting the National FFA is essential for many agricultural organizations. But for GROWMARK, it's more than just an annual contribution; it's part of our strategic vision and an investment in the future of agriculture, reflecting our values as a cooperative system.

The FFA organization aligns closely with our purpose, cooperative values, and long-term workforce needs. And many GROWMARK employees, including leaders throughout our System, are FFA alumni with strong personal ties to the organization.

In addition to providing financial support to National FFA and state organizations in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin, GROWMARK maintains a visible presence at various events, such as the National FFA Convention, and other state conventions throughout our territory, and the Next Gen conference. Additionally, employees participate in tours, discussions, and receptions and collaborate with National FFA staff and leadership.

A key component of GROWMARK's strategic plan regarding FFA is establishing a pipeline of student

talent for internships. This initiative helps students identify and prepare for future job opportunities within the GROWMARK System. By consistently attending FFA events each year, our employees connect students and FFA advisors with professionals in the System, enabling them to explore potential career paths and recognize GROWMARK and FS as premier employers in agriculture.

As GROWMARK strengthens its relationship with FFA, we anticipate more formal engagement, expanded alumni chapter activities, improved resources for advisors, and better alignment between national, state, and local efforts throughout the System.

For GROWMARK, our support of FFA reflects a long-term commitment to ag education and rural communities. It holds even deeper meaning for the employee alumni and the personal stories of employees and leaders who came through FFA, including GROWMARK's current CEO, Mark Orr. We understand that every handshake at an FFA event today could mean we're shaking the hand of a future GROWMARK CEO.



A Career Built on Service: Celebrating JoAnn Carter's 51 Years with GROWMARK FS

JoAnn's reputation was built on service, reliability, and following through

Kristine Esdale, Regional Sales Manager, kesdale@growmarkfs.com

After more than five decades of dedicated service, JoAnn Carter is retiring from GROWMARK FS, closing a chapter defined by consistency, humility, and an unwavering commitment to others.

reliability, by showing up, following through, and doing the work the right way, every time.

Her focus was always on service.

JoAnn concludes her career as the Business Process/Customer Service Manager at GROWMARK FS, LLC's Milford Administrative headquarters. Her 51-year career is remarkable not just for its length, but for its roots, tenacity, and dedication. Every day, she drove to the same location in Milford, watching it evolve alongside her career. Over the years, she worked in three different buildings on the site, each one reflecting a new phase of growth. The name on the door changed too, from Milford Fertilizer to multiple iterations of the business, ultimately becoming today's GROWMARK FS Mid-Atlantic. Through every transition, JoAnn remained a constant presence.

Her team praises her contributions frequently and genuinely. JoAnn was nominated for Employee of the Month multiple times in a single year, as well as receiving numerous FS Way Service Recognition accolades. While she passes off these accolades by giving credit to her team instead, it is fitting that she is also described as the quiet lady who always gives 110% every day.

JoAnn built her reputation not through recognition, but through



Whether supporting customers or assisting coworkers, JoAnn approached every interaction with patience and purpose. She had a unique ability to solve problems while making people feel heard and supported. This skill made her an essential part of the operation and a trusted resource across the organization.

Over five decades, she witnessed - and helped navigate - significant change. From evolving administrative systems to expanding service offerings like Agri-Finance and, most recently, spearheading the widespread adoption of myFS Solution Center, JoAnn has consistently worked to improve GROWMARK FS overall.

As she prepares for retirement, JoAnn is looking forward to focusing on family, including her six grandchildren and first great-grandchild. As a passionate gardener, she is also happy to anticipate more time to enjoy this hobby.

JoAnn Carter's career may be coming to a close, but her influence will continue through the people she supported, the organization she strengthened, and the example she set every single day.

Her legacy is simple and lasting: show up, take care of people, and give your best. Quietly, consistently, and without compromise.

“ JoAnn Carter's career may be coming to a close, but her influence will continue through the people she supported, the organization she strengthened, and the example she set every single day. ”

-Kristine Esdale, GROWMARK FS Regional Sales Manager



Lakeside Grain Trading Hosts Students from Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences

Chicago was built to move grain, and students got a firsthand look at the historic elevator

GROWMARK Staff

Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences students recently got a first-hand tour of the historic elevators at Lakeside Grain Trading along the Calumet River in North Chicago. The school was started in 1985 with the goal of providing educational opportunities for Chicago students to pursue careers in the agriculture industry.

The historic elevator, operated by GROWMARK since 2024, boasts 11.5 million bushels of storage capacity and can accommodate lake vessels and larger ships. Lakeside Grain Trading also has an affiliation with the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, making it one of the last remaining par-value delivery grain warehouses in the United States.

Students learned how the elevator works and about the grains, including

corn, soybeans, oats and organic oats, and wheat, that flow through it and how it is connected to all Class I railroads, making it one of the most logistically flexible grain facilities in the country.

Students also learned about the history of the property, which existed long before the skyscrapers that define the city's skyline today. They explored its role in connecting the city by rail and water to Midwest farms and global markets.

Today, Lakeside Grain Trading remains an important part of GROWMARK's Grain System, giving our member companies and the farmers a competitive edge in the global grain market while simultaneously helping to open the world of agriculture to young minds in urban settings.

GROWMARK System Marks Five Years With Southern States Cooperative

Together, Southern States and GROWMARK built a stronger cooperative System

Sabrina Burkiewicz, GROWMARK External Communications Manager, sburkiewicz@growmark.com

When GROWMARK CEO Mark Orr reflects on the fifth anniversary of the Southern States Cooperative (SSC) joining GROWMARK, cooperation among cooperatives is top of mind. Five years ago, during the COVID-19 pandemic, supply chain disruptions were widespread. The acquisition of Southern States Cooperative wholesale assets helped GROWMARK build a stronger cooperative system with the infrastructure, technology, and scale needed to better serve customers.

For SSC, this acquisition meant that GROWMARK acquired pieces of its wholesale operations, and the nearly 45 retail members at that time would become part of GROWMARK. Their members gained access to a wider range of products and services, as well as the opportunity to receive patronage. They also benefited from GROWMARK's scale, agronomic expertise, proprietary products, supply chain capabilities, training and development programs, and technology infrastructure.

The acquisition wasn't a sudden decision for either company, with the groundwork laid years in advance through industry relationships and connections with cooperative leadership. Former GROWMARK CEO Jim Spradlin and Southern States Cooperative CEO Jeff Stroborg knew each other through their involvement with the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. In addition, Steve Becraft, the current CEO of Southern States, and Mark Orr served together on the board of Allied Seed, LLC, which, at the time, was jointly owned by GROWMARK, Southern States Cooperative, and the Tennessee Farmers Cooperative.

Orr says it was the foundation of trust that allowed both organizations

to consider joining forces. "We had created a foundation of trust and familiarity between our organizations. More importantly, there was a shared belief in cooperative principles — especially the idea of 'cooperation among cooperatives,'" he said. "Both organizations believed there was an opportunity to create something beneficial for customers, employees, and member-owners."

At the time of the acquisition, GROWMARK's strategy focused on delivering an unsurpassed customer experience while strengthening the cooperative System's capabilities. Southern States significantly expanded GROWMARK's scale and strengthened its wholesale asset base by adding important new geographies, including Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. It also gave SSC access to GROWMARK's proprietary products and brands, including HiSOY®, InVision Seeds®, INSPIRE® seed treatments, DIESELEX® Gold fuel, and crop protection products, allowing GROWMARK products to reach new markets.

Wade Mittelstadt, recently retired GROWMARK Chief Operating Officer, says the ability to further diversify crop types through new business was integral to the Southern States transaction.

"Southern States helped diversify our crop types with new business opportunities for corn, soybeans, wheat, and even cotton, through the launch of FS InVision Corn, FS HiSoy Soybean, and FS Inspire Wheat brands in the southeast U.S.," he said. "Another notable benefit was that GROWMARK's Energy Division was also able to access the Colonial Pipeline system to bolster volumes for the southeastern U.S."

Orr says today, Southern States remains an important component in GROWMARK's 2030 strategy. "Southern States aligns very well with our 2030 strategy, which is focused on delivering \$1.5 billion in profitable growth across North America by leveraging talent, innovation, vertical investments, scale, unity, and influence across the GROWMARK System," he said. "The partnership contributes directly to those objectives by providing additional scale, broader geography, stronger distribution capabilities, and opportunities to continue expanding proprietary products, agronomy services, and digital solutions."

As both organizations look toward the next five years and beyond, the growing belief that cooperatives can achieve more together than independently, when they align around shared goals and customer value, will continue to guide the way.



Photos by GROWMARK's Lexi Schweigert



Conserv FS Employee Celebrates Fifty-Five Years on the Job

Starting his career in 1971, Anderson remains a force at Conserv FS

Cary Featherstone, Conserv FS Corporate Marketing Specialist, cfeatherstone@conservfs.com

After more than half a century of dedication, Chuck Anderson is marking an extraordinary milestone: 55 years with the same organization, a rare achievement in today's fast-changing workforce.

When he first walked through the company's doors in 1971, the world looked very different. Personal computers were just beginning to enter workplaces, communication relied on landlines and handwritten memos, and the idea of staying with one employer for an entire career was far more common than it is today. Even so, reaching 55 years of continuous service remains exceptional.

Over the decades, Chuck has witnessed and adapted to remarkable change. He has seen the company evolve through economic downturns, industry shifts, and waves of technological innovation. From paper files to digital systems, and from in-person meetings to virtual collaboration, he embraced each transition with a willingness to learn and grow.

Despite the length of his tenure, Anderson says it never felt like a burden. "I stayed because I enjoyed the work and the people," he explained. "Every year brings something new to learn."

His loyalty has also made a lasting impact on workplace culture. Younger employees often turn to him for guidance not just on job tasks but also on professionalism, patience, and long-term thinking in a fast-paced world. Colleagues describe him as a steady presence and a living archive of knowledge.

To honor his 55 years of service, the company held a small celebration recognizing both his contributions and his commitment. Dave Swigart, CEO/General Manager, highlighted Anderson's role in mentoring generations of employees and helping shape the organization's identity.

Connor Mize, Energy Sales Manager, noted that Chuck has been a great

mentor and has always been there to support his growth and development. "When I think back over 12 plus years of working with Chuck, I could fill up a notebook of all the things he did to help me, but the thing that helped me most was what he didn't do; he never gave me the easy answer and still to this day challenges me to think for myself."

As for retirement, Anderson remains modest. "As long as I'm still learning, contributing, and having fun, I'm happy to be here," he said.

In an era where career paths are often defined by frequent change, his story stands as a testament to dedication, adaptability, and the enduring value of experience.



Growing the Next Generation of Leaders: Ontario's Aspiring Leaders

The program has been developing leaders in Canada for more than a decade

Juli Paladino, Marketing & Communication Manager, Central Ontario FS

GROWMARK's Aspiring Leaders program is a multi-month, comprehensive development experience designed to cultivate emerging talent within the cooperative System. It focuses on developing leadership, communication, and strategic skills through workshops, mentoring, and

team projects, often serving cohorts across the US and Canada.

Central Ontario FS has been supporting the Aspiring Leaders programme since its first graduates in 2015.

The 2026 class of the Ontario Aspiring Leaders program was unique in that it

was an all-female class- and marked the first time there has been an all-female class in the FS System. Congratulations to all participants on their hard work and dedication to becoming talented leaders ready to further the cause of agriculture in their communities.



2015 Aspiring Leaders graduates



Please join us in congratulating (left to right): Corinna Ward, GROWMARK; Allison Goetheyn, Central Ontario FS; Shari Molenaar, County Farm Centre; Jennifer Rowan, Central Ontario FS; Katrina McDonald, Midwest Co-op; Casey Schellenberger, Central Ontario FS; Sara MacDonald, Central Ontario FS; Meagan Ioi, Central Ontario FS; Sarah Doelman, Central Ontario FS; CJ Brenneman, Wanstead Farms; Juli Paladino, Central Ontario FS; Also shown (far-right) is Laura Gross, GROWMARK Trainer

POLICY APPLICATORS

Connor Kaeb, GROWMARK, Associate Manager, Government Relations, ckaeb@growmark.com

THE FS SYSTEM CONNECTED
WITH THE POLICY WORLD



CPDA group outside of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building for their White House meeting



CPDA group meets with Congressman Eric Sorensen (IL-17). From GROWMARK are Kirby Wagner (left) and Dr. Jeff Bunting (4th from the left)



Eric West, Manager, Product Advancement and Research

GROWMARK Represented at Trade Association Fly-Ins

In-person meetings in Washington D.C. create an impact on lawmakers

GROWMARK understands the importance of advocating for agriculture in Washington, D.C., and when those opportunities present themselves, GROWMARK employees step up. Earlier this year, two groups representing the GROWMARK System attended the Agricultural Retailers Association (ARA) and Council of Producers & Distributors of Agrotechnology (CPDA) fly-ins in our nation's capital. These events provide invaluable opportunities for agricultural leaders to meet directly with lawmakers, share firsthand experiences, and highlight the policy issues that shape the future of our industry.

The ARA fly-in was attended by Keith Lawson, GROWMARK Vice President, Seed; Eric West, GROWMARK Manager, Product Advancement and Research; and Kirby Wagner, GROWMARK Manager, Government Relations. In a meeting with members of the Illinois congressional delegation, the group discussed key transportation priorities, including modernizing the farm service commercial driver's license and securing

additional funding for rural roads and infrastructure. These conversations helped reinforce how essential safe, efficient transportation systems are to the daily operations of farmers and ag retailers across the nation.

The CPDA fly-in brought GROWMARK's Dr. Jeff Bunting, Vice President, Crop Protection, together with Kirby Wagner for meetings with the Illinois, Missouri, and Ohio delegations. Their discussions focused on several timely issues, such as reauthorizing the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA), passing a new farm bill, navigating Endangered Species Act requirements, and ensuring continued access to vital crop protection products. Each of these topics plays a critical role in supporting growers' ability to manage pests, protect yields, and maintain a stable food supply.

This fly-in also included a visit to the White House for a meeting with staff from the National Security Council. There, attendees emphasized the importance of a reliable supply of crop protection products not only for food production but also for national security.

Collaborating with our trade associations amplifies our System's voice on Capitol Hill. By traveling to Washington, D.C., and engaging directly with congressional offices and administration officials, GROWMARK employees help advance meaningful policy priorities that support our members, our customers, and the broader agricultural community.



Keith Lawson, Vice President, Seed

Ag View FS Donates Fuel to Local Emergency Management Agency

When a brush fire turned into a five-alarm event, Ag View FS stepped in to keep first responders fueled

GROWMARK Staff

When a brush fire started in Bureau County in late February, it quickly became a five-alarm fire, with 11 area fire departments called in to help fight it. When fuel was running low, the Bureau County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) contacted Ag View FS to get fuel to the scene for their equipment.

Ag View employees Brad Doty and Dan Lewis dropped what they were doing that Friday afternoon to help. Brad drove his fuel truck, while Dan brought a portable gas trailer to the scene.

When Bureau County EMA reached out to Ag View FS for fuel, they thought they were reaching out as a paying customer. However, once the flames had been extinguished, Chris Maynard, Energy Sales Manager for Ag View FS, sent a letter to the fire chiefs and fire departments involved stating that Ag View FS would donate the fuel used that day.

In the letter, Chris said the following:

"When the Bureau County EMA contacted Ag View FS for gas and diesel fuel to keep your equipment operating, we were proud to step in and support your efforts," he said. "As a small token of our appreciation, we will be donating the gas and diesel used during the fire at the Green River Conservation Area...We are honored to support the work you do."

When the Walnut, Illinois, fire department shared a copy of Chris's letter on its Facebook page, news spread quickly. Local news outlets, including television stations, reported on the story. Although Ag View FS didn't make the donation with the intent of receiving publicity, this situation serves as a powerful reminder that acts of service and community support from our FS locations can have a significant impact on the communities they serve.





The Prestigious Chairman’s Award Returns to the GROWMARK System

The award is the pinnacle of achievement for FS member companies

GROWMARK Staff with assistance from CoPilot

Gateway FS and Prairieland FS were named recipients of GROWMARK’s prestigious Chairman’s Award during the 2026 Cooperative Leadership Conference.

Traditionally presented at a GROWMARK leadership conference, the Chairman’s Award recognizes top-performing member companies across the System. The honor is awarded to organizations that rank in the top 20 percent in three

key performance areas: sales growth, return on invested capital, and operating expense efficiency. Recipients also must achieve an earned business rate of at least 90 percent.

Meeting these benchmarks is exceptionally challenging, as companies must perform at a high level across all three categories simultaneously.

Widely regarded as one of GROWMARK’s highest honors, the Chairman’s Award

signifies excellence in growth, disciplined capital management, and operational efficiency. Companies that earn the distinction demonstrate a strong ability to expand their business while effectively managing resources and controlling costs.

GROWMARK looks forward to honoring the achievements of its members at the 2027 Cooperative Leadership Conference.

Stephenson Service Company Supports Local First Responder Training

First responders learn how to safely handle anhydrous ammonia and propane during an emergency

Brooke Hass, Marketing and Communications Specialist, bhass@stephensonfs.com

Throughout the spring months, the Stephenson Service Company (SSC) team was busy supporting the local fire departments in northern Illinois with propane training and education on safely responding to calls involving anhydrous ammonia.

“It is important to be involved, not only for us as a company in the propane industry, but to help our first responders understand and mitigate any problems prior to our arrival, as they will get the call first,” said Eric Bruning, Ridott, Illinois, plant manager. Bruning also serves as the fire chief at the German Valley Fire Department.

Stephenson Service Company works annually with local fire departments to provide safety training and information to local first responders. In April 2026, Stephenson Service Company attended training in Elizabeth and Freeport, Illinois, to provide propane for training with the Illinois Fire Service Institute for several fire departments

in the region. As part of a safety agreement with the Illinois Propane and Gas Association, Stephenson Service Company provided propane for each training session so firefighters could properly learn to extinguish a fire originating from a propane tank.

Stephenson Service Company also met with several fire departments in Scales Mound and Pearl City, Illinois, to discuss safety around anhydrous ammonia tanks and spill response. This training enabled firefighters to work with Stephenson Service Company’s operators and salespeople to determine the best way to respond to anhydrous ammonia-related calls and to provide information to both parties.

Stephenson Service Company remains committed to maintaining a mutually beneficial relationship with our first responders to keep them and communities safe.



Elizabeth firefighters learn how to safely disable a propane tank. Photo by SSC’s Danny Robbe



Pearl City Fire Department works with SSC employees to learn more about anhydrous ammonia tanks and safety precautions. Photo by PCFD staff



Scales Mound firefighters listen to Jamie Stocks, SSC plant manager, and Eric Bruning, SSC plant manager, talk about anhydrous ammonia safety. Photo by SSC’s Matt Bonnet



Local firefighters ask questions before learning how to safely disable a propane tank

Investing Back into the System: How the Stock Redemption Program is Powering Growth

New chem shed technology has West Central FS operating on the offensive

GROWMARK Staff

Across the GROWMARK System, the Stock Redemption Program continues to demonstrate the power of cooperative investment, returning dollars to member companies in ways that fuel sales growth, enhance operational efficiency, and strengthen service to customers. The project recently completed at West Central FS illustrates how this program is being strategically deployed to modernize infrastructure, expand capacity, and support the System’s future.

When West Central FS decided to utilize the program to construct a new chem shed at their LaHarpe, Illinois, location, they had three main goals.

Initially, they aimed for the project to address operational inefficiencies, so they dedicated time to identifying shortcomings in their current chemical shed operations. One significant issue that emerged was the rising customer demand they were encountering, combined with increasingly tight application windows. Constructing the new chemical shed and implementing modern mixing technology presented an opportunity to streamline loading processes, enabling them to operate more proactively.

West Central’s second objective focused on increasing automation by leveraging technology. They recognized that chemical hot load mixing is often a labor-intensive and time-consuming process. Given current labor challenges, it was essential for the new project to implement technology and equipment that could optimize workflows with fewer personnel. They also wanted the new technology to integrate with Agvance, which would provide precise billing and improved inventory accuracy for West Central FS and our patrons.

The team’s third objective was to expand market share and attract new customers. They recognized that by demonstrating greater efficiency with their existing customers, they could strengthen those relationships. Additionally, showcasing their ability to fulfill orders quickly and efficiently would help them establish connections with new customers.

What was implemented

The LaHarpe chem shed, completed in April 2025, was built by the West Central FS Structure Department while AAK Mechanical Inc. performed the pipe fitting and plumbing

installations. Murray Equipment provided automation equipment, and bulk tanks were purchased through GROWMARK. The new 6,500 sq. ft. chem shed is equipped with Murray’s automated mixing system, 40,000 gallons of bulk chemical storage, and 400 tons of liquid fertilizer capacity. The system connects to nine bulk tanks and 12 mini-bulk containers, plus a scaled inductor for smaller products. Designed for 500 gallons per minute throughput, the system can load a semi-tender in under 10 minutes.

Big benefits

Under the old system, it could take up to 40 minutes to load a truck; with the new system, four trucks can be loaded in the same time.

Current customers are also enjoying the faster applications, and improved accuracy ensures correct rates and better inventory management, reducing costly adjustments and supporting market competitiveness.

Finally, the new project allowed West Central FS to merge the operations of two facilities, which, despite requiring substantial investment, expands the overall service area per chemical shed. As a result, they’ve shifted to a

hub-and-spoke strategy to optimize patron investment.

Customer & employee response

Shortly after its completion, West Central FS acquired a new customer who had been previously targeted by the team’s crop specialist. The grower, who performs self-application, sought faster loading times. After experiencing the system’s efficiency, they decided to continue using West Central FS for their needs.

After a full season of use, West Central’s Location Manager, Chris Weaver, is now focused on business growth rather than merely managing the spring rush, marking a significant shift in approach for the entire team by helping them to attract more customers who value cutting-edge

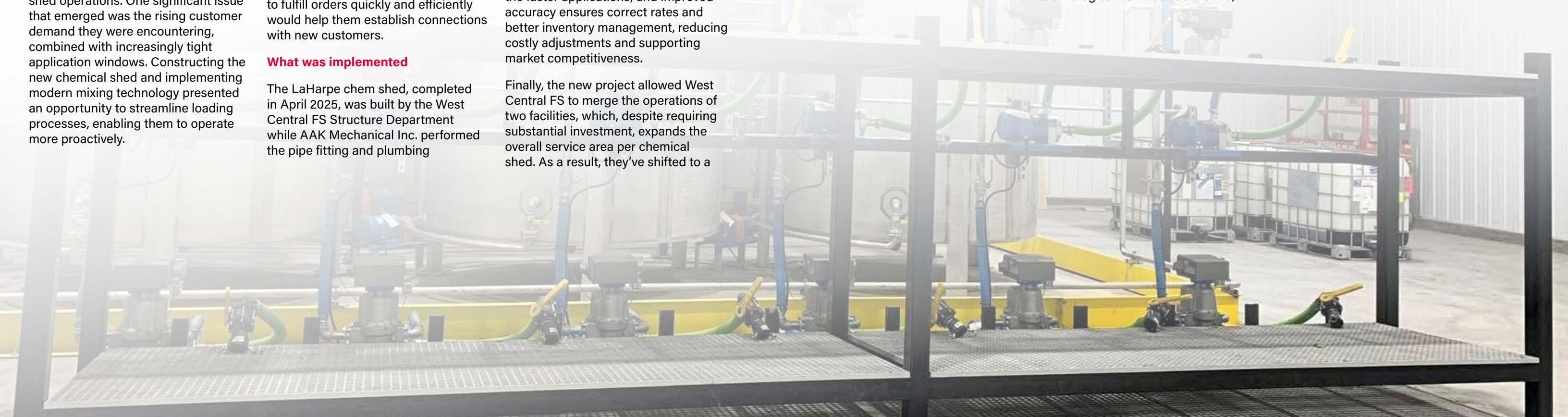
technology to enhance their own efficiency in the field.

West Central FS employees have responded very positively to the new system. The management team consistently receives employee feedback on how much easier it is to operate the new chemical shed. Spring has become significantly less stressful than before, and the daily workflow is more manageable. This allows the team to focus on what truly matters to the business—our patron owners.

The Stock Redemption Program allows member companies to reinvest returned dollars into assets that strengthen their businesses and support sales growth, whether through expanded storage, modernized equipment, or improved technologies. For West Central FS,

the program has accelerated projects that reinforce its value proposition, enhance safety and efficiency, and position it for continued growth with current and new customers.

These stories highlight what makes the cooperative system unique. When the System succeeds, its members succeed. And when members invest in their operations, the entire System becomes stronger.





Harvesting Change: Women Are Redefining What it Means to be a Female Farmer

Celebrating the international year of the woman farmer

Sabrina Burkiewicz, GROWMARK External Communications Manager, sburkiewicz@growmark.com

When Kayla Allen climbed up the ladder into the combine last fall, she paused for a moment, looking at her two young sons in the cab with her, then out across the field as she looked back and saw her dad running one grain cart and her grandpa in another. She felt the weight of the moment, not because it was one of sadness but because it signaled a change in her life, her future, and her family. Kayla was running the show – a mom, a daughter, and now taking the lead role on her family’s farm. It wasn’t that long ago that she remembers riding along with her own grandfather and father in the cab.

“My role on the farm changed as I moved into running the grain cart, and then this last fall, I ran the combine for my dad,” Allen said. “It was a bittersweet moment last fall when I switched to running the combine because I had both of my sons in the cab with me, my dad running one of the grain carts, and my grandpa running the other grain cart. That would be four generations on the farm!”

Allen, a GROWMARK Field Sales Agronomist in Northern Illinois, started her career with Ag View FS in May of 2013, scouting fields, then moved into a Seed Agronomist position, and later joined GROWMARK. With a bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois in Crop Science, Ag Business, and a minor in Food and Agribusiness Management, Kayla has been working on her family’s grain farm in Bureau County, Illinois, for the last 12 years. Her husband has his own farm as well.

But how Kayla came to be engaged to become another farmer is likely a story that will be passed down in her family for many generations and hopefully replicated by at least one of her sons. She tells the story like this.

“In October 2020, I was running the grain cart on our family farm, and the field we were in had a hill where you couldn’t see the combine. My cousin

came on the radio and said, ‘KB, wait over on the northeast end, I’ll come back on that side,’” she said. “I didn’t think anything of it, even though there were eight rows left on the west side. My brother got in the tractor with me as well, as I was still oblivious to what was going to happen. I didn’t think much of it, but I was wondering what was taking him so long.”

When the combine finally did emerge from the hillside, Kayla got the surprise of a lifetime.

“I finally saw the combine coming up over the hill, and I started heading toward him in the grain cart as I could see corn in the hopper. He put the auger out, and there is a huge sign on it that says, “Will you marry me?” she said.

“Once I got to the combine, my husband got out of the combine and asked me to marry him in the middle of the field owned by dad and two uncles. This field has been a part of our family farm since 1933. It was a pretty cool experience, but we had to hurry and get the combine rollin’ again because there were two trucks waiting up at the field to get loaded!”

Six years later, Kayla says that she’s breaking down the stereotypes that people have about female farmers, being able to have a career off the farm and still be a mom.

“Some stereotypes, I believe, around female farmers are the lack of strength necessary for different farming tasks, not being able to operate heavy machinery such as tractors, combines, etc.,” she said. “I think females on the farm are viewed as mainly helpers and not involved in the decision-making process, but that’s not true for our family.”

She feels strongly that her work as a farmer strengthens her work as a Field Sales Agronomist.

“I bring a different perspective on hybrid selection, knowledge on different trials we can run in the field to obtain our yield goal, and overall different views on the farm,” she said. “On my own farming operation, I’m involved with the hybrid and variety selection across the whole farm. And because my own farm is in the same geography as my customers, I can share my own insights and relate to my



customers in a unique way as a farmer.”

Kayla’s advice to other women juggling family life, a farming operation, and an off-the-farm job centers around grace.

“My biggest advice is to give yourself grace. Balancing family life and responsibilities on the farm isn’t going to be perfect,” she said. “Build simple routines, involve your kids in the farming tasks, and don’t ever be afraid to ask for help. Being a mom is so rewarding, and being able to involve your kids in farming activities makes it even sweeter.”

Kayla hopes that by telling her story, she can inspire other women who may be considering returning to the family farm or who are nervous about taking that step.

“Agriculture is evolving, and there is space for new ideas, new voices, and new leadership on the farm. There is a place for women in the farming industry, and I know we can make a positive impact in agriculture.”





Area First Responders Strengthen Safety Skills at Heritage FS

First responders benefit from valuable training for emergency situations

Heritage FS (HFS) has a strong commitment to keeping its employees safe, and this extends to the communities it serves.

That obligation turns into action each year as fire departments visit their local Heritage FS locations to learn about the facilities and products used at each site. Recently, the Beaverville Fire Protection District Firemen’s Association in Beaverville, Illinois, met at the nearby HFS facility for a walk-through of the chemical plant and to learn about the chemicals and equipment used there.

“Events like this are not only about the first responders knowing where the shut-offs are on tanks or how to handle

spilled chemicals if something happens, it’s also about knowing how to approach a wrecked piece of equipment that may be leaking product,” said Jeremy Scher, HFS Beaverville Plant Manager and Certified Crop Advisor.

“There may be anhydrous shooting out of a rolled-over tank, and they need to know when they should and should not approach.”

Rural fire departments try to hold these types of educational meetings regularly, but over time, both plant operations and the fire department’s volunteers change.

“It’s beneficial that everyone is current on their knowledge,” Scher added. “Some of them may have been here 10 times in the past, but some may be coming for the first time tonight.”

Accidents are something that Heritage FS employees train for and do their best to prevent, but the firefighters aren’t typically immersed in the safety protocols of handling agricultural inputs like anhydrous ammonia.

“If there’s any kind of incident and these guys show up, I want them to know exactly where to find whatever they need to save someone, whether that’s water or a shut-off valve or anything else,” Scher said.

Heritage FS also hosted a multi-departmental anhydrous ammonia training course at the Gilman Agronomy Center last fall, with nearly 100 attendees. Twenty fire departments from across three counties had representatives in attendance who heard an ammonia-focused presentation from John Rebholz, Director of Safety &

Education with the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association.

There were also HFS anhydrous ammonia tanks and applicator bars available for the first responders to inspect. Rebholz also discussed the steps first responders can take to disperse ammonia clouds from an accident and how to treat someone on the scene who may have an ammonia burn.

Heritage FS made sure to show appreciation by serving the first responders home-cooked burgers with all the fixings. There was also a drawing for a \$250 donation to go toward updating the department’s equipment. The winner of that drawing was the Ford Iroquois Thawville Fire Protection District.

“We talk a lot about all these worst-case scenarios through our employee trainings, but we want this to be so ingrained that responding in an emergency is second nature,” said Tiffani Lutz, Heritage FS Safety Coordinator.

“Being able to get these fire departments out here to interact with our employees might make the difference in the event of an ammonia emergency.”

Lutz says safety at Heritage FS goes beyond employees; it’s about keeping the communities where we work and live safe, too.

“We don’t just show up at the plants in these communities and then go to our homes somewhere else. These are our communities. We live here, raise kids here, and we want to support our emergency responders,” Lutz said.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RETIREES

Allen Wooters
South Central FS, Inc.
1 year

Dale Houston
Heritage FS, Inc.
2 years

William Meyer
GRAINCO FS, Inc.
2 years

Jackie Trowbridge
SEEDWAY, LLC.
2 years

John Keith
Sunrise FS
3 years

Chester Arnold
Western Grain Marketing
5 years

Arthur Boyles
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
5 years

Adriane Powell
GROWMARK, Inc.
5 years

Bill Brandenburg
South Central FS, Inc.
6 years

Mark Creery
AgVantage FS, Inc.
6 years

Joann Clark
SEEDWAY, LLC.
7 years

Charles Reeves
Gateway FS, Inc.
7 years

Timothy Vollers
Conserv FS, Inc.
7 years

Steele Scott
Evergreen FS, Inc.
9 years

Jimmy Beede
Manito Transit LLC.
10 years

Lee Tait
Western Grain Marketing
10 years

Ferlin Zimmerman
SEEDWAY, LLC.
10 years

Kevin Rutz
M&M Service Company
11 years

Melinda Zimmerman
SEEDWAY, LLC.
13 years

Rosemary Vuxta
SEEDWAY, LLC.
14 years

Richard Snowden
Gold Star FS Inc.
15 years

Susan Bell
New Century FS, Inc.
16 years

Martin Hogan
Green Valley Seed, LLC.
16 years

Michael Ellington
M&M Service Company
17 years

Roger Tuttle
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
17 years

Jim Winnett
South Central FS, Inc.
17 years

Paul Klein
Insight FS, Inc.
19 years

Charles Cutler
AGRIS Co-operative Ltd
20 years

Tod Haney
New Century FS, Inc.
21 years

Lisa Richardson
Central Commodity FS
21 years

Christine Steinkamp
Prairieland FS, Inc.
22 years

Christopher Young
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
23 years

Mark Larson
GROWMARK, Inc.
24 years

Lisa Murray
Insight FS, Inc.
25 years

Lynne Fetrow
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
37 years

Carl Tebbe
Gateway FS, Inc.
37 years

Phillip Keating
Conserv FS, Inc.
27 years

Ken Fleury
AGRIS Co-operative Ltd
28 years

Douglas Salisbury
AgVantage FS, Inc.
28 years

Jacqueline Rodgers
Central Ontario FS
29 years

Ronald Sever
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
29 years

Jamey Brumbaugh
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
33 years

Tim Richter
Gateway FS, Inc.
33 years

Timothy Lafave
SEEDWAY, LLC.
34 years

Lynne Fetrow
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
37 years

Carl Tebbe
Gateway FS, Inc.
37 years

Auralie Morden
AGRIS Co-operative Ltd
40 years

Marianne Deluca
AGRIS Co-operative Ltd
41 years

Shelly Kruse
GROWMARK, Inc.
42 years

Mark Johnson
Western Grain Marketing
44 years

Barbara Davidson
GROWMARK FS, LLC.
46 years

Robin Kissinger
West Central FS, Inc.
46 years

Stephen Ross
M&M Service Company
55 years



Chris King, plant manager at the Heritage FS Gilman Agronomy Center, explains to first responders how NH3 is applied and where the connection points are



Travis Wilke, Beaverville Crop Specialist, and Jeremy Scher, Beaverville Plant Manager, (both on far left) pose with members of the Beaverville Fire Protection District Firemen's Association after their facility training recently

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Robert Sauder, with Central Ontario FS, captures an applicator in action. Application season in Ontario got off to a slow start with cooler-than-normal temperatures in the region.