

● MAY 2023

SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS



SRNS Today



SRS Safety Expo

Site employees learn about safety during two days of fun and games



SCAN ME
to connect with
our social media

This month

F Area updates • Lab leadership award • Earth Day in Aiken • GreenJackets 'Education Day'



Stuart MacVean
SRNS President and CEO

Welcome

to the May 2023 edition of

SRNS Today

Many of the missions at the Savannah River Site are enduring ones and will be needed by our nation for years, or even decades, to come; this means SRS will continue to need a trained and talented workforce for just as long. This is why Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) not only invests heavily in our current employees but also focuses on recruitment and training of the next generation of workers.

Our Education Outreach department was hard at work in May. The SRNS ongoing partnership with the Augusta GreenJackets led to a recent event featuring opportunities for students to learn about STEM from organizations across the Central Savannah River Area during a day at the ballpark. We also once again sponsored the Aiken High School's M'Aiken Magic robotics team who recently traveled to Houston, Texas, where the team successfully competed in an international robotics championship hosted by FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). In addition, SRNS recently hosted Claflin University students on a tour to learn more about the Site.

Along with our successes in Education Outreach this month, we also safely replaced a motor on the H Canyon hot crane and held the annual Safety Expo — the premier safety event for employees.

I hope you enjoy this month's edition of SRNS Today.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell. Since August 2008, SRNS has been the management and operating contractor for the Savannah River Site, a Department of Energy-owned site near Aiken, South Carolina. 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. If you have questions or comments, please contact us at 803.952.6131 or visit our website.

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COMMON ACRONYMS

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) • Savannah River Site (SRS)
Department of Energy (DOE) • National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)

Some of the photos in this issue were taken under previous COVID-19 guidelines, including guidelines with no mask requirements for vaccinated employees.



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F Area projects underway

Site preparation and improvements to support SRPPF workforce

Buildings and parking lots in F Area are being upgraded to support ongoing design and prepare for the future growth and volume of employees who will be supporting the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) project mission.

"The SRPPF project will see a large increase in staffing in the coming months, including construction craft," said Dennis Carr, SRNS Executive Vice President and NNSA Chief Operations Officer. "Some necessary relocations of existing personnel will begin soon, with many of these moves on a temporary basis until office building renovations are complete and additional housing is available."

SRPPF Lot B, which will be used in the future as the 707 complex grows, was repaved and completely upgraded in March. A new trailer complex will be installed around the 707-F and 707-7F buildings to accommodate up to 200 personnel.

"The resurfacing and painting of the lot shows that we have started area improvements to support the growth of the SRPPF project," said Bryan Atkinson, SRPPF Construction and Building, Grounds and Maintenance Area Manager with SRNS. "I am proud of my team for doing a great job repaving Lot B and doing it in a timely manner."

A total of eight parking lots in the area will be resurfaced and repainted to support area improvements. Repaving work on the Naval Fuels Parking Lot began in April.

"The resurfacing and restriping of the parking stalls and walkways will support safe parking conditions as well as pedestrian traffic in our SRPPF parking lots," Atkinson said.



"The resurfacing and painting of the lot shows that we have started area improvements to support the growth of the SRPPF project."

Bryan Atkinson,
SRPPF Construction and Building,
Grounds and Maintenance Area Manager

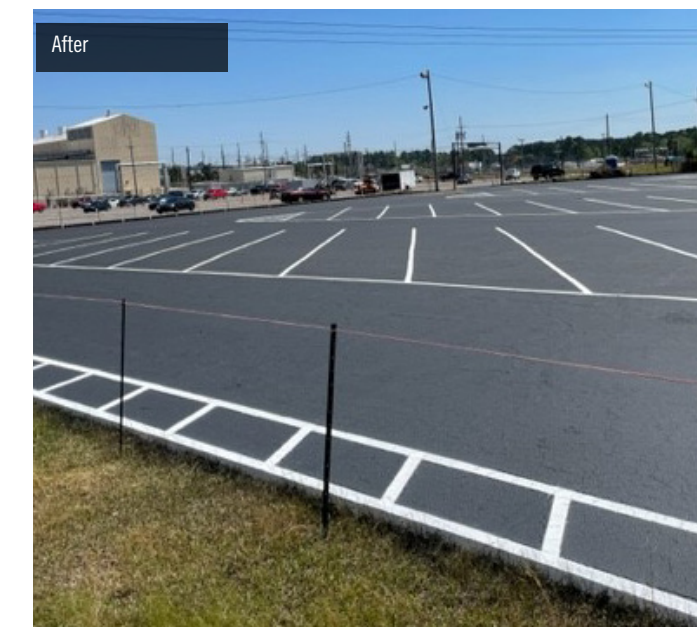


Additional renovations and upgrades to existing trailer complexes are planned to extend the life of these facilities for SRPPF. Renovations are planned for 706-2F and 706-1F, then 706-8F and finally 706-6F.

Once built and operational testing is complete, the purpose of the SRPPF will be the manufacturing of plutonium pits for NNSA.

There are approximately 3,000 construction and trade union jobs to fill for the entire SRPPF project. Once construction of the facility is complete, the plutonium pit production mission will continue to employ approximately 1,900 people.

"As we ramp up offices and infrastructure for this large capital project, we appreciate every team member continuing to do their part to ensure the success of the enduring SRPPF mission," Carr said.



Operators replace essential crane motor

The SRS 70-year-old H Canyon Chemical Separations Facility recently safely replaced the motor on the Hot Crane for the first time, ensuring the viability of the crane in this one-of-a-kind facility for years to come.

The H Canyon cranes are essential to H Canyon operations. They are controlled remotely for use in the radioactive areas of the canyon to perform work where personnel cannot go. Because of the importance of the cranes, they regularly go through preventive maintenance; however, this is the first time a part replacement of this magnitude has been performed on the Hot Crane used for the most radioactive operations.

“This work was more involved than a lot of maintenance work we do because mechanics had to deal with lifts, asbestos, tight spaces and numerous other hazards all while being performed in the Hot Crane Maintenance Area,” said Jeff Bickley, SRNS H Canyon Maintenance Manager. “Because of the height of the crane, and the fall potential behind the work being performed, not only did mechanics have to wear two pairs of coveralls under breathing air suits to protect them from contamination, but they also had to wear fall protection. We worked very deliberately and carefully to make sure no one tripped over any of the hoses and that everyone was safe during all aspects of the job.”

Replacing the approximately 850-pound motor took weeks of planning and preparation, as well as integration between many different SRS departments including rigging, radiation protection and operations.



The Hot crane in SRS' H Canyon recently underwent motor replacement for the first time in the Canyon's 70-year history.

“We found old videos of the original motor assembly from the manufacturer and watched them, as a group to aid in the planning of the work,” said Bickley. “Because of the planning and communication between departments, the job went off flawlessly.”

H Canyon is broken up horizontally into three sections — the hot side (higher levels of radiation), the warm side (lower levels of radiation) and the habitable middle section (no radiation). Both the hot and warm sides of the canyon are where operations are performed using cranes — no personnel have entered either the hot or warm canyon since material was first introduced in the 1950s.

acclaimed radiotoxicology intercomparison program, PROCORAD, for outstanding performance in the actinides in excretion matrix; this intercomparison program includes participants from 72 laboratories representing 26 countries, of which EBL was the top performer.

On April 24-26, in College Park, Maryland, a summit honored winners, while also providing attendees with chances to hear from speakers about successful leadership, participate in workshops and make connections.

“Natalia has strong leadership and teamwork skills that have helped in addressing several management challenges within EBL and is continuously growing as an effective leader,” said Teresa Eddy, EBL and Environmental Monitoring Program Manager. “She is improving many areas of the EBL including cross training, teamwork, leadership, communication and business strategies. We are blessed to have her.”

“I was totally shocked when I was notified that I won this award,” said Johnson. “It means so much to me to be recognized as a leader, but more specifically excelling in lab management.”

Johnson is involved in several SRNS professional development organizations, as well as the SRNS Mentoring Program, and continuously encourages others to get involved in and develop through leadership opportunities. She was also selected to join Fluor's Nuclear Civil Solutions Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council.

Lab Manager's Award for Leadership Excellence

Natalia Johnson, SRNS Environmental Bioassay Laboratory (EBL) Manager, received a Lab Manager's Leadership Excellence Award for exceptional leadership and management skills.

During her tenure at SRNS, Johnson has displayed all the qualities of an effective leader by modeling character, demonstrating empathy in leadership, delivering key missions and engaging in safety and security programs.

Under her leadership, the EBL has significantly increased its productivity, improved turnaround time and received exceptional scoring (100%) on all proficiency tests and performance evaluations. The lab was also recognized in September 2022 by an internationally



Natalia Johnson

SRS exhibitors 'Invest in Our Planet' for Earth Day



Mike Budney, DOE-SR Manager and Stuart MacVean check out one of the Site's new electric trucks at Aiken Earth Day.

This Earth Day, which was observed globally on April 22, SRS focused on its decades-long mission to “Invest in Our Planet” by connecting with the community of Aiken, South Carolina, during their annual Earth Day festival.

For decades, SRS has served as a leader in the DOE Complex in environmental stewardship, including the research and development of cutting-edge technologies that are achieving environmental restoration at the Site, across the United States and abroad.

The SRS booth provided attendees with information promoting sustainable habits for living at home, on the road and out in the community.

To support DOE's goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the Site is currently promoting the initiative by:

- Hosting an SRS Sustainability Working Group and Sustainability Steering Committee
- Developing an annual Site Sustainability Plan
- Performing an SRS Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Plan
- Integrating Resilience Solutions and Sustainability related activities into long-term Infrastructural Planning
- Conducting Energy Independence and Security Act building audits
- Annually executing Energy Conservation Measures such as LED light installations and cool roof replacements
- Upgrading HVAC systems to more energy efficient systems
- Managing progress through the DOE Sustainability Dashboard
- Pursuing the implementation of a Photovoltaic Solar Array on-site
- Beginning the transition to a Light duty Electric Vehicle Fleet with over 60 vehicles to be delivered in the coming months
- Installing EV charging stations in three different areas on-site

“It is important to focus on the small changes that you and your family can make to live more sustainably,” said Kimberly Price, SRS Earth Day Co-Chair. “Start with a few simple things — use a water bottle, keep reusable bags in your car for shopping, look for products with less packaging, etc. Small changes add up, and if a lot of people make small changes and start becoming more aware of their waste footprint, we can make a difference together. Consider it an investment for future generations!”

“We were happy to support the Aiken Earth Day event as part of our sitewide celebration activities,” said Amy Meyer, SRNS Environmental Compliance Manager. “Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success and to our employees at SRS for taking the time to learn how they can support our mission to reduce, reuse and recycle.”



SRS employees engaged with community members in downtown Aiken.

Learning how to be a 'wiz' at safety

SRS Annual Safety Expo reenergizes Site safety culture

On April 26 and 27, SRS hosted its annual Safety Expo, featuring nearly 60 informational booths designed to educate and engage SRS employees on a range of topics that underpin the Site's legacy, safety culture and performance.

This year's event drew more than 3,400 attendees from all SRS contractors to the Applied Research Center in Aiken, South Carolina, for two days of safety engagement. The event, led by SRNS, shared information with employees ranging from safety, security and environmental stewardship to personal health, wellness and other community services designed to improve quality of life.

Over 23 Local Safety Improvement Teams hosted interactive booths at the Expo, along with participants from Savannah River Mission Completion, U.S. Forest Service, Savannah River National Laboratory, Centerra and the University of Georgia's Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, as well as several community organizations.

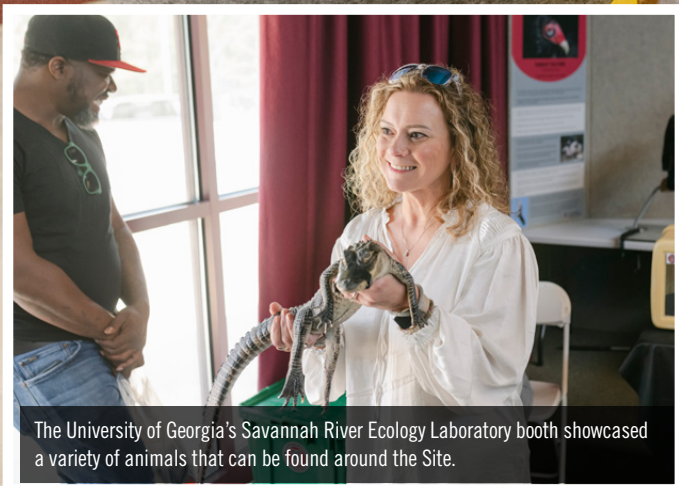
"The SRS Safety Expo is an important tool in the broader SRS engagement toolbox," said Barbara Guenveur, SRNS Employee Engagement Program Manager and Safety Expo Lead. "Thanks to ongoing partnerships with employee-led Local Safety Improvement Teams, community organizations, SRS contractors and stakeholders, employees are afforded time to learn about important topics that are applicable at work, at home and in the community."

"Every year, the SRS Safety Expo brings employees from across the Site together to celebrate and reinforce our workforce's strong safety culture," said Rick Sprague, SRNS Senior Vice President, Environment, Safety, Health and Quality. "Involvement in these events is what empowers our team with the knowledge necessary to continuously improve safety and health both on- and off-site."

"Safety has and always will be a core value at SRS," said Stuart MacVean. "Thank you to everyone who comes together each year to make this event possible and encourage our employees to become involved with and learn more about safety organizations across the Site."

The SRS Safety Expo plays an important role in continuing the Site's legacy of safety by energizing the workforce to sustain safety excellence through teamwork, education and engagement.

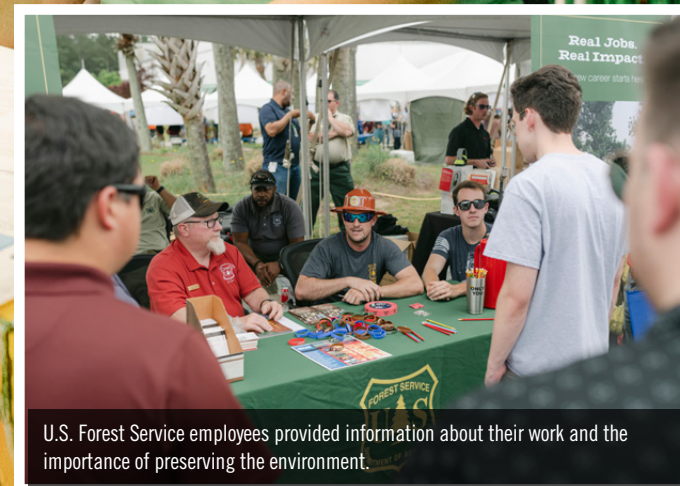
BACKGROUND PHOTO: SRNS Safety Engineer Lea Simons led employees down the yellow brick road on a walk with safety to learn about how they can incorporate safety into every day life and how to identify potential hazards.



The University of Georgia's Savannah River Ecology Laboratory booth showcased a variety of animals that can be found around the Site.



Several members of the Safety Expo planning committee posed with Smokey Bear at the Safety Culture Steering Committee photo booth.



U.S. Forest Service employees provided information about their work and the importance of preserving the environment.

Clafin University students visit SRS

Clafin University students recently traveled from Orangeburg, South Carolina, in order to learn about the wide array of facilities and occupations found across the Site.

According to Clafin University Assistant Professor Daniel Koenemann, the environmental management and biology students arrived with a natural interest in the Site's nuclear and environmental restoration missions.

"It benefits our students to see exactly where they could apply their future degrees and the job opportunities available in those areas," said Koenemann. "I thought it was a great trip, and I'm happy we came here today."

Jared Wicker, SRNS Environmental Monitoring Program, stated that Site tours are beneficial for all involved.

Wicker said, "Participants can see first-hand emerging scientific technologies being developed at SRS and our commitment to protecting the land where the Site is located and surrounding areas for our employees and our communities. By touring the Site, participants can get a sense of the wide scope of environmental health and safety programs that we have due to the complexity of our missions, which is not typical in most industrial settings."

Bryan Ortner, Manager, SRNS Talent Acquisition, added that each student visiting the Site is a potential future employee.

"We have several ways to populate our employee pipeline with job candidates, including: tours, job fairs and education outreach programs. We proactively reach out with the goal of creating a positive impression of our company and the Site," said Ortner.

The one-day event included a driving tour of several facilities supporting the wide range of missions at SRS and featured a walking tour of the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). In 1996, DWPF operations began with use of a vitrification process to convert high-activity liquid waste stored at SRS into a solid glass form suitable for long-term storage and disposal.



Jared Wicker, SRNS Environmental Monitoring Program, explained how different technologies monitor the environment at SRS.



Heritage Academy student Derek Webb uses a dichotomist key to identify an aquatic specimen caught in an SRS streambed.

STEP class brings science to life

More than 50 fifth and sixth grade students from Heritage Academy, Augusta, Georgia, experienced a unique hands-on environmental class in the forests of the Savannah River Site (SRS) to inspire early interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-based careers at the Site.

The Science and Technology Enrichment Program (STEP), is a cooperative effort with Ruth Patrick Science Education Center (RPSEC) where lessons correlate to academic curriculum for grades three through 12 and utilize real-world investigations that focus on responsible environmental stewardship.

Director of Environmental Education at RPSEC Kimberly Fickling believes every student should have the opportunity to learn from experts in the field. "We are connecting classroom standards to real hands-on activities that can spark students' interest in STEM and careers in science," said Fickling. "We truly bring science to life through these different opportunities."

Attending students completed a macroinvertebrate count and watershed activity that addressed the human impact on healthy ecosystems and how pollution affects our major water sources.

"Having kids come out and experience these lessons is a very unique and special opportunity," said Westin Bobadilla, Heritage Academy Program Coordinator. "I really saw these kids break out of their comfort zones and engage with many new scientific instruments during the activities."

In 2020, COVID-19 put a halt to in-person classes, but the program persevered and shifted to virtual instruction. In 2022, the on-site classrooms predominately used for STEP were shut down. With special assistance from the University of Georgia's Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL), the program has continued, using the SREL auditorium and on-site outdoor spaces.

"We are having to adapt to this change and shift our program to outdoor areas while sending larger classes to SREL," said Taylor Rice, Education Outreach Specialist. "We would love to have our own designated facility and classroom space for education outreach to impact more students on environmental matters."

SRNS knocks GreenJackets 'Education Day' out of the park

The SRNS ongoing partnership with the Augusta GreenJackets recently created the perfect field trip experience—afternoon baseball and a stadium packed with educational opportunities from organizations across the Central Savannah River Area.

Teachers and students gathered at SRP Park to partake in an out-of-class learning experience designed specifically for children.

"We had an overwhelming sellout crowd of 5,763 cheering on the GreenJackets," said Tom Denlinger, Vice President of Augusta GreenJackets Baseball. "Hearing the teachers and students explain just how much they enjoyed the game, plus all the educational vendors really made this day extra special."

SRNS Education Outreach Program Specialist Taylor Rice hoped to inspire students to pursue a career path in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). "Our goal for today was to expose students to a variety of careers at SRS," said Rice. "By participating in our booth activities, students were able to learn more about information technology, the Site's fire department and a variety of STEM careers."

SRS education outreach provided microscopes for students to examine rocks, minerals, insects, seashells, snakeskin and butterfly wings. Students completed a bracelet building activity in order to learn the importance of a binary code and software engineering. The STEM "Step into my Job" cutouts displayed different career opportunities in science, maintenance and engineering.

The partnership between SRP Park and SRNS proved to be vital to the community. "Partnerships like this provide a way for us to connect to our future generation of employees and fill those gaps in our workforce," said Rice.

"SRNS was a huge reason for today's success by interacting directly with students as they entered the ballpark," said Denlinger. "We hope to continue this partnership and increase the number of schools involved."



TOP: Attending students were able to "step into jobs" at SRS. Job cutouts included careers in science, maintenance and engineering.

ABOVE: The SRS Fire Department assisted students with fire protection equipment and explained fire safety plans for each student visiting the booth.

LEFT: Located at the entrance of the stadium, the SRS education outreach booth was a fan favorite. Students identified different organisms under a microscope.

SRS-sponsored team attends international robotics championship

Once again, SRNS sponsored the Aiken High School M'Aiken Magic robotics team who recently travelled to Houston, Texas, where the team successfully competed in an international robotics championship competition hosted by FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). FIRST is a world-wide educational program offered to students in grades eight through 12.

Students on each team work together to build a robot from scratch for this annual, multi-competition challenge. The organization's mission is to "inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators" while developing new science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills in the process.

"As a company, we, at SRNS, understand the importance of a STEM-based education and that many students best learn STEM-based curricula using an unconventional means, such as through designing, building and operating a robot," said Sean Alford, SRNS Executive Vice President and Chief of Administration. "We have been financial sponsors of the M'Aiken Magic program for many years."

After winning their district qualifiers in Anderson and Hartsville, South Carolina, M'Aiken Magic went on to the Peachtree District Championship, where they finished in second place out of the 50 best teams from both Georgia and South Carolina. With this finish, they qualified to attend the world championship in Houston, Texas, where they competed against more than 600 teams.

The championship competition in Houston was divided into eight divisions of approximately 70 teams each. After each division played two days of three-on-three style qualification matches, teams were seeded based on their performance. The top eight seeds selected their alliance partners to play in the divisional tournament.

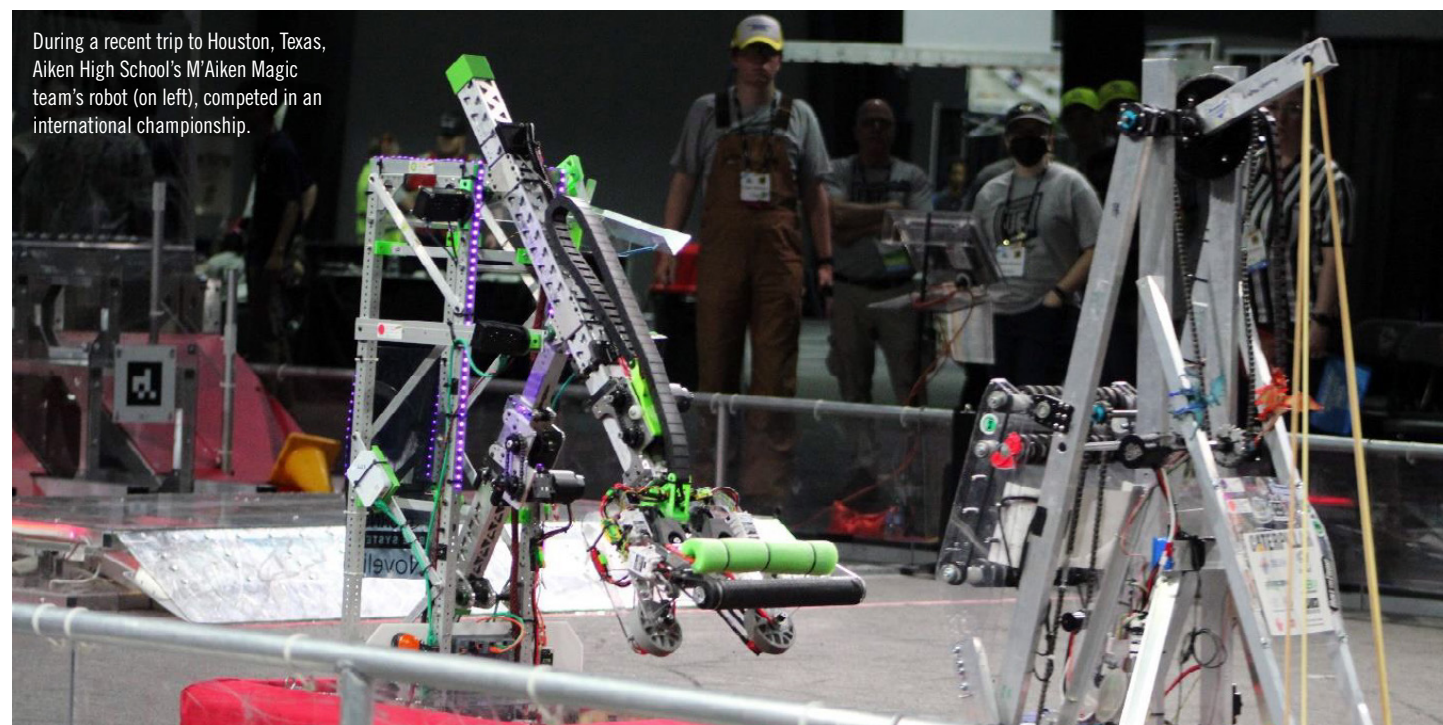


Aiken High School's M'Aiken Magic robotics team placed first in the district qualifier held in Hartsville, South Carolina.

"Our team already knew it was going to be an uphill battle when we discovered that our division not only included two of the reigning world champion teams, but also the number one ranked robot in the world from this season," said Ambrose Wiering, a Site employee who mentors the team in his free time. "But M'Aiken Magic has never been a team to shy away from a challenge. And after the second day of qualification matches, they ended up seeding ninth out of the 77 teams in their division."

This meant that when the powerhouse top-ranked team in the world from Ontario picked the five-time world champion team from California to play with them in the tournament, M'Aiken Magic shifted into the eighth seed spot and became an alliance captain. They selected team Up-A-Creek robotics from Colorado and team GEMS from Michigan as members of their alliance.

In the double elimination bracket, the M'Aiken Magic alliance faced off against the powerhouse top seed alliance and was not expected to win. But, in a stunning upset, the underdogs were victorious and the first seed team was eliminated soon after. M'Aiken Magic's team then unfortunately underperformed in their next match, falling into the lower bracket where they needed a win to survive. According to Wiering, they played their hearts out but lost their last match of the season by a razor thin margin of 190-192. The team that eliminated them went on to win the division.



During a recent trip to Houston, Texas, Aiken High School's M'Aiken Magic team's robot (on left), competed in an international championship.

THE PEOPLE OF SRNS



Brantley Kuglar

AT SRNS: Facility Administrator in the Operations and Support organization at the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF), SRPPF Pits Crew LSIT, IDEAS Program

Brantley Kuglar is the Facility Administrator in the Operations and Support organization at the SRNS Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF). He has 37 years of experience working in various areas of the Site, including Site Utilities, Water Services and Power Operations.

He has been described by co-workers as an employee who is consistently willing to go above and beyond and as someone who is never seen without a smile. Kuglar attributes this positive attitude to his "customers."

"I enjoy the opportunity to be of service and to help in any way that I can," he said. "My favorite part of working at SRNS is the people. As a facility administrator, I am blessed to have a position that enables me to interact with people daily."

Kuglar is quick to emphasize the importance of safety and how it has influenced his career, personal life and involvement at SRNS.

"Our safety culture here at the Savannah River Site is second to none," he said. "It has been engrained in me since my first day on-site. Safety is something that I have shared with my family over the years, and it has certainly had a huge impact on our lives. I enjoy sharing this culture with all, especially the new employees on-site."

He holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from Baptist College at Charleston, now known as Charleston Southern University, and is involved with several Site organizations, such as the SRPPF Pits Crew Local Safety and Improvement Team and the IDEAS (Individuals Developing Effective Alternative Solutions) Program.



AMP volunteers at Nurture Home

As part of an AMP (Aspiring Mid-Career Professionals) community service project, SRNS Hazardous Material Shipping Advisor Lisa Mead, SRNS Senior Software Engineer Kadedra Burgess, Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) Project Manager Troy Bradshaw with wife Christina Bradshaw, SRNS Defense Programs Process Control and Automation Engineering Group Administrative Assistant Jessica Lape and son Eli Lape, SRMC Quality Services Manager Azikiwe Hooker, and Jessica's husband Wes Lape and his mother Pamela Virgin worked on landscaping at the Mental Health of America of Aiken County's Nurture Home.

CNTA Golf Tournament

Several SRNS employees recently volunteered or participated in the Citizens for Nuclear Technology (CNTA) Awareness Annual Golf Tournament. SRNS served as a main sponsor of the event that raised approximately \$23,000 that will be used to help the non-profit organization promote and educate the public on nuclear technology.

SRNS Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer Sean Alford putts at the CNTA Golf Tournament while SRNS Plutonium Programs Controller Cory Bryant looks on.



We make the world **safer.**

SRNS

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

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

Securing nuclear materials to prevent unwanted proliferation

Transforming nuclear materials into assets and stable wastefoms



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