Our Vision:
No child would become ill, injured or die from farm, ranch and rural activities.

Our Mission:
Provide education, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities.

Brian Kuhl Serves in New Role with PAF as Interim CEO

On January 10th, Brian Kuhl transitioned into a new leadership role with the Progressive Agriculture Foundation and is serving in the position of Interim Chief Executive Officer. Kuhl offers more than two decades of diverse business experience working with some of the nation's largest agriculture cooperatives. In 2017, Kuhl completed a six-year term on the PAF Board, serving three of those years as board president, and representing one of the foundation's 5-star sponsors, CHS Inc.

After electing to retire after more than 24 years with the foundation, Susan Reynolds Porter is supporting Kuhl as a special projects manager through March 31, 2018. We thank Susan for her leadership, guidance and growth of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program since 1995 and welcome Brian to lead our team.

"The foundation appreciates the leadership both Susan and Brian have provided over the years," says Katie Schroeder, president, board of directors, Progressive Agriculture Foundation. "We look forward to continuing the foundation's mission of providing the education, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities for many years to come."

Click here for the full press release.

New Faces & Leadership Changes to the PAF Board

We are pleased to welcome a new slate
of Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board officers for 2018. After completing three years as president of the PAF Board, Brian Kuhl has turned the leadership reigns over to Katie Schroeder of John Deere. Katie previously held the position of vice-president for the past three years. Filemon Guzman, Jr. of Crop Production Services has moved into the role as vice-president and Aaron Yoder of the University of Nebraska Medical Center - Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health assumes the role of secretary/treasurer. The board recently held their first face-to-face meeting of the year in February at John Deere in Cary, North Carolina.

We also welcome new member, Frank Dowdle, to the Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board of Directors. Frank has completed 14 Progressive Agriculture Safety Days since he became a coordinator in 2011 and prior to that, helped with several Safety Days conducted by others. Frank grew up on a small farm in Mississippi and attended Mississippi State University, where he earned his Bachelors of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education. Upon graduation, he moved to south Florida where he worked for a major agriculture company for almost 30 years. He was involved in research, irrigation, safety and administration. In 2009, he joined the University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences in Palm Beach County as an Extension agent. His duties are mainly pesticide and agricultural safety. In 2012, he earned his Master of Science in Agricultural Communication from the University of Florida. Frank is married to Michele and they have three children and one granddaughter. Frank volunteers at a local feeding mission and is active in his community and church. Frank is a member of the Florida Association of County Agricultural Agents (FACAA), National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA), American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE), and American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE). Frank is filling the position previously held by Mary Koenegstein of Odin, Illinois, who completed her term in December of 2017. The Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board and Staff want to thank Mary for her guidance, dedication and leadership the past three years.

For a complete listing of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board of Directors, click here.

Welcome Nutrien

Have you noticed a new name in our listing of 5-star sponsors on our website? We would like take this opportunity to officially welcome, Nutrien, a leader in global agriculture, to the Progressive Agriculture Foundation family.

On January 2, 2018, a successful completion of the merger of equals between Agrium Inc. and Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. (PotashCorp), creating the world's premier provider of crop inputs and services. PAF is looking forward to our relationship with Nutrien.
new partnership with Nutrien and will work together to keep children in rural areas safer and healthier. To read more about the merger, click here.

Although the name is new, the partnership with Agrium and Crop Production Services developed in 2002. Since then, their generous support has allowed us to reach close to 150,000 youth participants and adult volunteers.

Learn more about Nutrien at www.nutrien.com

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2018 Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator Training Season Concludes

On February 28, the 2018 Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® Coordinator Training season concluded. A total of 378 lead coordinators and 101 assistant coordinators were trained at one of our 30 face-to-face training sessions and 8 webinars. Additionally, we welcomed 12 guests. We want to send out a special thank you to the 2018 training team, which included Glen Blahey, Louis-Charles Boisvert, Scott & Julie Ferry, Dave & Shari Kuther, Christine Maynard, Dan Neenan, Sharry Nielsen, Jana Davidson and Bernard Geschke.

Additionally, we want to thank our 2018 Coordinator Training hosts for securing facilities, providing lunch and handling various other training logistics. Our training hosts and contacts include:

- Alabama Cooperative Extension System in Lowndes County (Katanga Mants)
- Asmark Institute (Allen Summers & Amber Duke)
- Bunge North America - Crete, NE (Julie O'Brien)
- Bunge North America - Decatur, AL (Candie Watson)
- Bunge North America - Decatur, IN (Jenny Godsey)
- Bunge North America - Chesterfield, MO (Shawna Enz-Cross)
- CHS, Inc. (Tera Fair)
- Iowa State University - Sac County Extension Office (Steph Erpelding)
- Jefferson Davis County Soil & Water Conservation District (Hope Daley)
- Louisiana Land Bank & Goldman Equipment Dealer (Tammie Stutts & Blake Stutts Van Mol)
- Lower Colorado River Authority (Marshall Trigg)
- National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (Dan Neenan & Gloria Reiter)
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health & West Virginia Farm Bureau (Dr. David Hard & Laura Himes)
- Nebraska Extension in Cheyenne County (Cynthia Gill)
- MacDon (Nathan Mitchell)
- New Mexico State Cooperative Extension Service in Roosevelt County (Patrick Kircher)
- Nicholas County Board of Education/ Nicholas County Schools (Paula Hunter)
- North Carolina State University - Warren & Edgecombe County Extension (Crystal Smith & Tanya Heath)
- Noble Research Institute (Robyn Peterson)
- North Dakota Farm Bureau (Emily Every)
- Nutrien - formerly Agrium (Rose Lecky)
- Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension in Garfield County (Jessica Nickels)
- Oxford Frozen Foods (David Powers)
- Penn State University - Potter County Extension Office (Amy Murphy)
- Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibits (Glen Duck)
- Stanton County Conservation District (Kim Gerard)
Training Snapshots: On the left is photo of our 2018 French-speaking training held in Longueuil, Quebec and on the right is our training in Columbia, Kentucky.

2018 T-shirt Design Focuses on Call or Click Before You Dig

Keeping consistent with recent years of focusing on topic-specific themes, like railroad safety and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), the 2018 Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® t-shirt has a new design. This year’s focus will be on Underground Utilities Safety and highlight messaging around the importance of calling 811 or clicking before you dig. The theme is "Know What’s Underground - Before Any Digging Goes Down."

To help highlight this important topic at Progressive Agriculture Safety Days, our 5-star sponsor, TransCanada, will continue to provide coordinators with support around their Underground Utilities Safety Module. In the U.S., modules are housed and distributed through the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) and in Canada, they are available through the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA). Through the module, Safety Day participants learn the significance of calling or clicking before you dig, along with pipeline leak recognition and response.

For more about TransCanada’s commitment to community safety, click here.

PAF Embarks on New Partnership with AM-1300 KGLO

The Progressive Agriculture Foundation embarked on a new relationship with Alpha Media’s KGLO 1300 AM based out of Mason City, Iowa. Since November, PAF Program Specialist, Bernard Geschke, and Education Contest Specialist, Jana Davidson, have had the opportunity to take part in monthly radio interviews focusing on timely safety and health topics relevant to farm families.

AM-1300 KGLO is the leader for news, weather, farm and sports in North Iowa.
The staff of KGLO are award winning, homegrown Iowa broadcasters who are committed to excellence on the air and being involved in the communities they serve. KGLO is anchored by The Tim Fleming Morning Show along with news coverage from Bob Fisher, farm news and market information with Jesse Stewart, local high school and college sports coverage along with Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Dave Ramsey and more.

KGLO Farm Director, Jesse Stewart, commented on the monthly interview series with the Progressive Agriculture Foundation saying, "this is a great opportunity for our listeners to learn more about farm safety and rural safety issues each month. KGLO and Alpha Media are committed to live and local coverage and I believe it's important that we provide timely information to our audience on a wide range of topics. The people at the Progressive Agriculture Foundation are very knowledgeable and this was a no-brainer to have them on the air each month. I look forward to working with them!"

Interviews air the first Tuesday of each month during the Midday Farm Report that runs from 12:35p.m.-1:00 p.m. (Central) on KGLO each weekday. We are proud to welcome Alpha Media and AM-1300 KGLO as a media sponsor for 2018. Be sure to listen in live or hear recorded programs after they air at www.kgloam.com

Use AmazonSmile or MobileCause to Donate Directly to the Progressive Agriculture Foundation

As you prepare for the upcoming season and start purchasing all your spring essentials from gardening supplies to new clothes, remember the Progressive Agriculture Foundation when ordering through Amazon. Donating to our cause is as simple as doing your regular shopping! The Progressive Agriculture Foundation is recognized as a charitable organization through AmazonSmile. Each time you make a purchase using AmazonSmile and select the Progressive Agriculture Foundation as the charity of your choice, Amazon will donate .5% of your eligible purchases back to us!

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know & love with the same products, same prices, & same service. Hurry and sign-up today by following these simple steps:

1. Go to https://smile.amazon.com
2. Sign-in or create an account
3. Search & select "Progressive Agriculture Foundation," as your charitable organization. AmazonSmile should remember your selected charity each time you log-in.
4. Start your shopping!

A modest donation of $13, can be the safest investment you'll ever make. Now making a donation has never been easier. Here are three simple ways to donate directly to the foundation:

1. Text the word "SAFETYDAY" to 41444 from you mobile phone.
2. Visit www.progressiveag.org/Donate
3. Send donations to Progressive Agriculture Foundation, P.O. Box 530425,
Davidson Joins Ag Health & Safety Alliance Board

The Ag Health and Safety Alliance, a non-profit, international organization focusing on health and safety for the next generation of agriculture recently formed under the leadership of Carolyn Sheridan, Founder/President. Carolyn is a former Progressive Agriculture Foundation Board President and former Progressive Agriculture Safety Day Coordinator. In the mid-1990's, Carolyn was instrumental in creating curriculum geared towards 4-7 year olds, which is still utilized by the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program.

The Ag Health & Safety Alliance’s GEAR UP for AG HEALTH & SAFETY provides health and safety programs tailored specifically to meet the needs of post-secondary agriculture students attending trade schools, colleges and universities. The organization embraces the idea of agriculture as a global community with a wealth of resources and organizations to assist with the ongoing development and promotion of dynamic programs. The Ag Health & Safety Alliance™ team includes partnerships with individuals and organizations who are interested in this type of education and interaction to promote health and safety at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

Jana Davidson, Education Content Specialist of the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, joins eight other individuals invested in health and safety from throughout North America on the advisory board and is assuming the role of secretary. To learn more, visit www.aghealthandsafety.com.

GROWMARK Increases Partnership to 1-Star Sponsor Level

The Progressive Agriculture Foundation is pleased to announce a sponsorship level increase with our partner, GROWMARK. 2018 marks GROWMARK's third year of partnership with the Progressive Agriculture Safety Day® program and with a donation of $17,500 have become a 1-star sponsor this year.

"Many employees and patrons of GROWMARK and the FS member cooperatives live and work in rural areas. The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day program offers high quality safety training and we are pleased to partner with them to teach our children how to safely live and grow in a rural environment and on the farm." Karen Jones, Youth and Young Producer Specialist for GROWMARK

GROWMARK is an international agricultural supply cooperative with $7 billion in sales (FY16 data), providing agronomy, energy, facility planning, and logistics products and services, as well as grain marketing and risk management services in more than 40 states and Ontario, Canada. GROWMARK owns the FS trademark, which is used by affiliated companies to serve more than 250,000 customers throughout North America.
PAF Staff Kicks-off the New Year Traveling throughout North America

The Progressive Agriculture Foundation staff has been honored to be featured as an exhibitor, presenter or attendee at a variety of conferences and events held throughout North America over the past two months. Here are few of them:

**Farmer's Appreciation Dinner** sponsored by Bunge in Council Bluffs, Iowa

**NSSF's Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show** in Las Vegas, Nevada

**National Farm Machinery Show** in Louisville, Kentucky

**ASHCA's North American Ag Safety Summit** in Scottsdale, Arizona. During this conference, Gary Templeman, PAF Development Specialist, was part of a session on "Building Support for Ag Health and Safety," moderated by long-time program supporter and ASHCA Board Member, William Nelson. Gary joined Paul Jones of the National AgrAbility Project and Carolyn Sheridan of the Ag Health and Safety Alliance on the panel.

**Commodity Classic** in Anaheim, California

**Triumph of Ag Expo** in Omaha, Nebraska

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**Safety Tip - Steer Clear of Slips, Trips & Falls**

Ice, mud, uneven surfaces and clutter are just a few hidden hazards that can turn a fall or slip into a hospital trip! [Click here](#) to check out our Safety & Health for Rural Families Blog post, "Watch Your Step: Steer Clear of Slips, Trips and Falls," or [click here](#) to listen to Bernard Geschke's interview with Jesse Stewart of KGLO AM-1300.

For more safety tips, be sure to stay connected with us via social media:

- LIKE us on [Facebook](#)
- FOLLOW us on [Twitter](#)
- FOLLOW us on [Instagram](#)
- FOLLOW us in [LinkedIn](#)
- SUBSCRIBE to our Safety and Health for Rural Families [WordPress Blog](#)
Contact Information

Brian Kuhl, Interim Chief Executive Officer
bkuhl@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 701

Bernard Geschke, Program Specialist
bgeschke@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 702

Jana Davidson, Education Content Specialist
jdavidson@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 703

Cindy Lengel-Russ, Development Specialist
cruss@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 704

Gary Templeman, Development Specialist
gtempleman@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 705

For general inquiries contact:
Sarah Pilgreen, Program Administrative Assistant
safetyday@progressiveag.org
888-257-3529 Ext. 700