#4

OUR HISTORY: Farm cooperation has been around forever. From helping deliver a calf or putting up a new barn to harvesting crops, farmers have been there for each other since the beginning. Cooperatives were formally created to continue this mutual aid by improving options through joint purchases of supplies, equipment and services while keeping costs down. In the early 1900s there were farm cooperatives in nearly every county in Ohio. Centerra's extended history starts around the 1930s with the Farm Bureaus, Landmarks and Equities in northeast and north central Ohio.

As the economy grew and competition increased, coops had to unite with adjacent co-ops to continue their mission of working together to stay competitive. This merging of co-ops and resources created two main farm co-ops in northeast Ohio: Ashtabula Farm Bureau Cooperative Association and Geauga Landmark. These operations eventually joined forces becoming Western Reserve Farm Cooperative in 1990. Meanwhile, in north central Ohio, Medina Landmark, AgriMark (Ashland Co.), Wooster Equity and Town & Country Co-op (Lorain Co.) were running their own independent businesses, In 2003, these four coops merged to create Town & Country Co-op which covered central Ohio from Lorain County to southern Ashland County under one name.

Throughout this time, these cooperatives expanded their service area (moving into Pennsylvania) and offerings to include petroleum delivery & fuel islands, propane delivery, retail stores (for members and nonmembers alike), and precision ag products and services (Ag Info Tech) as well as continuing to provide agronomy, feed and grain products and services to their customers. In 2016, Western Reserve and Town & Country began talks of merging and in December 2016 with an 84-85% "yes" vote from the membership, the two boards agreed to combine forces. In March 2017, Western Reserve Farm Cooperative and Town & Country Co-op officially became Centerra Co-op. This merger enabled the business to continue its mission of serving agricultural, commercial and residential customers; to provide and expand on the products and services customers want and need as well as stay competitive as the industry changes.





Centerra Co-op & Country Stores offers products and services to assist in the production of locally grown commodities, such as soybeans, corn, wheat, beef, dairy, pork and poultry. These products and services include agronomy (seeds, fertilizers, fungicides, application, precision ag, etc.), feed (livestock feed, supplements and nutrition), energy (fuel and lubricants for vehicles and equipment), grain (harvest, origination, merchandising, storage and export), propane (for heat and grain drying), country stores (pet and livestock nutrition, gardening needs, fencing, and more), and wild bird feed (use locally produced grains to manufacture our Sommer's Wild Bird feeds and Critter feeds).

Our Wooster Country Store is one of our newest locations. We moved from our Henry Street drive-through to the newly renovated facility on West Old Lincoln Way. We're pleased to still be located in close proximity to the Wayne County Fairgrounds, and especially excited to be able to expand our offering with the new drive-through and retail store. At this location, we sell pet and livestock feeds and nutrition products, show feeds and supplies, lawn and garden supplies, wild bird and critter feeds, fencing, and propane tank refills. We're open 7-days a week.

During the Farm Tour, we will offer guests an opportunity to see some of our agronomy equipment up close, particularly a TerraGator 8400 air machine with a precision AirMax II bed and and a 70-foot boom, and an RG 1100 RoGator sprayer with a 100-foot boom. This machinery comes from our Smithville branch and is crucial for both crop protection and crop nutrition during the planting and growing season. In addition, we will have a station where kids can create their own custom wild bird feed blend using many of the same ingredients we use to make our Sommer's Wild Bird Feed mixes. For anyone that gets hungry, Red Beard Seasonings food truck will be offering BBQ.



John Sprunger, Manager PO Box 39 Kidron, OH 44636







## We share your passion for your farm, pets, projects and home

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## www.CenterraCoop.com

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