

## Harmon returns to Jack's Bean Co.

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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By accepting the general manager position at Jack's Bean Co. at the end of April, Tom Harmon is returning his family to a place they once called home.

Both he and his wife, Kay, were born and raised in Imperial, Neb., so Harmon is no stranger to northeastern Colorado. In fact, Harmon is no stranger to Holyoke or Jack's Bean Co. either. Harmon and his family lived in Holyoke from 1990-2001, and Harmon actually worked at Jack's Bean Co. as the popcorn division manager from 1993-2001.

After his first stint at Jack's Bean Co., Harmon started a joint venture with Moremac Popcorn to create Paoli Popcorn Company, where they cleaned and processed popcorn out of Paoli. After five years with Paoli Popcorn Company, Harmon started his own company, DAR Ventures, where he continued his work with popcorn out of Paoli for three more years.

Harmon packed up and moved out of Holyoke early in 2002 to Idaho, where he began work at C&F Foods as a buyer. For seven years, Harmon was busy buying and selling dry edible foods. The next four years he worked for KC Trading Company, buying and selling beans, peas, lintels and popcorn.



**Jack Harmon began his new position as general manager of Jack's Bean Co. at the end**

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of April.□□

### —Enterprise photo

Twenty-three years after the first time they moved to Holyoke, the Harmon family is excited to return to old friends and family.

“We have always had ties to Holyoke,” Harmon said. “We have a lot of good friends here still. I am excited to be back in the area and to be back working for Jack's Bean. It was very easy to make the transition to move back here.”

Although the decision to leave Idaho was inherently difficult because the family had made many friends and enjoyed the area, Harmon said it was just time to come home.

With his new position at Jack's Bean Co., Harmon will oversee growing, cleaning, processing and bagging processes as well as being involved with customer communications.

Although in his first general manager position, Harmon doesn't foresee any problems as he has been around the business for years. The fact that he has worked at the company before also makes the transition a bit easier.

“Jack's has always been a big player and a top name with high quality beans, peas and popcorn,” Harmon said. “We just want to continue the good name and keep it on a successful path.”

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Jumping in to his work, Harmon mentioned that he is excited to reconnect with local growers.

Kay Harmon is currently still in Idaho, finishing her final days at work and prepping their house for sale. Tom said that she will be joining him in Holyoke early in July.

The close proximity to family members is another perk of moving back to Holyoke. Both of Harmon's parents are still in Imperial and his daughter Hayley is living in Denver. Although his son Dalton is still attending the University of Idaho, he was able to make the trip for the summer to caddy at Ballyneal and to reconnect with friends he left when he was in third grade.

Harmon stated that the plan is to stay in Holyoke forever as his family has always felt like Holyoke is home.

Along with extra family time, Harmon said he is also looking forward to getting out and golfing again.

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