



General  
Contractors

## Message from WRL Superintendent, David Nobles

### "Old School Meets New School"

When I started in construction over 40 years ago, things were much different than they are now. I have seen the growth in our industry from the technology used to the education level of those in it. I am going to focus on the technological advancements made in construction. We built projects off of plans on the tailgates and hoods of our pickup trucks. You could tell the length of a project by the amount of coffee stains and fading of the ink on the drawings.



**David Nobles**

We worked out of small trailers that we pulled on site ourselves with our own trucks. When it came to building our projects, the most important tools we had were a tape measure, a level, string lines, and a hammer, along with our experience. As far as communications went, we thought we were "big time" if we had a phone line on site. Most of us older guys had to get our messages and mail when we went in to the office or if the boss came out for a visit. As technology advanced, we received pagers, which then became large, clunky cell phones along with fax machines. As computers became more prevalent, we were able to communicate more efficiently with all those involved in a project. Today we use iPads; smartphones and drones to manage the daily activities with real time actions and immediate results. I never would have thought when I started in this business that I would be able to pull up a set of drawings on a hand-held device while standing out on site.

The Superintendents of my era gained valuable experience by being hands-on and in the trenches. We did not learn from books or computers. We received our education in the field, being taught and trained by the previous generations of Superintendents, which we all still call "Old School". I like to consider myself as "Old School with a Twist". I received my knowledge in the field but I embrace the new technology and appreciate the convenience, efficiency and quality it provides. So going from virtually no form of communication - to pagers - to fax machines - to clunky cell phones - to today's

technological advancements of instant forms of communication, I am able to provide up-to-date project information to our clients. In addition to the effective project communication, advanced technology provides us with increased quality, safety, and security.

WRL General Contractors is the most technologically advanced company I have worked for. Their ability to provide their clients with documents, accurate information, as well as current photos, differentiates them from their competitors. The use of drones to photograph the progression of a project is impressive. It is a blessing that Bob Leavine and David Detten have given us these tools and great opportunity to set us apart from others. This being said, I still carry a tape measure, level, string line and a hammer in my tool box.

## WRL Team Member Spotlight - Jason Pierce



**Jason Pierce**

WRL prides itself on the quality of our team members. Whether hiring someone for the office staff or for the field, we look for the same attributes: enthusiastic, accurate, conscientious, trustworthy, positive, and willing to accept challenges in order to advance. **Jason Pierce** lives and works by these standards, which is why he was recently promoted to Assistant Superintendent and the reason he is in the spotlight this quarter.

Eight years ago, Jason was driving past the Bullard High School football stadium on his way home from being laid off from Fisher Cabinet Works Inc. (due to closing doors) when he spotted the WRL sign and our team, building that new stadium. Equipped with his previous experience and the carpentry skills that he learned from his grandfather, Jason decided to apply for a job with WRL. Coincidentally, Jason is currently the Assistant Superintendent on the Bullard High School additions and renovations project. Jason started as a laborer at WRL and moved his way up to a carpenter, specializing in hardware installation on previous projects at Boulter Middle School, Grace Community Church, Bosworth & Associates, Lindale High School Auditorium, Ned Williams Elementary, Bacon Chevrolet Frankston and Jacksonville, Chandler Elementary and Rock Hill Baptist Church. Coworkers and owners would describe Jason as hardworking, determined, and extremely conscientious of the quality and efficiency of his work, which led to his recent promotion.

Jason "Kurby" Pierce and his wife Sarah have 2- and 3-year-old boys and one more on the way just in time for Christmas this year. You will have to ask Jason how he got the nickname "Kurby" because I promised him I would not write about "Klub Amnesia", the import car club in Jacksonville that he belonged to in his younger years. Jason also enjoys NFL football, mountain biking, and doing side jobs for his neighbors and friends. From his perspective, the best thing about working for WRL is the opportunity for him to learn and advance in order to be a stronger provider for his family.

## Featured Project - Buckeye Stadium, Gilmer, Texas

In Texas, high school football is King. No one knows this better than WRL Project Manager, Brent Bishop. After playing football for four years and graduating from Gilmer in 1994, Bishop went on to play football for Rice University, where he was also a Smith Barney Academic Scholar and remained on the President's Honor Roll until he graduated. Little did Brent know, but nineteen years after playing his last high school football game, he would return to the Home of the Buckeyes to once again help the Gilmer football program by renovating their stadium.



[Click to view other photos](#)

In 2013, Brent, along with WRL Superintendent David Nobles and their team, renovated the [Gilmer Buckeyes Stadium](#), adding 1,000+ seats to the home side of this 50 year old stadium. The team demolished the old one-story press box, built a new 2-story press box that was extended by 24 feet on both ends, and added additional restroom stalls and bleachers. All the work was performed ahead of schedule in a 6 month time frame and the stadium opened in time for the High School graduation ceremony. This was WRL's fourth project completed for Gilmer ISD and one of many we had the pleasure of working on with Thacker-Davis Architects.

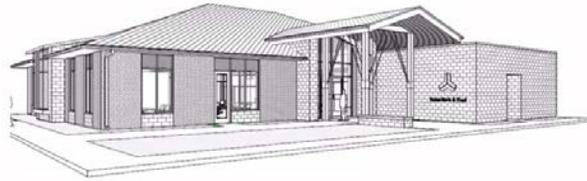
Gilmer Buckeyes have a current overall record of 5-0. Congrats to Coach Turner and the Buckeyes!

## Upcoming Project - Texas Bank & Trust, Canton Branch

WRL will be working with Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects of Arkansas as CM at-Risk to build the new Texas Bank & Trust, Canton Branch. The 8,969 SF project is a new 1-story bank branch with a teller area, offices, and covered exterior drive through lanes, located on the NW Corner of Hwy 19 @ E. College St. We are issuing the Civil Package drawings for bid around October 12th and the Building Package around November 2nd.

This will be our first construction project with [Texas Bank & Trust](#), but it is not the beginning of our relationship with them. WRL has been banking with TB&T for the last 3 years and happy to recommend James Sheridan, Claude Henry, and their team for all of your commercial banking needs. You should view your banker as a facilitator to help you improve in all facets of your business and to resolve obstacles that stand in your way, and

these bankers do just that. Established in 1958, Texas Bank and Trust today stands as one of the state's strongest independent financial institutions, offering a brand of banking that is as difficult to duplicate as it is easy to recognize.



## Upcoming Project - Tyler ISD Aquatics Center

Tyler ISD has selected WRL as the CM at-Risk for the construction of their new aquatic center, which will be located at the new Career & Technology Center on Earl Campbell Parkway. The center will include an uncovered, outdoor Olympic-size pool that will serve all students, not just the swimming team. Adjacent to the pool will be an equipment room and storage room, and the complex will also have coaches' offices, a technology room, visitor restrooms, and identical locker rooms for the boys and girls.

We are pleased to work again with Tyler ISD and Corgan Associates, Inc. of Dallas on this project. We will receive drawings around October 15th and start construction around mid-December, with an estimated completion date of June 2016.



## Our Partners are Paramount - MHBT & The Hartford

WRL General Contractors, Ltd is proud to be associated with MHBT for our performance and payment bonding needs. We are excited they are on our team, as [MHBT](#) is an outstanding company with quality people and a great Texas heritage.



A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC company

We feel the culture of WRL and MHBT parallel each other creating a great relationship. This year the "Dallas Morning News" designated MHBT as the top company with the

strongest business ethics in Dallas and MHBT has been voted one of DFW's Best Places to Work 12 years in a row.

MHBT's roots date back to 1926, expanding from a single Dallas location to offices in Austin, Ft. Worth, Lubbock and Midland. Most recently they became part of Marsh & McLennan Agencies, LLC., which allows them to offer multi-national resources for their clients, still with small town services: friendly & reliable with a high level of professionalism.



The Hartford provides Performance, Payment & Bid Bonds on behalf of WRL. They have written bonds for WRL since 2006. The performance bond protects the owner from financial loss should the contractor fail to perform the contract in accordance with its terms and conditions. The payment bond assures that the contractor will pay specified subcontractors, laborers, and material suppliers on the project.

[The Hartford](#) celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2010. Fun facts about The Hartford, they bonded the construction of The Golden Gate Bridge and Hoover Dam.

The Hartford provided bonds on the following projects completed by WRL:

\$63.1 million bond to build a new high school for Hallsville ISD

\$48 million bond to construct elementary schools for Longview ISD

\$27.2 million bond to build Moore Middle School for Tyler ISD

\$25.9 million bond to construct Boulter Middle School for Tyler ISD

\$25.1 million bond to construct Tyler ISD Career & Technology Center

## Community Involvement

### Tyler ISD - STEAM PROJECT



WRL is proud to partner with the Tyler ISD Foundation, committing to a long-term partnership that will help support the [T-STEAM Academy at John Tyler High School](#). The John Tyler S.T.E.A.M Academy provides an opportunity for students to be exposed to the career options in science, technology, engineering and math with additional exposure to the arts. This semester, they plan to have all 9th and 10th grade students complete four Project Based Learning projects in their core classes. They also plan to have UT-Tyler's Mobile Center come on campus and have students make a college schedule for their first semester to see what

college looks like. After the PBLs, students will present to other students at other schools using SKYPE or some form of video communication. Students will also complete STEM research projects in their Success strategies classes.

"The chief benefit for our kids is the early connection to what's out there in their future," said Clay Scarborough, JT's freshman dean and T-STEAM director. "The earlier we can connect our students to what's out there in the world and with the things we have in the building like clubs and organizations, athletics and fine arts, the better the odds of keeping them four years and them graduating."

## More Upcoming Projects at WRL

<p><b>St. Mary Magdalene, Flint</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Prevost</p>	<p><b>Northeast Texas Community College</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Corgan</p>	<p><b>Precision Spine Care - Tyler</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Fitzpatrick Architects</p>
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<p><b>Sleep Medicine Institute of Texas</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Fitzpatrick Architects</p>		
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## Projects in Progress at WRL

<p><b>NCP - Ambulatory Surgery Center, Waco, Texas</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Fitzpatrick Architects</p>	<p><b>Brownsboro ISD New Culinary Arts Building</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig</p>	<p><b>Sword Co. Renovations &amp; New Warehouse</b></p> <p><i>Architect:</i> Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig</p>
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<p><b>Bullard ISD 2015 Bond Program</b></p>	<p><b>Fenton - The Legends Nissan Dealership Kansas City</b></p>	<p><b>Fenton Nissan - Tiffany Springs Kansas City Shop &amp; Car Wash</b></p>
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<i>Architect:</i> Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig	<i>Architect:</i> BWA	<i>Architect:</i> Davidson Architects
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<b>Fenton Nissan of Rockwall New Dealership</b>  <i>Architect:</i> BWA		<b>Brookshire's Super 1 Foods</b> (Next to the Village at Cumberland Park) <i>Architect:</i> Brookshire Grocery Company
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<b>Cumberland Academy New High School</b>  <i>Architect:</i> Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig	<b>Moore Middle School</b> Tyler ISD  <i>Architects:</i> WRA Architects, Inc. Thompson Architectural Group	<b>Boulter Middle School</b> Tyler ISD  <i>Architects:</i> Fitzpatrick Architects Stantec
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## CONGRATULATIONS TO...

**Lawrence "Chaz" Rodriquez** hired as Project Superintendent.

**Jason Pierce** promoted to Assistant Superintendent.

## Third Quarter Birthdays and Work Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

#### **October**

10/2 Steve Curry  
10/8 Steve Hickey  
10/18 Jason Pierce  
10/20 Mark White

#### **November**

11/1 Carolyn Lively  
11/7 Melynda Hensley

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### **October**

Dave Clark - 17 years  
Deeann Shelton - 16 years  
Ben Wade - 5 years  
Refugio Viramontes - 5 years  
Catherine Nussbaum - 1 year

#### **November**

Michael Palmer - 16 years

11/23 Clemente Lopez

11/28 Deeann Shelton

Darin Dowdy - 2 years

Barry Clifton - 1 year

***December***

12/15 Michael Palmer

12/18 Buster Hicks

***December***

Brian House - 12 years

Steve Curry - 2 years

Ed Morris - 1 year

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Sincerely,

Catherine Nussbaum

Business Development Manager

WRL General Contractors

[Website](#)

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FORWARD TO A FRIEND 

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