



Career & Technology Center, Tyler ISD

Message from WRL President Bob Leavine

As each year comes to a close, I have always reflected on the activities of the year, the success of our projects, and the state of our organization. In the construction business, you are either on the way up or on the way down. Seems our business is always feast or famine. The old Boy Scout adage of "Be Prepared" has always applied.

We lost a valuable employee in Ricky Bell in November. A family situation dictated that he and his family return to the DFW area. Thank the Lord that we had options after hearing of Ricky's departure plans. We had been training and investing in young people, realizing they are the future of our organization. As much of an asset as Ricky was, we did not panic; we were prepared. Promoting and moving people from within an organization is always the most desirable option, which is exactly what we did. As most of you know by now, Josh Coburn has moved in from Superintendent and taken Ricky's spot as Project Manager.

2014 has been a recovery year for WRL as revenues had fallen in 2013 to a low not seen since 2000. Prior to 2014, revenues had fallen for three straight years. So 2014 was a breath of fresh air as we were able to move Jay Cashion back into his role as Field Operations Manager, plus we



W. Robert Leavine

hired Catherine Nussbaum to fill the newly created position of Business Development Manager. 2014 also brought in a new face for WRL as David Detten initiated a rebranding program that has received overwhelming support from the community as well as our employees. It's hard to miss our trucks, but please do!

2015 has the potential to be a good year if the school bond issues on the May and November ballots are approved. The good news, however, is that we have several projects in 2015 that do not require voter approval, making it a promising year.

As an organization, we prepare ourselves for the future by increasing and improving our resources. Our resources are our people, our equipment, and our financial strength. All three of these assets help us do things more efficiently, more effectively, and more economically. Our long-time employees band together to help train our new employees, while our new employees contribute by listening and learning as we all protect our equipment and contribute to our financial strength.

.....to be continued in our next quarterly newsletter

Employee of the Quarter



This quarter, we would like to recognize Rigoberto Viramontes as an outstanding WRL team member. "Rigo" exemplifies the WRL standards by showing up to work each day with a "do whatever it takes" attitude and a smile. Since 2001, Rigo has been a valuable and loyal employee whose expertise is in installing doors, hardware, and bathroom specialties on several of our larger projects.

Rigo grew up as a farmer in Mexico, but has been working in construction for the last 30 years in Texas, 14 of those with WRL. When asked what 2015 has in store for Rigo, he replied, "Work. Lots of work. I love to build and provide for my family." Rigo has five children (including twins), four grandchildren (also including twins), and one grandchild on the way, who should arrive in January or February. Until two years ago, Rigo was an avid baseball player who could play all positions, but retired as first baseman. Rigo brings discipline, a lot of heart, and a great attitude to our team and we are proud to have him at WRL.

Featured Project - Bacon Auto Country



WRL recently completed the new 30,000 square foot Bacon Auto Country in Jacksonville, Texas, on schedule in October 2014. The project included eight acres of site work and features over 12,000 sq. ft. of state of the art service shop and was built with the required infrastructure to later install a solar power system that can run the entire dealership. One of the most impressive features of the site is the 80 foot flag pole that was added at the request of Billy Bacon. The construction process was greatly improved with the use of Procore, the latest technology in project management software. WRL has continued to use GPS layout for our projects to ensure constructability and accuracy of layout.

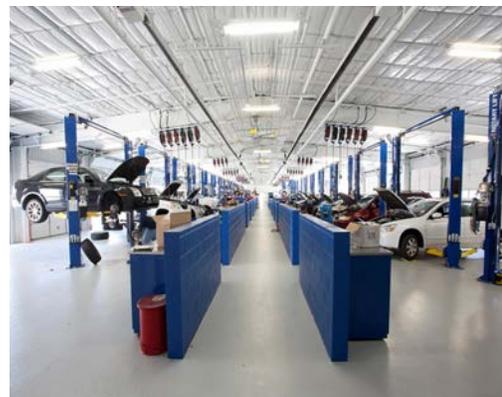
WRL completed the Bacon Frankston Chevrolet remodel in 2012 and we are scheduled to start the remodel of the Bacon Auto Ranch in Athens this month. We have proudly purchased our company vehicles from Bacon for over 20 years.



Upcoming Project - Fenton Motors



Also in January 2015, WRL will begin construction on the new state-of-the-art Fenton Nissan of Rockwall dealership. We will partner with BWA Architects for this Construction Manager at-Risk project. The new 80,000 sq. ft. dealership will be located on a 14 acre lot on the SE corner of I-30 & John King Blvd. in Rockwall with a hopeful completion date of January 2016. This will be our 3rd project for Fenton Motors. Previous projects include Fenton Honda of Longview and Fenton Mitsubishi of Tyler.



Upcoming Project - Cumberland Academy High School



WRL is pleased to announce the January 2015 groundbreaking for a Design Build project awarded to us by Cumberland Academy for their new high school. We will be working with Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig Architects Inc. on this project. This will be Cumberland's first high school, located at the southeast corner of Paluxy Drive @ Jeff Davis Drive in Tyler.

Cumberland Academy was transformed from a small private school established in 1996, into East Texas' first premier charter school in 1998.

Since its inception, Cumberland has always sought to achieve the vision of its founders, Dr. and Mrs. James Cotton. This vision is to serve every student's unique and dynamic learning needs. Through small class sizes, innovative technology and passionate educators, all students have the opportunity to reach their maximum potential. They embrace and welcome all students.

Featured Subcontractor - TDR Contractors, Inc.

TDR Contractors, Inc. (www.tdrcontractors.net) has worked as a mechanical contractor for WRL for more than 10 years. They have completed many successful projects with us in the past, but none quite as pivotal as the situation that occurred in the basement at Boulter Middle School this summer.



We were in the early stages of building the new Boulter Middle School when the torrential rains of mid-summer continued to fill our job site and drain into the basement. Concrete columns were finally poured after several weather delays and it was time for plumbing rough. We finally had a 3-day break without rain, which is when TDR stepped up to the plate and exceeded our expectations by putting in three 14-hour days over a weekend to rough-in the underground plumbing in the basement. This work originally was scheduled to take 8 days but they completed it in 3 days. This action by TDR allowed us to get the basement concrete slab poured on time which in turn released other critical activities such as: starting Area A structural steel, backfilling behind the basement retaining wall, and moving forward with the remaining first floor slabs on grade.

We owe our on-time status on this current project to all our hardworking subcontractors that stepped up to the plate like TDR did in the basement at Boulter Middle School, thank you!

Community Involvement

Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County



At WRL, community partnerships have been a hallmark of our company throughout its 36-year history. We show care and commitment to service in our communities by encouraging good citizenship and cultivating meaningful relationships with our neighbors. In 2014, WRL sponsored Blingo Night with the Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County for their annual fundraising drive, where we helped raise over \$90,000.

The Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County is dedicated to child victims of physical and sexual abuse and strives to reduce trauma through a unified effort that facilitates thorough investigations, effective prosecutions and the healing of the children and their families. If you would like to get involved, please visit their site www.cacsmithcounty.org or contact Terri Smith at (903) 533-1880.



Projects in Progress at WRL

Career & Technology Center Tyler ISD	Moore Middle School Tyler ISD	Boulter Middle School Tyler ISD
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Architects: Corgan Associates, Inc. Sinclair & Wright Architects	Architects: WRA Architects, Inc. Thompson Architectural Group	Architects: Fitzpatrick Architects Stantec
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Cardiac Cath Lab of Tyler National Cardiovascular Partners, LP Architects: Fitzpatrick Architects	Hawkins Bid Pkg D Baseball/Softball Fields Hawkins ISD Architects: Thacker Davis	Brookshire's Super 1 Foods (Next to the Village at Cumberland Park) Architects: Brookshire Grocery Company
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CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Mark White promoted to Superintendent
 Josh Coburn assigned as new Project Manager
 Catherine Nussbaum hired as Business Development Manager
 Ethan Huckaby graduated from Sam Houston State University in May 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree

First Quarter Birthdays and Work Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

January

1/11 Kelly Norris

1/26 Sharon Leavine

February

2/5 David Detten

2/21 Brent Bishop

March

3/13 Josh Coburn

3/19 Paul Pardue

3/23 Catherine Nussbaum

3/26 Brian House

ANNIVERSARIES

January

Teresa Berry - 19 years

February

David Detten - 11 years

Jason Pierce - 7 years

Roberto Hernandez - 4 years

Mark White - 4 years

March

Kelly Norris - 14 years

Maria Huckaby - 8 years

Clemente Lopez - 1 year

Sincerely,

Catherine Nussbaum
 Business Development Manager
 WRL General Contractors
[Website](#)

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