



General
Contractors

What's Trending in Construction in 2018

There's no doubt that technology advancements have already improved construction tenfold. From mobile technologies to the cloud, the ability to connect with one another and communicate across multiple channels has vastly improved.

Technology is allowing people to tour construction sites without having to do so in person. Look out for technologies like 3D printing, more drone use, self-driving vehicles, and more efficient coatings for specific surfaces. Before 2020, expect more virtual reality and augmented reality use. In larger cities, we are already seeing how much this changes the way construction companies visualize projects before they're even built.

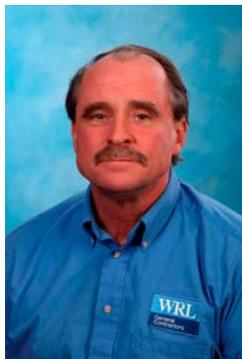
At WRL, we are aware and receptive to the innovative technology breakthroughs as we incorporate them into our business model. Employing great technology, and being able to show it, adds value to every project. In the last few years, we have added GNSS tracking and positioning, drones, and Procore, a cloud-based construction management software; all bringing value and increased ROI to each project.

Procore helps us build a truly collaborative environment with unlimited seat licenses and real time accessibility for every project team member (owners, architects and contractors). Our projects are kept up-to-date with our team in the loop so no change goes unnoticed. The power of mobility allows our team access to all the information they need, with real time updates and instantaneous tracking. This means *more teamwork* and *less rework*.

WRL thrives with partners who operate on the same principles that we do. Likewise, Procore looks for similar partners, which is why they decided to partner with Leavine Family Racing #95. Operating on the main principles of Safety First, Speed & Stability, and Collaboration & Teamwork, Procore is a natural partner for this NASCAR team. In addition, the NASCAR fan base is comprised of almost 20% construction industry employees, making sponsorship an insightful investment for Procore. This will be the second year in a row that Procore is sponsoring the LFR #95 car. The partnership has been expanded to a multi-race and multi-year deal that will include the legendary Daytona 500 Race, and 18-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup series winner Kasey Kahne behind the wheel.



WRL Team Spotlight - Kelly Norris



Kelly Norris
Project
Superintendent

Some of the most successful Superintendents are those that began their careers as Apprentices in a trade, then worked as Journeyman, then Foremen then Assistant Superintendent, and then Superintendent. That is the old way, and for Kelly, the best way. In the past, Superintendents were most often carpenters. The reason for this is that Union carpenters traditionally set up trailers/offices, did layout for foundations, etc., built formwork, did interior framing and drywall, door frames and doors/hardware and were there until the end of the Project. Their involvement was much broader and deeper than this description, of course, but you get the idea. Also, the carpenter had to coordinate his work with the other trades and so became familiar with their work as well. Kelly, however, earned his first job as a Superintendent at the end of his second year of a four year program. In Kelly's words, "It was a

nasty ole burnout of the old Tyler Civic Theater, which for me, was the greatest because it was my first job and the first time I was entrusted to see that the money was spent as intended AND the first time I was able to see a job to its completion. To this day, I still look in amazement at the completion of every job I've ever done, thinking about what it took to do what we do."

Kelly has been with WRL for 18 years and has been the lead Superintendent on some of our largest projects, including his current one, Tyler ISD's John Tyler High School. Project Manager for Tyler ISD, Brady Beddingfield, tells us Kelly has already proven to be an invaluable asset because of his 40+ years of experience. From Tim Loper, Director of Facilities, "I have worked with Kelly in the past on several projects and Kelly has always completed his projects efficiently. Kelly has always had the district's best interest in mind throughout the entire project and always had an open line of communication with us. I am pleased that WRL put Mr. Norris as Superintendent on the High School project as requested."

If Mr. Loper decides to give Kelly a break on this project that is slated to finish in 2020, Kelly can be found on a cruise with his wife, snow skiing, or spending time with his five children, their spouses, and seven grandchildren.

Featured Project

East Texas Montessori Prep Academy (Longview ISD)

Longview ISD opened the doors of its new **East Texas Montessori Prep Academy** to the public in August 2017. The school is situated on 20 acres at the corner of Hwy 259 and 80. The \$31 million 150,000-square foot campus is Longview ISD's newest, built to house all of the Head Start, pre-K and kindergarten Montessori programs that were previously scattered at elementary schools throughout the district. (That's over 3,000 3, 4, 5, and 6 year-olds in one school!!)

This campus has 448 geothermal wells throughout the site broken down into 9 well fields. These well fields provide heating and cooling for the building. The building foundation consists of approximately 700 concrete piers and a concrete slab on void cartons. Over time the cartons break down causing the slab to be suspended in the air. The slab is connected to the piers. This allows for the soil underneath the building to expand and contract and not break the slab. The structure of this building is CMU block and structural steel. The roof is a standing seam metal roof. The main traffic areas, such as the halls, are finished with terrazzo and the classrooms are luxury vinyl composite tile. The building exterior is made up of brick and chopped stone. There are canopies on the drop off side of the building that will allow for students to wait for out of the direct effect of the elements when outside. This building should be a relatively low maintenance building that last for many years to come.

Project Team: Huckabee Architects, WRL Project Manager: Shaun Wood, WRL Superintendents: Darryl Detten, Ryan Bolen, Roy Shafer, WRL Project Administrator: Chelbie Serpas, and numerous subcontractors and engineers. THANK YOU, Team!



Featured Project Tyler Classical Academy

With its increasing waitlist, **Tyler Classical Academy** hired WRL to build a new campus for the

2017-18 school year to meet local family interest. Currently serving students in K-8, the new campus will allow the school to add more sections and to grow a grade each year until it offers kindergarten through 12 grade.

Located at 3405 East Grande in Tyler, the academy's first building of instruction and gym are tucked away on 21 acres, leaving plenty of room to accommodate athletic fields and reduce car-line traffic. The new campus is a state-of-the-art learning facility with bigger classrooms, new furniture, science and computer labs, a library, a kitchen, a cafeteria, locker rooms, athletic fields and a full court gym with seating. Construction on the second building of instruction will begin this year, after Wright Group Architects of Dallas finalizes the drawings.

[click for time lapse video](#)



Project in Progress

Whitehouse ISD High School Additions & Renovations

NEW 50,407 SF indoor practice facility
NEW 12,094 SF career and technology building
NEW 5,000 SF animal barn

ADDITION of 43,497 SF of new dressing, academic, and athletic additions to the existing HS
RENOVATION of 6,707 SF of existing building to new educational spaces

*All of the Whitehouse ISD 2016 Bond Program projects
can be found on our website.*



Upcoming Project Texas Bank & Trust - Lindale

Texas Bank & Trust Lindale to get new building on the existing site (corner of Highway 69 and Highway 16 in downtown Lindale). The new facility will comprise of approximately 7,168 SF, along with a five lane drive-thru, plus an ATM lane. The existing facility will remain operational as the new building is constructed. This project will also include site drainage improvements that will help minimize current flooding conditions in this area. This is our second project for TB&T and we are happy to be working again with our friends at Harris Craig Architects.



Our Partners are Paramount - Tiger Stovall @ TDR



TDR Contractors is a full service mechanical contractor with a professional staff specializing in installing large and complex projects.

Over the years TDR has built many relationships with their customers based on a sincere and powerful commitment to serving customers and prospective customers at the highest possible level each and every time. Focusing on stringent expectations and policies regarding how customers are served along with a high level of accountability for enforcing those expectations and policies helps them meet and often exceed customer expectations.

This quarter, we would like to extend a special thanks to *Tiger Stovall* at TDR. Recently, one of our Superintendents had a major issue on his project and began reaching out for help at 10 pm. All phone calls went unanswered except one, and that was Tiger with TDR. As our Superintendent described what the problem was and about what was needed to fix the line, he asked Tiger how we were going to get it fixed since all the stores were closed. Together, they came up with plan A, B, and last resort, C. Tiger was able to get the manager of the supply store in Kilgore to open the store and get what we needed, and Tiger said he was on his way. It was after 11 before we got the water off and after 1 a.m. before Tiger got the pipe fixed. It is rare to find a plumbing company that would do what TDR did for WRL that night. We can also say that this is not out of the ordinary for TDR. This happened At Moore MS, when a six inch water main was damaged on a Sunday and again, they were able to get a supply house to open so we could get the parts needed to fix the line for school the next morning. In both cases, Tyler ISD and the schools went about their normal activities unaware of what went on hours before.

There are many reasons why we use TDR. This is only one of them. Thank you Tiger and TDR!

Upcoming Projects at WRL

Grace Community Church - Lindale Campus <i>Architect:</i> Fitzpatrick	Texas Bank & Trust Lindale <i>Architect:</i> Fitzpatrick	
---	--	--

Projects in Progress at WRL

Tyler ISD - John Tyler High School <i>Architects:</i> Stantec & Fitzpatrick	Tyler ISD - Robert E Lee High School <i>Architects:</i> Corgan & Harris Craig	Whitehouse ISD Education Support Facility <i>Architect:</i> Harris Craig Architects
---	---	---

Whitehouse ISD - Jr. High & Transportation <i>Architect:</i> Harris Craig Architects	Whitehouse ISD - Brown Elementary <i>Architect:</i> Harris Craig Architects	Bonham ISD - New High School <i>Architect:</i> Stantec
--	---	--

Precision Spine of Texarkana

Architect:
Fitzpatrick Architects

Whitehouse ISD -
High School Addition & Renos

Architect:
Harris Craig Architects

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Catherine Nussbaum moving to Charlotte in a Business Development role for LFR #95.
Rachel Johnson hired as Business Development Manager for WRL.

First Quarter Birthdays and Work Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

January

1/11 Kelly Norris
1/26 Sharon Leavine

February

2/5 David Detten
2/13 Leslie Miller
2/21 Brent Bishop

March

3/7 Rachel Johnson
3/23 Catherine Nussbaum
3/23 Stephen Dunn
3/26 Brian House

ANNIVERSARIES

January

Teresa Berry - 22 years
Bob Bonner - 3 years
David Salinas - 2 years
Leslie Miller - 2 years
Shaun Wood - 2 years

February

David Detten - 14 years
Jason Pierce - 10 years
Roberto Hernandez - 8 years
Mark White - 7 years
Kenneth Kennedy - 2 years
Roy Shafer - 2 years

March

Kelly Norris - 18 years
Maria Huckaby - 11 years
Clemente Lopez - 4 years
Arnoldo Ramos - 2 years

Sincerely,

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

 Like us on Facebook

View our profile on 

FORWARD TO A FRIEND

