



Striper stocking at Lake Livingston





4 **DIANA WATKINS**

Watkins is a biologist at TRA's Central Regional Wastewater System.



10 **TEXAS WATER 2014**

TRA takes home nine awards at Texas Water 2014, held in Dallas in April.



8 **STRIPER STOCKING**

The 34-year partnership between the TRA and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department helps increase recreational fishing and sport fish diversity and harvest by stocking striped bass and palmetto bass in Texas reservoirs across the state.



14 **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

TRA recently completed the goals outlined in Q1 of its five-year strategic plan.

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Our shared vision

The Trinity River Authority of Texas is an innovative, adaptive leader, enriching the Trinity basin as a resource for Texans.

The TRA mission

The Trinity River Authority's mission is to promote conservation, reclamation, protection and development of the natural resources of the river basin for the benefit of the public.

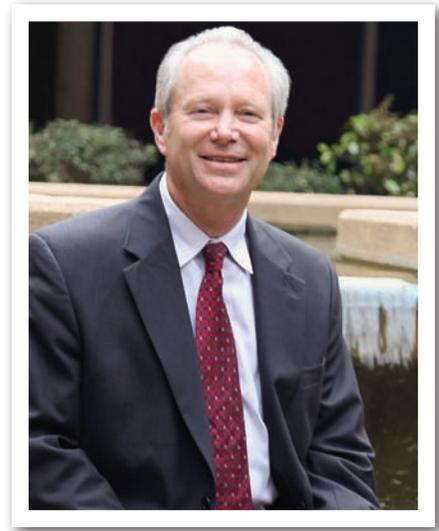
Waste not, *want not*

The dog days of summer are close at hand, and before long, many Texans will be even more focused on how they use and conserve our precious [water] resources. The Trinity River Authority is the largest wholesale provider of wastewater treatment services in the state of Texas, and just like water, treated wastewater is a precious resource. TRA's wastewater treatment process removes 99.9 percent of all conventional pollutants before we discharge it to the Trinity River, and the Trinity River basin is part of the water supply source for approximately half of Texas' population. Last year, our Central Regional Wastewater System celebrated treating and discharging one trillion gallons of wastewater [during a 21-year period] without any permit violations. That's how important wastewater is to TRA.

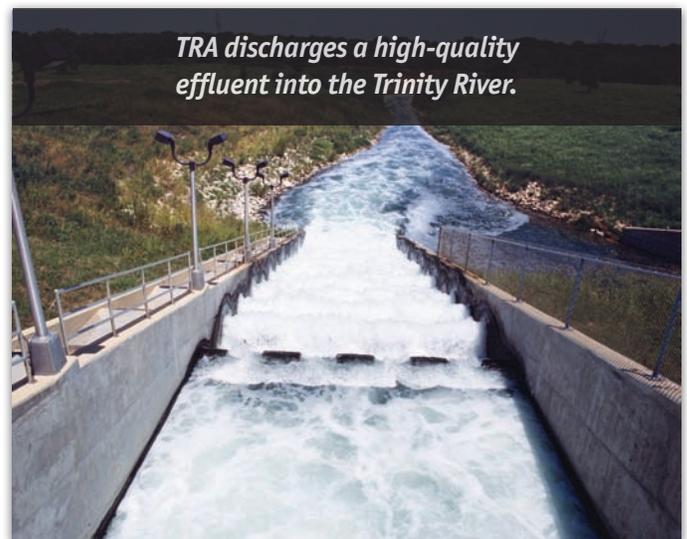
TRA OPERATES FIVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES AND FOUR WATER SUPPLY FACILITIES.

There has been a lot more discussion and questions in the news lately about our finite water resources. "What will we do?" "Where will we find water?" "What happens if it does not rain enough to fill our source water lakes?" There also has been discussion in the news about a North Texas city that has plans to use its wastewater as a drinking water source. While TRA is not currently looking at a direct-reuse project for potable water supply, we are participating in strategic meetings and conferences with our basin and national partners regarding reuse of TRA treated wastewater to meet future water supply demands due to the effects of the current statewide drought. I have talked with other industry leaders regionally and nationally who support Texas. We all are committed to long-range planning, research, collaboration and sound environmental and financial actions that help develop solutions to Texas' water needs. The reality is that we cannot live without water – we cannot manufacture it – and we cannot exclude ourselves from the conservation, preservation and reuse conversations.

A major part of my role is to ensure that through the leadership of our board of directors, the Trinity River Authority continues to strengthen and refine its processes to treat and deliver superior water and wastewater services to our 69 wholesale customers in the communities that we serve. In addition to systematically monitoring our infrastructure for needed changes and repairs, keeping staffing levels on par with needs and regulations, and keeping our business costs balanced, we have to maintain an overall strategic approach to the way we conduct our business. On page 14, you will see a snapshot of how well we are reaching our first quarter strategic plan goals. TRA meets its challenges head on, and makes the required, beneficial changes. We cannot afford to do anything less.



General Manager J. Kevin Ward



TRA discharges a high-quality effluent into the Trinity River.

Diana Watkins, *TRA*:

A nearly 50-year marriage

The first thing you notice about Diana Watkins is her smile and her friendly, open demeanor. The Trinity River Authority has been her employer for nearly 50 years, and she does not intend to change that anytime soon. She is a biologist at TRA's Central Regional Wastewater System. The story of how she got there puts a smile on your face and speaks volumes for her drive and for TRA as an employer.

Oct. 7, 1968, straight out of high school, Watkins reported to work at TRA. "I graduated from Rockwall High School when Rockwall was a little wide spot in the road. I needed a job because my husband was in college trying to get his degree in electrical engineering," she recalled. "I went to the employment commission, and I told the man that I was looking for employment; he told me there was a job opening for a secretary in Grand Prairie."

Watkins asked, "Sir, what is the salary?"

"Oh, it's \$275 a month."

"Oh, sir, I can't do that because my business teacher told us girls 'When you get out in the real world if you want a secretarial position, don't you dare take one penny less than \$350 a month.'"

He started looking through his Rolodex and told her that there was a place called the Trinity River Authority of Texas. He told Watkins that TRA was looking for a secretary/lab tech.

Watkins was a bit uncertain about the position and the skills she would need. That was until he told her that she would receive on-the-job training. She interviewed, and was hired for the job.

The first days on the job

Watkins had landed her first full-time job! The job involved secretarial duties in the morning, and she spent the afternoon working in the lab. She thought the place was neat; and she remembers it being small.

"I'll put it like this, our lab staff today, there

are about 23 of us, is more people than there was in the whole CRWS plant in 1968."

"On my first day, I was petrified, absolutely petrified. Believe it or not, back in my younger days, I was very quiet and a very introverted person," said Watkins.

"The guys used to tell me, 'Diana, we thought we would never get you to talk to us.'"

After she got acquainted and comfortable with them, she said she loved her job and marveled at the work that was done.



"Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing."

—Theodore Roosevelt

The early years

After a couple of years on the job, she was called into the boss' office and had to make a career-changing decision. Her boss told her that they were getting ready to expand and that she needed to decide if she wanted to be a full-time secretary or work full time in the lab. "He was going to give me a couple of days to make my decision, but I told him on the spot that it was the lab for me."

Watkins found her work in the lab more interesting, and she found that it suited her perfectly. "I've never really been what you'd call a people person," she commented. "When a group or business gets large, you really need to be a people person, so I just thought it was God watching over me by opening the door to the lab. I can be back there, shut the door, and I don't have a lot of contact."

She shed her introverted personality, and being in the lab learning and working really made her day. She was the only female in the lab in those early days.

She felt as if she was on the cutting edge and that she was doing very important work.

"I was here when we got our first instrument to run levels on, and they trained me for a short time until they hired a guy with a degree," she said.

"After about the first two years, if they hired you for the lab, you had to have a degree. It was usually in biology, chemistry or something in the science field."

Watkins remarked that she is thankful for what she considers a rare opportunity to learn. "I think I was at the right spot at the right time," she remarked with a smile. "I just felt like when I was in high school that what I wanted to do was be a secretary, but when I got into the real world that really wasn't my forte in life. Running total phosphates and all the different tests was what really excited me."

"DIANA HAS A PASSION FOR HER WORK, AND SHE DOES IT WITH ALL HER HEART. SHE CONSISTENTLY GOES THE EXTRA MILE."

—PATTY CLEVELAND, ASSISTANT NORTHERN REGION MANAGER, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The lab grew and changed

Watkins experienced all the lab's changes. The lab moved to a larger space, and it started using more sophisticated instruments. And then came computers. "I thought, oh my goodness what am I going to do now," she remembers. "It seemed like with computers you had to remember 1,500 different things. Over time, I have gotten a lot better. I am not a master, and I don't think I'll ever be."

Change is good

After she was on the job for about 20 years, the lab changed from Monday through Friday to seven days a

week, 365 days a year. Her years of service paid off. "My boss came to me and said I would not be required to work another weekend!" recounts Watkins. "Then, after about 30 years, I was called in and told that I had the opportunity not to ever work another holiday! I took them up on that about a year later, because one year, I actually worked every single holiday." As a single parent, Watkins was able to spend more time with her son. She remembers thinking it was just terrific and that it seemed like during the weekend she was on a little mini vacation. "For me, it's been a blessing to work for an organization like TRA," she said.

Watkins continues to make her mark

Her son is grown now. "When I tell people that this is my only full-time employment, they are amazed," noted Watkins. "My brothers call me Tuts, and they say, 'Tuts, you just don't hear of people doing that.'"

Through the years, Watkins has taken pride when she has seen women come to work for TRA. She likes to spend time mentoring the young women who come to the lab. "I'm always telling them to stay with us, stick around. You're not going to have any regrets," she tells them.

When asked about the future, she had this to say: "I'm going to be here until the last beaker is tested. The honest to God's truth is that I do not want to retire. I want to keep trucking along. I know like most people that there will come a time when I am ready to go, but I don't feel like I've reached it yet."

2014 Safety Awards

Congratulations to these TRA facilities that qualified for the 2014 National Safety Council Occupational Excellence Achievement Award! The award is given to organizations whose lost workday incident rate is equal to or less than 50 percent of the Bureau of Labor Statistics rating.

- Ten Mile Creek Regional Wastewater System
- Tarrant County Water Supply Project
- Trinity County Regional Water Supply System
- Trinity River Authority Construction Services Staff
- Denton Creek Regional Wastewater System
- Trinity River Authority, General Office
- Trinity River Authority, Information Technology Support Services
- Huntsville Regional Water Supply System
- Mountain Creek Regional Wastewater System
- Livingston Regional Water Supply System
- Central Regional Wastewater System
- Livingston Recreational Facility
- Red Oak Creek Regional Wastewater System
- Southern Region Support Services
- Planning & Environmental Services



Biggest Loser Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners and all others who participated in

TRA's Biggest Loser Challenge.

Keep up the good work!

**Top 5 Biggest Losers -
Body Weight, Pounds Lost**

1. Joseph Chapa, CRWS
19.96% body weight; 42.4 pounds
2. Anson Suarez, CRWS
19.41% body weight; 61.2 pounds
3. Mark Waters, LLP
18.94% body weight; 36.6 pounds
4. Debbie Foxworth, LLP
14.68% body weight; 23.6 pounds
5. Bill Tatum, CRWS
13.36% body weight; 26 pounds

To view before-and-after photos, check our website under Current News.

TRA welcomes governmental relations manager

Amy Stelter recently joined TRA as manager of governmental relations. In her new role, she will establish relationships with elected officials in the basin. She also will work with state and federal agencies, monitor legislation and regulatory issues and serve as a liaison to TRA's board of directors.

"Amy has already started making visits to officials in the basin, and her arrival in April was just in time to get acclimated to the board meeting process," commented TRA's General Manager Kevin Ward. "She brings a wealth of experience and expertise that will benefit TRA and the communities that we serve."

Prior to joining TRA, Amy served as the regional representative for Congressman Jeb Hensarling. She also was on the staff of Sen. John Cornyn and the district director for state Rep. Betty Brown.



Amy enjoys volunteering and has served on the boards of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children of Trinity Valley, Henderson County Community Partners, Henderson County Child Welfare and the East Texas Crisis Center. She also co-chaired the Henderson County Heart Ball.

TRA hosts Corps of Engineers leadership class

In early April, TRA welcomed the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Watershed Course Planning Associates, which is a leadership class for USACE employees identified as rising stars. Fiona Allen, P.E., northern region manager presented *TRA 101 - Who Are We and What Do We Do?* to familiarize the class with the history, business and services provided by TRA. Webster Mangham, manager, special studies and assessments in planning and environmental services, presented *Environmental Flow Studies and the Trinity River Basin*. Gene Lilly organized this group's visit and a group that visited TRA in 2013.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: *Cindy Tejada, South Pacific Division; Charlie Hanneken, St. Louis District; Athline M. Clark, Honolulu District; Joël Benegar, San Francisco District; Robert Needham, Galveston District; Cindy Upah, Omaha District; Kendall Zaborowski, Chicago District; Charyl François Barrow, Seattle District; Gigi Coulson, New Orleans District; Gene Lilly, Southwestern Division; Angela Dunn, Jacksonville District; Katie Opsahl, St. Paul District; Ed Rossman, Tulsa District*



Southern Region helps community raise needed funds

The Polk County Relay for Life event was the recipient of \$3,332 raised by the Lake Livingston Project and LRF staff members. The relay helps raise funds to find a cure for cancer. Guided by this year's theme, President's Day, Marie Burns led the team

for the fourth consecutive year. They constructed a theme-related camp, as part of their participation; it won them the Best Camp award. "I am proud of what we accomplished toward finding a cure for cancer," said Mark Waters, project manager at Lake Livingston. "Terry Burks' creativity and building skills added an extra touch. He built a camp that is a mini replica of the White House, complete with a porch and a chandelier that he fashioned out of a five-gallon bucket."

Team members: Marie Burns, Stacy Rosetta, Debbie Foxworth, Kristie Muñoz, Sheryl Hanks, Terry Burks, Doug Morris, Darrell Davis, Jacob Young, Luis Blanco, Joe Sheets, Lesly Wilkinson, Eddie Knight and Mark Waters. [See photos on our website under Current News.](#)

TRA employees participate in annual Earth Day events



In mid-April, staff members, Kelly McKnight, environmental scientist and James L. Fox, water quality technician II, spread the word about TRA at Burlington Northern Santa Fe's employee Earth Day event in Fort Worth. The event usually draws around 500 BNSF employees. Then, near the end of April, it was off to Earth Day Texas 2014. McKnight and Brenna L. Witt, multimedia assistant, staffed the two-day event held at Fair Park in Dallas. The team handed out children's activity books, zebra mussels information, and 600 reusable grocery bags filled with information about TRA's role in protecting the ecosystem of the Trinity River. They also provided general TRA information and packets of bluebonnet seeds. TRA's General Manager Kevin Ward also participated in the Fair Park event as part of a water infrastructure panel discussion.

TRA collaborates with the Corps

TRA's Southern Region and the USACE are test-driving the assignment of a Corps staff member at the Lake Livingston office on Tuesdays. The person will provide on-site assistance to private landowners regarding the Corps' permit applications for work that landowners plan to do on their Lake Livingston property. "We are excited about this opportunity," said Southern Region Manager Jim Sims. "Having a person on site is a huge benefit to people who would often have to drive to Galveston for Corps' business and permits."

Lake Livingston *Striper Stocking*

Another striper procurement at Lake Livingston

The waters below the Lake Livingston Dam provide just the right habitat for striped bass and hybrid striped bass (palmetto bass). The 34-year partnership between the Trinity River Authority and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department helps increase recreational fishing and sport fish diversity and harvest by stocking striped bass and palmetto bass in Texas reservoirs across the state.

Procurement, preservation

The striped bass collection below Lake Livingston is critical to meeting the objectives of the statewide striped bass and palmetto bass stocking program. The tail race below Lake Livingston is TPWD's primary source of striped bass brood stock. In Texas, there is only one lake that has a self-sustaining population of striped bass. And that is Lake Texoma. Every other striped bass or palmetto bass population in the state is maintained by stocking fingerlings produced in TPWD's hatcheries from the brood fish collected at Lake Livingston.

"We look forward to doing this every year," said TRA's General Manager Kevin Ward. "Our Lake Livingston staff members provide a ramp to the river for trucks

and trailers to access the area below the dam, and when TPWD personnel are done collecting fish, LLP staff members help them get their catch back on level ground."

LAKE LIVINGSTON IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY EVERY YEAR FOR RECEIVING HATCHERY PRODUCED FINGERLINGS.

This year's collection netted a total of 122 striped bass brood stock weighing 1,060 pounds, (59 females weighing 868 pounds and 63 males weighing 194 pounds). On average, the females weighed 14 pounds, and the males weighed three pounds. The striped bass collected were on average larger than previous years, but the number of eligible females (those within 14 hours of ovulation) was down, which means there were fewer females available for spawning. The optimal number of females needed to meet the demand for striped bass and palmetto bass fingerlings is about 100 each year.

Millions of new fish in Texas waters

The striped bass brood stock are taken to the Possum Kingdom Fish Hatchery near Graford, the

John D. Parker East Texas Fish Hatchery near Brookeland and the A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery in San Marcos for spawning and fingerling production.

Based on the spawning success of the brood stock, TPWD anticipates being able to produce approximately 1.8 million striped bass and 1.5 million palmetto bass fingerlings. Striped bass and palmetto bass are to be stocked in 30 reservoirs across Texas.

According to TPWD

Striped bass and palmetto bass stocking in Texas is dependent upon the quality striped bass found in the Trinity River below Lake Livingston. Managing this valuable fishery is critical to sustaining striped bass and palmetto bass populations throughout Texas, which is why Lake Livingston is the number one priority every year for receiving hatchery-produced fingerlings. Also, in the next couple of years, the brood fish collection efforts could be hampered by the drought.

Striped bass are the fourth most preferred species among licensed Texas anglers. It is estimated that the economic impact of striper fishing in the Lake Texoma area alone totals well in excess of \$20 million annually.

"Thanks to the great partnership and support of TRA, Texas has

This year's collection netted a total of 122 striped bass brood stock weighing 1,060 pounds.



what is probably the largest striped bass and palmetto bass stocking program in the country," said TPWD Inland Fisheries Regional Director Brian Van Zee. "The anglers of the state and TPWD owe TRA a great deal of gratitude!"

The annual fish fry

TRA board members and staff provided a fried catfish feast for everyone who participated in the collection effort. The feast was prepared by Director David Leonard from Liberty County with Director Dennis "Joe" McCleskey, Trinity County, helping with the serving and assistant chef duties. Other board members on hand included Director C. Dwayne Somerville, Freestone County; Chambers County Director Shirley Seale and her husband, Mark; Director John Jenkins, at large, was accompanied by his son, Justin, and Director Tommy Fordyce, Walker County brought along his son, Tyler.

Also in attendance were Ryan Vice, an analyst with Gov. Rick Perry's office, and TPWD staff members Dr. Gary Saul, inland fisheries division director; Josh Havens, communications division director and Kent White, human resources division director.

Striped bass will be stocked in these lakes:

1. Livingston
2. Amistad
3. Whitney
4. Tawakoni
5. Buchanan
6. Possum Kingdom
7. Canyon
8. Granbury
9. Travis

Palmetto bass will be stocked in these lakes:

1. Benbrook
2. Lewisville
3. Calaveras
4. Graham
5. Richland-Chambers
6. Fort Phantom Hill
7. Waco
8. Cooper Reservoir
9. Victor Braunig
10. Walter E. Long Reservoir
11. Conroe
12. Ray Hubbard
13. Tawakoni
14. Cedar Creek Reservoir
15. Lake Findley
16. Belton (Bell County)
17. Palestine
18. Lake Georgetown
19. Bardwell
20. Somerville
21. Casa Blanca



TRA recognized at *Texas Water*

Texas Water 2014, the largest regional water conference in the United States, was held in Dallas in mid-April. TRA was a big winner at the conference. Congratulations to our winners:

Diversity Award: Ronald K. Tamada, P.E., Planning and Development Engineer

Ron Tamada received the DIVERSITY AWARD, which recognizes individuals, groups, or organizations for creating, promoting and maintaining diversity by establishing an environment that recognizes, encourages and effectively utilizes each individual's talents.

Under Ron's leadership, Texas Section AWWA developed a video titled "Women in Water Leadership," which features outstanding women in our industry. Ron will be recognized by the national association for his contributions at AWWA's National Annual Conference and Exhibition in Boston, Mass., in June.

Membership Award: Bill Smith, Development Services Manager

Bill was among two other Texas Section AWWA members recognized for their outstanding recruitment efforts that help Texas maintain leadership as the largest single state section of AWWA's 43 sections.

Watermark Award for Communication Excellence: Communications Staff and TRA's Denton Creek Regional Wastewater System

Watermark Awards for communication excellence recognize Texas Section AWWA and WEAT members who have produced top-quality communications.

TRA's communications division earned an award for TRA's strategic plan materials and for a series of creative, industrial photographs. The communications team includes Vanessa Joseph,

communications manager and Brenna L. Witt, multimedia assistant.

DCRWS won an award for its odor control brochure. The brochure helps educate people by answering common questions such as: what is wastewater? – why does it smell? – and what can I do to help?

Thanks go to John Bennett for adding another great tool to our educational toolkit.



Second Place Overall Division 2 Ops Challenge: TRA Waste Warriors

Congratulations to our new DCRWS Ops Challenge team, the "WASTE WARRIORS." They bolted out of the gate and garnered a second-place win! They competed against teams from Louisiana, Washington, D.C., and Arkansas. The team's next stop will be to compete in Division 2 at the national AWWA conference.

The team members:

- Matt Moriak, operator I
- Andrew Esquibel, mechanic II
- Andrew Moore, operator II
- Clifford Woods, operator II

First Place in the Management Division, Texas Shoot-out: Pipe Sawing: John Bennett, DCRWS Project Manager

This win put John among the fastest draws on cutting a piece of 8-inch PVC pipe – with a hand saw. Proceeds from the entry fee help Water For People.

Best-Tasting Drinking Water: TRA’s Tarrant County Water Supply Project

Our water was in a pool – figuratively speaking – with others in the business, representing utilities from across the state. Each water sample was sipped and graded by a panel of judges. As the winner, TRA gets bragging rights, and will represent our state at AWWA’s National Annual Conference and Exhibition.

The Texas Water Utilities Association also recognized TRA in March for the best-tasting water produced from a surface source. Four other water suppliers entered the contest. The winner was decided in a single round of tasting, in less than 30 minutes. Gary Smith, senior biologist, TCWSP, accepted TRA’s plaque.

Third Place Top Ops Award: Tarrant County Water Supply Project

TCWSP took third place in Top Ops. It was their first time to enter.

The competition gives water operations aficionados an opportunity to dazzle others with their technical knowledge by participating in a quiz-show-style event.

The team members:

- Marion Tims, chief operator
- David Harris, chief operator
- Gary Smith, senior biologist



See Current News for more photos.

First Place, TAWWA Junior Meter Madness: Tyler Brown

TRA’s Water Careers Education Intern, Tyler Brown, a senior at Arlington High School, was the first-place winner in the junior meter madness competition at Texas Water.

This fast-paced contest pits competitors against each other and the clock to assemble a water meter from a bucket of assorted parts, and the meter has to work, which it did!



First Place Overall Division 1 Ops Challenge Winners: TRA CReWSers

Our CReWSers Ops Challenge team, from CRWS, added another win to their resume. The team has won 17 straight Texas championships since 1998.

The team members:

- Dale Burrow – team captain – pretreatment
- David Brown – team member – maintenance mechanic
- Jake Burwell – team member – construction inspector for CSS
- Raudel Juarez – team member – senior liquids operator
- Steve Price – team coach – liquids chief operator
- Mike Young – team coordinator – operations and maintenance manager

MILESTONES

Cynthia (Belvin) Robinson married Michael Robinson on Nov. 2, 2013 in Fort Worth.



James L. Fox, water quality technician II, and his wife Kyla celebrated their first wedding anniversary on May 25, 2014.



Jimmy Chadwick, maintenance operations chief, celebrated the marriage of his daughter **Abra Lynn** to **Brady Allen Clark** on March 29, 2014.

Steve Lee, senior operator, and his wife Barbara celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary on March 15, 2014.



Jireh White, daughter of **Jeffrey Ramsey**, electronics technician II, is a high school junior and has

been an A/B honor roll student each year to date. White is a member of the National Technical Honor Society as well as the Spanish Honor Society. She has been selected to participate in the 2014 Buckeye Vet Prep Academy at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and also has been invited to tour Texas A&M's Veterinary Medicine Program.



Basilio Chavez, maintenance mechanic chief, finished 111th in his age group in the 10K race at the Cowtown Marathon in February. He ran the 6.2 mile race in 1 hour and 7 minutes.



General Manager **Kevin Ward**, Chief Financial Officer **Alison Mackey**, and Planning and Environmental Services Manager **Glenn Clingenpeel** also participated in the Cowtown Marathon in February.

Seth Thigpen, son of Land Rights Manager **Mark Thigpen**, swam the 200 and 500 yard freestyle events

at the Texas State Regional Swim Meet on Feb. 7 and 8. Seth is one of only two freshmen on the Arlington High School swim team this year.



Adam Sanders, son of Construction Services Staff Manager **Thomas Sanders**, recently received the Unit Citation Award for the Harris County Sheriff's Department. The award is a team award for the entire unit, but each individual receives a commendation. The award recognizes outstanding service and performance of the unit as a whole. Adam also received the MADD Hero Award for the fourth year in a row for his outstanding DWI arrest record. Adam is an investigator for the traffic division of the department.



Jacob Burwell, son of **Jake Burwell**, inspector II, became a sailor in the U.S. Navy. He is studying cryptology and is stationed in Florida until the end of summer.

Matthew Quate recently received his class C wastewater license.

Barron Hall passed his PACP test in December and is now PACP certified.

Prerana Karki, accountant, graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington in May 2014 with a Masters of Science in Accounting.



TRA was recognized by Underground Construction Technology Association for winning the Project of the Year Runner-Up Award from *Trenchless Technology* magazine. The related article was reprinted with permission from the magazine in the October/November 2013 issue of *inTRA*.

Pictured above:

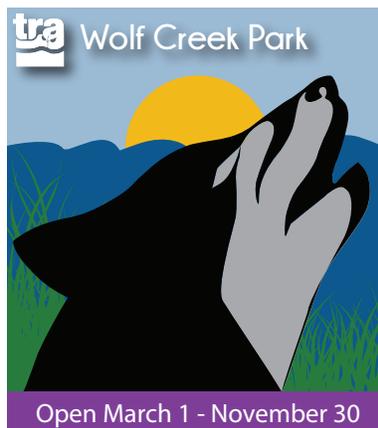
- Frank Crumb, city of Fort Worth
- Shrirang Golhar, RPS Espey
- Wayne Hunter, RPS Espey
- **Bart Hines**, TRA
- **John Durbin**, TRA
- Tim Peterie, Insituform Technologies



Watch out for mosquitoes

Take precautions to avoid mosquito bites that may lead to West Nile illness. To reduce exposure to West Nile virus:

- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent every time you go outside, and follow the instructions on the label.
- Regularly drain standing water, including water collecting in empty cans, tires, buckets, clogged rain gutters and saucers under potted plants. Mosquitoes that spread West Nile virus breed in stagnant water.
- Wear long sleeves and pants when outside, especially around dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Use air conditioning or make sure there are screens on all doors and windows to keep mosquitoes from entering your home.



Don't let the Texas heat get you down

As the temperatures rise, it is important to watch out for signs of heat illness and to take precautions to protect yourself from heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

The elderly, young children, people with chronic diseases and those without access to air conditioning are most at risk.

Staying in an air conditioned area, either at home or at public places like malls, libraries or community centers, is the best way to combat the heat. If air conditioning is not available, open the windows and pull down shades to keep out direct sunlight, and use fans to cool rooms.

The best defense against heat-related illness is prevention. Stay cool, drink plenty of fluids, wear cool clothing and limit strenuous outdoor activities.

Other precautions:

- Take action at the first sign of heat illness.
- Never leave anyone, including pets, in a parked vehicle – even for a short time.
- Check frequently on older friends, neighbors and family members.
- Drink plenty of water.

For more information about West Nile and heat, check www.dshs.state.tx.us.

Q1 DEC 2013 - FEB 2014
QUARTER ONE REPORT

24 ONGOING STRATEGIES ADDRESSED

1 on-demand strategy accomplished

7 goal categories total

AS-NEEDED STRATEGIES **ZERO**

TWENTY-FOUR STRATEGIES COMPLETED / IN PROGRESS

6 objectives this quarter

tra ZERO ANNUAL STRATEGY 12

Strategic plan quarter one goals complete

TRA recently completed the goals outlined in Q1 of its five-year strategic plan. Thanks to each member of our staff who has contributed to completing these strategies and objectives. The completion of each successive quarter will help us spot trends and develop and refine our best business practices. For more information about TRA's strategic plan, please visit www.trinityra.org.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

25 YEARS

Richard Dennie, chief operator, ROCRWS

20 YEARS

Richard Gerard, assistant manager, LLP
Mark Hrabal, chief operator, MCRWS

15 YEARS

Thresa Aguayo, senior biologist, LLP
Lee Shaffer, office coordinator II, CRWS

10 YEARS

Joe Sheets, field inspector, LLP
Billy Lewis, operator II, LRWSS
John Wardell, operator II, ROCRWS
Julie Wilson, office coordinator I, DCRWS
John Stockton, senior maintenance mechanic, CRWS

Avelardo de los Santos, operator II, MCRWS

5 YEARS

Hector Garcia, maintenance mechanic II, CRWS
Charles Rankin, operator I, CRWS
Anson Suarez, operator I, CRWS
Danny Smith, operator II, MCRWS
Vanessa Liu, information systems analyst, GO
James Mallory, operator II, DCRWS
Eric Blackmon, operator II, DCRWS

3 YEARS

Gus Rivas, operator II, TCWSP
Charles Scott, maintenance mechanic I, CRWS
Fiona Allen, northern region manager, GO
Kevin Ward, general manager, GO
Stephen Renfro, inspector I, CSS

Zebra mussels kill fishing, clog pipes that supply drinking water, and have sharp edges that make water recreation hazardous. They cling to boat hulls, piers and docks, and you can spread them when you enter other lakes.

SO CLEAN YOUR BOAT, TRAILER AND GEAR!



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
www.texasinvasives.org



David Hill, operator II, DCRWS
 Michael Scamp, operator I, CRWS
 Barry Beeson, operator II, ROCRWS
 Paul Nelson, maintenance
 mechanic II, CRWS
 Tracy Paul, maintenance
 mechanic II, CRWS

WELCOME TO NEW HIRES:

CRWS

Lane Cheek, senior operator
 Scott Boehler, operator I
 Jerry Rankins, operator I
 Douglas Castrillo, chemist
 Darrin Button, maintenance
 mechanic I
 Gary Carr, maintenance mechanic I
 Mark Schoonover, senior buyer

CSS

Gracie Yielding, contract
 information specialist

GO

Marco Ramirez, planning and
 development engineer
 Prerana Faust, senior
 accounting clerk
 Amy Stelter, governmental
 relations manager

HRWSS

Rusell Garland, operator I
 Keaton Ogden, part-time
 maintenance helper

LLP

Sharon Phelps, lab technician I

LRF

John Pylate, part-time
 maintenance helper

Christopher Rogers, part-time
 maintenance helper
 Tonya Cangemi, park ranger

TCWSP

Kelly Hunter, chief electronics
 technician

Tyler Brown, Arlington High
 School Water Careers Intern

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION:

CRWS

Christopher Gonzales, senior
 electronics technician
 Miguel Nava, operator II
 Sean Galbraith, operator II
 Omar Maisonet, electronic
 technician I
 Kenneth Hagewood, biologist
 Trey Benton, assistant buyer
 Nicholas Padilla, electronic
 technician II
 Matthew Quate, operator II

CSS

Barclay Hager, inspector II
 Linda Vice, executive secretary

GO

Candida Nash-Trautmann, manager
 of cash and capital projects
 Laura Peña, executive secretary
 Sherri van der Wege, senior planning
 and development engineer
 Prerana Karki, accountant
 Glenn Clingenpeel, planning and
 environmental services manager
 Carion Taylor, executive secretary
 James L. Fox, water quality
 technician II

LLP

Clem Mensch, lab technician II
 Marco Acosta, maintenance
 mechanic II
 Susannah Hicks, senior
 electronics technician

HAPPY TRAILS TO THESE RETIREES:

GO

Sam Scott, manager, executive
 services – 40 years
 Frank Garcia, manager of cash
 and capital projects, financial
 services – 37 years
 Sheila Murphy, executive
 secretary, legal – 28 years
 Randy Brooks, engineer, planning
 & development, NR – 17 years
 Sue Beard, executive
 secretary, construction
 services staff – 7 years

TMCROWS

Henry Jones, senior maintenance
 mechanic – 34 years

HRWSS

Mark McFarland, operator II –
 29 years

CRWS

Joy Varughese, senior maintenance
 mechanic – 15 years

*Angela Kilpatrick, senior
 environmental scientist,
 was incorrectly listed as
 environmental scientist I in
 the previous issue of inTRA.*

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Enriching the Trinity Basin as a Resource for Texans



In Memoriam:

TRA employees, families and friends: It is with heavy hearts that we have to inform you of the recent passing of two former employees and one current employee. They all contributed to TRA's success and growth through their many years of service.



Dr. Richard Browning retired in 2011 as senior manager, of what is now planning and environmental services, with 39 years of dedicated service to the Authority.



Spencer Karr, a longtime coworker and friend at TRA's Lake Livingston Project, passed away after a seven-year struggle with cancer. Karr was the land and emergency management coordinator; he worked for TRA for more than 21 years. Up to his last day, he remained dedicated to his work and to his fellow workers. He will be dearly missed.

Scott Terrell, a former liquids chief operator at CRWS during the '80s, also was promoted to project manager at DCRWS. He contributed approximately 12 years of service to the Authority before retiring.