

June/July 2012



Newsletter of the Trinity River Authority of Texas



# CRWS/CSS tackle challenging pipe repair

## Stevens' retirement caps 40-year, multi-faceted career

Assistant Southern Region Manager Robert Stevens recently retired after celebrating a 40-year career in a number of key positions with TRA.

Stevens is the only staff member in TRA's history to have worked in every water-related service area, including water and wastewater treatment, reservoir recreation, water storage and water quality, plus in both the Southern and Northern regions of the Trinity Basin.

Stevens joined TRA in 1972 as an area reservoir supervisor at the Lake Livingston Project and became the water quality supervisor shortly afterward. Stevens transferred to the Southern Region office as manager of development in 1978 and was later promoted to reservoir division manager. In 1988 he transferred to the Northern Region office to serve as wastewater services planning manager, where he spearheaded the development of the Denton Creek and Red Oak Creek regional

wastewater systems. Stevens was promoted to Northern Region manager of operations in 1993.

In 1996, he transferred back to the Southern Region office to serve as assistant manager of the region.

"Robert proved to be exceptional with customer relations," said Southern Region Manager Jim Sims when recalling Stevens' tenure in the Southern Region. "And his attention to detail was unsurpassed."

Stevens developed and managed operating project budgets and communicated budgetary issues with customer city representatives for the Southern Region's three regional water supply systems, as well as LLP and Livingston Recreational Facilities.

"Robert maintained outstanding working relationships with our customer city finance departments, promptly responding to their questions and making sure they were informed of all system

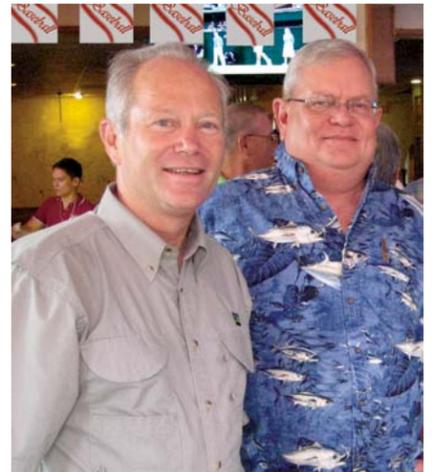
developments," said Sims.

Stevens was responsible for procuring and managing funding for project expansions and capital improvements, and he was heavily involved in representing TRA in the LLP hydropower partnership with the East Texas Electric Cooperative.

Stevens also was instrumental in developing and updating project emergency response plans, the Lake Livingston Emergency Action Plan and drought contingency plans for all projects.

In addition, when companies required land permits or right-of-way easements around Lake Livingston, Stevens served as their initial contact. He also occasionally arranged for TRA to assist small utilities in need of operations or startup assistance or employee training when other professional operator assistance was not affordable or available.

In retirement, Stevens plans to work on his country home and travel with his wife, Diane.



Robert Stevens, right, celebrates his retirement with General Manager Kevin Ward.

## Holder takes the helm as Southern Region assistant manager

William Holder, former manager of the Trinity River Authority's Lake Livingston Project, has undertaken duties as assistant manager of TRA's Southern Region.

Holder served as LLP manager for 20 years. His chief duties included preparing and managing an operating budget in excess of \$4 million, managing employees, directing reservoir operations, managing flood events, and managing repair and rehabilitation projects.

"Bill's experience managing LLP and his educational background are a great fit for the Southern Region assistant manager position," said Southern Region Manager Jim Sims. "He's proven that he's a great leader and strategic manager, so we're thrilled to have him join the team here in Huntsville."

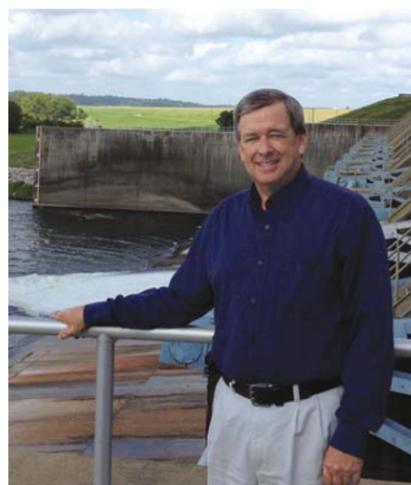
Holder joined TRA as a chemist in LLP's water quality laboratory in 1980. He was subsequently promoted to area administrator, where he provided TRA oversight

for a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality order governing on-site sewage facilities; a TRA ordinance pertaining to the licensing of private shoreline improvements; and a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers general permit concerning dredging, filling and construction in and around Lake Livingston.

Holder was promoted to LLP assistant manager in 1991 before being named project manager in 1992.

Holder earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Sam Houston State University. He holds a professional sanitarian license from the Texas Department of State Health Services and a Class A wastewater license from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. He has trained extensively with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

In addition, Holder is a member of the Texas Parks and Wildlife



Southern Region Assistant Manager William Holder

Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Committee, a member of the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, a member of the United States Society on Dams and a member and past president of the Lions Club of Livingston. He also represents TRA as a board member of the Deep East Texas Council of Governments.

### On the cover:



CRWS and CSS worked with a contractor to rehabilitate a critical pipe located approximately 30 feet below ground at the plant. See story on page 3.

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### TRA 2011 Annual Report available

Interested readers can find the Trinity River Authority's 2011 Annual Report under Business Services/Financial Information at [www.trinityra.org](http://www.trinityra.org).



See more stories online in Current News.



## TRA restructures financial services, appoints Mackey chief financial officer

The Trinity River Authority of Texas recently announced the appointment of Alison A. Mackey as chief financial officer. As CFO, Mackey will oversee TRA's financial services division, providing operational and programmatic support on all strategic and tactical matters as they relate to budget management, financial reporting, forecasting and financial asset management.

Mackey joined TRA in 2001 as internal auditor before being named special projects manager, then executive assistant to the general manager. In 2011 she was appointed executive project manager. Prior to joining TRA, Mackey was employed by Hunt Energy Corp.

Along with adding the CFO position, TRA has implemented a revised structure for the financial services division in order to best meet TRA's financial management and reporting needs in a rapidly changing and heavily regulated environment.

"We understand that people often make important decisions regarding their involvement with our organization largely based on our financial health and the transparency of our financial data," said J. Kevin Ward, TRA general manager. "We want to make sure to keep up with the growing needs of our various operating systems, plus the ever-changing financial regulatory environment in which we



**Chief Financial Officer  
Alison A. Mackey**

operate."

The staff group is now divided into three distinct tracks: financial systems, comprising the administration of appropriate financial tracking and reporting software; financial services, overseeing the daily ebb and flow of TRA's financial assets and investments; and financial reporting, charged with everything from development of quarterly reports to assisting with TRA's annual independent audit.

"We're confident that this reorganization will bring great benefits for TRA and its partners," said Ward. "It's one more way we can be proactive in providing everyone from our customers to our bond buyers the best possible value."

## Bennett named WEF Fellow

The Water Environment Federation recently named Denton Creek Regional Wastewater System Project Manager John Bennett a WEF Fellow for his professional achievements, stature and contributions to the preservation and enhancement of the global water environment.

In October, Bennett will be recognized at WEFTEC.12, WEF's national conference, in New Orleans. He was also featured in the July issues of *Waterlog*, *WEF Highlight Newsletter* and *WEF Leaders*. In addition, WEF Fellows receive a lapel pin and may use the designation "WEF Fellow" following their names in a professional capacity.

According to WEF Executive Director Jeff Eger, the Fellows program was created to recognize truly exceptional individuals who make outstanding contributions to the water environment over a substantial career. Bennett received this honor based on his long-term involvement in wastewater operations, education, and utility management, as well as his leadership in WEF and the Water Environment Association of Texas. Three industry colleagues penned letters to support his nomination.



**DCRWS Project Manager  
John Bennett**

The WEF board of trustees carefully considers nominations and supporting materials before bestowing this special recognition.

Bennett's dedication to protecting the environment is best demonstrated by DCRWS' sterling record of discharge permit compliance, even while the system was undergoing almost continuous construction to expand capacity in response to rapid growth in its service area. The National Association of Clean Water Agencies recently recognized DCRWS with a Platinum Seven Award for seven continuous years of 100 percent permit compliance.

## TRA names manager of northern region operations

The Trinity River Authority of Texas recently welcomed Julia Hunt, P.E., as manager of operations for its Northern Region facilities.

As operations manager, Hunt will oversee effective administration, operation and maintenance of TRA's water and wastewater treatment facilities across North Texas. Her duties will range from managing annual budgets, capital improvement programs and daily operations to administering local, state and federal regulations in effect at TRA facilities.

Hunt most recently served as director of water utilities for the city of Arlington. She is a professional engineer and was employed with the city of Arlington for 27 years.

"We couldn't be happier about welcoming Julie to our team," said J. Kevin Ward, general manager of TRA. "She brings with her tremendous knowledge and utility operating experience, along with a sound work ethic and a positive attitude. We're confident that she will hit the ground running and be an instant asset to the group."

Hunt holds a TCEQ water



**Northern Region  
Manager of Operations  
Julia Hunt**

distribution license and a wastewater collection license, and she currently serves on the Water Research Foundation Board of Trustees. In addition, she is a member of the Water Environment Association of Texas, the American Water Works Association and the American Society of Civil Engineers. Hunt earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, graduating *cum laude*, from Texas A&M University.

## Lake Livingston trash pickup gains momentum



**Students from Livingston High School head out to pick up trash on Lake Livingston.**

More than 300 volunteers from three counties, including local students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and supervising adults, recently gathered on the shores of Lake Livingston for the second annual Come Clean Lake Livingston trash pickup.

The Trinity River Authority, through its Clean Rivers Program, provided financial support for the effort, while Pro-Star Waste provided trash bags, dumpsters and trash disposal from designated locations in Polk, San Jacinto and Trinity counties.

After a grueling morning collecting trash, volunteers met at the Northshore RV and Resort in Onalaska for a hot dog lunch prepared by the Onalaska Methodist Men's group. Organizers awarded prizes for the most unusual trash items, with the top award given for a baseball catcher's shin guard. A discarded baby car seat took second place, and third place went for a broken boat pontoon. After the festivities, Northshore RV and Resort staff invited the volunteers

to cool off and relax with a swim in Lake Livingston at their beach area.

In addition to the trash pickup, other students participated over a two-month period in school-related activities such as recycling, garbage collecting and pollution awareness.

"We are grateful for all the volunteers and sponsors who stepped up to clean the lake and improve the environment," said Sydney Murphy, Polk County Chamber of Commerce executive director. "Congratulations on making the 2012 Come Clean Lake Livingston even better and bigger than last year."

To get involved in planning the 2013 event, contact Murphy at 936-327-4929 or [sydneymurphy@livingston.net](mailto:sydneymurphy@livingston.net). Smartphone users can scan the QR code below to visit Come Clean Lake Livingston on Facebook for further updates and information.



<http://www.facebook.com/ComeCleanLakeLivingston>

# CRWS interceptor rehabilitation project one of the largest in history

The Trinity River Authority board of directors recently approved a construction contract totaling more than \$16 million to rehabilitate a 17,200-foot section of Central Regional Wastewater System's Elm Fork interceptor. The project will employ a cost-effective, trenchless method that limits surface disruption of traffic and activities above the pipelines.

The cured-in-place method of rehabilitation constructs a new, stronger vessel within an existing pipe. Contractors first insert a flexible liner filled with resin into an existing pipeline through a manhole, injecting water into the liner so that it expands and fills the pipe. Following expansion, the resin-filled liner is heated, typically with hot water, causing it to harden, or cure, into a new pipe within the old one.

The cured-in-place method is ideal for pipelines that need strengthening and rehabilitation but are not in need of additional capacity.

The section of the Elm Fork interceptor undergoing rehabilitation is a 96-inch diameter unlined reinforced concrete pipe, originally installed in 1984, that was identified as a critical area of concern when engineers observed that hydrogen sulfide gases had eroded and weakened areas of the concrete.

Over the last eight years, CRWS has installed two additional large-diameter pipes parallel to this damaged section to accommodate increased wastewater flows produced by a growing population in the Elm Fork service area. Since additional capacity is provided by these two new lines, TRA management chose to rehabilitate with the cured-in-place method.

"This method saves time and expense when compared with traditional open-cut repairs or replacement because it doesn't require digging trenches to gain access to the pipe," said TRA Northern Region Manager Fiona Allen. "The trenchless procedure also substantially reduces disruption to traffic and surface activities – a major advantage when wastewater lines run near or through streets or other public areas."

TRA has previously used the cured-in-place method to successfully rehabilitate manholes and smaller sections of damaged pipelines, but this project poses a number of challenges – starting with the magnitude of the pipe undergoing rehabilitation.

"The Elm Fork interceptor is one of the largest diameter pipes as well as one of the longest sections to be rehabilitated with the cured-in-place method," said TRA

Construction Services Manager Thomas Sanders. "We knew we had to approach the project in a way that was manageable and that lets us ensure the highest quality."

Construction crews will divide the pipe into nine separate 1,800-foot segments, with access available through either existing or newly installed manholes.

Even so, according to project design engineers, five tractor-trailer-sized trucks will be needed to transport each section of the resin-filled liners to the project site. Project sites must have two acres available to accommodate the equipment, plus access to a large volume of water to expand the liner within the pipe. In addition, injecting and heating such a large volume in the pipe will require nearly a week with crews working around the clock. This presents a second challenge.

"Nearly all of this project lies within the flood plain in public parks, along pedestrian and biking trails, through a nature area and within a golf course," said Sanders. "We need to strictly limit disruption to the surface areas and keep a close eye on the weather."

Construction activities carefully have been scheduled to avoid disrupting outdoor activities in public areas. For example, the

two segments located within the golf course are scheduled for rehabilitation between December 1, 2012, and February 28, 2013, when winter weather typically discourages golfing. In addition, the contractor will closely monitor weather forecasts and river flow conditions to avoid flood-related interruptions and/or damage to equipment and materials.

The contractor began preparing segments of the Elm Fork interceptor for rehabilitation shortly after TRA gave the notice to proceed in late May. Engineers anticipate that the first resin-filled liner will be pulled into a pipe around the first of September. If all goes as planned and the weather cooperates, the entire rehabilitation project should be complete in about two years.

Because this is one of the largest pipelines undergoing cured-in-place rehabilitation, the project is part of a study funded by a grant from the Water Environment Research Federation. Data gleaned from this project will be available to help engineers design future pipeline rehabilitation projects.

Those interested in viewing a demonstration video of the cured-in-place process can visit Insituform CIPP under Water & Wastewater at [www.insituform.com](http://www.insituform.com). The video is on the right side of the page.

## CRWS/CSS tackle challenging pipe repair

In late April, TRA's Central Regional Wastewater System embarked on one of its most unique and challenging pipe repair projects to date. Suspecting that a 60-inch pipe near the entrance of the plant showed signs of corrosion, CRWS staff partnered with a professional pipeline inspection company for an assessment. Their examination revealed significant concrete erosion that was in danger of creating a pipe failure and impeding CRWS' ability to provide appropriate treatment. In an effort to be proactive and prevent both emergency measures and challenges to facility service, TRA leadership moved quickly to begin the rehabilitation process.

Positioned between two 350-million-gallon-per-day influent pump stations and approximately 30 feet deep, this line serves as CRWS' internal return sewer system, bringing the facility's recycled wastewater back to the head of the plant for treatment. An intersecting 72-inch line is used for a tie between the pump stations, ahead of the bar screen process. Combined with the nearby location of four electrical transformers and the small space in which to work, both the CRWS team and TRA's construction services staff faced the challenge of devising a creative solution without interrupting service to CRWS' customers.

"This situation was truly unique," said J.R. Sivernell, TRA construction inspector. "Access was difficult; we have a lot of other water and wastewater pipes in that area, plus the electrical units, all within a small space. Plus, a pipe failure in this location could have had huge ramifications for CRWS' daily operation. This is the area where all incoming wastewater flows directly into the plant."

CRWS and CSS worked with a contractor to remove a manhole and develop a temporary 18-foot-diameter entry pit in which to work. Crews then lowered individual six-foot sections of 48-inch pipe into the pit and used a hydraulic ram to push each one inside the old pipe – a technique called sliplining. During the repair, all typical flow through this pipeline had to be rerouted to other areas of the plant, and CRWS staff carefully monitored the diverted flows around the clock to ensure continuous service.

In all, TRA repaired 165 feet of the 60-inch line using the sliplining technique. In addition, crews rehabilitated 150 feet of the 72-inch line by sealing leaks to stop infiltration and then coating the interior of the pipe with a corrosion-resistant ceramic coating. Both repairs will increase the life of the pipelines, saving millions of dollars in replacement costs both now and

in the future.

The project took approximately 90 days to complete, and both lines were back in service by the end of July.

"I've seen a lot of challenging repairs during my years with TRA," said Bill Tatum, CRWS project manager. "But this was truly one of a kind. The location, the safety concerns and the complexity of the repair really challenged everyone involved to put their best ingenuity and problem-solving to work. Our CSS staff and our folks here at CRWS really worked well together to come up with a solution that kept us going without any interruption

of service. And, believe me, we're happy to have that pipeline back up and running."

CRWS provides wastewater treatment services for 20 DFW Metroplex cities, along with the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. The system includes a 162-million-gallon-per-day treatment facility and more than 200 miles of interceptor pipelines. CRWS is currently undergoing construction to improve processes and expand treatment capacity to 189 MGD.



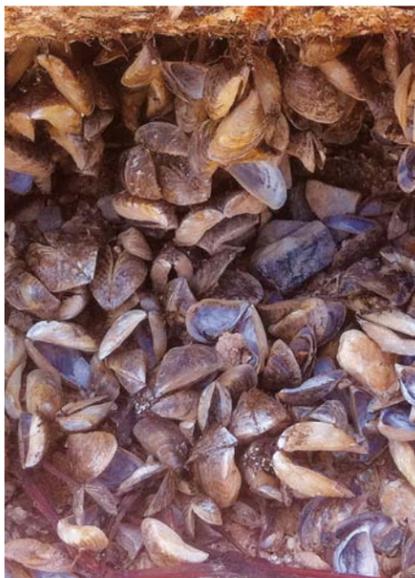
*A crane lowers a six-foot section of a 48-inch diameter pipe inside of a damaged 60-inch line. Using a combination of innovative methods, TRA recently restored 315 feet of pipeline located approximately 30 feet underground at a crucial juncture in the CRWS plant.*

# General Manager's Message

## Endangered, invasive species challenge water industry

The Trinity River basin is home to a myriad of plant and animal species that enrich our aquatic environment, provide recreational opportunities for sportsmen and constantly compete for essential resources. Great and small, these species over time have evolved and achieved the kind of natural balance that is necessary for a healthy river basin. Those of us engaged in water and wastewater treatment have evolved and adapted right along with them – in fact, two specific kinds of species, those classified as endangered and those deemed invasive, often play a large role in shaping the way the water industry provides services to its customers.

Questions surrounding potentially endangered species are currently causing a stir among many landowners and industries. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, more than 20 species statewide, including several types of snails, mussels and salamanders, are under serious consideration for an endangered species listing over the next four years – and dozens more are in the early stages of the process. Altogether, the agency, as of the



*Zebra mussels near Lake Texoma in September 2011. The bivalves have now been found in Lake Ray Roberts.*

end of 2011, was reviewing the status of 96 species in Texas, which represents an unprecedented level of activity. Largely the outcome of two legal settlements with environmental groups during 2011, this effort is scheduled to review the candidacy of more than 250 species nationwide over the next six years.

Currently, FWS classifies more than 90 animals and plants in Texas as endangered or threatened. Adding to the endangered species list, while pursued with the best of intentions, also may have unintended consequences. For example, according to FWS, up to 70 percent of freshwater mussels in the United States are extinct, endangered or in need of special protection, despite tremendous improvements in U.S. water quality. Those of us serving the Trinity River basin are closely watching whether a series of freshwater mussels indigenous to Texas will be added to the list. Species like the Texas Heelsplitter and the Smooth Pimpleback, plus 10 other freshwater mussel species in Texas, are currently under consideration for listing as either threatened or endangered.

While we understand the importance of the mussel population as an indicator of an aquatic system's overall health, our concern is that, if these species are listed and found within the Trinity River basin, our industry will then face added complexities when it comes to water rights permits, along with potential impediments to our ability to provide essential services. In fact, the potential consequences are serious enough that the Texas Comptroller's office is now working with the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology to assess the economic impact of listing these species of freshwater mussels.

Further complicating matters, the key danger for these indigenous mussels actually may be an invasive

species that is causing trouble on other fronts as well: the zebra mussel. A native of the Balkans, Poland and the former Soviet Union, the species first appeared in the United States in Michigan's Lake St. Clair in 1988. The species is highly invasive, multiplies rapidly and can cause tremendous environmental and economic damage. Since its discovery, the species has spread to 29 U.S. states, including Texas – and once a population is established in a water body, it is impossible to eradicate with current available technology.

The first adult zebra mussel in Texas was confirmed in Lake Texoma in 2009, along with a population found in a stream that feeds into Lake Lavon. And in recent days, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Lake Ray Roberts – the species' first appearance within the Trinity River basin. Besides threatening our indigenous populations of fish, birds and native mussel species, zebra mussels are capable of disrupting entire water supply systems by colonizing the insides of pipelines and restricting the flow of water. The mussels can also damage boat hulls, plug water systems for boat motors, air conditioners and heads, and cause navigation buoys to sink. One DFW news outlet has even compared zebra mussels to zombies – they're creepy, destructive and practically impossible to kill.

The greatest weapon currently at our disposal is slowing the mussels' spread. Since boat traffic is the key method of transporting zebra mussels, TRA has joined TPWD, plus several other river authorities and water supply entities, in sponsoring the "Hello Zebra Mussels, Goodbye Texas Lakes: Clean, Drain and Dry Your Boat" campaign to make boaters and other water recreation users more aware of the mussels'



*General Manager J. Kevin Ward*

potentially devastating effects. For more information, or to report zebra mussels in your area, visit [www.texasinvasives.org](http://www.texasinvasives.org) or use the QR code below.

TRA's planning and environmental management division is also currently participating, along with four other water supply entities and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in a study of the potential impacts of zebra mussel infestations on water supply infrastructure within the Trinity River basin.

As always, living in tandem with the forces of nature is a balance game – we must find the best ways to manage priorities including environmental protection, human health and safety, economic growth and other social factors. Above all, TRA and its partners seek to rely on science-based decision-making, cooperating closely with other agencies and organizations and balancing often-competing public values.

TRA will continue to apprise our readers on the progress and repercussions of expanding the endangered species list, along with providing updates on the potential migration of zebra mussels within our basin. They may range in size from only four to 30 centimeters, but these powerful bivalves have the potential to effect extensive changes in our industry.



[www.texasinvasives.org](http://www.texasinvasives.org)

## LLP and WCP staff raise money for the American Cancer Society at 2012 Relay

The Trinity River Authority's Lake Livingston Project and Wolf Creek Park personnel recently helped the American Cancer Society raise more than \$279,000 during the 2012 Polk County Relay for Life.

TRA was one of 43 teams that decorated campsites and walked the track at Pedigo Park in Livingston.

To honor this year's theme of "Everything Texas," TRA decorated its campsite with a giant Texas-shaped birdhouse. In addition, LLP employees built, painted and sold 100 birdhouses to raise money, increasing TRA's total donation to \$3,500.

"2012 marks the 11th year for

Relay for Life in Polk County," said LLP Assistant Manager Mark Waters. "I am proud of our team for raising a sizable contribution, especially during these tough economic times. Plus, it's a lot of fun."

The event begins with a survivors' lap, as all survivors in attendance are invited to circle the track and celebrate their victory over cancer. Throughout the night, team members take turns walking or running around a track with at least one representative in motion for an entire 24-hour period.

After dark, participants honor and remember loved ones lost

to the disease with the luminaria ceremony. Candles shine inside bags filled with sand, each one bearing the name of a person lost to cancer. Participants pause for a moment of silence or walk a lap in silence.

The Polk County Relay for Life attracts thousands of people and is the largest gathering of county residents each year. The American Cancer Society looks to the Polk County Relay as a model for successful events across the nation.

Debbie Davis, wife of Darrel Davis, LLP maintenance supervisor, served as chairwoman for this year's event.



*TRA's campsite at the 2012 Polk County Relay for Life reflects this year's "Everything Texas" theme. TRA employees also constructed 100 birdhouses to raise additional funds.*

**Employee Milestones**

**New Hires**

CRWS welcomes **Grady Risinger** as operator II, **Richard Alvey** and **Robert Bohrer** as senior electricians and **Jared Hall** as maintenance helper.

LLP is glad to have **Jacoby Johnson**, **Blake Robison** and **Reece Whitt** as maintenance helpers.

GO welcomes **Julia Hunt** as Northern Region manager of operations, **Tahauya Jackson** as executive secretary, **Kelly McKnight** as planning and environmental management support technician, and **Diem Nguyet Nguyen** as GIS technician.

TCWSP is happy to welcome **Camryn McIntyre** as support technician.

**Promotions**

**Shawn Ballard** was promoted to GIS support technician at GO.

**Jason Coles** was promoted to operator II at TCRWSS.

**Debbie Garrett** was promoted to executive secretary at GO.

**Joseph Gedville** was promoted to maintenance mechanic II at CRWS.

**Ercel Landrus** was promoted to operator II at LRWSS.

**Alison Mackey** was promoted to chief financial officer at GO.

**Webster Mangham** was promoted to manager of special studies and assessments at GO.

**Ronald McCaffrey** was promoted to senior maintenance mechanic at TCWSP.

**Kristie Munoz** was promoted to office coordinator at LLP.

**David Rosnagel** was promoted to environmental services coordinator at CRWS.

**Current Events**

William Nelson, son of Northern Region Operations Services Manager **John Nelson**, will study engineering at the University of Arkansas beginning in August. Nelson's daughter, Mary Frances, will start her sophomore year at Austin College, where she studies English and primary education.

General Office Paralegal **Stacie Dowell** has earned a third degree black belt in karate.

Senior Maintenance Mechanic **James Hart** was elected Quartermaster of Veterans of Foreign Wars Garland Memorial Post 5076. In this position Hart is solely responsible for approximately \$265,000.00 in assets and funds.



*Ivan, grandson of Public Information Assistant Debbie Bronson, was born June 15 to parents Virginia Bronson and Daniel Juric. Ivan was 9 pounds, 8 ounces and 22 inches at birth.*

**Ward and Allen share insights, experience at national conference**

Trinity River Authority General Manager Kevin Ward and Northern Region Manager Fiona Allen addressed fellow water industry professionals at the American Water Works Association's Annual Conference and Exposition, ACE12, held in mid-June in Dallas.

Ward participated on a panel of industry leaders in the H2Open Forum – Leadership in a Shifting

Landscape. The group led a discussion of the challenges that water utilities face in the present environment, including financial management, water resource planning and regulatory issues. Panel members shared their insights into the leadership required to ensure a sustainable future for their utilities.

Allen led a topical discussion at a networking event sponsored by AWWA's diversity and member inclusion committee. She shared the top ten skills needed to be a future water industry leader and reviewed opportunities to share and learn from the experiences of life in the water world from a woman's perspective.



*Nicole, daughter of IT Manager Vincent Lim, recently graduated from kindergarten.*



*Madison Saniuk, daughter of Senior Accountant Melissa Saniuk, graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in May.*



*Dennis Alan "DAQ" Querry, son of Construction Inspector Supervisor Mike Querry, recently graduated from Cleburne High School. DAQ competes in stock car races at local tracks. This summer, he repeatedly has won both the heat and the feature races in Saturday-night events at 281 Speedway in Stephenville, Texas. DAQ will attend Hill College this fall, with plans to become a fireman.*



*Congratulations to Will and Alicia Holder, who were married May 26 in Dripping Springs, Texas. Will is the son of Southern Region Assistant Manager Bill Holder. Will and Alicia are both recent graduates of Texas State University in San Marcos, currently reside in Leander and are both employed by Photo Texas Photography in Austin.*



*Land Rights Manager Mark Thigpen recently earned the Senior Member designation from the International Right of Way Association. The SR/WA designation is the most prestigious professional designation granted by IRWA to members who have achieved professional status through experience, education and examination. Thigpen, seen here on the right, was honored in June at the IRWA convention in Seattle.*

**Kuntz retires after 12 years at LLP**

Lake Livingston Project Office Coordinator Linda Kuntz recently retired after a dozen years of dedicated service to the Trinity River Authority.

During her tenure at LLP, Kuntz was the primary resource for human resources, finance and record-keeping for both LLP and Livingston Recreational Facilities.

"Linda always took the time to work one-on-one with employees needing assistance with medical or retirement benefits," said LLP Assistant Manager Mark Waters. "She was genuinely concerned about each employee and always responded to requests for assistance in a helpful and positive manner, regardless of how busy she was."

In 2003, TRA's board of directors approved a resolution recognizing Kuntz for successfully implementing Lawson management software in the Southern Region.

In addition, Kuntz participated annually with TRA's team in the Polk County Relay for Life benefitting the American Cancer Society. The team frequently won the Best of Camp Award due, in part, to her creative influence and attention to detail.



*Ryan, 14, son of Land Rights Senior Secretary Pam Thomas, earned second place in sparring and second place in demonstrating the Bassai Kata at a karate inter-school tournament. Ryan is currently a red belt, working toward a black belt.*

# TRA launches e-zine for industry news clips

Beginning the week of Sept. 3, TRA will make available TRA-related and industry-specific news clips through Scoop.it, an online magazine service that allows PID to collect and distribute news and articles of interest to our readership. The e-zine, known as *exTRA*, can be found at [www.scoop.it/t/traextra](http://www.scoop.it/t/traextra).

News clip collections will be dynamic: there are no editions or volumes, and articles are updated in real time. In fact, Scoop.it enables PID to update *exTRA* daily. Each Monday, PID will send an email reminding readers to check *exTRA* throughout the week for up-to-date news.

Scoop.it allows readers to browse through headlines and snippets of articles. Each headline is a hyperlink to the original article, and the service allows TRA to provide links to newsworthy video, audio and photos.

Scoop.it also enables readers to comment on articles and conveniently share them via Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, StumbleUpon, LinkedIn, Wordpress, Tumblr, email or their own Scoop.it pages.

This format allows readers to access *exTRA* on a computer, laptop, iPad, iPhone or other smartphone by visiting [www.scoop.it/t/traextra](http://www.scoop.it/t/traextra). Scoop.it is an RSS feed, so articles may be imported into any RSS feed service or reader.

Pulse News, available at no cost through iTunes and Android app stores, is a recommended application for iPhone and iPad that aggregates RSS feeds from selected newspapers, journals, magazines and RSS feeds. Readers can add *exTRA* to their Pulse News app by following the seven steps shown to the right.

Readers may also import feeds from the *New York Times*, the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Star-Telegram*, *Time* magazine, and any other desired RSS feeds from blogs or websites so that all news articles are neatly displayed in one easy-to-use service.

TRA looks forward to providing readers with up-to-date industry news in one convenient location. Also watch the TRA website – [www.trinityra.org](http://www.trinityra.org) – for additional changes to the way readers can access *exTRA*. If you'd like to learn more about Scoop.it or *exTRA*, contact PID at [clarkm@trinityra.org](mailto:clarkm@trinityra.org) or [wittb@trinityra.org](mailto:wittb@trinityra.org).

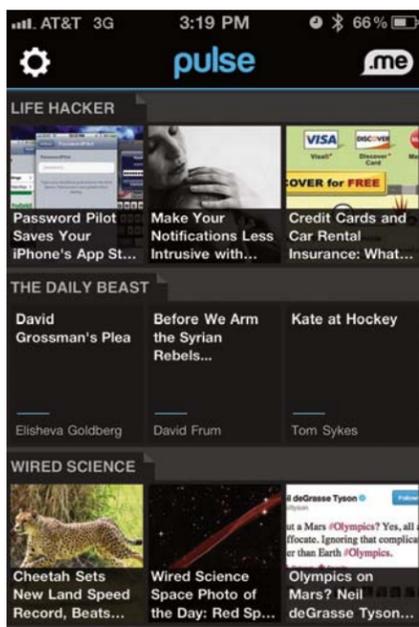
Use the following QR code to quickly access *exTRA* on your smartphone:



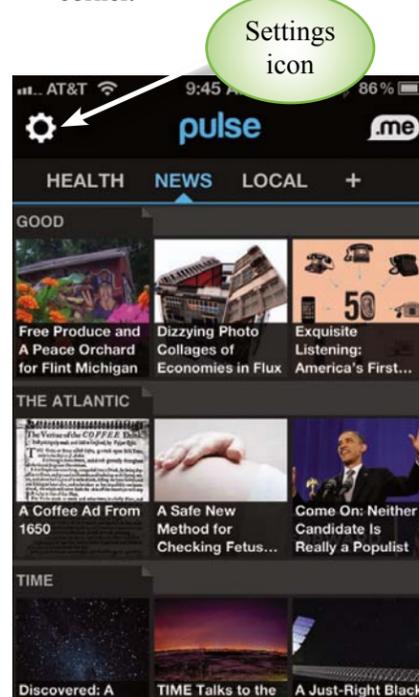
[www.scoop.it/t/traextra](http://www.scoop.it/t/traextra)

## Step-by-step instructions for using the Pulse News application

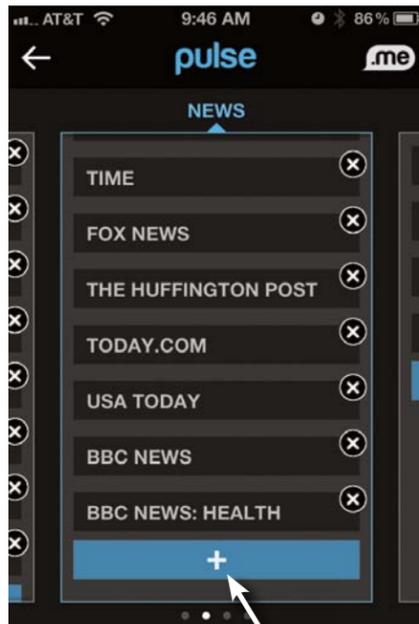
1. Open the Pulse News application on your iPhone or iPad. If you are a first-time user, you will see several pre-loaded publications.



2. Click the Settings icon (a sprocket) in the upper lefthand corner.



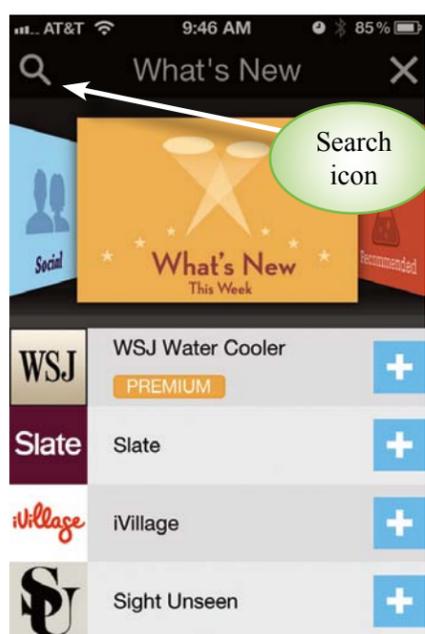
3. This opens the Edit Feed tab. From here you can add or delete different feeds. To add *exTRA*, click the plus sign at the bottom.



Click to add *exTRA*.

4. This will open the What's New screen. From this screen, you can browse through suggested news feeds and find your favorite newspapers, journals, magazines and entertainment topics.

To add a feed that is not listed under What's New or any of the other categories, click the search icon (magnifying glass) in the upper lefthand corner.



5. Type the URL [www.scoop.it/t/traextra](http://www.scoop.it/t/traextra) into the search bar. Click search icon.

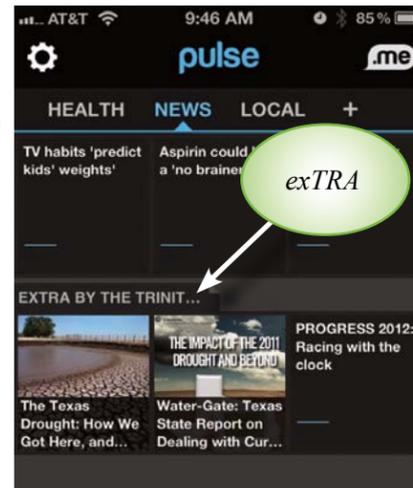


6. Scroll to the bottom of the page to find Web Results. This is where the *exTRA* feed will appear.

Click the plus sign next to the search result to add it. A check sign will appear in place of the plus sign. To exit, click Cancel in the top righthand corner. You will be taken back to the What's New screen. Click the X button in the top righthand corner. Now you will see the Edit Feed tab. Exit by hitting the left arrow button in the upper lefthand corner.



7. Now *exTRA* will appear in your news feed. To add or edit topics or feeds, simply repeat the procedure using the Settings button in the upper lefthand corner.



## Anniversaries

### 40 Years

Robert R. Stevens, assistant manager, SR

### 25 Years

Steven Wilson, chief operator, CRWS

### 10 Years

Daniel Robles, electronic technician II, CRWS

### 5 Years

Robert H. Gonzalez, maintenance mechanic II, CRWS

Herbert Gates, maintenance mechanic I, CRWS

Aaron K. Johnson, operator I, HRWSS

### 3 Years

Cora M. Burns, custodian, LLP

Ercel L. Landrus, operator I, LRWSS

# Planning and environmental management division's 2012 river study under way

For the third summer in a row, the Trinity River Authority's planning and environmental management division has embarked on a series of studies in an effort to gain a detailed understanding of the main stem of the Trinity River.

This year, Webster Mangham, TRA's manager of special studies and assessments, and Kelly McKnight, PEMD support technician, teamed with the Texas Water Development Board to establish four long-term monitoring sites in the river starting at Rosser,

Texas, and continuing downstream to a point near the headwaters of Lake Livingston. These benchmarks will be used to measure several physical characteristics of the river, including the geometry of the bottom and banks. Baseline measurements will be compared to those taken in the future to track changes over time.

"This study will be important for addressing the requirements of Senate Bill 3," said Glenn Clingenpeel, PEMD senior manager.

Senate Bill 3 is an effort to establish environmental flow standards to assure sufficient water to provide for a sound ecological environment in Texas streams, rivers, estuaries and bays.

Between July and October of this year, PEMD staff will also collect biological data in support of the Texas Instream Flow Program, a partnership among the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the TWDB. For this study, the team will determine the types and quantities of fish and other aquatic animals at six different sites between the East Fork of the Trinity River and Lake Livingston. They will also take water quality

measurements and observe habitat characteristics.

Data collected in two previous summer surveys of the Trinity River were used to design this year's study.

In 2010, PEMD completed a seven-day preliminary survey, gathering initial observations and measurements on two portions of the main stem of the Trinity River. From that data, they identified different types of habitats and developed a plan for conducting additional surveys.

In 2011, PEMD teamed with the TWDB and the TCEQ to collect a massive amount of data while navigating more than 300 river miles.



Webster Mangham, TRA's manager of special studies and assessments, right, and Kelly McKnight, PEMD support technician, head out to establish long-term monitoring sites on the main stem of the Trinity River.

## Mangham promoted to manager, special studies and assessments

Trinity River Authority Planning and Environmental Management Assistant Webster Mangham was recently promoted to manager of special studies and assessments for TRA's planning and environmental management division.

Mangham will administer consultant contracts and coordinate cooperative efforts among water agencies in the Trinity River basin. The position also requires heavy involvement with managing water

quality databases and reporting.

Mangham recently earned the 2012 Alan H. Plummer Environmental Sustainability Award from the Water Environment Association of Texas for making outstanding contributions in the field of environmental sustainability practices.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Central Oklahoma and a master's degree from the University of North Texas.

## Local amateur radio enthusiasts relax, fish at Wolf Creek Park

Twice a year, Wolf Creek Park welcomes the Sam Houston Amateur Radio Club for a week of fishing and fellowship. Approximately 30 members of the Shark Club camp and enjoy the amenities of the park each spring, and again in the fall, while six dedicated fisherman stay busy catching hundreds of catfish. The club caught approximately 300 catfish during a recent week-long stay at Wolf Creek Park, which culminated in a fish fry featuring the group's fresh-caught catfish and all the fixings.

The Shark Club is headquartered in Cleveland, Texas, with members throughout the East Texas region.

The park is a great place for group gatherings from family reunions to company picnics. The Kirby Inland Marina Outreach also hosted a fun-filled company picnic for employees and their families in late May featuring everything from a rappelling wall and clowns to a Cajun dinner complete with a crawfish boil, vegetables and corn on the cob.

The park staff also recently held a mid-week drawing for a Coleman stove and hosted two holiday coloring contests.

Park visitors are encouraged to follow park happenings and share photos on Facebook. By "Liking"

the page, visitors can receive updates from Wolf Creek Park through their individual Facebook news feeds.



[www.facebook.com/TRAWolfCreekPark](http://www.facebook.com/TRAWolfCreekPark)



Fishing is a favorite pastime for many Wolf Creek Park visitors. In this photo, Gage, 7, poses next to a 30-pound blue catfish caught in Lake Livingston. The lake is home to catfish, striped bass and other game fish.



A member of the Shark Club fishes off the bulkhead at Wolf Creek Park. The club caught approximately 300 catfish during a recent week-long stay.



The Shark Club's banner welcomes members to the group pavilion.



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*inTRA* is published by the Trinity River Authority's public information division for the Authority's valued employees, directors, consultants and other interested individuals. To request or submit information for publication, contact editor Debbie Bronson, public information assistant, at 817-467-4343 or [bronsond@trinityra.org](mailto:bronsond@trinityra.org).

## Participation needed in *inTRA* readership survey

TRA's public information division is committed to making sure that *inTRA* continues to meet the needs of its readership – but in order to do so, we need information from our audiences. In late August, TRA will publish an *inTRA* readership survey, and we ask for your participation.

The entire survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete, and it will yield valuable insight into reader needs and expectations. All answers will be anonymous and confidential, and the results will be used solely for research and evaluation purposes.

Readers may access the survey in several ways. First, if your email address is on file with TRA, you will receive an email including a direct link to the survey. Simply click on the hyperlink, and you will be directed through the survey process.

Or – readers may visit the TRA website at [www.trinityra.org](http://www.trinityra.org) and find in the Current News section a direct link to the survey.

If readers prefer, they also may type into their web browsers the direct address for the survey, which is provided below.

The survey will remain open through Friday, Sept. 14.



### Welcome to the *inTRA* readership survey!

*inTRA* is published by the Trinity River Authority's public information division for the Authority's valued employees, directors, consultants and other interested individuals. Please help TRA continue to make *inTRA* one of the most valuable stakeholder newsletters in our industry.

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. The survey is relatively short and should take you less than 10 minutes to complete. All responses are anonymous and will be used only for research purposes.

Click the button below to begin the survey.

START SURVEY

Find the Current News section at [www.trinityra.org](http://www.trinityra.org) for a direct link to the survey.

Access the survey at <http://www.cvent.com/d/2cq8fd>.