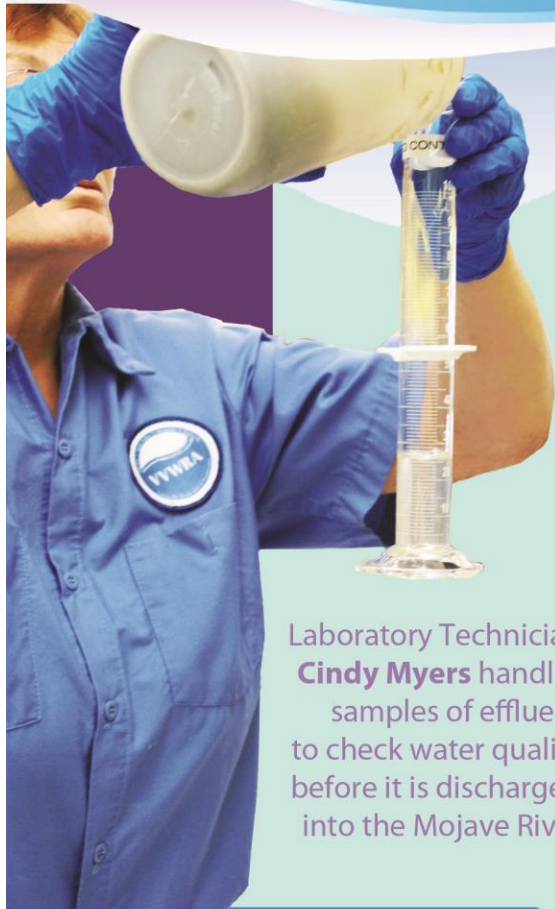




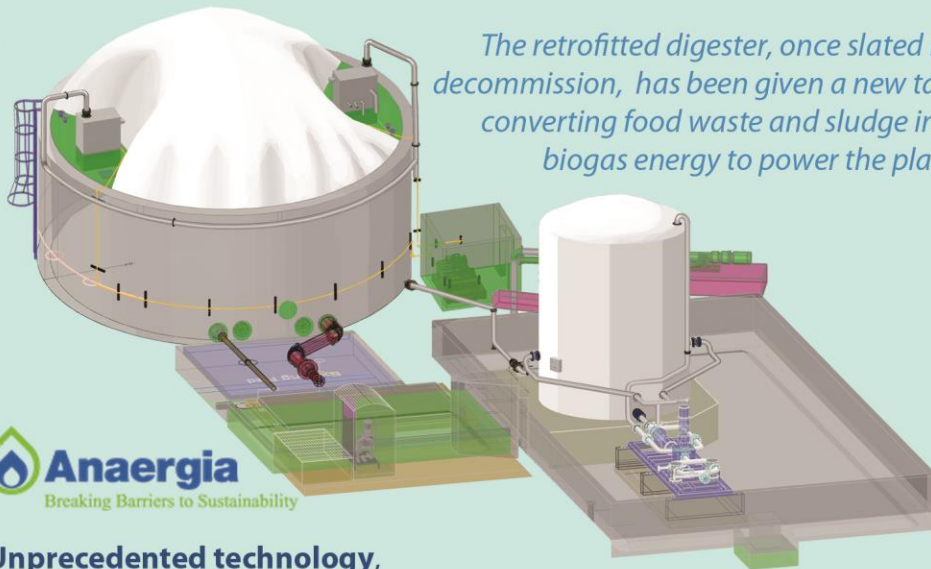
Purple Pipe

Volume 1 Winter 2014



Laboratory Technician **Cindy Myers** handles samples of effluent to check water quality before it is discharged into the Mojave River

The Omnivore Opportunity Energy Neutrality by 2015



The retrofitted digester, once slated for decommission, has been given a new task converting food waste and sludge into biogas energy to power the plant



Unprecedented technology, the first of its kind in North America will be making its debut Sep. 26th at our facility, and everyone is encouraged to join us in celebration. Energy neutrality is not only feasible, it's good business. "Why would we not want to recover the inherent energy in waste" states Logan Olds, VWRA General Manager, "we could offset rate increases by producing power". The Omnivore is a retrofit package that includes recuperative thickening and high solids mixing. It allows our retrofitted digester to process waste streams with solid content two to three times higher than conventional digesters. How is this accomplished?

By decoupling the solids retention time using proprietary mixing and recuperative thickening processes. Anaergia's Omnivore will utilize the biogas produced to generate thousands of megawatt hours of renewable electricity annually. This energy will be used on-site for plant operations, nearly eliminating dependence on outside energy utilities. (www.vvwra.com)

- Pg. 1 The Omnivore Opportunity**
- Pg. 2 General Manager Message
Certificate of Achievement
Board of Commissioners**
- Pg. 3 Subregionals
Upper Narrows Pipeline**
- Pg. 4 Safety Health and Wellness**
- Pg. 5 Employee Spotlight
"The Final Flush"**

RSVP for Sept. 26th
9 AM - 11 AM
Omnivore Ribbon Cutting
kbeyer@vwra.com

A Message from our General Manager

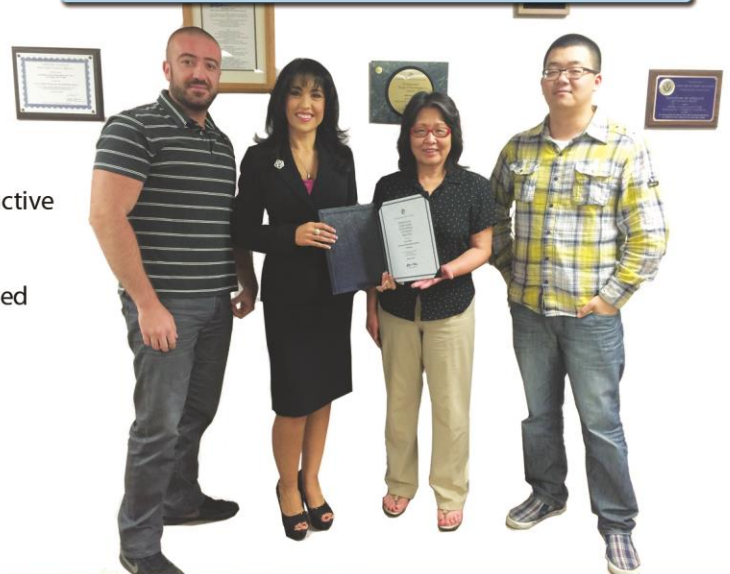


2014 is off with a bang! Many projects have achieved fruition that have been in the development stages for years. The Subregional Water Reclamation Plants in AppleValley and Hesperia are out to bid. In conjunction with that effort VVWRA will be receiving 12 million dollars in state and federal grant funds. Ultimately the success we are experiencing now is due to foresight in 2004 when the Subregionals were included in the first Integrated Regional Water Management Plan developed for our watershed by Mojave Water Agency. It is the sole reason behind 9 million dollars in grant funds from the California Department of Resources and the Federal Bureau of Reclamation. It exemplifies the importance of mutual

cooperation amongst state and federal agencies. I hope to see you and your family at our Omnivore Ribbon Cutting Event September 26th from 9am - 11am. Celebrate energy neutrality and saving 9 million dollars in energy costs!

Logan Olds, General Manager

Excellence in Financial Reporting Finance Department



Haik Seropian □ Angela Valles □ Chieko Keagy □ Xiwei Wang

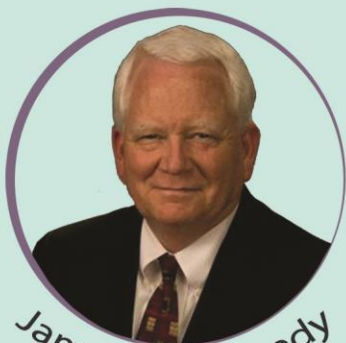
Achievement for Excellence Four Years in a Row

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. VVWRA has for the fourth year in a row achieved this recognition, demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story. VVWRA's comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) was judged by an impartial panel by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The Finance Department is overseen by Angela Valles, Director of Finance; lead by Chieko Keagy, Finance Supervisor; and made successful through Haik Seropian (Accounting Technician) and Xiwei Wang (Accountant)

Congratulations team on yet another significant accomplishment!

Board of Commissioners



James N. Kennedy
Treasurer
City of Victorville



Jeffrey Rigney
Vice Chair
County of San Bernardino



Russ Blewett
Chair
City of Hesperia



Scott Nassif
Secretary
Town of Apple Valley

Water Shortage? Not for long

Subregional Water Recycling Plants

VVWRA serves an arid region, receiving on average 6.3 inches of rainfall annually. However, this has not stemmed our community growth and water use. The escalating water crisis can be curtailed through innovative projects such as the Apple Valley and Hesperia Subregionals, which remove water from solids then work to treat the water to high-quality non-potable standards. This saves valuable fresh water for drinking and bathing, while substituting in recycled water for lawns, habitat restoration, groundwater recharge, industrial and other useful, non-potable applications.

Nearly \$12 million in grants and SRF loans have been secured to fund the construction of these facilities.

The Subregional Engineering and Bid Services was awarded to Carollo Engineers. The Construction Management Services bid was opened in early June and closed August 22nd. Construction groundbreaking is scheduled for November of 2014, and the plants are anticipated to be up and running by March of 2017.



Artist rendition of Apple Valley Subregional

Thank you Mojave Water Agency



Beverly Lowry (President of Mojave Water Agency) accepts VVWRA's award for MWA's continued support of Title 16 Grant funding for the Subregional Water Recycling Plants

Subregional Locations

Apple Valley

Southwest corner of Brewster Park

Hesperia

Palomino Ave. meets Mojave St.

Upper Narrows Pipeline Replacement Project

Following a major storm event in 2010, the main wastewater line in the Mojave River between the Upper Narrows was severely damaged. Within 8 days and with an unstoppable team VVWRA was able to create an emergency bypass. Since that time work has been underway to realign the pipe through the Upper Narrows utilizing state-of-the-art technology such as a micro-tunnel boring machine and horizontal directional drilling equipment. The contractor for this project is URS and the contract was awarded to J.W. Fowler. The majority of the \$38 million dollar project cost is being borne by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the California Office of Emergency Management, because the damage was declared an emergency. The Upper Narrows Pipeline Replacement Project is expected to be completed by January of 2015.



Safety *Health and Wellness*



Hey VVWRA team!

Remember your **Fire Safety Training** and please be sure to bring it home to your friends and family. Also, don't forget to change your smoke alarm batteries twice a year and test them annually. Fire safety starts with YOU!

Don't forget to nominate a co-worker for Safety Star of the Month
Each winner receives \$50 and is entered into the annual drawing for \$150
Not bad for playing it safe.

Nominate a Safety Star through Natalie Miramontes by visiting her office in the Administration Building

N. MIRAMONTES

Environmental Compliance &
Safety Administrative Aide

9/17 Safety Committee Meeting 11 - 12pm

9/18 2nd Annual Healthy High Desert Summit 7:30 - 12:30pm

9/23 - 9/25 2014 CWEA Tri-State Seminar

10/9 Southwest Gas Safety Awareness Seminar

10/15 Hazard Communication with GHS 8 - 11am

10/15 Safety Committee Meeting 11 - 12pm

10/22 Confined Space Entry Rescue Refresher 7:00 - 3:30pm

11/19 Safety Committee Meeting 11 - 12pm

contact Natalie at NMiramontes@vwra.com



Former Administrative Secretary **Pat Johnson** skillfully demonstrates the "PASS" procedure

Employee Spotlight - Bruce Correia

IS Coordinator
21 years at VVWRA
IT/SCADA expert
Certified Operator

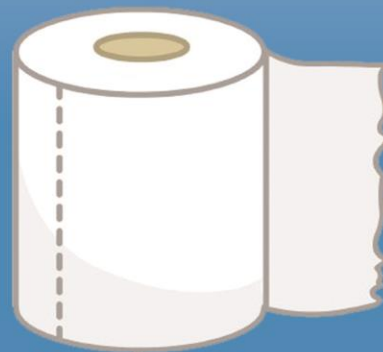
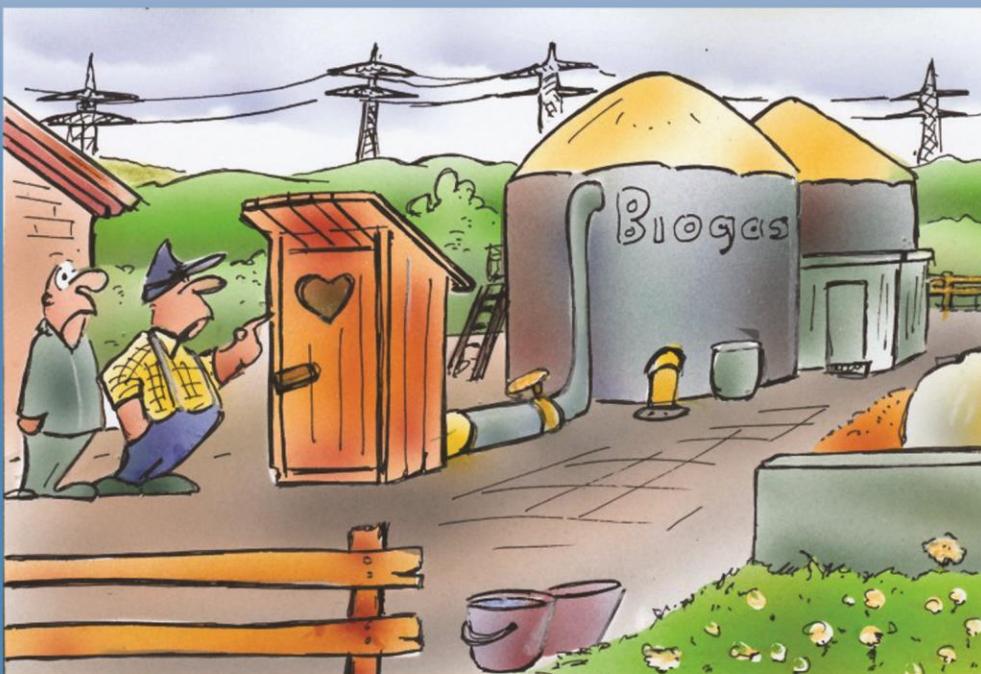
*"I have a job where
I make things
a little bit better
for people"*

Raised in central CA on a dairy farm, Bruce's first language was Portuguese. Bruce remembers back to the early days of the plant, when the workers would ride dirt bikes in the hills at the end of the day, play "monster ball" with a homemade hoop, and race RC boats in the percolation ponds. Bruce enjoys his job, crediting it with paying for his home and putting his children through college. In particular, he enjoys "not having to do the same thing every day" and is an invaluable asset to the plant, understanding SCADA technology from the inside out. Always there for a laugh and fatherly advice, Bruce reminds us to "listen to your instincts".

Bruce has been married to his best friend for 26 years. He enjoys street bikes, RC cars, planes, and helicopters, and is a fan of Japanese anime. Bruce is also a licensed ham radio operator



"The Final Flush"

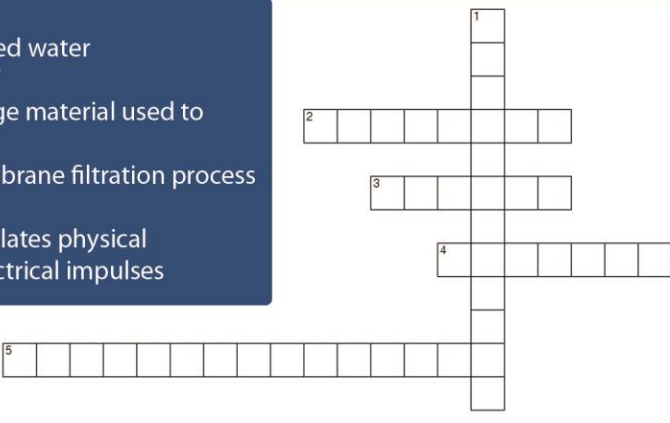


Across

2. Raw or partially treated water
3. also called "stringers"
4. A type of ion exchange material used to soften water
5. Pressure-driven membrane filtration process

Down

1. equipment that translates physical measurements into electrical impulses



"You count on the water departments to give you clean water, you can count on us to put clean water back into the ecosystem"

- Cindy Myers, Laboratory Technician