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Patricia Bailey retires after 30 years of service

Pat Bailey has retired from SVID after a distinguished career spanning 30 years. Pat's first job was at C. Speck Motors, a Chevrolet dealership in Sunnyside. No one knows for sure but it is widely held that is where she developed her interest in making money and driving fast cars.

She started her career at SVID on January 12, 1976 as an assistant to the bookkeeper. Within 10 years she moved up to office manager and Assistant Secretary for the Board. At the time of her retirement she held the title of Secretary / Treasurer and Assistant Manager –Administration. Her keen attention to detail made her an exceptional financial manager. Her inquisitive and innovative mind made her the perfect fit to provide the leadership in the field of information technology over the past 20 years.

She has been a trailblazer of sorts by providing leadership in a heretofore male dominated industry. She was elected to the board of directors of the Washington State Water Resources Association –the first woman to hold that distinction. Then she served as president of the association, the first and only woman to have that responsibility and honor. She has been a permanent fixture on the audit committee for the past 20 years.

Pat has also been the Secretary / Treasurer of the Yakima Basin Joint Board for the past several years as well as the Treasurer of the Roza-Sunnyside Board of Joint Control.

Pat and her devoted husband of 36 years, have two children and 4 grandchildren. She retired on March 10, 2006 and will move to San Diego, CA. She plans to stay in touch with the local area by continuing as the Secretary / Treasurer of the Yakima Basin Joint Board and will provide a few hours of assistance each week to the Sunnyside Division Board of Control.

Pat and her family were honored by co-workers, peers and friends at SVID on March 10th and in Yakima on March 18th.



Jim Trull, Patricia Bailey and Doug Simpson

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What is Acrolein?

The herbicide Acrolein will be injected into the Roza and Sunnyside Canals and several laterals during the 2006 irrigation season. Acrolein is an industry standard herbicide for ridding irrigation water of floating and submersed weeds and algae. Weeds and algae will choke the canal and laterals, and slow the flow of water. The weeds and algae break apart and clog the mechanical pumps, siphons, check structures and delivery boxes without chemical intervention. The Acrolein crews are highly trained in responsible application and safety methods. All applicators and their supervisors hold Public Operators Pesticide Licenses issued from the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

Direct contact at injection concentrations of Acrolein can be harmful to human health. Please obey the posted No Trespassing signs on the ditch roads. Roads along the canals, laterals, and drains are for RSBOJC personnel use. Do not allow your children or pets to swim in these waters. Thank you for your assistance in canal awareness safety.

Canals, Laterals and Deliveries?

Are you new to the Yakima Valley? The definitions and usage of the words canal, lateral, drain, and wasteway may be confusing. Canal refers to the Sunnyside Canal or the Roza Canal. The canals are the main conveyor of supply water from the Yakima River and are usually located on the elevated ground. This allows gravity to spill the irrigation water from the canal into the laterals. The Roza Canal system has 27,000 acres of pump laterals that provide water delivery above the Roza Canal. The laterals deliver water to individual or group delivery boxes. These boxes are made of concrete, and are marked with their delivery name. Laterals can be piped or are ditches that are either unlined or lined with shotcrete or clay.

The drains and wasteways are as important to the irrigation system as the canals and laterals. The drains collect and convey the ground and surface water from the irrigated fields and return this flow to the Yakima River. Roza and Sunnyside use joint drains to effectively return the flow via the Granger Drain, Sulphur Creek Wasteway, Spring Creek Wasteway, and Snipes Creek Wasteway. The Corral Creek Wasteway conveys the last portion of return flow from Roza Irrigation District.

Showman retires after 21 years of service



George Showman and Jim Trull

The unflappable George Showman retired from SVID after 21 years of service. George started work on March 26, 1984 as a heavy-duty mechanic leadman working with Milton Hagarty and Don Tucker. His various duties included equipment maintenance repair, field emergency repairs, and evaluation of used equipment for purchase.

George is described by Chris Gardner, Shop Manager, as, "calm under stress and extremely well liked." According to Chris, people will always remember the way he grunted instead of speaking thoughts; George's own unique language. Jim Trull describes how everyone received one of George's friendly waves and occasional hugs. Jim Trull presented George with a Plaque of Appreciation from the SVID Board of Directors for his service.

Roza Irrigation District 2005-2006 Winter Projects

Roza Irrigation District personnel had a busy winter season completing a variety of projects.

In a continuing effort to replace all open ditch and concrete piped laterals with fully enclosed conduit systems (ECS), the District had planned to lay approximately 10 miles of PVC pipe this past winter. A grant for \$300,000 was secured with the Bureau of Reclamation through their "Water 2025" program to offset the cost of the approximately \$1,000,000 project. But, about the time that materials were to be procured for the project, the devastating fall hurricanes of the Gulf Coast region disrupted resin supplies and drove up PVC pipe prices. The inflated pipe prices prompted District personnel to postpone much of the initial proposed project and reallocate funds to projects requiring very little PVC pipe. In the end this winter's ECS project consisted of replacing laterals 81.0, 84.9, 86.5, 86.8, 89.2, 90.2, 94.2, and 94.4 with 1.6 miles of PVC pipe. Eleven flowmeters were installed to serve 475.8 acres. Total project cost was \$360,000.

Another continuing project is to automate all existing check structures. These automated check structures enable more efficient operation of the main canal by constantly monitoring and maintaining set water levels and/or flow rates. The 2005 water season showed us the advantage of automation by allowing concise control to minimize fluctuation and to move water throughout the system while minimizing the use of spillways. This spring the District retrofitted three stop log check structures with Langemann gates that will soon be integrated with the District SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system. These include check structures at mile posts 70.6, 93.4, and 93.9. This is year four of a five year grant agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation where the Bureau is contributing \$40,000 per year to the installation of these check structures. The cost of this year's retrofits will come to about \$120,000.

A project that will save the District much money in overtime man hour costs in the years to come is adding automated sweeps to the pump intakes at the District pumping plants. Trash sweeps keep debris off of the grates to the pump intakes. This winter the District constructed and placed 3 trash sweeps at Pumps 7, 14, and 16 for a total cost of approximately \$60,000.

Another project involved reshaping 4 sections of earthen laterals. This will reduce water losses due to seepage and evaporation by tightening the ditch bottoms and reducing friction. These sections included 3 ½ miles of Pump 13 West, 3 miles of Pump 15 Low Right, 1 ½ miles of Pump 9A, and 1 ½ miles of Pump 8.

A final project was lining a section of the Roza Canal at mile post 94.7 to eliminate seepage.



70.6 Check Structure

House Bill 2860

Governor Christine Gregoire on February 16th signed into law the most significant water related legislation to pass the Legislature in over a decade. Water users and conservationists have been battling over water rights for the Columbia and its tributaries, with one side seeking more water for communities and commerce while the other fights for sufficient water for threatened fish runs. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2860 provides for a new management program for the mainstem of the Columbia River, but also includes a new Columbia River Basin Water Supply Development Account, backed by \$200 million in new bonding authority. The new funding authority will be available for water supply and conservation projects throughout the entire Columbia River Basin, encompassing all of Eastern Washington.

The bill was an outgrowth of the Locke Administration's Columbia River Initiative which the outgoing Governor left on the Legislative doorstep as he was leaving office. The Legislature and the new Governor were not ready to endorse Locke's policy proposal, but did fund some of the projects that were part of the proposal. They also agreed to continue the discussion and a Columbia River Task Force consisting of eight Legislators, two from each caucus met over the past summer to seek agreement. Senator Jim Honeyford and Representatives Bruce Chandler and Dan Newhouse, all of the 15th District, were part of the Task Force. All sides in the debate were committed to finding an acceptable solution and with the input from stakeholders were able to hammer out a bill that passed the House 94-4 and the Senate 48-0.

The bill provides funding authority for development of new water storage, implementing water conservation projects and any other actions designed to provide access to new water supply within the entire Columbia River basin. When new storage is built 2/3 of the water is designated for out of stream uses and 1/3 is retained to address instream needs.

The Department of Ecology is authorized to enter into voluntary regional agreements with groups seeking new water right from the Columbia River mainstem in exchange for mitigation efforts.

Ecology will also compile data on Columbia River water use and potential supply and conservation projects to allow better management of the system.

This bill has potential benefits to the Roza Irrigation District and the Sunnyside Division. The new \$200 million bond package will be available for storage projects as well as conservation projects to better cope with water shortages in drought years. This will replace the now depleted Referendum 38 funding source that the Districts have relied on since 1980 for a number of projects.



Welcome Jerry Haak

Roza Irrigation District welcomes Jerry Haak, the newest member appointed to the Board of Directors. Jerry has farmed in the Sunnyside area since 1986 and grows apples, pears, and cherries on his farm near Outlook. Jerry was named to the Roza Irrigation Board when his cousin Larry Haak resigned after the sale of his ranch. Board members must be landowners within the district to serve on the board. Jerry plans to run for election when his current appointed term expires this December.

Ordering Water - 2006 Procedure

Ordering water from Roza and Sunnyside Valley Irrigation Districts is an automated process.

The land assessment must be paid in full for the 2006 season for water delivery. Ditch riders will not deliver water to parcels with delinquent accounts. For Roza irrigators, if land that is owned and/or leased is more than 240 acres the appropriate RRA forms need to be completed. Check your account by using the automated service phone numbers listed in the box below. The land parcel number is required and is located above your name on both Roza and SVID billing statements. The parcel number is normally the same number as the Yakima and Benton County tax number. The automated system will supply the account balance owed plus the interest for the past three years.

Roza and SVID Automated Phone Order Process:

Place your water order by calling any of the numbers listed in the order box below. The paper directions for using the automated water ordering system may be picked up from Roza or Sunnyside's offices or downloaded from the website at: <http://www.svid.org> or at <http://www.roza.org>. Click on water ordering information.

Email Ordering for Roza:

Roza users may email your water orders:

- The Upper End to upperend@roza.org,
 - The Middle Division to middledivision@roza.org,
 - The Lower End at lowerend@roza.org.
- Roza provides a broadcast email containing their latest water information updates to those users who call the main office and submit their email addresses.

SVID Website Water Ordering:

SVID users may complete a form and order water on the website at http://www.svid.org/order_water.htm

For SVID Only: parcels within the City limits of Prosser, Grandview, and Zillah:

Contact your local irrigation provider before 4:00 p.m. the day before the desired delivery date. Contact numbers are: Prosser 786-7300, Grandview 882-9211, and Zillah 829-5151. The local irrigation provider will then contact SVID to order water on for your parcel.

Coming soon....Roza Water Ordering on the Website:

Account Information and Placing Water Orders will be available on our website within the next few weeks: www.roza.org/water_orders.htm

If you would like more information about this website ordering please do not hesitate to call SVID at 837-6980 or Roza at 837-5141.

Roza-Sunnyside Account Information/ Water Order Numbers:

837-8611, 837-5040, 837-2223, 837-3115,
854-1540, 882-4343, 877-2122, 588-5521.

Water Supply

The June, 2006 water supply is looking positive for a good irrigation season for both Roza and Sunnyside Irrigation Districts. Of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's five reservoirs of Keechelus, Kachess, Cle Elum, Bumping, and Rimrock, four are at, near, or over 100% capacities. Kachess is at 70% capacity.

The precipitation for the five reservoirs from October 1 to June 20 is 215" or 103% of average. Inflow to the five is 1400 KAF for 91% of average and release from the five is 536 KAF and is 71% of average.

The NRCS Snotel sites for the Upper Yakima Basin are reporting 40% (without two sites) and the Lower Basin sites are reporting 126% of average snow pack.

From June 21, 2006: www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakstats.html

On-Farm Loan Program

The Fall RSBOJC Update detailed the On-Farm Irrigation Conversion Loan Program. The Department of Ecology provides low-interest loan funds to growers who want to convert their rill irrigation to Best Management Practice (BMP) irrigation. BMP methods are drip irrigation, solid set sprinklers, micro-spray, center pivots, or linear moves. The funds can also be used for building pump back systems.

The On-Farm Loan Program offers borrowing a maximum of \$1,200 per acre at a 1% interest rate with a four-year repayment cycle. The yearly payments are included in the landowner's annual irrigation assessments.

These projects ultimately improve the water quality and decrease the quantity of irrigation return flows.

For more information or to apply for the On-Farm Loan, please contact Theresa Johnson, Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District (SVID) at (509) 837-6980 or Wayne Sonnichsen, Roza Irrigation District (RID) Engineer at (509) 837-5141. RSBOJC encourages all landowners currently using rill irrigation to take advantage of the loan program. In recent years, the two Districts have administered approximately \$8.5 million in loans.

Irrigation Districts Awarded Two Risk Management Grants

Last December RSBOJC Safety and Health Coordinator Timothy King wrote two grant requests offered through the Cities Insurance Association of Washington. Canfield and Associates is the insurance pool administrator for both irrigation districts' property and liability insurance coverage as well as this grant program's administrator. The first week of March, Tim was notified by Canfield that both requests for Education Training Grant money had been approved.

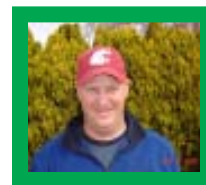
The grant money will be used to purchase supplemental video training materials used during SVID's annual Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad-Contractor Safety Orientation given to Equipment Operators and Crew Lead men. And for tuition to enable Tim to attend an Evergreen Safety Council certification course in July to become certified as an EverSafe® Defensive Driving Instructor. This certification will benefit both Roza and SVID.

New Ditch Riders

The Roza Irrigation District's Chris Culver is Beat 2 Ditch Rider. Ditch Rider Aaron Wiederspohn switched Beat 2 to Beat 9 and Dave Rollinger switched Beat 9 to Beat 1. The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District has two new ditch riders: Dana Schilperoort on Beat 5 and Brandon Walker on Beat 8. Specific segment locations on canals and laterals are beats.



Chris Culver-beat 2



Dave Rollinger-beat 1



Aaron Wiederspohn-beat 9



Dana Schilperoort-beat 5



Brandon Walker-beat 8

Happy 100th Birthday



HISTORY OF THE SUNNYSIDE PROJECT

The Sunnyside Division celebrated its 100th birthday late last year. The United States Reclamation Service – later to be known as the Bureau of Reclamation - purchased the Sunnyside Canal system from the Washington Irrigation Company. The Sunnyside Division was the first unit of the Yakima Project developed under the Reclamation Act of 1902, with the initial federal appropriation being authorized by the Secretary of the Interior on December 12, 1905. The company was serving about 40,000 acres of irrigable land at the time of purchase.

The construction of the Sunnyside Canal began in the fall of 1890 by the Northern Pacific and Yakima Irrigation Company. By March of 1892, the canal was completed to a point several miles below Zillah, to Alexander Road east of Sunnyside in 1894; and to Hinzerling Road north of Prosser in the period 1901 to 1906. In addition, the first nine miles of Snipes Lateral, and the Rocky Ford Lateral serving the area west of Grandview were built in 1892 - 93.

The Sunnyside Water Users' Association was organized March 10, 1906. The Reclamation Service took over operation of the Sunnyside Canal system in 1907 and on January 22, 1917, the Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District was organized. The system was operated by the United States until 1945 at which time the common carriage facilities were transferred to a Board of Control. The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District took over operation of the canal system and district works on March 1, 1945. The distribution system of Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District was also transferred to the District. The smaller districts continued to be operated by their respective organizations.

The Roza-Sunnyside Board of Joint Control (RSBOJC) publishes the **RSBOJC UPDATE** biannually for landowners. All articles, letters and other items submitted to RSBOJC for use in its landowner newsletter become the property of RSBOJC which is authorized to use any item submitted, without payment or compensation to the person submitting the item, in any newsletter or other publication of RSBOJC. RSBOJC reserves the right to edit all items submitted. Mike Miller, Chairman; Doug Simpson, Vice-Chairman; Robert Golob, Ric Valicoff, Jerry Haak, Mike Hogue, Dave Michels, David Minick, Ernie Charvet, Helen Darr, Steve Smith, Jim Willard, Directors. Officers: Ron Van Gundy, Secretary; Lori Brady, Treasurer. Address comments to: Elaine Brouillard, Editor, P.O. Box 239, Sunnyside, WA 98944.