Winter 2024, Volume 15, No. 1



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Alabama AGC Attends NCLC in D.C.

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INSIDE: 2023s Top 40 Under 40 in Construction

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ON THE COVER: (LEFT TO RIGHT) ALABAMA AGC PRESIDENT ROB MIDDLETON, JILL MIDDLETON, ALABAMA AGC LOBBYIST TRACE ZARR, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JERRY CARL (R - 01, MOBILE).

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Billy Norrell, Chief Executive Officer, Alabama Associated General Contractors

A recent trip to Washington, D.C. with Alabama AGC president Rob Middleton proved to be extremely impactful, as we were able to secure several meetings with members of the Alabama Congressional Delegation. It is extremely important that we continue to maintain this relationship between industry and our political leadership.

Your Association is on the Move

Temperatures are starting to cool off, but that's not the case for the construction industry. We are blessed in Alabama with a robust industry that is fed by a healthy economy, despite the national challenges on the political and inflationary fronts.

Our membership recently received an economic forecast from AGC of America chief economist, Ken Simonson. Ken projects a continued robust and healthy industry for the foreseeable future, and Alabama is proving that to be the case. As we continue to gather and review economic data and projections, we will always share it with the industry so members can make informed decisions on the future of their company.

We recently honored another class of the 40 Under 40 in Construction, our sixth. Thanks go out to Business Alabama and the companies that submit these outstanding individuals to be recognized as leaders in our industry. The event is always well attended, and it is the pleasure of Alabama AGC to let these future leaders in construction know how much we appreciate what they mean to the industry and our association. They will be the future of Alabama AGC.

Work zone safety efforts continue and our own Morris King, with Vulcan Materials and his sweet labrador retriever, Millie, are making the rounds visiting elementary schools throughout the state discussing the importance of paying attention while driving and not being distracted behind the wheel. It is a great message to the children, as Morris encourages them to watch their parents as they are passengers in the car with them and call them out if they see them using their phone while driving. This presentation is a tremendous hit with elementary school-aged children and they love interacting with Millie. The message that Morris sends them is extremely important. Thank you Morris and Millie for being great leaders representing Alabama AGC.

A recent trip to Washington, D.C. with Alabama AGC president Rob Middleton proved to be extremely impactful, as we were able to secure several meetings with members of the Alabama Congressional Delegation. Rob, your lobbyist, Trace Zarr, and I spent a couple of days in our Nation's capital interacting with other chapter leaders from around the country and making personal visits with Congressional members and their staff. It is extremely important that we continue to maintain this relationship between industry and our political leadership. I am grateful for Rob and the amount of time he has volunteered this year as president. He made it a point to visit the various sections throughout the state and talk with area leaders about his role in Alabama AGC, and theirs. I hope you all consider offering your time to serve in a leadership role at Alabama AGC. It is very rewarding, and our tremendous staff will make it easy for you to continue running your company while serving as an industry leader in our great organization.

As always, if you have friends in the business, and they aren't a part of Alabama AGC, please encourage them to take a look. We are a great return on your investment dollar and continue to offer member discounts to all who participate, to the point where, with a little effort, you can cover the cost of your dues. Thank you for all you do for Alabama AGC and for your support of the construction industry.



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Alabama AGC Attends National Chapter Leadership Conference

September 17-19, 2023 | Washington, D.C.

By Billy Norrell, CEO, Alabama AGC

feature

AGC of America hosts its annual National Chapter Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. every September, and Alabama AGC is a consistent participant in this great event. Alabama AGC sends its chapter president, CEO, and lobbyist to the event to interact with our nation's elected officials and the Alabama Congressional Delegation.

This year we heard presentations from nationally recognized pollsters, AGC of America staff, and Members of Congress. We met with Alabama's elected officials including Senator Katie Britt, Congressman Dale Strong, Congressman Jerry Carl, Congressman Robert Aderholt, and staff members representing Congressman Barry Moore, Congressman Gary Palmer and Congressman Mike Rogers.

We are extremely grateful for the strong relationship that our Alabama congressional delegation has with the construction industry. We look forward to inviting these elected officials to tour our job sites throughout the state and learn more about what an important economic engine the construction industry is to Alabama.











Congratulations to the Class of 2023 Top 40 Under 40 in Construction

ALAGC Celebrates This Year's Outstanding Industry Leaders

This September, Alabama AGC members gathered at Back Forty Beer Company for the sixth annual *Top Forty Under Forty* event, honoring Alabama's future leaders in the construction industry. Presented in collaboration with Business Alabama, this award recognizes standout achievements and endeavors of the individuals who will chart the future course of Alabama's construction industry.

"Alabama AGC is excited to celebrate the next generation of leadership with this unique event. Bringing families and businesses together to recognize the future of Alabama AGC and the construction industry is special and we are proud to lead the way. We can't say enough good things about the members of this class and their importance to the future of this great industry," said Alabama AGC President Rob Middleton.



- 1. Joseph Antinarella Ammons & Blackmon Construction LLC
- 2. Eric Baker Rabren General Contractors
- 3. CJ Barker S&S Sprinkler
- 4. Sarah-Ashley Boling Crucible Construction
- 5. Preston Bray Wiregrass Construction Co.
- 6. Thomas Cochran Threaded Fasteners
- 7. Will Crosby Corporate Office Properties Trust
- 8. Devin Donnell Wiregrass Construction Co.
- 9. Brandon Donoghue C&H Construction Services LLC
- 10. Alexandra Dubose Express Employment Professionals
- 11. Kevin Edmondson Building & Earth Sciences Inc.
- 12. Drew Ellis Caddell Construction
- 13. Junnie Ellis McInnis Construction LLC
- 14. David Esfeller Esfeller Construction Co. Inc.
- 15. Josh Garrett Garrett Contracting
- 16. Casey Gedgoudas Dunn Building Company
- 17. Daniel Haas Rogers & Willard Inc.
- 18. Austin Halfmann Hurst Construction LLC
- 19. Thomas L. Haring Hargrove Engineers & Constructors
- 20. Jacob Johnston Martin & Cobey

- 21. Matt Kirkland T.E. Stevens Company Inc.
- 22. Jeff Krogsgard Brasfield & Gorrie
- 23. Clay Kyzar BL Harbert International
- 24. Blake Lamont John G. Walton Construction Company Inc.
- 25. Chase Malone Davison Fuels & Oil
- 26. David Marsh ECS Southeast LLP
- 27. Lauren Marsh Ridgeline Construction Roofing & Exteriors
- 28. Drew McKibben McCord Contract Floors Inc.
- 29. Jacob Odom Doster Construction Company
- 30. Chad Patterson Brasfield & Gorrie
- 31. Andrew Peter Ben M. Radcliff Contractor Inc.
- 32. Joshua Price Turner Insurance & Bonding Co.
- 33. Rivers Price Brasfield & Gorrie
- 34. Devin Roberson United Rentals
- 35. Mason Rollins Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP
- 36. Tyler Schnell Doster Construction Company
- 37. Tyler Smith Whaley Construction Company Inc.
- 38. W. Andrew Smith Midsouth Paving Inc.
- 39. Samuel Southard Rolin Construction
- 40. Jamison Taylor Caddell Construction























2024 ALABAMA AGC BUILDSouth Awards Open for Entries

Don't wait to submit your entries for Alabama AGC's BUILDSouth Awards! Entries are due by JANUARY 11, 2024.

> These awards recognize... The year's best projects Excellence in industry safety Community development initiatives Today's leaders of your association ...And more!

The competition is open to all Alabama AGC full and specialty contractor members. Criteria should cover:

- State-of-the-art advancement
- Project management
- Innovation in construction techniques or materials
- Client service
- Community relations
- Environmental sensitivity
- Partnering excellence

Safety record

Winners will be notified by March 4, 2024.

Join your association peers at Alabama AGC's BUILDSouth Awards dinner honoring our winners: April 25, 2024, at The Club.

For more information, visit https://alagc.org or contact annab@alagc.org.

Weathering the Storm How to Navigate Safety Incidents

Mason C. Rollins, David W. Owen, and John W. Hargrove -Bradley

What do you do when you have a safety incident on a job? Are you prepared? This article will focus on some things to consider if you have a safety incident.

Assistance

The No. 1 priority should be to safely assist anyone that has been injured if you can. Time can be of the essence when safety events occur. You may need to call 911 depending on the circumstances. Do not wait for someone else to call 911. You may need to administer first aid. As long as you can do so safely, you should also attempt to prevent any further injuries to anyone else and remove the unsafe situation. Depending on the circumstance, you may want to notify an emergency contact of the injured person to make them aware of the safety incident.

OSHA

OSHA laws are tricky and may require reporting of the safety incident. You should immediately begin to consider whether you must report a safety incident to OSHA or some other entity. OSHA requires employers to report fatalities within eight hours of the incident. OSHA also requires employers to report any loss of an eye, hospitalization, or amputation within 24 hours of the incident. Other reportable incidents include work-related injuries or illnesses that result in loss of consciousness, days away from work, restricted work, or transfer to another job. Depending on the size of your company, it might be required to maintain and post records of injuries. Internal risk managers and counsel may be able to help you navigate the OSHA rules, regulations, and landmines of reporting safety incidents. OSHA requires employers to report fatalities within eight hours of the incident. OSHA also requires employers to report any loss of an eye, hospitalization, or amputation within 24 hours of the incident.

Contract

Your contract may require you to notify an upstream party of a safety incident within a certain amount of time. Some contracts may identify safety issues as grounds for termination. You should always review and be mindful of the safety provisions in your contracts at the contracting stage and when an incident occurs.

Documentation

You should be aware that documents created related to a safety incident could be used as evidence in disputes. A good rule of thumb is to provide facts when you need to. Avoid opinions or speculation.

Insurance

In the event of a workplace injury, you may be required to submit a claim to your insurance carrier within a certain amount of time to avoid losing coverage. Some insurance policies require you to make a claim within certain amount of time. Some injuries can manifest well after a safety incident occurs that could result in a higher cost than expected. Workers' compensation insurance will be an obvious part of this process, which is governed by state law and the insurance policy. Typically, completing a First Report of Injury and providing medical care are the first steps. Not only can workers' compensation pay for medical bills, it can also provide weekly compensation benefits if the employee cannot work. There are also death benefits that are provided to dependents. There are some exceptions to workers' compensation paying benefits to an injured employee, such as willful misconduct of the employee or an employee's intoxication from alcohol or use of illegal drugs.

Retrospect

When a safety event occurs, evaluate your safety procedures and other ways to prevent injuries from occurring again. Safety standdowns can be helpful to help prevent further injuries. You may be required to offer safety training, assign a safety risk manager to the project, or request employee feedback on ways to make the

When a safety event occurs, evaluate your safety procedures and other ways to prevent injuries from occurring again. Safety stand-downs can be helpful to help prevent further injuries. construction workplace safer. Consider running periodic safety audits related to the jobsite and equipment.

Safety requires a proactive approach and a plan, which is important to every project.

About the Authors

David Owen has 30 years of experience in the construction and engineering industries. He serves as the Practice Group Leader for Bradley's Construction Practice Group.

Mason Rollins is a Senior Associate in Bradley's Construction Practice Group, representing general contractors, subcontractors, owners, architects, and engineers related to the many issues that may arise in the construction industry.

John Hargrove is a partner in Bradley's Birmingham office. He has been chair of the Labor and Employment Practice Group for 15 years and is a Fellow in the American College of Labor and Employment Lawyers and the American Bar Foundation.

About Bradley

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U.S. Construction Outlook: Lively, Level, or Lackluster?

Key Points from AGC of America's Latest Industry Report

According to a November 2023 presentation by Ken Simonson, Chief Economist for AGC of America, signs are positive for the construction industry's growth, despite ongoing challenges in areas such as labor and material costs. Here, we delve into the medium-term and long-term prospects of the construction sector, drawing from the latest insights provided by AGC of America.

ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE AND MEDIUM-TERM PROJECTIONS

In our focused look ahead, the construction industry's medium-term future shows promising signs of economic recovery, yet the specter of recession looms. Homebuilding is on the cusp of a steady revival, setting the pace for residential construction's comeback.

Market Segment Trends

A mixed bag awaits various market segments: multifamily housing, warehouses, retail spaces, office buildings, and lodgings are bracing for a slowdown due to the uptick in interest rates. In contrast, the sectors of data center and manufacturing construction are expected to continue their robust growth.

Legislative Impacts

Groundbreaking legislation, including the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, the

"Chips" Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act, promises a substantial uplift to several construction sectors. Yet, the flow of funds to actual construction activity is predicted to be a slow stream, with regulatory and policy stipulations potentially delaying project kick-offs.

Costs and Labor Challenges

There's a silver lining with materials costs and lead times generally improving, except for some tech-specific components. However, labor availability has re-established itself as the chief hurdle for contractors, underscoring a pressing industry challenge.

LONG-TERM INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

As we extend our gaze further into the future, the industry's long-term outlook suggests that labor scarcity will be a persistent issue, more so than material costs or supply chain disruptions.

Demographic Shifts and Construction Demand

With the nation experiencing a deceleration in population growth, the industry faces a dual challenge: a smaller workforce and a moderated pace in demand growth, affecting construction needs across educational sectors.

Shifting Construction Needs

The shifting tides of consumer behavior are leading to a permanent migration from traditional retail to e-commerce, influencing the construction of distribution structures. Health care is moving towards more specialized digital facilities, with a reduced need for conventional hospitals and nursing homes.

Energy and Infrastructure Evolution

The landscape is ripe for growth in renewable energy infrastructure, with wind, solar, and energy storage facilities gaining ground, alongside the surge in related manufacturing.

Uncertain Futures

The office space market faces uncertainty, with questions about decentralization or continued reduced demand. Moreover, the recent trends in urban-to-rural migration and interstate moves are being closely monitored for their lasting impact.

For those seeking a deeper understanding of the construction landscape, the full report and additional survey references are accessible at www.agc.org/learn/construction-data/ resources.





Change in construction spending: September 2023 vs. September 2022 AGC Year-over-year % change in current (not inflation-adjusted) dollars, seasonally adjusted Total construction 996 **Private residential** -2% Nonresidential 18% Manufacturing 62% Education 19% Power 16% Health care 15% Highway and street 1096



2023 AGC of America/Autodesk Workforce Survey results: Difficulty filling positions—share of respondents that report:

Office

Commercial

Transportation



Additional Economic Resources from AGC of America:

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- *Data DIGest*: weekly 1-page email (subscribe at http://store. agc.org)
- Surveys (2023 Workforce Survey: https://www.agc.org/ news/2023/09/06/new-surveyshows-significant-flaws-nationsapproach-preparing-workersconstruction-careers-and-how)
- State and metro data, fact sheets: www.agc.org/learn/ construction-data
- Monthly press releases: construction spending; producer price indexes; national, state, metro employment with rankings: https://www.agc.org/newsroom
- Construction impact model: https://www.agc.org/ agc-construction-impact-model
- ConsensusDocs Price Escalation Resource Center: https:// www.consensusdocs.org/ price-escalation-clause/

Data in graphs produced by Ken Simonson and AGC of America. Sources include U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, and the 2023 AGC of America/Autodesk Workforce Survey; 1401 total respondents.



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Association Highlights

Recaps & Snapshots

ALABAMA AGC NEWS

Alabama AGC Attends National Chapter Leadership Conference

ALAGC was pleased to send chapter representatives, lobbyists and its CEO to AGC of America's annual National Chapter Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. The event, held September 17-19, was an invaluable opportunity to interact with our nation's elected officials and the Alabama Congressional Delegation. (Full story on pg. 10 of this issue.)





"No Phones in the Cone Zone" at Area Elementary Schools

ALAGC's Morris King and his trusty sidekick, Millie the Work Zone Safety Dog, visited six schools this fall to give a special safety presentation designed for elementary students. "No Phones in the Cone Zone" included everything from traffic cones and construction signs to large safety equipment. Students had the opportunity to learn about

the dangers of distracted driving in work zones in a fun and interactive format. All students received a copy of Millie's Work Zone Safety coloring book and "Lessons from Millie" trading card. The presentation was made possible through a partnership between the ALAGC, Millie the Work Zone Safety Dog, the Alabama Department of Transportation, and the Alabama Law Enforcement Association.



Ladies Insurance Appreciation Luncheon an Inspiration

Alabama AGC is thankful to all of the wonderful women who attended our Ladies Insurance Appreciation Luncheon in September. Their friendship and camaraderie continue to inspire all those who work in this industry!



Association Highlights

SECTION NEWS

Birmingham Section Members Enjoy Sun and Fun on the **Golf Course**

Many thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors and attendees of the Birmingham Section's Golf tournament on October 23rd. A fun day was had by all!



Dothan Section Shoots and Scores

Alabama AGC's Dothan Section had a fantastic time at their inaugural Clay Shoot on October 12th. Thanks to all who participated!



Alabama East Section Enjoys Some Friendly Competition

Alabama AGC East Section members had a great time at the CLC Joint Clay Shoot at Civilian Marksmanship Park in Talladega, AL. Thanks to all who made this another memorable event!





Montgomery Section Hears from Mayor Gordon Stone

It was a pleasure having Town of Pike Road Mayor, Gordon Stone, speak to ALAGC's Montgomery Section members in late August. The mayor discussed the tremendous growth over the last twenty years as well as current and future projects happening in the ever-evolving town.



Association Highlights

MEMBER NEWS

Brasfield & Gorrie Holds First Impact Week

PHOTOS AND INFORMATION COURTESY OF BRASFIELD & GORRIE Brasfield & Gorrie held its firstever Impact Week this fall. Sharing the update, Brasfield & Gorrie said, "From Miami to Raleigh to Dallas, our teams across our footprint volunteered with nonprofit organizations, donated supplies, and helped create a meaningful impact in our communities. It was a special week getting involved and reinforcing our purpose of building strong communities."







Robins & Morton Field Superintendent Mentors Next Generation of Industry Leaders

Robins & Morton recently highlighted the inspirational work that team member George Butler is doing to bring awareness to careers in construction.

"Robins & Morton Field Superintendent George Butler is working to mentor high school students who are interested in future careers in the architecture, construction, and engineering industry. George spends time each week with students as part of the ACE Mentor Program of Greater Tampa Bay, discussing various topics and brainstorming ideas for class projects. His experience in healthcare construction allows him to make students more aware of the processes associated with building those types of spaces. We're thrilled when we see our team members like George inspiring the next generation of industry professionals!"

Doster Construction Company Marches for Children's Hospital

Doster Construction continued its tradition of giving back this fall by participating in Children's of Alabama's Pre-Thanksgiving Day Parade. Sharing an update with followers, the company described their experience as rewarding and impactful.

"The parade helps patients and their families create special memories despite not being home to celebrate the holiday. Floats and balloons marched through inpatient units, and patients view the parade right from the doorway of their rooms or tune in to the live broadcast from their beds." Kudos to Doster Construction for bringing cheer and encouragement to children and families facing challenging circumstances over the holidays!





Honoring the Legacy of Thornton Stanley, Sr.

Stanley Construction Company, Inc. is deeply saddened by the passing of Thornton Stanley, Sr., President and Founder of Stanley Construction Company. Thornton founded the company in 1961, and was an active participant in the North Alabama site construction, road building, and cattle farming communities until his health started to fade. Speaking in his memory, the company noted: "A mentor to many and friend to all that he met, Thornton's legacy was cemented by his work ethic, can do attitude, and belief that everyone deserved the opportunity to work to better the lives of their family."

PHOTO AND INFORMATION COURTESY OF STANLEY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.



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