

To: **Jamie Grimmer**, son of Grimmer Realty Co.'s Park Grimmer, on obtaining his Eagle Scout badge.

To: **Scott Kirkpatrick**, of Tom James Clothiers, on the birth of his first child, Will, on October 26th.

To: *The Pennington Group's* **Corey Weaver** for being a cover boy in the Birmingham Business Journal's November 14th issue.

To: **Meade Silsbee & Martin Smith** of Retail Specialists and **J.R. Bertram** of Grandbridge Real Estate Capital on recently earning their CCIM designation.

To: Brice Building Company's **Michael Waller** & his wife Holly on the birth of their first child, Leyton Camille Waller, on 9/15/08.

To: **Elbert Boothby** on being named CPM of the Year by the local IREM chapter.

To: **Chip Watts** of Watts Realty Co. on being named the 2008 Realtor of the Year by the Birmingham Association of Realtors.

To: Brasfield & Gorrie's **Wes Talley** on the birth of his new baby girl, Alex Ann, on October 7th.

To: Balch & Bingham's **Chris Still** for being included in the 2009 edition of "The Best Lawyers in America."

To: Graham & Co.'s **Dan Lovell, Walter Brown & Ogden Deaton** on the big sale of the former AmSouth Op Center to O'Neal Steel.

# THE TRUITT NEWS

THE OFFICIAL SKINNY FROM TRUITT INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

HOLIDAY 2008

## TONY TRAVELS BACK TO THE BP



**Burger-Phillips**  
Smart, Sophisticated Urban Apartments



Golden's Ryan Ferris, Jason Prickett & William Tynes on take Tony-To-Work Day at Burger-Phillips Apartments.

Congratulations to **Tom Carruthers** and Carruthers Real Estate for recently completing the renovation of the Burger-Phillips Building on 3rd Avenue North in downtown Birmingham. Tony Truitt was bold enough to invite himself on a tour of the building with some of the guys from Golden & Associates, who served as general contractor on the project. In a former life, Tony handled management & leasing of the building. We are proud to note, he may be the single person most probably tied to the majority of construction problems the development team encountered during the renovation. Burger-Phillips was originally one of Birmingham's most upscale retail stores before becoming an office building during the Costa-Head project in the 80's. The building is now 35 fantastic looking apartments with views of the big buildings downtown, private parking, and a great street-level retail space available that would be fantastic for a gallery, pub or other use. Check out the project's website, [www.burgerphillips.com](http://www.burgerphillips.com), for more information on another great addition to the area near the Alabama Theatre, Hardin Residence, McWane Center, Red Mountain Theater Company, The Speakeasy, Hawthorn Gallery & Hill Fine Arts Center.

**Carruthers**  
Real Estate Company

**GOLDEN**  
& ASSOCIATES  
CONSTRUCTION, LLC

**PLEASE MAKE SURE TO KEEP US IN MIND FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:  
SURETY BONDING • BUSINESS COVERAGE • HOME & AUTO • LIFE INSURANCE**

## DESIGN WINNERS



We would like to recognize our friend's firms who won awards for outstanding design during the 2008 AIA National Convention held this year in Boston.

Louis Nequette—**Dungan-Nequette Architects**  
Project: Richard Tubb Residence on Smith Lake, Merit Award / Residential Category

Tim Lucy—**Williams Blackstock Architects**  
Project: Innovation Depot (former Sear's Site), Merit Award / Adaptive Reuse Category

Tammy Cohen—**Cohen Carnaggio & Reynolds**  
Project: Liv On Fifth Condominium, Honor Award / Adaptive Reuse Category

## GO BIG OR GO HOME!



Mount Kilimanjaro

Some people throw themselves a party when they turn 40, others go out and buy a new sports car. Not these guys. A group including Bainbridge Mim's **Keith Hamilton** and Bradley Arant's **Tripp Haston**, agreed to head into their next decade with a challenge most people only talk or dream about: climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. In October, Keith, Tripp and crew headed toward Africa, had a great time and have some memories to look back on for their next 40 years.



Congratulations to Alabama State Senator Jabo Waggoner on being named Distinguished Citizen of the Year by LVH.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!**  
(And Best Wishes For A Prosperous 2009)

## BUILDING A GOOD BASE

We would like to congratulate all the participants of this years' classes but especially recognize our clients, friends, associates and others who were selected to participate in the 2008/2009 classes of these organizations focused on moving our communities & state forward:



Russell Cunningham (Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce); Philip McWane (McWane Inc.); Chip Grizzle (Brasfield & Gorrie); Lee Sentell (Alabama Tourism).



Jim Dixon (Arlington Properties); David Fleming (Main Street Birmingham); Michael Waller (Leadership Birmingham); Jerry Perkins (Vulcan Materials); Nick Sellers (Alabama Power); Adam Snyder (CA Foundation).



Bryan Holt (Retail Specialists); Bill McMahon (KLMK Group); Kirk Parker (Bruster's Real Ice Cream); Elam Holley Jr. (SouthCity Bank); Ann Bennett (Pinnacle Bank); Keith Covington (Bradley, Arant, Rose & White); and Bruce Berthon (Hartford Fidelity & Surety).

## GOOD EATS



Truitt's own Jean Wilson, getting ready for some tail-gating before the Magic City Classic this October at Legion Field. Man those look good!

## FIGS FIGS FIGS

John Truitt's fig preserves are getting raves as we see people around the state. If you are nice to us, you might get some.

## FLORENCE: FASHION CAPITAL



How cool is this? Apparently, Florence, AL is becoming a true hot-spot of the men's fashion world. Getting national pub up all over the place, including being recognized by Men's Health BEST LIFE Magazine as one of America's 10 best boutique men's stores, is Billy Reid. After a fast start in New York, Billy relocated from to Florence several years ago.

Home base, housing his collection in Alabama, is now located in the historic Pickett Place residence near the gates of UNA. In addition, he now has stores in Charlotte, Dallas, Houston and a new location in New York City. They are also exploring working with other fine men's stores so they will probably be coming to a retailer near you before long. A soon not be secret, check them out now at [www.billyreid.com](http://www.billyreid.com) before they go global or get on your horse for a trip to Florence to meet them for a face-to-face fitting. Great looking stuff, nice people and a laid back atmosphere make this place a true find. Who knew?

**BILLY REID**

## THINGS WE DO

Please keep Truitt Insurance in mind for all of your insurance & bonding needs. We can handle any of the following for you:

- Personal Home & Auto
- Personal Umbrella
- Commercial General Liability
- Commercial Auto
- Worker's Compensation
- Commercial Umbrella
- Investment Property Coverage
- Employment Practices Liability
- Bid Bonds
- Performance & Payment Bonds
- License & Permit Bonds
- Notary Bonds
- Public Official Bonds
- Supply Bonds
- Other Commercial Bonds
- Term Life Insurance

We would love an opportunity to work with you & earn your trust.

## OUT & ABOUT

We are constantly going all over Alabama and into the surrounding states working with our clients. Check out a few of the places we run across in our travels:



John & Gail Truitt enjoying the National Shrimp Festival in Gulf Shores in October.



Jeff Rodgers outside the Alabama Fan Club Museum in Fort Payne on a trip this past November.



## AWARDS & HONORS FOR ALABAMA GENERAL CONTRACTORS

We are pleased to recognize all the great Alabama contracting firms featured in the December 2008 edition of South Central Construction Magazine. Winners included **Robins & Morton** (Merit Award: Magnolia Regional Health Center); **HOAR Construction** (Merit Awards: Renaissance at Colony Park, Lakeshore Foundation Renovation & Hill Center; Award of Excellence: Crestwood Medical Center & UAB's Heritage Hall); **Charles & Vinzant Construction** (Merit Award: City Federal Condominiums); **Doster Construction Co.** (Award of Excellence: International Diesels Big Bore Engine Assembly Plant). Also, in the "Best Of" Category, Doster won Best Multi-Family Project for the Renaissance Hotel & Conference Center in Montgomery; **Gary C. Wyatt** won Best Education Project for the Health & Sciences Building, Jefferson State Community College in Hoover. Congratulations to all the big winners.

**RECRUITING**



TRUITT RECRUITING  
CENTRAL SHOW  
EACH TUESDAY NIGHT  
THRU SIGNING DAY

We are proud to sponsor the new WJOX recruiting show this year. Be sure to tune in each week at 7:00PM to see what is going in the world of college football recruiting. Will Nick Saban continue to dominate the state? Will Auburn be able to play catch up with the new coach on board? What kids will want to get out of state and play for other top programs? Be sure to check out all the action, rumors and behind the scenes intelligence from real & supposed experts each Tuesday night.

**IREM CASINO NIGHT**



Bob Suellentrop playing like "a whale" at the blackjack tables.

Truitt was proud to help sponsor the Institute of Real Estate Management's (IREM) 1st Annual Charity Casino Night benefitting the Alabama Juvenile

Arthritis Initiative. Held at Park Lane on October 24th, the local IREM chapter got down & dirty playing slots, craps, blackjack, Texas Hold-Em, roulette, and other "high-roller" games. Joanne & Tony Truitt were part of the fun and ran into **Chip Watts, Bob Suellentrop, Brent Falkenhagen, Amy Adkins, Chad Hagwood, Lauren Gillabeau, David Corey,** and many others. Please keep this event on your radar for



**NAIOP TO VEGAS**



The leaders of the local chapter of the National Association

of Industrial & Office Properties (NAIOP) attended DEVELOPMENT 08, the national convention of NAIOP in late October. Held at The Hotel @ Mandalay Bay, Daniel Corp's Carla Williams, Harris-Tynes Realty Company's West Harris, Graham & Co.'s Mike Graham and others networked with other top developers.

Also, we would like to thank **Joe Sandner III, Grant Woolwine** and the folks at Sandner Commercial Real Estate for sponsoring the November NAIOP meeting held at the offices of Bradley, Arant, Rose & White LLP.



**GOOD GOVERNMENT NEVER STOPS**



Julie (Boone) Latham, Holly (Renneker) Simmons, Mark Hamilton, Mike Faulkner, Kirk Parker, Tony Truitt, Tealla Stewart & Barbara Gajewski. Not pictured: Jeri (Siniard) Finchum & Brett Hendricks.

We freely admit this is more than dorky, but Tony Truitt re-organized & re-energized the 1986 Vestavia Hills High School SGA the night of September 26th at New Orleans Restaurant in Vestavia Hills. Almost everyone was able to make it including sponsors Tealla Stewart and Barbara Gajewski. It was a blast and it will happen again, probably in another 22 years. Long live good government!

**MAKING THE CALLS AT TROY**



Tony Truitt was on hand as Troy knocked off Arkansas State to win the Sun Belt Championship on December 7th. Working as a spotter alongside stadium announcer Brock Murphy, Tony was pretty much happy his horrible eye-sight did not cause any major incidents. Brock has been calling ANOTHER TROJAN FIRST DOWN, who made the stop, what pass fell IN-COM-PLETE and all the other action in the stadium since 2005. He does a great job on the mic & also on his day job as an attorney helping contractors & other businesses throughout Alabama.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



We would like to say congratulations to SouthCity Bank for reaching their 1st

anniversary this October. While other banks have been in the news for bad loans, stock slides and other terrible news, South-City has quietly grown to over \$80,000,000 in assets in its first year of operation. Check them out for great rates on CD's and other items for your personal & business banking needs. **Elam, Scott, Brad, Steve, Emily, Ana, Jim, Paul** and all of our friends there have done an outstanding job during some rough times elsewhere.

**BOO IS BACK AGAIN**

The proud tradition know as the BOO



Halloween Party rocked on for another year, stretching its mark of fun & spookiness to a 13th year. Who knew when the original "Party in the Parking Deck" started in 1993, the party would move to the B & A Warehouse and would still be going strong this many years later. A special thanks goes out to all our sponsors, especially Birmingham Budweiser, B & A Warehouse, WIAT 42, and 106.9 The Eagle. The party once again benefitted the Leukemia Society efforts.

**WALK TO REMEMBER**

ALZHEIMER'S of Central Alabama



We would like to commend our own **Chery Carrigan** for organizing a

team to walk in the Alzheimer's of Central Alabama fundraiser held at the Galleria November 1st. The event raised over \$142,000 for research. Several members of our staff have had family touched by the disease. We know we need all the help possible finding a cure for this truly terrible disease. Please see [www.alca.org](http://www.alca.org) for more info.

**CONGRATS:**

**To: Bernard & Sophia Tamburlo**, on their restaurant La Dolce Vita being named in Birmingham Magazine's Top 100.

**To: George Cowgill & the folks** at The Speakeasy (1920 3rd Avenue North) on opening their new establishment, The Black Market Bar in the Colonnade.

**To: Harley McGatha** and Harley McGatha Construction for stepping up in a big way and donating \$100,000 to the Boy & Girls Club of South Rome, Georgia to help complete the project. This is what it is all about.

**To: Tom Bolton**, President of Cooper Brothers Construction in Selma, on the birth of his first grandchild, Emma Kathryn South, on 8/23/08.

**To: Burr & Forman's Derek Meek** for becoming the incoming President of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce. Even more so to Contri Brothers' **Scott Perry** for being the out-going President of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce.

**To: Dent Baker & Co.'s Trey Whitt** on becoming a partner in their accounting firm.

**To: Terry Isaminger** and DMI Tile & Marble, for being listed as one of the top Sub-Contractors in the state by Business Alabama.

**To: Charlie Regan Jr. & Gorrie Regan Associates** on the acquisition of the TIME SYSTEMS DIVISION of ITR in Atlanta.

**To: Jeri Finchum**, of PRN Capital, for finishing the Rock-N-Roll San Antonio Marathon November 16th.

**To: Bennie Bumpers**, long-time fixture at Vulcan Materials & coach of The Green Machine (Tony Truitt's basketball team when he was 12), on being named 2008 Alumnus of the Year by Samford University.

**RIDING THE RAILS**



The Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce's ER Roundtable VI group got together the night of August 23rd to celebrate a new venture by the group's George Edwards. George owns The William Penn Dining Car housed at the Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum in Calera. After locating the railcar, refurbishing it and having it moved to Alabama, The William Penn is now available for private dining parties and is a fantastic experience. After boarding the WP, the group (including Joanne & Tony Truitt), began their journey down the tracks before stopping to enjoy dinner at a point overlooking a beautiful lake. George and his partners have done an awesome job in the renovation of this car and it was a treat to take a ride in it. For more information on The William Penn, please refer to: [www.wmpenn.info](http://www.wmpenn.info).

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

**KNOCKIN' CANCER OUT OF THE BALLPARK SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

We simply cannot say enough about this fundraiser. Organized by Tony Truitt's VHHS high-school classmate **Anne (Irving) Long** after her son Andrew's diagnosis with a brain tumor in 2004, this event has raised more than \$75,000 for brain tumor research and treatment since its inaugural game in 2004. Even after Anne and her husband Bruce lost Andrew in September 2007, their commitment to this event has only strengthened. Held October 18th at the Samford University Softball Complex, this year's event was the most successful ever. If you were not able to be a part of the fun this time around, please not only be on the look-out for it next year but also consider making a contribution before then to an absolutely great cause at:

Children's Hospital Hospital Foundation

Attn: Knockin' Cancer

1600 7th Avenue South

Birmingham, AL 35233



P.O. Box 531010  
Birmingham, Alabama 35253

**BASKETBALL FANS: PLEASE JOIN US**



If you are a basketball junkie, let us know. We are members of the Birmingham Tip-Off club and are always looking for people we can take to the meetings with us. Some of this year's speakers include TNT's Ernie Davis Jr., Tennessee Coach Bruce Pearl, Alabama Coach Mark Gottfried, UAB Coach Mike Davis and other top experts. Come join us and be a part of all the fun this season. If you would like to join for the entire season, please refer to [www.birminghamtipoffclub.com](http://www.birminghamtipoffclub.com) to get in on all the action.