



# THE TRUITT NEWS

*The Official Skinny From Truitt Insurance & Bonding Inc.*

## CONGRATS

TO: **Greg Belcher & the team at Royal Automotive** on being recognized by the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce as their Member of the Year.

TO: **Progress Bank** on reaching the bank's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and furthermore, providing a "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" dividend to their shareholders to celebrate!

TO: **Kenneth Till, Art Freeman & Scott Matthews** on announcing they are forming CommerceOne Bank in Birmingham.

TO: super-good guy & Bham legal ace **Chris Couch** on being named a partner at McGlinchey Stafford law firm. This guy is sharp!

TO: our buddy, **Todd Adkison** on joining Bham-based real estate powerhouse StoneRiver Company as their Director of Finance.

TO: our friend, **Margie Gray Ballard of Ballard Construction & Real Estate** in Winfield, on being named one of Business Alabama Magazine's "Movers & Shapers" of Marion, Fayette & Lamar Counties in their January 2018 issue. Way to go, Margie!



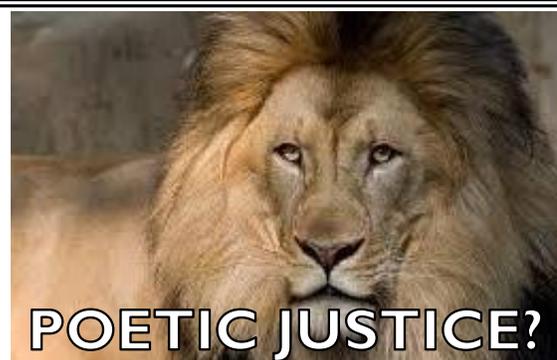
**Children's of Alabama**

Tony Truitt enjoyed the kick-off luncheon for Children's of Alabama Committee for the Future held February 27<sup>th</sup>. He can't wait to get to know the group better & how to help.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wished a huge Happy Birthday to Truitt founder, John Truitt, on Feb 19<sup>th</sup> as he marked another milestone. He continues to say he is signed with us to 106 so we have many more of these ahead to celebrate.



## POETIC JUSTICE?

Don't know if you saw this gem, but apparently one night in early February, a poacher who was illegally stalking a pride of lions on the Umbabat Game Reserve in South Africa had the tables turned on him. He did not realize until too late that lions are pretty good stalkers themselves. He was found **EATEN UP-TO-HIS-HEAD**, which was used for identification. His two companions managed to escape. Local police reported what they found as "two sets of footprints running away and, obviously, the dead and eaten man." I bet those other two haven't quit running yet.



**Ronald McDonald House Charities**  
Alabama

Congrats to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama on getting the new \$7.5M addition to their facility opened this January. We really are looking forward to becoming more involved with them in 2018. For more info on how you can help them, go to [rmhca.org](http://rmhca.org).

## EASTERN SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

We are happy to report we are now members of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce in Baldwin County. Looking forward to being involved and meeting a lot of new friends. Thanks Tully McAleer for getting us signed up. If anyone knows someone we can help in Baldwin County, please get them in touch with Connie Bengtson in our Daphne office.

AON Benfield reports 2017 saw an estimated \$134,000,000,000 in insured losses from natural catastrophes. When adjusted for inflation, this is the 2<sup>nd</sup>-highest amount on record.

## HE SAID IT BEST

**If you hold a cat by the tail, you will learn things you cannot learn any other way.**

- Mark Twain

**WHEN YOU NEED HOME, AUTO OR BUSINESS COVERAGE:**

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## CONGRATS

TO: **Adam Pierce** on being named VP Commercial Lending at BancorpSouth Bank, based in their Hoover office.

TO: one great lady, **Leslie Self**, on her new career with attorney **Mark Gualano** & Vestavia Title.

TO: Vestavia Hills' **Brooke Tarrant** on winning the Distinguished Young Women of Alabama Pageant

TO: Bham real estate hot-shot **Hurston Raley** on being named Vice President of Asset Management with The Sanders Trust. They made a great addition to their team.

TO: **Keith Johnson** on joining Pelham's Ingram Equipment Co. as Vice President & GM.

TO: **Diane Zaragoza** on her new position as the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce's Office Manager.

TO: **Charles Fry**, University of Alabama Health Services Foundation's General Counsel, on being named President-Elect of the Bham Bar Association.

TO: our old friend, **Matt Barnes** of Burr & Forman, on moving to Raleigh to lead their new office.



## One Of Our Favorites

Really proud of our friend Valerie McLean Cuddy as she was recognized with the 2018 Leadership Vestavia Hills Distinguished Citizenship Award. She is the owner of The Trak Shak and the person behind one of our area's signature events, The Mercedes Marathon. Valerie has always been active in the community, always working to make our area a great place to live. She's awesome!

As recently reported by National Underwriter, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics says 2016 was the deadliest for US workers in nearly a decade. Rate of Fatal injuries for full-time workers rose to 3.6 per 100,000.



## magic city art connection

We are happy to be a sponsor, once again, of one of our favorite events, The Magic City Art Connection. Come out and get some culture with us in downtown Bham's Linn Park April 27 – 29. Amazing artwork and the always fun Corks & Chefs tent is a brilliant way to get outside and kick off spring. Make it part of your plan.

## You Will Be Missed

We would like to say good-bye to a super guy, **Wayne Miller of Miller Valve** in Homewood. Wayne was a tremendous person – strong, kind and caring – the type of person you strive to be like and you were always happy when your paths crossed. Wayne passed away on January 12<sup>th</sup> after a long battle with cancer. He touched a lot of people in a life that was not long enough. Our hearts go out to his wife, Molly, and their two children. I think everyone that knew him would agree we hated to see him go. There are not enough people like him.



Congrats to the USA Curling Team on winning gold at the 2018 Winter Olympics. These are exactly the type athletes that give hope to us all. If you have ever run across the obscure NBC channel carrying Curling Night in America on a random Friday night, you see all you need to know. It doesn't appear like you really have to work-out all that much to participate at a high-level in the sport, you need no fan base AND the competition is ACTUALLY SPONSORED BY CHEETOS! This seems to be something we can get behind.

As reported in the Feb 2018 issue of National Underwriter, a Verizon 2017 Data Breach Report lists the following as most likely to incur a cyber attack:

- Financial organizations (24%)
- Healthcare organizations (15%)
- Retail Businesses (15%)
- Public Sector Entities (12%)



Thanks to Fi-Plan Partners **Greg Powell & Bobby Norman** for taking Truitt's **Brandon Baird, Matt Denton & Frankie Wade** out for some fun at Bham's TopGolf. Our guys came back saying they all talked business but there is some doubt how much business went down. We do know they had a blast.



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