

APRIL 2019 VOL. 20 NO. 2



#### **MISSISSIPPI** GOVERNOR'S MANSION

The second oldest continuously occupied Governor's residence in the U.S. is located in downtown Jackson. Completed in 1841, this Greek Revival structure only cost \$50,000 to build. It encompasses a full city block and was spared by Gen. Sherman's forces during the Civil War. The mansion has undergone several renovations over time with gas lighting added during the Civil War days, plumbing updates during 1908-09, and a major makeover during the early 1970s. Spearheaded by Mississippi's first lady, a "Save the Mansion" effort gathered private donations to help fund this last restoration. The theme of the 1970s renovation was "Let's not destroy what Sherman would not burn".

Metro, working as the prime contractor, is replacing two air cooled chillers, boilers, and adding an outside air unit to the residence. The old equipment had been in place since 1991. We are pleased to work on this part of history listed as a National Historic Landmark.

#### **SAME NAME, NEW LOOK**



After 25 years with our trademark skyline, the Metro logo has changed. Our mission, our message, and methods are the same but it was time for a new look. If you review the history of some of the giants of industry (Apple, Microsoft and others), most of them have changed their branding multiple times.

What drives this push for rebranding? A more contemporary style, market growth, and just a fresh face are among the reasons. Signage, trucks - anything with the Metro name will soon have the new logo.

We are not the same company that began in 1994. Our capabilities are multiplied many-fold. The team went from two to well over 100 individuals. Markets have gone from local to a multi-state reach. Even with growth and now a new logo, one thing remains the same. Our core values are not altered. Metro still stands for **Quality, Value and Delivery** of services within customer-determined schedules in a safe environment. Proud of our past and looking with anticipation to the future.

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#### FIRST GUARANTY BANK



First Guaranty Bank is continuing growth in the Hammond, Louisiana market with the addition of a new bank headquarters. Frank Anzalone is the General Contractor for this three-story 37,000 square foot complex. First Guaranty Bank lists assets of \$1.75 billion and 21 branches across their market footprint. Metro Mechanical is installing all HVAC including 2 chillers, 6 air handlers, and the computer room cooling systems.

#### WINTER COMPLEX



The Winter Complex is part of the State of Mississippi's central plant for a number of state office buildings near the Fairgrounds on Jefferson Street. Metro is the prime contractor for this major equipment renovation which includes installation of a 1,250 ton chiller, cooling tower, and related pumps/piping. A special shout-out to Bracken Construction for facilitating the crane lift for our installation. This project will be complete by late spring.

#### **HORNE LLP**



A new office building for NLA Ridgeland LLC is under construction on Interstate 55. Horne LLP will be the primary tenant to occupy this new space. This 3-story 112,000 square foot building will be ready for occupancy by January 2020. White Construction is the general contractor for this project with Metro installing plumbing and VRF for heating/cooling. (Note: Horne LLP also serves as business and tax counsel for Metro.)

#### **CITY CENTRE**



Another prime mechanical project completed early this year was a 365-ton cooling tower replacement for City Centre in downtown Jackson. This required a vertical lift of over 150 feet for this rooftop location of the cooling tower. This 12 story Class A office tower is managed by Hertz Investment Group. Metro's work included demo and removal of the old tower, adding a new pump and associated piping.

#### GET READY. GET SET. GET SERVICE.

As the season moves from spring to summer, service demand grows exponentially. **Metro Building Services** is busy with spring tune-ups on dozens of preventive maintenance accounts. Getting those systems serviced early is a wise move. If you have a unit that have been limping along on a "wing and a prayer", we can perform system change-outs before summer heat and humidity come along.

Plumbing service tends to be less seasonal because leaks and drain failures happen rain or shine, hot or cold. Our service crews are available on a 24/7 basis for any commercial service need. Retail, office space, schools/university campuses, churches, retirement living, multi-family housing, manufacturing, or medical all fit the Metro profile of service customers. Call us or refer us to a friend - 601-866-9050 or 601-398-2475 for immediate response.



#### **SAFETY:** ACHIEVING OUR GOAL. ZERO LOST TIME.

Before every season sports teams anticipate where they will rank. Commentators voice opinions of who will finish the year with the claim of "We're Number 1".

In the safety arena, Metro has a stated goal of ZERO lost time accidents. Knowing we are in an environment where hazards are real, this may seem a lofty plan. Our personnel work more than 250,000 hours in the field each year. Metro has gone six quarters and almost 400,000 hours without a lost day of work due to injury.

We can't claim perfection and there is no ranking of #1, #2, #3. Our supervisors, field foremen, and everyone working with their tools all deserve the recognition and credit for this milestone. Safety pays dividends in a multitude of ways – lower insurance costs, full staff for a busy job schedule, and favorable views from the contracting community and owners who want to hire companies with good safety records.





BY: RICK WHITE

receiving his GED at age 61.

# DESIGN CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

**MY VIEW:**THE DEFINITION OF SUCCESS

The story of Dave Thomas, founder of Wendy's is a testament to hard work and the drive to succeed. He lost his first job (that he began at age 12) due to a disagreement with the boss. Dave vowed never to lose a job again. He was an integral part of the fast food chain, KFC, working with Colonel Sanders. Dave opened his first Wendy's in 1969 and today the chain boasts sales of \$1.6 billion and 6,500 locations around the world. An interesting tidbit on Dave is that he was a high school dropout finally

A famous quote of Dave's is "What do you need to start a business? 3 simple things: know your product better than anyone, know your customer, and have a burning desire to succeed".

Years ago, Frank and I were having a conversation with one of our managers. His comment to us was "you guys are all about the money". Both of us quickly corrected him and said the success of the business, the building of our brand, and the collective growth of our team far exceeded the emphasis on dollars. Now don't get me wrong. All of us work for money. We enjoy the fruits of what it provides for our families, our hobbies, and leisure time. But, amassing a savings account can be a pretty hollow reward if that is your endgame.

One of the hallmarks of Metro has been to reinvest back into our business. Having highly trained personnel, adequate equipment and tools for the trade, and giving 100% on every project are keys to success. We want to be the best at our trade. Manning the job with people and resources helps keep the project on schedule and customers happy.

If Metro enjoys any success, it is a shared success. Project salesmen, estimators, superintendents, foremen, field, service, and administrative staff all play a part of keeping us between the ditches. Like Dave Thomas, our burning desire is for everyone here to succeed.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: JOSH FAULKNER



JOSH, LYNDIE, ADALYN & LILLIAN FAULKNER

This edition we feature Josh Faulkner who joined Metro in 2017 as our first licensed P.E. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University where he received his degree in mechanical engineering. Josh obtained his Professional Engineering certification in 2007and is registered in Mississippi and Louisiana. He formerly worked with the firm CDFL.

Josh and his family live in Madison. He and his wife Lyndie have two daughters, Adalyn and Lillian. He enjoys spending time with his family, watching MSU sports, and is an avid hunter.

Josh is an integral part of our project management team. He works closely with general contractors and owners in a design build/design assist role and manages a number of projects. We appreciate his expertise and contribution to Metro.



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## **ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & FISH FRY:** APRIL 26, 2019



Our Annual Open House and Fish Fry is scheduled for April 26, 2019. The fun begins at 11 a.m. with fish, gumbo and the best Metro hospitality on the menu.

Our management team pitches in to cook and serve with a personal touch.

This is our way of saying thanks to all who support us as customers, vendors, industry professionals, subcontractors, and other service roles. It is our largest outreach event of the year and we appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Mark your calendars for this special day. Easter conflicted with our normal Friday after Tax Day so our event is delayed just a little. The welcome mat will be rolled out. Come hungry!



**MADISONVILLE** ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Madisonville, Louisiana with Voelkel McWilliams Construction

JOHNSON SCIENCE BUILDING UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI Hattiesburg, Mississippi Metro as Prime Contractor

**YMCA** EXPANSION Vicksburg, Mississippi *with* Mid-State Construction

MADISON CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Madison, Mississippi Metro as Prime Contractor

