



Wheeler Lake 3/14/23—photo by Johnny Berry, Ed.D., Superintendent of Arab City Schools

Did You Know?

Did you know that two presidents spent time in Mooresville, AL?
Andrew Johnson was an apprentice to a tailor at 10 years old. The other was James Garfield, who preached at the Mooresville church of Christ.

—Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association

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North Alabama Headlines — Q1/2023

Community Announcements

New Investments

Morgan County

Nucor Towers and Structures will invest \$128 million to build a facility in the Nucor Customer Park at Mallard-Fox Creek Industrial Park in Trinity, AL, and will fabricate metal poles and other steel structures for utility infrastructure and highway signage. This project will create 200 jobs with an average salary of \$75,000.

Industry Expansions

DeKalb County

GH Metal Solutions, a full-service metal fabrication company, is investing an additional \$5.7 million in new manufacturing and non-manufacturing equipment for their facility located in Fort Payne, AL.

Nucor, doing business as **Vulcraft Alabama**, is making a capital investment of \$6,641,000 in manufacturing equipment in Fort Payne, AL. This is the third consecutive year that the parent company has entrusted the local operation to rethink processes and add additional jobs.

Limestone County

EFI Automotive is expanding their operations in Elkmont, AL. This \$6 million investment will add 35 additional jobs over the next three years.

Groundbreaking

Snead State Community College has broken ground on a new 45,000SF Workforce Skills Training Center in Boaz, AL. This training center will be home to four career and technical education programs, including HVAC, welding technology, machine tool technology, and industrial systems technology with additive manufacturing. In addition, the center will have adaptable and flexible space to interchange programs as needed by the local workforce.

Huntsville Logistics Center, a 4-building industrial park in Limestone County, will eventually grow to over 2 million SF. Delivery of the first building is expected the first quarter of 2024 with space sizes from 126,900SF up to 1,261,980SF available for lease.

Updates

Cullman Electric Cooperative was pleased to learn the Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs (ADECA) announced it has approved a grant for \$4,579,716.92 to assist the Co-op with its Sprout Fiber internet project. The grant will help provide access for 1,356 households, businesses and community anchors in parts of Cullman, Morgan and Winston counties, moving Cullman Electric closer to its ultimate goal of providing Sprout Fiber Internet to all co-op members.

Pryor Field Regional Airport, one of the busiest general aviation airports in Alabama, is undergoing major upgrades in 2023/24 including recent dedication of two areas totaling over 100 acres for development to support business aviation and maintenance, repair, & overhaul (MRO) facilities in Tanner, AL.

Huntsville International Airport is one of five airports in the nation participating in a national safety initiative with the FAA for the benefit of all airports to study the risks associated with unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), commonly referred to as drones, in the airspace.

Media

The Project of the Year was awarded by the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) North Alabama chapter to **Brasfield & Gorrie** for its work on the **Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering**, which opened in August 2022.



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Updates

TVA is adding additional generation capacity with three new natural-gas turbines at the Colbert Combustion Turbine. This generation is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2023.



Media

Alabama's exports surged to over \$25.5 billion in 2022 eclipsing the previous annual record of \$21.7 billion set in 2017. In 2022, shipments of Alabama-made goods went to 196 countries. Alabama's Top-5 export destinations were:

Germany:	\$4.3 billion
China:	\$3.8 billion
Canada:	\$3.2 billion
Mexico:	\$2.8 billion
Japan:	\$1.0 billion

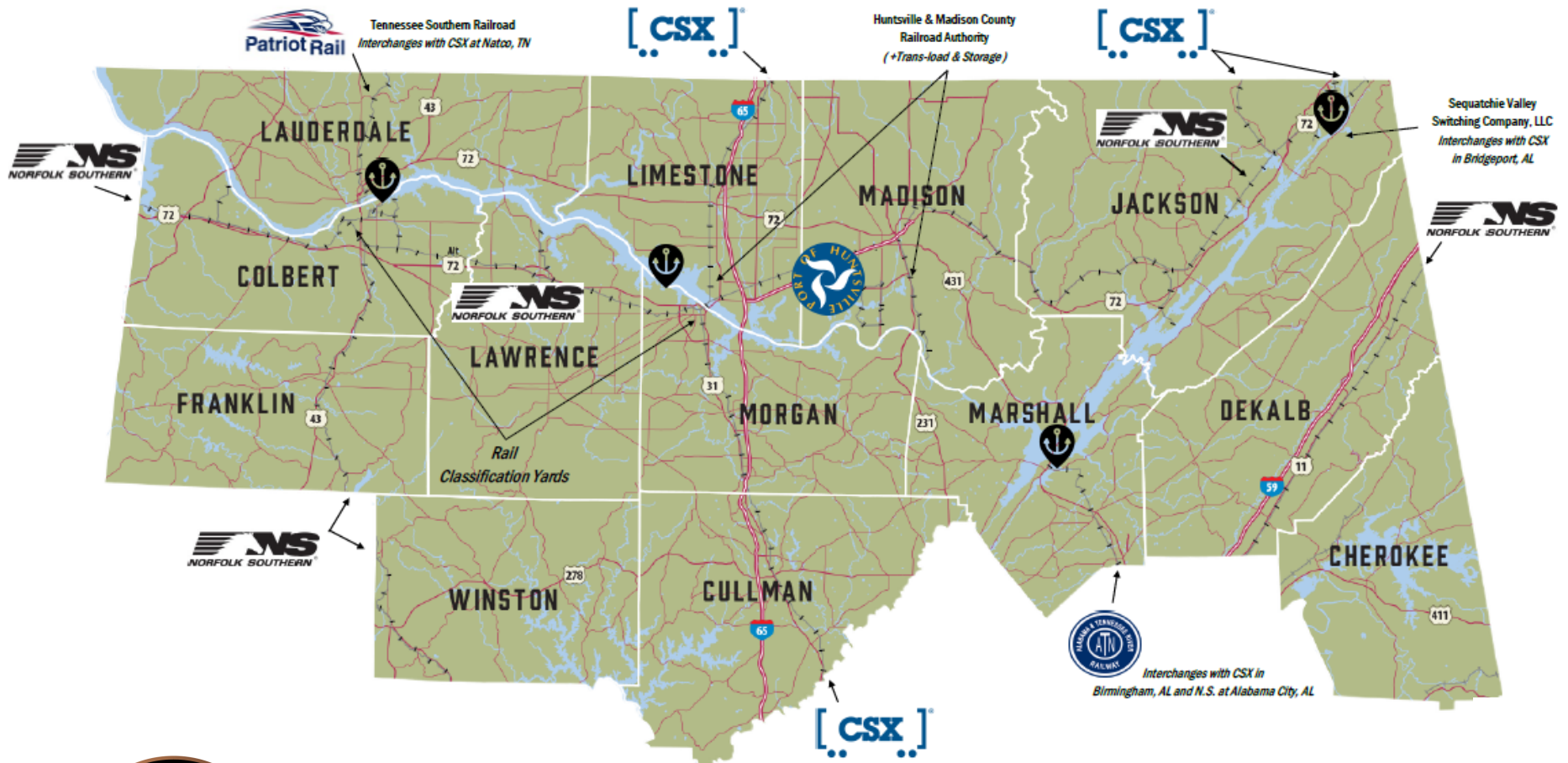
Congratulations to ULA on the completion of the 1st Vulcan rocket built in their 1.6 million SF production facility in Decatur. This rocket has made its way via barge (ULA Rocket Ship) to the launch site in Cape Canaveral, Florida.



Huntsville has been named the second-best place to live in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report's* 2023-2024 rankings. The city's thriving job market, low cost of living and high quality of life were cited as the primary reasons for its top ranking.

Huntsville ranked #4 in the Most Prosperous Cities in America. 6 metrics were analyzed including population growth changes, home value changes and income changes between 2017 and 2021, in addition to current unemployment, poverty and education rates. — MyEListing.com

Rail Lines & Ports in North Alabama



Barges access ports throughout the Midwest and can also reach deep water in the Gulf of Mexico in 3.5 days



Public Port

Florence, Decatur, Guntersville, Bridgeport



International Intermodal Center

Int'l Air Cargo / Containerized Rail

Inland port of entry for International Air Cargo