

# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



## 2024



# UPCOMING EVENT SCHEDULE



**OCT**

**25**

-NUCA OF SWFL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

**NOV**

**6-8**

-NUCA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**DEC**

**6**

-NUCA OF SWFL CLAY SHOOT TO BENEFIT  
CONSTRUCTION ANGELS

**12**

-NUCA OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA HOLIDAY SOCIAL -  
CHARITY HOPE 4 KIDS

**JAN**

**2025**

**23**

-NUCA OF SWFL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS &  
DIRECTORS

**FEB**

**11-12**

-F.T.B.A. CONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE



*Come Tee Off With The Undead!*

NUCA of Southwest Florida's  
Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

River Hall Country Club  
October 25th, 2024  
**Registration Open now!**



**NUCA**  
REPRESENTING UTILITY & EXCAVATION CONTRACTORS  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



**SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**October 25th, 2024**

***Tournament Sponsor***

**KELLY TRACTOR**



**Team Entry Fee \$650    Individual Golfer Fee \$175**

**Entry Fees include: Mulligan Ball, Putting Contest**

***~Raffle, Special Game Holes, Great Giveaways, Refreshments~***

**Light Breakfast @ Check-In, Buffet Lunch @ 1:00 pm,**

**Check-In 7:30-8:30 am - Shot Gun Start 8:30 am**

***~THE "MOST SPIRITED" TEAM WILL WIN A PRIZE!~***

***Hole-In-One \$10,000.00 Cash Grand Prize***

***Proceeds Benefit the  
NUCA of Southwest Florida Scholarship Awards Program***

**Scholarship Awards are based solely on the proceeds from our annual golf tournament.**

**Scholarships are available to all NUCA of Southwest Florida members/family. Donations to the NUCA of Southwest Florida Scholarship Awards Program are appreciated!!**

***Thank you for supporting the NUCA of Southwest Florida Scholarship Awards Program***



**3500 River Hall Parkway, Alva, FL 33920**

**Tournament Sponsor**



**Sponsorship Form**

<b>Breakfast Sponsors</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Lunch Sponsors</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Beverage Sponsors</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Cart Sponsor</b>	<b>Fortiline Waterworks</b>
<b>Hole-In-One Sponsor</b>	<b>McWane Ductile</b>
<b>**Tent Sponsor @ Tee Box (5)</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Beer Tent Sponsors</b>	<b>\$600.00</b> _____
<b>Major Sponsors (11)</b>	<b>\$300.00</b> _____
<b>Punt/Kick &amp; Pass Sponsor</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Putting Contest Sponsor</b>	<b>Dobbs Equipment</b>
<b>Chipping Contest Sponsor (1)</b>	<b>\$500.00</b> _____
<b>Closest to Pin Sponsors (2)</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> _____
<b>Longest Drive Sponsor (1)</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> _____
<b>Straightest Drive Sponsor (1)</b>	<b>\$150.00</b> _____
<b>Green/Tee Sponsors</b>	<b>\$100.00</b> _____
<b>Prize/Raffle Sponsors</b>	<b>\$100.00</b> _____




**\*\* (Tent sponsor may provide small tent, etc. & set up to display/hand out company giveaways, business card/prize raffle, etc.) \*\***

**Sponsorship information is needed by 9/25/24 to allow time to order signage**

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Proceeds Benefit the NUCA of Southwest Florida Scholarship Awards Program***

***Thank you for supporting the NUCA of Southwest Florida Scholarship Awards Program***



**NUCA of Southwest  
Florida's Annual Clay  
Shoot**

Proceeds to Benefit Construction Angel's

**December 6th, 2024**

**Registration Opening Soon!**

# 15 for 12 New Member Campaign

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NEW  
MEMBERS**





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# **THOMPSONS CONTRACTING INC**

**Marty Thompson, President**

**21141 Palm Beach Blvd.**

**Alva, FL 33920**

**Phone: (239) 303-0648**

**<https://www.thompsonscontracting.com/>**

# LEGAL UPDATE



## Highlights

- On Aug. 30, 2024, OSHA published the proposed rule in the Federal Register.
- Employers have until Dec. 30, 2024, to submit comments on the proposed rule.
- If finalized, the new standard would require employers to create a plan to evaluate and control heat hazards in their workplaces.

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## OSHA Proposes Heat Injury and Illness Prevention Standard

On Aug. 30, 2024, the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) [published](#) a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register to protect workers from heat injury and illness. If finalized, the new standard would apply to all employers conducting indoor and outdoor work in all general industry, construction, maritime and agricultural sectors where OSHA has jurisdiction, subject to limited exceptions.

### Background

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, almost 500 workers have died from heat exposure in the United States from 2011-22, and there were nearly 34,000 estimated work-related heat injuries and illnesses resulting in days away from work. If finalized, the proposed rule would be the first federal regulation specifically focused on protecting workers from extreme heat.

### Employer Obligations

The proposed rule includes a number of safeguards that employers would be required to implement. For example, the proposed standard includes requirements for:

- Identifying heat hazards;
- Developing heat illness and emergency response plans;
- Providing training to employees and supervisors; and
- Implementing work practice standards, including rest breaks, access to shade and water, and heat acclimatization for new employees.

### Next Steps for Employers

Comments on the proposed rule are due by Dec. 30, 2024. If finalized, employers would be required to comply with its requirements within 150 days of publication. Therefore, even if the rule is finalized, employers would not be subject to its requirements until 2025.

Employers may take steps now to prepare to comply with the standard (such as identifying and addressing heat hazards, preparing and updating policies, and preparing training protocols for employees and supervisors). Employers should monitor for updates and potential legal challenges.

### Additional Resources

Employers may also refer to the following resources for additional information and to learn how to provide comments:

- [Background, Health Effects, Risk Assessment, Explanation of Proposed Requirements](#)
- [Rulemaking Process—How to Comment](#)

## DISCOVER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Whether you're interested in attending college or ready to develop working skills, there are several opportunities for you in the construction industry at almost any level of education.

## BENEFITS

- World of Opportunities
- Start Earning Quickly
- Build a Meaningful Career
- Continuous Development
- On the Job Training
- Availability of Jobs

**TRADES DEMAND  
EQUALS  
JOB OPPORTUNITY**

## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CAREERS

Construction Foreman  
Construction Superintendents  
Engineers  
Equipment Operators  
Estimators  
Fleet Managers  
GPS Grade Control Operators  
Inspectors  
Laborers  
Logistics  
Machine Control Technicians  
Mechanics  
Office Support Positions  
Pipe Layers  
Project Managers  
Quality Control  
Safety Officers  
Sales & Marketing  
Skilled Labor  
Suppliers/Distributors  
Truck Drivers  
Warehouse  
Welders

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**NUCA**  
*We Dig America.*

**NUCA**  
REPRESENTING UTILITY & EXCAVATION CONTRACTORS  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CAREERS: UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITY

Career opportunities in construction are virtually unlimited. There is a variety of jobs available for many different levels and activities.

Each job has its own advantages, responsibilities and rewards. Salaries are flexible and depend on the person, his/her abilities, effort, initiative and dedication.



## WHY CHOOSE A CAREER IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY?

The Construction Industry is a vital employer in our nation's economy and infrastructure.

Construction industry careers offer numerous different career paths, ranging from skilled labor positions to professional management professions.

The opportunities for advancement are virtually unlimited, regardless of where you choose to start. There are many entry, intermediate and upper level positions affording the opportunity for growth and advancement in all areas of the trade that interests you most.

A 4-year college degree is not the only choice into the American middle class and not everyone is suited to 4 years of college.

You have opportunity to create and to build in all facets of construction. On the job training enables you to learn and succeed at your own pace to reach your personal career and financial goals.

## UTILITIES CONSTRUCTION

Sanitation projects, waterworks, pump stations and constructing pipeline installations including: water, sewer, force main, irrigation and storm drainage.

## GENERAL SITE DEVELOPMENT

Excavation and grading, concrete work & paving for commercial buildings, houses, industrial buildings and government buildings.

## HIGHWAY & HEAVY CONSTRUCTION

Building highways and bridges, doing grade separations and culverts, paving, moving earth, and landscaping. Building airports, tunnels, dams, water treatment and wastewater treatment plants, and flood control projects.

## SPECIALTY UTILITY CONSTRUCTION

Horizontal directional drilling, jack and boring, video inspection of pipelines, cleaning of pipe, pipe fusing and specialty plumbing, power and communication conduit systems.

## FABRICATION/PRODUCTION

Precast Concrete, Computer Aided Design (CAD) operations, engineering, logistics, steel fabrication, quality control.





## **Construction Industry Licensing Board Update**

On Friday, September 13, 2024, the Construction Industry Licensing Board (“CILB”) met to discuss three proposed rule changes. These rule changes are still proposals that are subject to change. We will continue to monitor these and any future rule changes the CILB proposes.

### **61G4-16.0015 Exemption from Business and Finance Test**

There are currently several avenues in which an applicant for the state certified builder’s or certified general contractor’s examinations can be exempted out of the business and finance portion of the exams.

Subsection (4) of the rule currently excludes Division II licensees in the following categories from the option to exempt out of the business and finance portion of the exam: pool service; internal pollutant storage tank lining applicator; precision tank tester; and air conditioning “C.” The proposed change originally struck through all of the excluded categories, but the Board on Friday opted to remove the strikethrough for all of the categories except for “pool service.” Thus, Division II pool service licensees will not be required to take the business and finance portion of the exam should this proposal be adopted. The Board mentioned that this may increase the cost for the examinations.

### **61G4-15.0024 Supervision of Business Entities**

The need for this rule update was brought about by JAPC and is meant to limit “questionable relationships” in licensing. Should this rule change be adopted, Parent-Subsidiary business relationships between an applicant and a qualifying business organization will now be a recognized relationship which will require an update to the application and will codify this relationship as establishing “the ability to properly supervise the proposed additional business entity” as required by the rule.

### **61G4-21.003 Filing Recovery Fund Claims**

The CILB has made proposed updates to the Homeowners’ Construction Recovery Fund Claim Form. The proposed changes to this rule are not substantive and are meant to allow the Board to collect more information from a claimant to the fund.

### **Additional Discussions**

The CILB discussed possible future amendments to the financial responsibility and financial stability requirements for contractors. The rule as written doesn’t contain provisions regarding an applicant’s bankruptcy history so the Board will further examine such requirements. The Board also discussed whether a 14-hour financial responsibility course is sufficient for applicants with poor credit scores to qualify for a license. Expect to see changes to these requirements in the near future.

The CILB is currently experiencing issues with achieving a quorum at its meetings and is looking to amend its rules to allow for a majority instead of a quorum in order to conduct official business. This will require a statutory change through legislation. The CILB Rules committee will not meet next month in October.

## **Your Advocacy Dollars at Work!**



NUCA South Florida members Johnna Venuti-Piggee, Glen Tupler, Frank

As the November election approaches, the NUCA FL Advocacy Team continues to ensure that the voice of the Underground Utility Contractor is heard in Tallahassee. We have been meeting with candidates and lawmakers around the State to educate and contribute to the campaigns the Advocacy Committee selected at the July conference. We have also been fortunate to collaborate with some of our fellow construction associations to meet



Prieto & Brian Hunsicker pictured with Senator Jason Pizzo in Ft. Lauderdale.



Carlton Fields team pictured with Senator Corey Simon.



Kari and Lucas pictured with Representative Doug Bankson in Apopka.

with other key lawmakers to discuss the issues facing the construction industry.

So far we have met with: Senators Tracie Davis, Jason Pizzo, Corey Simon, Johnathan Martin and Jason Brodeur; Senate Candidates and current Representatives Stan McClain and Kristen Arrington; Representatives Chip LaMarca, Toby Overdorf, Allison Tant, Wymann Duggan, Susan Plasencia, Tom Keen, Lindsay Cross, Doug Bankson, Adam Botana, Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell, Dianne Hart, Christine Hunschofsky and Danny Alvarez; and House Candidates, JJ Grow, Chad Johnson, Michael Owen, Judson Sapp, Jose Alvarez and Danny Nix.

Your Advocacy Contributions are critical to ensure our collective interests are safeguarded against unnecessary regulations. A special thanks to our members of NUCA South Florida for taking the time to meet with candidates and lawmakers last month!

*Want to support NUCA of Florida's Advocacy efforts? Make a Donation to our Advocacy Fund by visiting our website at [www.nucaflorida.org](http://www.nucaflorida.org) and clicking on the "Make an Advocacy Donation" button at the bottom of the Home Page.*

Having completed its primary objectives in Florida's recovery from Hurricane Helene, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is now focusing on supporting local recovery efforts across the state.

Visit [FloridaDisaster.org](https://www.floridadisaster.org) for the latest storm information and safety alerts. For real-time traffic information throughout the state, visit [FL511.com](https://www.fl511.com).



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(850) 414-4590 | [FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:FDOTCommunicationsOffice@dot.state.fl.us)

## **ICYMI: Governor Ron DeSantis Makes First Award of \$100 Million in Grants to Increase Supply Chain Capacity; Breaks Ground on Fruitville Interchange Project**

**BRADENTON, Fla.**— Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced the award of \$18 million in funding to invest in Florida's supply chain and boost aggregate storage for critical infrastructure and asphalt and concrete production. These awards specifically are the first of \$100 million to be invested over five years. The first five recipients of these grants will create an additional 1.2 million tons of aggregate materials storage and enable more rail access to existing aggregate storage facilities. This material will support major projects under the Moving Florida Forward Initiative.

Additionally, Governor DeSantis announced the groundbreaking of the I-75 interchange at Fruitville Road. This project will transform the existing traditional cloverleaf configuration into a diverging diamond design, enhancing safety, Logistics, and mobility in the area.

"A strong supply chain is key to Florida's economic strength. We can't rely on Washington—we need Florida-based solutions," **said Governor Ron DeSantis.** "These grants will help our state boost capacity and ensure vital materials reach projects on time."

The grant award recipients include:

- \$3.7 million to Florida Gulf & Atlantic Railroad to design and construct a new aggregate terminal in Lake City to accommodate 200,000 additional tons of aggregate annually and 48 rail cars.
- \$1.5 million to Capital Asphalt to design and construct a new aggregate terminal in Tallahassee to accommodate 80,000 additional tons of aggregate annually.
- \$3.9 million to CSX to design and construct a new aggregate terminal in Plant City to accommodate 20 acres of storage capacity and 250,000 additional tons of aggregate annually.
- \$6.2 million to Port of Tampa Bay to construct the Berth 218 aggregate terminal and additional 500,000 tons of limerock annually.
- \$2.6 million to JAXPORT to begin the project development and environment phase to increase rail capacity and accommodate 15 acres of yard storage and an additional 240,000 tons of aggregate annually.

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“Many Floridians don’t spend a lot of time thinking about construction materials until a disruption in our ability to supply those materials impacts their community,” **said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared W. Perdue, P.E.** “With the support and action of Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature, the transportation construction industry will be able to access these much-needed materials for our infrastructure projects that will help keep construction moving and on time.”

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) identified priority investments to strengthen links in the supply chain and increase storage capacity to allow more aggregate material to be readily available for these critical FDOT projects. Projects were prioritized based on overall project cost, proximity to aggregate needs statewide, and speed to project completion, ensuring the state can begin relying on these investments as soon as possible.

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[www.fdot.gov](http://www.fdot.gov) | X: [@MyFDOT](https://twitter.com/MyFDOT) | Facebook: [@MyFDOT](https://www.facebook.com/MyFDOT)

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The Florida Department of Transportation’s mission is to provide a safe statewide transportation system that promotes the efficient movement of people and goods, supports the state’s economic competitiveness, prioritizes Florida’s environment and natural resources, and preserves the quality of life and connectedness of the state’s communities.



## Lee commissioners approve FDOT agreement for linear park project ([https://www.gulfshorebusiness.com/gb\\_daily/lee-commissioners-approve-fdot-agreement-for-linear-park-project/](https://www.gulfshorebusiness.com/gb_daily/lee-commissioners-approve-fdot-agreement-for-linear-park-project/))

BY GULFSHORE BUSINESS([HTTPS://WWW.GULFSHOREBUSINESS.COM/AUTHOR/GSB-MAG/](https://www.gulfshorebusiness.com/author/gsb-mag/))  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 PHOTO CREDIT:GULFSHORE BUSINESS





PLAY ARTICLE

1 min

Lee Board of County Commissioners voted Sept. 17 to approve an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation, which will contribute nearly \$4.4 million toward a planned 6-mile-long linear park along the Able Canal in Lehigh Acres. The linear park will include a shared-use pathway, bicycle/pedestrian bridge, landscaping, shade structures and site amenities, with connections to Harns Marsh, Lehigh Acres Park/Barbara Farrell Park, Lehigh Elementary School and Lehigh Acres Trailhead Park. The county is contributing an additional \$9.5 million toward the project. The property along the Able Canal is owned by the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. County officials said the district has been closely involved in the design and permitting and will be involved during construction. The district will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of infrastructure not associated with the linear park project. Construction of the project is expected to begin late this year and be complete by fall 2026.

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***"Building Southwest Florida From The Ground Down"***

# NUCA

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