



Tulsa Market Brief

May 2016

Spotlight on the Market

[Traffic increasing at Tulsa Port of Catoosa](#)

Tulsa Business and Legal News – May 31, 2016

Officials at the Tulsa Port of Catoosa reported a 28 percent increase in shipments in April compared to a year ago. Shippers moved 180,328 tons through the port on 107 barges compared with 146,687 tons and 955 barges a year earlier. For the first four months of the year there was only a 0.5 percent increase in traffic with 667,206 tons going through the port on 503 barges compared with 663,790 tons on 412 barges during the same time in 2015.

[Glenpool fastest growing city in state](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - May 19, 2016

The city of Glenpool was the fastest growing city in the state last year, according to the latest figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. The city added an average of about 100 new residents per month for the 12-month period ending July 1, 2015, according to the bureau. The 10 percent annual growth rate is tops among the nearly 600 cities and towns in the state. The city, located south of Tulsa along U.S. 75, had an estimated population of 13,225 on July 1, 2015, an increase of 1,189 residents from the prior year.

[Hospitality House of Tulsa Opens third home as rural hospital crisis increases](#)

Tulsa Business & Legal News – May 17, 2016

Hospitality House of Tulsa, a local nonprofit organization that serves patient families from all Tulsa hospitals, celebrated the opening of its third "home away from home" in Tulsa on May 10. The grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for Hospitality House's Hotel Extension Program was held at the DoubleTree Hotel at Warren Place, where the Hotel Extension Program is located.

[Tulsa Joins National Celebration of Small Business Week](#)

Tulsa Business & Legal News – May 6, 2016

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, more than half of Americans either own or work for a small business. They estimate that small businesses create two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. In the Tulsa area, small businesses provide approximately 55,000 jobs and contribute an estimated \$1.5 billion in payroll for this region.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

[Faith and values blog: Netherlands TV ministry opens Tulsa office](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - May 31, 2016

A Netherlands-based ministry has set up a Tulsa office to support its unique global, television-based Christian outreach. Martien Timmer is the director and chief executive officer of 3xM, which produces and airs thousands of half-hour television shows in parts of the world that are not receptive to Christianity. Timmer and his partners in 14 nations in Asia and Africa produce and air television shows that are culturally relevant to the areas where they are shown, he said.

[Ihloff Salon and Day Spa to open in downtown Hyatt by mid-June](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - May 28, 2016

In just a few weeks downtown workers and guests at Hyatt Regency Tulsa will have easy access to a host of pampering options from one of Oklahoma's most popular providers of beauty and relaxation services. Ihloff Salon and Day Spa is nearly ready to open its new location inside the hotel at 100 E. Second St.

[Netlink Solutions holds ribbon cutting](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - May 27, 2016

Netlink Solutions has been in business for six months in Broken Arrow, but waited to celebrate its official ribbon cutting for Thursday at the 1913 W. Tacoma Suite F location. "We manage IT solutions for businesses 24/7," said Bret Grady, owner of Netlink Solutions.

Research Wizard Tulsa Market Brief

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400 Civic Center
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Ruth's Chris Steak House bound for River Spirit Casino in Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - May 27, 2016

Luxury restaurant brand Ruth's Chris Steak House is coming to Tulsa. The long-rumored entry into the Oklahoma market will be along the Arkansas River at the River Spirit Casino and Resort. It will be on the first floor of the casino overlooking the river and adjacent to Margaritaville at River Spirit. The New Orleans-founded steak house has 150 locations worldwide and is known for its steaks and seafood

Tulsa CPA firm honored for helping companies excel in global marketplace

Tulsa World (OK) - May 25, 2016

At this point, the sentiment that the world is becoming smaller and smaller and more and more connected is a cliché, Eric Kunkel said. But according to the CCK Strategies founding partner, that's because it's true. Within the course of just over a month, the Tulsa-based CPA firm received the 2016 Governor's Award for Excellence in Exporting during the Oklahoma World Trade conference and also was honored with the President's "E" Award for Export Service during a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Walmart donates millions to Oklahoma charitable organizations

Tulsa World (OK) - May 20, 2016

Walmart donates more than \$34 million to Oklahoma charitable organizations. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation announced that over the last fiscal year they gave a total of \$34,326,374 in cash and in-kind contributions to support nonprofit organizations and programs in Oklahoma. The contributions focused on fighting hunger and healthy eating, workforce development, disaster preparedness, and other needs specific to many Oklahoma communities.

BOK's new banking center holds ribbon cutting

Tulsa World (OK) - May 20, 2016

The Bank of Oklahoma opened its new banking center in Broken Arrow with a ribbon cutting ceremony just south of the Sprouts grocery and west of Lynn Lane. Heather Lowery did the honors by cutting the ribbon. Greg Wagner welcomed the Ambassadors and Chamber representatives.

White River Fish Market to open Broken Arrow location in fall

Tulsa World (OK) - May 19, 2016

White River Fish Market, whose origins go back to the early 1930s, will expand into Broken Arrow with a second location scheduled to open in late fall. White River general manager Chad Brinson said the Broken Arrow store will have a retail market and a full menu "exactly" like what is offered at the current restaurant. White River has been operating at 1708 N. Sheridan Road since 1965 and has been a popular spot for diners of all walks of life.

Spokto Beverage Co. wins product leg of StartUp Series

Tulsa World (OK) - May 19, 2016

Spokto Beverage Co., a craft brewing company that specializes in carbonated coffee and lemonade, won the fourth leg of Tulsa's StartUp Series on Wednesday night. With the win, the two founders, Carter Jarrett and Ryan Parker, receive \$2,500 toward the startup, weekly mentoring for three months, a spot in the i2E venture assessment program and a three-month membership to business incubator 36° North.

Tulsa's Advanced Industrial Devices announces new hires, Permian Basin expansion

Tulsa World (OK) - May 18, 2016

Tulsa-based Advanced Industrial Devices, a supplier of electric motors, controls and variable-speed drive packages, has hired two new management-level employees as part of a strategic expansion to serve the Permian Basin region, company officials announced earlier this week. Gabriel Cochran joins AID as Permian Region sales manager and Scott Parker will manage the company's new acquired motor and parts warehouse in Odessa, Texas. The leadership positions will provide further growth opportunities in the company's market share by ensuring equipment can arrive quickly and efficiently to targeted areas.

Utica Square Shopping Center announce new store openings

Tulsa Business & Legal News - May 17, 2016

Retail outlets Evereve and Athleta will open soon in Utica Square Shopping Center, officials announced last week. Also, Talbot's, a current merchant of Utica Square, has moved to a new space. Evereve, a casual contemporary boutique, specifically curates clothing, accessories and shoes for fashion-loving moms. Evereve will open at Utica Square at the end of June, located in the space previously occupied by Pea in the Pod, between J. Spencer and Brownies Gourmet Burgers. Athleta, a women's clothing store, specializes in athletic and everyday apparel designed by female athletes. Athleta will open in the fall in the south section of the space previously occupied by Talbot's, between Gap and West Elm.

Nestle Cafe opens second location

Tulsa World (OK) - May 11, 2016

Nestle Toll House Cafe by Chip has opened at 9717 E. 81st St., the second bakery-cafe location in Tulsa. The cafe features baked cookies, cookie cakes, brownies, smoothies, Nescafe Milano coffee and savory items, such as crepes, flatbreads, wraps and panini. The other cafe location is at 7021 S. Memorial Drive in Woodland Hills Mall.

Startup plans to mass produce shipping container homes

Tulsa World (OK) - May 10, 2016

Inner Circle Vodka's new bar probably carried some sort of cargo across some body of water. The used shipping container

now sits at an establishment in downtown Tulsa that caters to the people who work in the surrounding skyscrapers. But it was mostly built in an Adair cow field. Startups aren't strangers to far-flung labor in unconventional places. For ModernBlox, it's some craftsmen on a family farm in Adair instead of some students coding in a college basement. The company plans to manufacture and mass produce shipping container homes as a substitute for affordable housing and a safer option in tornado alley than mobile homes.

Tandy Family Y on track for July opening with new pools, fitness areas

Tulsa World (OK) - May 10, 2016

The first phase of YMCA of Greater Tulsa's new Tandy Family Y is on track for a July opening. The \$21 million construction and renovation project will ultimately result in a 96,000-square-foot facility to replace the 50-year-old Thornton Family YMCA at 5002 S. Fulton Ave.

\$9 million, 96-room Home2 Suites hotel now open in Tulsa Hills

Tulsa World (OK) - May 7, 2016

The first Home2 Suites by Hilton in northeastern Oklahoma opened last week in the Tulsa Hills shopping center. The \$9 million, 96-room hotel, located at 6910 S. Olympia Ave., was developed by Anish Hotels Group, whose CEO is Andy Patel.

Bama expanding Owasso plant to make hotcakes for McDonald's

Tulsa World (OK) - May 5, 2016

The sprawling Bama Foods facility outside of Owasso will soon expand into a vacant field next door to accommodate more orders from McDonald's. Bama will hold a ceremonial groundbreaking Thursday morning for a new product line — hotcakes — a sign of the success of McDonald's all-day breakfast menu. Bama's expansion will add 55 new jobs initially, with the potential for more in the future. While being built because of McDonald's, the company is confident that the expansion will help bring in more customers.

Alorica hiring additional 350 workers in Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - May 5, 2016

Alorica, a customer service and support center, is looking for another 350 employees in Tulsa. The company has openings in customer care, sales and bilingual support positions at its renovated office space in Eastgate Metroplex, 14002 E. 21st St. Suite 600. Alorica's clients include health care, financial, retail and hospitality businesses. The company is looking for employees with experience in customer service, whether retail, banking or call centers. The company, which began with 250 workers at its Tulsa center, now employs more than 1,200 people there.

Chef Jason Kendrick Vaughan to open J. Bradley's restaurant in Brookside

Tulsa World (OK) - May 3, 2016

Jason Kendrick Vaughan, known by his friends as Chef J.V., will open a new restaurant in Brookside called J. Bradley's. Target opening date is some time in June. It will be located at 3308 S. Peoria Ave. in space that formerly held Ciao Baby and Lokal.

Layoffs, Closings, Downsizes, Restructures

Samson Resources files amended Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan

Tulsa World (OK) - May 18, 2016

Samson Resources Corp. filed an amended Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan Tuesday in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware that the company says will allow it to continue to operate its business on a go-forward basis with significantly less long-term debt and lower annual interest payments. According to the Tulsa-based energy company, a revised agreement has become necessary due to the continued decline in gas prices during the course of Samson's Chapter 11 case. Samson says the new plan provides a fresh start, with a new agreement following the inability to fulfill several milestones in the original plan.

Newfield Exploration to close Tulsa office, affecting 200 employees

Tulsa World (OK) - May 11, 2016

Houston-area energy company Newfield Exploration announced Tuesday it is closing its Tulsa office. Existing Tulsa operations for the exploration, development and production company will be consolidated with the company's headquarters in The Woodlands, Texas. Newfield Exploration employs about 200 workers at its offices at One Williams Center in downtown Tulsa, according to a spokeswoman for the company.

Tulsa Community College to lay off 30

Tulsa World (OK) - May 11, 2016

Tulsa Community College is eliminating 15 full-time and 15 part-time staff positions because of state funding cuts, officials said Tuesday. The forced reductions, which are in addition to 184 pared through attrition over the past two years, were announced in an email to faculty and staff from President Leigh Goodson. "State budget failures this year and further reductions expected for next year will reduce TCC's state funding by a possible \$7 million compared to the budget we started FY16 with in July," Goodson said in her email. "The financial implications are significant for TCC."

Budget cuts: Broken Arrow, Union and Bixby school boards approve reductions

Tulsa World (OK) - May 10, 2016

School boards in the Broken Arrow, Union and Bixby school districts slashed a total of \$14.09 million out of their budgets and nearly 150 jobs out of their employee rosters in separate meetings around the metro area on Monday evening. Broken Arrow school board members prefaced their vote to reduce their Fiscal Year 2017 budget by \$7.39 million with stinging comments for state lawmakers.

Cancer Treatment Centers of America confirms layoffs at Tulsa site

Tulsa World (OK) - May 6, 2016

Cancer Treatment Centers of America confirmed that layoffs have occurred at its Southwest Regional Medical Center, located in Tulsa. A hospital spokeswoman said fewer than 100 employees were laid off on Wednesday.

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Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2016 April	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.7
2015 April	3.6	3.8	3.9	5.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Rates are not seasonally adjusted.