

December 2017

Spotlight on the Market

[City selects consultant to create master development plan for area near BOK Center](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 29, 2017

The city of Tulsa has selected MKSK, a Columbus, Ohio-based landscape architecture, planning and urban design company, to create a master plan for the area around the BOK Center and Cox Business Center. City officials say the "Arena District" plan will provide a long-sought-after roadmap for how to spur commercial development in the area, add attractive public spaces, connect the district with other parts of town and brand it with an identity of its own.

[No. 1 Business story of 2017: Aviation and aerospace has \\$11.7B impact on Tulsa area](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 24, 2017

Companies such as NORDAM, American Airlines and Lufthansa Technik generated some eye-catching aerospace and aviation headlines in 2017 in Tulsa. The aviation and aerospace sector's continued vibrancy made it the top business story of the year in the city. The Tulsa International Airport and surrounding off-airport and aviation and aerospace businesses in the Tulsa Metropolitan Statistical Area generate an annual economic impact of \$11.7 billion, according to a report released in August.

[City of Sapulpa's \\$1.5 million infrastructure grant will help businesses, including cosmetics company](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 22, 2017

SAPULPA — The city of Sapulpa has been awarded a \$1.5 million federal grant to make water infrastructure improvements to support business development and expansion that includes a campus for a California cosmetics company. According to grantee estimates, the infrastructure project is expected to create 1,515 jobs and attract \$813 million in private investment. SeneGence International, a direct-sales cosmetics and skin care firm that operates in more than a dozen countries, has announced it is constructing a corporate campus at 18377 W. Oklahoma 33.

[George Kaiser Family Foundation awards \\$6.7 million in grants to local nonprofits](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 22, 2017

The George Kaiser Family Foundation has announced more than \$6.7 million in grants to 75 area nonprofits. Most of the funding, about \$2.8 million, will go to support human service agencies, with the rest going to help fund basic needs, community health organizations and education. GKFF approved 57 of these grants in December, totaling nearly \$5.5 million, and grants totaling more than \$1.2 million for educational programming earlier this year.

[Students ready for the challenge of Union's Early College High School](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 17, 2017

Fifty-five Union Public Schools ninth-graders got some big news this week: They will be in the inaugural class of the district's Early College High School program, which is in collaboration with Tulsa Community College. The program will allow students to graduate with two years of college under their belts.

[Economists see growth in national, local market](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 15, 2017

The national economy is humming right along and locally things are starting to stabilize following the recent collapse in oil prices. That was the take away from the Tulsa Regional Chamber's State of the Economy on Thursday where local economists and industry experts discussed current trends and their local impact. The past six years have been marked with slow, steady growth and little growth in inflation. Those factors have combined to propel the market forward.

[Grand opening for new \\$7 million Bartlesville Boys & Girls Club set for Friday](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 13, 2017

BARTLESVILLE — A grand opening, ribbon-cutting and open house for a new \$7 million Boys & Girls Club are set for Friday. A ribbon cutting will be held at 401 S. Seminole Ave. and a public open house will be from 4 to 6 p.m. The facility includes a 30,000-square-foot building, outdoor basketball courts and artificial turf multipurpose playing field.

[Tri County Tech receives national recognition for workplace culture and leadership](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - December 7, 2017

BARTLESVILLE — Administrators at Tri County Tech for years have taken measured steps to create a model for workplace culture and leadership. Recent national recognition points toward their success in those efforts. The Bartlesville-based career and technology center was named one of the Best Small Workplaces by consulting firm Great Place to Work and Fortune magazine for the second year in a row — the only public school in the U.S. to make the list.

Research Wizard Tulsa Market Brief

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Chamber's five-star accreditation renewed

Tulsa World (OK) - December 3, 2017

The Tulsa Regional Chamber recently had its five-star accreditation renewed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, placing it as one of 112 organizations out of more than 7,000 chambers around the country accredited at the five-star level. Accreditation indicates that a chamber of commerce operates under effective organizational procedures and contributes to significant positive change in the community. The Tulsa Regional Chamber was evaluated in areas such as governance, government affairs and technology.

Unemployment data shows Oklahoma is adding jobs

Tulsa World (OK) - December 1, 2017

The latest data from state and federal jobs agencies continues to show that Oklahoma's employment situation is improving. On Thursday, preliminary unemployment rates for October in the Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Lawton and Enid areas were slightly lower than they were the previous month. Tulsa's rate was 4.4 percent for October, down from 4.5 in September. The jobless rate also showed improvements in a comparison between October 2017 and the same month a year ago.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

New construction progressing at Crossing Oaks Shopping Center

Tulsa World (OK) - August 31, 2017

A new department store under construction in the revamped Crossing Oaks Shopping Center is preparing for an autumn opening. Ross Dress for Less, 7120 S. Memorial Drive, has scheduled a grand opening for Oct. 7, according to the company's website. The store replaces an older location in the same shopping center. An Aspen Dental office is being built just east of the new Ross, and a WinCo Foods store, the first in Tulsa, is set to be completed in the shopping center in the fall of 2018.

Downtown Tulsa's historic Adams Hotel to get new owners, become apartments

Tulsa World (OK) - December 30, 2017

Downtown developer Stuart Price confided in the Tulsa World last July that he planned to turn the historic Adams Hotel building into apartments. Price Family Properties announced Friday that it is selling the 13-story building on the corner of Fourth Street and Cheyenne Avenue. The new owners will be a group led by Tim Strange, president of Newmark Grubb Levy Strange Beffort in Tulsa and Oklahoma City, and Tulsa real-estate development company Addax Development. The group plans to convert the building into 60 apartment units, due to open in summer 2019.

Dunkin' Donuts makes sweet return to Tulsa area

Tulsa World (OK) - December 29, 2017

Things have calmed down a touch since Dunkin' Donuts in Broken Arrow welcomed an estimated 900 customers its first five hours on opening day less than two weeks ago. Dunkin' Donuts is located in a shiny, new building on Aspen Avenue (145th East Avenue) just north of Kenosha Street (71st Street). That's about a mile south of the Broken Arrow Expressway. The franchise group has offices in Austin, Texas, and Boston, Massachusetts. General Manager Deanna Boulware handles the day-to-day operation of the store.

Tulsa County buys former CommunityCare Building downtown

Tulsa World (OK) - December 28, 2017

Tulsa County has purchased the former CommunityCare Building, 218 W. Sixth Street, from St. John Building Corp. for \$11.5 million. The county plans to consolidate offices into the nine-story, 185,000-square-foot structure, which was built in 1958. As part of the purchase, the county also bought three-story parking structure and a surface parking lot with combined parking for 580 cars. Renovations will begin in January and are expected to be completed the latter part of 2018.

Tally's Good Food Cafe opens south Tulsa store

Tulsa World (OK) - December 28, 2017

Tally's Good Food Café has opened its second location in a colorful building with a 1950s diner motif at 6100 S. Sheridan Road. Owner Tally Alame opened the original restaurant at 1102 S. Yale Ave. and last month celebrated its 30th anniversary. Alame's son, James, will operate the new location. Tally's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner from a wide-ranging menu of mostly traditional American fare.

Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe settling nicely into Cherry Street location

Tulsa World (OK) - December 27, 2017

A warm spot near the fireplace provided a toasty, comfortable setting for dinner at Taziki's Mediterranean Café on Cherry Street. Partners and franchisees Mike Pierce and Dino Nithianandan had opened Tulsa's first Taziki's a couple of years ago at 71st Street and Yale Avenue, remodeling a previous restaurant space. They were able to start from scratch on Cherry Street, moving into a new building in space that formerly held a car wash.

TTCU to open downtown branch in Philcade Building

Tulsa World (OK) - December 23, 2017

TTCU Federal Credit Union is constructing a branch in the historic Philcade Building, 501 S. Boston Ave. Scheduled to open in April, it will be the first TTCU downtown location in about 50 years, CEO and President Tim Lyons said.

Halliburton gives \$10 million to A Gathering Place for Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - December 21, 2017

A global oil-field services company, Halliburton knows what it's like to dig deep. On Thursday, the company did so in its wallet, announcing a pledge of \$10 million to A Gathering Place for Tulsa. The company has more than 3,600 employees in Ok-

lahoma, with presences in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Duncan, Norman, El Reno and a number of small towns.

Fortune 500 company brings 60 jobs to downtown Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - December 20, 2017

Ingredient makes yogurt smooth and creamy and crackers crunchy, Chief Financial Officer Jim Gray said. On Tuesday, the global ingredients solutions firm made Tulsans happy by celebrating about 60 new local jobs at the grand opening of its shared service center at 810 S. Cincinnati Ave. The Fortune 500 company, headquartered in suburban Chicago, has roughly 11,000 employees worldwide and manufactures in more than 40 countries.

FlyingTee partners with national firm to begin expansion process

Tulsa World (OK) - December 19, 2017

The three-story, 53,000 square-foot facility at the Jenks Riverwalk features 60 golf bays where guests can play virtual versions of famous courses, compete in various games or practice their swing. FlyingTee has partnered with ADMI, which provides project management for clients in the hospitality, restaurant, retail and commercial real estate industries and has worked with clients including the Walt Disney Co., Sony and Apple Computer. An announcement of the location for the first of several planned corporate-owned facilities across the country is expected in the first quarter of next year.

Advertising/Promotion Company Formed

GTR Newspapers - December 19, 2017

Todd Fimple and Shannon Thompson have formed a new company, Oklahoma Promo, which offers thousands of advertising and promotional products to businesses from coast to coast. Friends since they were students at Oklahoma State University, Fimple and Thompson have a combined experience of 40 years in sales and marketing with 14 years in advertising and promotional products.

Tulsa Entrepreneur Introduces Roots Java Coffee

GTR Newspapers - December 19, 2017

Clifton Taulbert, a Tulsa-based author and entrepreneur, has entered the multi-billion dollar national coffee supply chain with Roots Java Coffee. African Bean Company is the first nationally certified, African American owned coffee supply company providing national distribution including the territories, according to Taulbert. The company's coffee is branded Roots Java Coffee.

Lobeck Taylor Launches Kiva Tulsa for Small Business

GTR Newspapers - December 19, 2017

The Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation (LTFF), in partnership with Louisville-based Access Ventures, celebrated the official launch of Kiva Tulsa recently. Kiva Tulsa is an initiative that offers zero percent interest crowdfunded microloans up to \$10,000 to small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in Tulsa and the surrounding areas.

Local safety services company reaches 1 million man-hours without incident

Tulsa World (OK) - December 16, 2017

A local company specializing in refinery safety recently hit a significant milestone in injury-free operations. Since opening in 2012, JCL Service Co. has recorded more than 1 million man-hours of work without an OSHA-reportable injury. The company has two divisions providing safety and risk services to its clients, most of which are downstream oil and gas companies.

China Airlines and NORDAM Sign Agreement

GTR Newspapers - December 15, 2017

Tulsa-based NORDAM and China Airlines recently signed a joint-venture agreement that established NORDAM Asia Limited, a company to repair and overhaul structural aircraft components for the China Airlines fleet and for other airlines in the Asia-Pacific region.

Promise Hotels, Ross Group to build hotel in arts district

Tulsa World (OK) - December 12, 2017

Local companies Promise Hotels and Ross Group are known for their collaborations. On Monday, they cemented another, breaking ground on a \$16 million Holiday Inn Express near ONEOK Field. The five-story Holiday Inn Express, to be located on Archer Street between Detroit and Elgin avenues, will feature 115 guest rooms, an indoor heated pool, fitness center, sweet shop and market, a business center and meeting rooms.

Dine-in theater, entertainment center coming near 71st Street and Memorial Drive

Tulsa World (OK) - December 6, 2017

Jeffrey Benson has opened three dine-in movie theaters and entertainment centers in Texas and has a fourth one on the way. Now, thanks in part to a city of Tulsa incentive program, he is bringing his Cinergy Entertainment business to Oklahoma. Benson, company CEO and founder, told city councilors Wednesday that Tulsa's 60,000-square-foot entertainment center will be built inside existing commercial properties, including Village Movies 8, at 6808 S. Memorial Drive.

Williams Partners completes fifth Transco expansion in 2017

Tulsa World (OK) - December 5, 2017

Williams Partners announced Tuesday that it has placed into service its Virginia Southside II expansion project. The project expands Williams Partners' Transco pipeline system to supply Dominion Virginia Power's new electric generation facility in Greensville County, Virginia. This is fifth of five planned Transco expansions to become operational this year. The five expansions add 2.8 million dekatherms per day of firm transportation capacity, increasing Transco's design capacity by nearly 25 percent.

Lone Wolf Banh Mi sets grand opening Friday in Tulsa Arts District

Tulsa World (OK) - December 5, 2017

Lone Wolf Banh Mi plans a grand opening of its newest location Friday in the new Archer Building in the Tulsa Arts District.

Owner Philip Phillips said he had hoped to open sooner, but a shipping delay of bowls and plates pushed back the opening of the restaurant, at 203 E. Archer St. Lone Wolf also has a location at 3136 E. 11th St. and operates one of the most popular food trucks in town.

City to seek engineering, design bids for Gilcrease Museum expansion early next year, officials say

Tulsa World (OK) - December 1, 2017

The process of re-imagining and reconstructing the Gilcrease Museum is expected to begin in earnest in the spring when the city issues requests for proposals for design and engineering work on the \$65 million Vision Tulsa project, city officials said this week. The Gilcrease Museum renovation was the most expensive Vision Tulsa project approved by voters last year.

Closures, Layoffs, Bankruptcies

Oklahoma Department of Health begins laying off 198 employees

Tulsa World (OK) - December 9, 2017

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma State Department of Health laid off 37 people on Friday and announced 161 others likely will lose their jobs in March. Those laid off Friday were unclassified employees, meaning they didn't have state civil service protections. Some worked at county health departments as advanced practice registered nurses, local emergency response coordinators and partnership consultants. Others worked in the central offices in records, minority health, performance management and the Center for Health Innovation and Effectiveness.

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Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2017 November	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.9
2016 November	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.4

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