

September 2016

Spotlight on the Market

[Tulsa's Booker T. Washington, Sadler Arts in Muskogee among four Oklahoma schools with National Blue Ribbon recognition](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - September 30, 2016

Four Oklahoma schools, including one in Tulsa and one in Muskogee, were recognized by the U.S. secretary of education Thursday as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2016, putting them among 329 schools nationwide to receive the award this year. Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa, Sadler Arts Academy in Muskogee, L. Mendel Rivers Elementary School in Altus and Northwood Elementary School in Piedmont received the recognition based on "overall academic excellence," according to a news release. They are among 279 public and 50 private schools that will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 7 and 8.

[Oil and gas industry key to state economy, study says](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - September 25, 2016

Despite the current downturn, the oil and gas industry continues to be a vital driver of Oklahoma's economy, according to an updated report commissioned by the state chamber of commerce. Released Wednesday, the study, "Economic Impact of the Oil & Gas Industry on Oklahoma," reports that almost 150,000 Oklahomans earned \$15.6 billion in wages or self-employment income from oil and natural gas activity in 2015, and that public education received \$331 million in oil and gas severance tax revenue. Among the many other positive impacts that the industry has on the state are oil and gas supporting an estimated \$65.7 billion in total state output and activity in the industry supporting an estimated \$28.6 billion in additional spillover output of goods and services in other industry sectors statewide.

[Central Library's grand reopening set for Oct. 1](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - September 23, 2016

Central Library staff are putting out the last of the materials, arranging furniture and getting artwork in place, all in anticipation of a grand opening on Oct. 1. The \$55 million worth of renovations to the building includes modern but comfortable furniture, updated technology, new areas for creation, study cubicles overlooking downtown Tulsa and a children's area filled with play stations and book bins for easy access.

[Drinking water company coming to The Boxyard](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - September 22, 2016

A regional purified drinking water company will be an anchor tenant of The Boxyard retail and dining development under construction in the East Village, officials announced Wednesday. Culligan of Tulsa's new joint venture is called The Water Co. Developed by Nelson-Stowe, The Boxyard is \$2.5 million shipping container development going up at Third Street and Frankfort Avenue. The Water Co. is scheduled to open in November when The Boxyard celebrates its grand opening.

[Habitat For Humanity Leads 24-Hour Home Build](#)

GTR Newspapers - September 22, 2016

In an effort to redevelop the Kendall Whittier neighborhood, Tulsa Habitat for Humanity and local community partners, including the Home Builders Association (HBA) Charitable Foundation and Silvercrest Homes, held "Open the Door in 24," a 24-hour complete home build event starting the morning of Aug. 18. By 8 a.m. on Aug. 19, volunteers had transformed an empty lot in the Kendall Whittier neighborhood at 2522 E. 5th Pl. into a three-bedroom, two-bathroom, one-garage home that will serve as a model for future Habitat for Humanity homes.

[Jenks breaks ground on park that some locals comparing to Guthrie Green](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - September 21, 2016

JENKS — Promoting it as a tool for economic development that will help attract young professionals to the suburb, Jenks officially broke ground Tuesday on a new downtown park that some locals have compared to Tulsa's Guthrie Green. Like the Brady District's popular hangout, Jenks' Downtown Commons will feature a sleek, modern design with green space and a covered stage for concerts and public events. And like the Guthrie Green, the Commons will create a natural destination for pedestrians as they come and go from nearby shops and restaurants.

Research Wizard Tulsa Market Brief

Tulsa City-County Library
400 Civic Center
Tulsa, OK 74103
www.tulsalibrary.org



Phone: 918-549-7431
Fax: 918-549-7433
Email: wizard@tulsalibrary.org

"Customizing Information
to Meet
Your Business Needs"

Wind a growing force in Oklahoma energy

Tulsa World (OK) - September 19, 2016

Oklahoma is blowing away its competition in its battle to be a national leader in wind energy. The industry is providing investment, employment and new jobs to the state every day, said Hannah Hunt, a senior industry data analyst with the American Wind Energy Association. The state's prominence in the industry can be seen in an array of statistics. Oklahoma currently ranks No. 4 in the nation in terms of installed wind power capacity, with potentially enough projects coming online by the end of the year to take the No. 3 spot from California, behind Texas (No. 1) and Iowa (No. 2).

Major industrial park development at former steel mill site to change heart of Sand Springs

Tulsa World (OK) - September 14, 2016

The Sand Springs City Council has entered into an agreement to be a part of a major redevelopment plan for the former Sheffield Steel mill in the middle of the city. Officials said the project will breathe new life into a very visible part of Sand Springs. "This will be transformative for generations for the citizens of Sand Springs," City Manager Elizabeth Gray said. The Sheffield Steel plant and rail line to Tulsa were purchased by Gerdau Ameristeel, which eventually halted production in 2009. OmniTRAX bought the site in 2014, apparently with plans for redevelopment.

Cherokees OK \$934 million budget, largest in tribe's history

Tulsa World (OK) - September 14, 2016

TAHLEQUAH — The Cherokee Nation's 2017 budget is set and on track to be the largest in the tribe's history. On Monday night, the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council approved a \$934.2 million budget for the coming fiscal year. With funding from a combination of grants, compacts, contracts, dividends, taxes and revenue from the tribe's gaming and nongaming businesses, that figure represents a \$170 million increase from 2016. The budget includes money for a new facility at W.W. Hastings Hospital as part of the Cherokee Nation's ongoing health-care capital improvement plan. The tribe is expected to break ground on the \$170 million, 450,000-square-foot building by the end of the calendar year.

Home construction in area soared last month

Tulsa World (OK) - September 14, 2016

Housing starts surged in August, jumping 43.2 percent over the same month a year ago. Building permits issued in the metro region were 255 for August, up from the 178 posted last year at this time, according to the permit tracking service New Orders Weekly. Through the first eight months of 2015, the construction total stands at 1,873, a rise of 4.87 percent. August's figure is the highest for the month since 2008 (279) and the second-highest number posted this calendar year.

Hotel Indigo coming to Santa Fe Square in downtown Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - September 10, 2016

Hotel Indigo, a national boutique hotel brand, is headed for Santa Fe Square in downtown Tulsa, developer Blue Dome Hotel Center LLC said Friday. The seven-story, 85,000-square-foot hotel will be along Elgin Avenue between First and Second streets. It will be part of the mixed-use development at Santa Fe Square from Nelson Stowe, which has been billed by some as "really going to shift the needle." The plan is to break ground on the hotel in the spring of 2017.

Planning Commission recommends plan for Vision's Peoria-Mohawk industrial park

Tulsa World (OK) - September 8, 2016

Planning commissioners approved amendments to the comprehensive plan Wednesday to move forward on Vision Tulsa-supported infrastructure for a north Tulsa industrial park. Backed by the George Kaiser Family Foundation, the project is preparing about 112 acres for a yet-to-be-determined "employment center" where more than 1,000 jobs are promised. Vision Tulsa's tax is providing about \$10 million for infrastructure to prepare the largely undeveloped land between Lewis and Peoria avenues on the south side of 36th Street North, bounded on the south by Mohawk Boulevard.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

Former Miss Jackson's fur shop opens Thursday

Tulsa World (OK) - September 29, 2016

Koslow's Furs of Tulsa spent almost three decades in the now-closed Miss Jackson's at Utica Square. It opens Thursday at its new location at 101st Street and Sheridan Road. Final preparations were still ongoing when the World visited the small storefront in the Village South shopping center Wednesday morning. Workers were putting the sign above the door. The store will sell furs, accessories and designer apparel. Koslow's also specializes in fur storage, cleaning, repairs and restyling.

Bank of Oklahoma breaks ground on Jenks branch

Tulsa World (OK) - September 28, 2016

JENKS — Bank of Oklahoma broke ground Tuesday on a new branch in Haddington Square, which is also home to a Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market and a Kum & Go. The new branch at 111th and Elm streets will replace a location in the Reasor's grocery store about a mile away. For Bank of Oklahoma, it's the second sign of expansion in the Tulsa-area market in 2016. Neither has been in Tulsa, however. The other new branch, which opened at Hillside Crossing in Broken Arrow, was the first new location not replacing an existing one that the bank had opened since 2008.

Manhattan Construction awarded contract for family justice center

Tulsa World (OK) - September 27, 2016

Manhattan Construction Co. was formally awarded a contract Monday to manage the \$45 million family justice center project. Tulsa County commissioners took the action Monday morning during their weekly board meeting. The center is to be built

near the Tulsa Jail on land formerly occupied by Storey Wrecker Service. About \$45 million in sales tax revenue is dedicated to the project. Of that amount, about \$5.6 million was paid for the land.

New Google facility opening in Pryor brings its Oklahoma investment to \$2 billion

Tulsa World (OK) - September 24, 2016

PRYOR — Google and its uber popular search engine apparently have found a long-term home in Oklahoma. The Internet services company doubled down on its commitment Friday, announcing the opening of a new four-story facility that will help push the company's investment in the state to \$2 billion by 2018. Google announced it was coming to Oklahoma in 2007, and its first data center opened in the MidAmerica Industrial Park four years later. By the time Google unveiled its second building in 2012, the company's investment in the state was \$700 million.

NORDAM announces new partnership with Wencor Group

Tulsa World (OK) - September 24, 2016

NORDAM's Transparency Division has a new partnership with Wencor Group, a global provider of aerospace aftermarket solutions. The Tulsa-based aerospace company announced Friday a new business relationship through which Wencor will act as the authorized distributor for NORDAM aircraft-transparency aftermarket products in Asia and Latin America. The distribution agreement authorizes Wencor to maintain inventory of NORDAM products for resale in the Asian and Latin American regions. The products include commercial flight-deck windows, passenger cabin windows, wing-tip and landing-light lenses.

Macy's to add about 3,500 area workers for holiday season

Tulsa World (OK) - September 21, 2016

NEW YORK — Macy's plans to hire about 83,000 people for the busy holiday shopping season, about equal to the number of hires last year. Macy's said it was planning to add about 3,500 workers to its Tulsa-area fulfillment center. The new hires will work at Macy's or Bloomingdale's department stores, call centers or at the company's facilities that ship products to stores and to online shoppers.

Callidus Technologies launches new flare field

Tulsa World (OK) - September 19, 2016

For around 20 seconds Monday morning, a flare burned with the energy equivalent of 6,700 burners on residential stoves at Callidus Technologies' manufacturing facility in Beggs. The flare was part of an inauguration ceremony for the company's state-of-the-art facility for testing gas combustion flares. The new facility is surrounded on three sides by a 45-foot steel containment wall as well as a metal fence that completes the enclosure. The new flare-testing facility was completed in March and cost approximately \$2 million. The project is an affirmation of the continued investments that Illinois-based Honeywell UOP — which Callidus has been a part of since 2013 — continues to make in Callidus and in the region, said Neil Eckersley, general manager of Callidus Technologies.

Arvest again surpasses \$1 billion mortgage mark

Tulsa World (OK) - September 18, 2016

Arvest Bank announced today its mortgage division has originated more than \$1 billion in mortgage loans — both purchase-money and refinance loans — for the 14th year in a row, company officials said last week. As of Aug. 19, Arvest had closed a total of 6,272 loans with total loan value of \$1,010,992,848. In 2015, Arvest didn't hit the \$1 billion mark until Aug. 21.

Home Helpers receives national recognition

Tulsa World (OK) - September 18, 2016

Tulsa's Home Helpers (serving clients in Broken Arrow, Muskogee, Wagoner, Jenks, Sapulpa, and Glenpool) was named as this year's recipient for the Outstanding Franchise Business Award during a ceremony Thursday in Washington, D.C. Sponsored by the UPS store and given by the SCORE foundation, the award honors their most successful clients. The SCORE foundation mentors America's small businesses, serving over 350,000 clients annually. Home Helpers specializes in comprehensive home care for seniors and new mothers, as well as other specialized individual cases. They also provide 24-7 medical alert services and an automatic medication dispenser.

HoganTaylor recognized as Top 200 firm

Tulsa World (OK) - September 18, 2016

HoganTaylor was ranked 102nd of the 200 largest CPA firms in the the United States by INSIDE Public Accounting. For the most recent fiscal year, IPA 200 firms range in size from \$15.7 million to \$34.2 million. According to IPA, HoganTaylor's net revenue was \$32,950,321 in the most recent fiscal year.

Love's Travel Stop opens in Okmulgee

Tulsa World (OK) - September 16, 2016

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma City-based Love's Travel Stops opened a travel stop in Okmulgee Thursday, according to a company news release. The 10,000-square-foot store will employ about 60 people, the release said. The travel stop will include an IHOP Express restaurant. The new stop is located just off U.S. 75 at 1300 N. Wood Drive, according to the Love's website.

Goodies Java House opens in BA

Tulsa World (OK) - September 11, 2016

Broken Arrow resident Robin Allen has been everything from a preacher and missionary to chief financial officer. Regardless of her duties, her heart has always been about serving her community. Her latest endeavor, Goodies Java House, may be a new move for even her repertoire, but her goal is the same. The coffee shop opened its doors on Aug. 2, but held a grand

opening celebration on Saturday, September 3 that featured a day of live outdoor music that was well received by the community. Goodies offers specialty drinks, including hot and cold coffees, teas and 100 percent fruit smoothies. There is a food menu as well, with breakfast, soups of the day and homemade chicken salad croissants.

Matrix Service Co. awarded \$70 million contract

Tulsa World (OK) - September 8, 2016

Matrix Service Company announced Wednesday that KBR, Inc. has awarded Matrix North American Construction a project in excess of \$70 million. The contract is for construction services on KBR's Tier 3 ultra-low-sulfur gasoline relocation project at Monroe Energy's refinery in Trainer, Pa. Matrix North American Construction will provide mechanical, electrical and instrumentation construction services, including taking apart and reconstructing a 60,000 barrels per day SCANfining unit being relocated from another facility. The Tulsa-based business is part of the Matrix family of companies under parent company Matrix Service Company.

Wal-Mart opens 8th employee academy in Broken Arrow

Tulsa World (OK) - September 4, 2016

Wal-Mart took another step in its efforts to be more customer friendly and boost employee retention. The megaretailer graduated a class of about 40 from its new employee training academy Friday in Broken Arrow. It is the eighth such academy in the nation, with about 200 planned, according to the company. The employee training center is housed at the Wal-Mart Supercenter at 3900 E. Hillside Drive.

H2Oasis opens in The Farm Shopping Center

Tulsa World (OK) - September 4, 2016

The goal is for H2Oasis Float Center and Tea House to be a place that causes people's shoulders to instantly drop and their faces to relax when they walk through the doors, owner Connie Swan said. Tulsa's newest float center opened Monday in a 4,300-square-foot space in The Farm Shopping Center. Floating is a relaxation-fostering practice that consists of lying suspended in a tank or pool of water filled with about 1,000 pounds of dissolved Epsom salt.

Casino Cash Trac puts gaming on fast track

Tulsa World (OK) - September 4, 2016

This month, Inc. 5000 unveiled online its fastest-growing private companies in the nation, saving some enviable spots for CCT. Sporting a 1,575 percent increase in revenues since 2012, Casino Cash Trac ranked as the No. 1 company in Oklahoma, the 19th software company in America and the 251st fastest-growing firm in the United States. CCT offers its Casino Audit System solution for cage operations and revenue audit automation.

Tactical Electronics expands

Tulsa World (OK) - September 2, 2016

Tactical Electronics celebrated the opening of their new 30,000 square foot building in Broken Arrow at 2300 N. Sweet Gum on Friday with a ribbon cutting. Tactical Electronics is moving both manufacturing and production to the brand new facility which will be located in Broken Arrow. The new facility offers the potential to increase their manufacturing capacity by 800 percent and will house the following departments: machining, production, training, inventory and quality assurance.

Layoffs, Closings, Downsizes, Restructures

TU announces 5 percent workforce reduction

Tulsa World (OK) - September 22, 2016

The University of Tulsa has announced a number of cost-cutting steps, including a 5 percent reduction in workforce. Other measures include voluntary reductions in salaries and changes to employee benefits. The 5 percent cut in workforce translates into the elimination of 43 non-faculty staff and an additional 19 positions that will not be filled. A hiring freeze for all open, non-endowed positions will remain in effect.

WPX Energy eliminating 41 jobs in Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - September 19, 2016

WPX Energy announced Monday that it is eliminating 41 jobs in Tulsa, which represents 6 percent of the company's workforce. The affected positions fall under the umbrellas of measurement, land, marketing, finance, accounting, human resources and information technology. The action follows the culmination of WPX's transition services agreement related to the sale of its Piceance Basin subsidiary, which was announced in February and completed this spring. Following the changes, WPX will employ approximately 450 people in Tulsa and another 200 in its operating areas for a total of 650 companywide. WPX employed 1,075 people in September 2015.

ConocoPhillips to cut 90 in Bartlesville in previously announced layoffs

Tulsa World (OK) - September 14, 2016

The latest round of ConocoPhillips layoffs will affect approximately 90 workers in Bartlesville, the company announced Monday. That's about 6 percent of the 1,400 employees at the location, a number that is in step with the exploration and production company's previously announced 6 percent global workforce reduction that these layoffs are a part of.

Linde Engineering North America lays off 25 in Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - September 3, 2016

Linde Engineering North America has laid off around 8 percent of its nationwide workforce, the company confirmed Friday.

The staff reductions affected around 25 people at the company's Tulsa-area locations and a total of 40 people across all locations that include Houston; Blue Bell, Pa.; and Holly Springs, Ga. The laid-off employees were provided with out-placement services and severance packages, according to a company statement.

Current & archive issues of **Tulsa Market Brief** are available at www.researchwizard.org

Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2016 August	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.0
2015 August	4.1	4.3	4.2	5.2

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