

November 2016

Spotlight on the Market

[Tulsa Port of Catoosa may reach 2 million tons after strong October](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 22, 2016

With strong October traffic, the Tulsa Port of Catoosa is likely to return to handling more than 2 million tons during the year, surpassing a year earlier when spring, summer and December rains resulted in high, fast-moving water, cutting that year's traffic to 1.55 million tons, the lowest since the 1.4 million in 1986, port officials reported. So far 1.79 million tons and 1,020 barges have gone through the port, up from 1.26 million tons and 764 barges during the same period in 2015. Only 103 tons — less than one barge — is needed in November and December to hit 2 million.

[Osage Nation unveils plans to construct much larger Tulsa casino complex with a brew pub concept](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 18, 2016

The Osage Nation hopes to distinguish its flagship Tulsa casino from other local destination sites by going "radically different" and implementing a brew pub concept as part of a \$150 million expansion. Tribal leaders on Thursday morning hosted a groundbreaking for the 18-month project, which will upgrade its Tulsa locale at 951 W. 36th Street North and feature a hotel, event center, sports bar and grill, cafe, and a brew pub. Ultimately, plans call for all existing structures to be razed, but the current casino will remain open until the new one is operational.

[Sibling ice pops entrepreneurs get boost with top prize at Tulsa StartUp Series](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 17, 2016

A pair of brothers who make a cold dessert tasted sweet success Wednesday night. Chris and Robby Davis, creators of The Pop House, took home the top prize during the Tulsa StartUp Series finals at the Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity on the Tulsa Community College Metro Campus. They earned a prize check for \$15,000, a yearlong membership to 36 Degrees North and the services of a mentor for a year. The Davises beat out four other finalists in the live pitch competition sponsored by the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation and Tulsa Community College. Dear Girls placed second and won \$4,000, and Agruity, an online marketplace for agricultural products, placed third and earned \$1,500.

[Newly opened spaces for entrepreneurs spark start-ups in Tulsa, according to report](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 17, 2016

New facilities designed to groom Tulsa entrepreneurs have boosted their presence in the city and enhanced chances for success, a nonprofit report released today said. Three new hubs for entrepreneurs opened in 2016: 36 Degrees North, Kitchen 66 and Savage Space, according to The State of Entrepreneurship in Tulsa, a 30-page report published by the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation (LTF). 36 Degrees North is 11,500 square-foot basecamp for entrepreneurs co-founded by LTF. In less than a year it has welcomed more than 4,800 unique visitors, played host to at least 270 events and has enrolled 200 members representing 80 Tulsa companies, the report says. In January, LTF launched Kitchen 66, a kitchen incubator for food entrepreneurs in the city.

[NSU-Broken Arrow continues to deliver on investment](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 13, 2016

With its distinctive clock tower, green-roofed red brick buildings roofs and impeccable landscape, "the Northeastern State University Broken Arrow campus makes an impression upon you the moment you see it," says NSU President Steve Turner. NSUBA, which serves approximately 3,494 students in five different colleges, celebrated its 15th anniversary in August.

[OSU Center for Health Systems Innovations celebrates new location](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - November 12, 2016

The Oklahoma State University Center for Health Systems Innovation celebrated the grand opening of its new location on Friday. The center, a joint venture between the OSU Spears School of Business in Stillwater and the OSU Center for Health Sciences, is now housed in the Cyntergy Building at 810 S. Cincinnati Ave. The center has 19 full-time staff and several graduate students working to transform rural and Native American health by implementing innovative care delivery and information technology solutions.

[Hideaway 66th among pizza U.S. companies](#)

Tulsa Business & Legal News – November 11, 2016

Hideaway Pizza was ranked No. 66 in Pizza Today magazine's 2016 ranking of the nation's most successful pizza companies, up six spots from its No. 70 ranking in 2015. With a reported \$43 million in gross sales among 16 outlets, the Tulsa-based company was the smallest company in the top 70. Pizza Hut, with \$13.7 billion in sales and 16,063 outlets, was ranked No. 1 ahead of Domino's, which had \$9.6 billion in sales and 13,000 outlets.

Research Wizard Tulsa Market Brief

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Residence Inn part of downtown hotel renaissance

Tulsa World (OK) - November 9, 2016

Tulsa's hospitality footprint continues to expand downtown. The Residence Inn by Marriott is one of several hotels sprouting up downtown. "Seven new hotels have been announced or are currently under development in downtown Tulsa," Brittany Sawyer, executive director of the Metro Tulsa Hotel & Lodging Association, said in a statement. "If all happen, that would bring the total number of hotels downtown to 16."

Cain's Ballroom documentary shines light on Tulsa's music history

Tulsa World (OK) - November 6, 2016

After more than seven years of research and 40 interviews already completed, producers of the documentary on the history of Cain's Ballroom are looking for a push over the finish line. "Raisin' Cain: The History of Cain's Ballroom" has been the project of director Tate Wittenberg for seven years, and he sees the finish line in sight. He's aiming for about 20 more interviews before moving the project to post-production, with a goal to release the film in 2017, he said. Wittenberg and the film's producers launched an IndieGoGo page to help raise the last bit of money for the film.

Tulsa Development Authority advances home development project in north Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - November 4, 2016

The Tulsa Development Authority on Thursday agreed to enter into talks with a developer who wants to convert vacant land in north Tulsa into 16 affordable homes. The TDA voted unanimously to begin negotiations with Owasso-based Capital Homes Residential Group, which intends to develop East Latimer Street between North Boston Avenue and North Main Street, near the Brady Heights Historic District.

River Spirit Casino Resort's new music venue nears completion; opening acts announced

Tulsa World (OK) - November 4, 2016

In less than two months, the large white doors with bamboo handles will swing open to welcome the first guests to paradise. Paradise Cove, the new theater and music venue at the renovated River Spirit Casino Resort, will open Jan. 6 with its first performance, kicking off a month of big shows that will culminate with Margaritaville's head parrothead, Jimmy Buffett, performing at an invitation-only grand opening celebration. By the time Paradise Cove opens in January, finishing touches on the 483-room high-rise hotel will be underway, with several floors complete. The only Ruth's Chris Steakhouse in Oklahoma will be open next to the already operating Margaritaville casino and restaurant.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

QuikTrip expanding in Tulsa, nationwide and helping Amazon customers

Tulsa World (OK) - November 30, 2016

National brands aren't the only things coming to Hillside Drive in Broken Arrow. There's a brand-new QuikTrip on the way, too. The new store is among four QuikTrips under construction at the moment in the metro area. It's another Generation 3 store, but has a unique gas pump setup, with pumps on both sides of the store. The new stores under construction are the Broken Arrow location, 900 E. Hillside Drive, and one in Sapulpa at 1222 N. Ninth St., near the Turner Turnpike toll booth. The other stores under construction are relocations and will be at 7 N. Yale Ave., just off Interstate 244, and 7525 E. 61st St., which is being built in front of Shadow Mountain Racquet Club.

EMSA continues to rank in top 1 percent of EMS providers nationally

Tulsa World (OK) - November 25, 2016

The Emergency Medical Services Authority achieved a perfect score on its reaccreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services this month and maintains EMSA's place among the top 1 percent of systems nationwide for its high-quality patient care and administration. The process includes a lengthy application as well as a stringent on-site review of operations.

Dwelling Spaces store to open in The Boxyard on Friday

Tulsa World (OK) - November 25, 2016

Downtown retailer Dwelling Spaces will open its new location at The Boxyard on Friday, giving shoppers an earlier-than-expected chance to visit downtown Tulsa's newest retail development on one of the biggest shopping days of the year. The store and Boxyard developer Nelson+Stowe said in a news release Thursday that the pioneering downtown retailer will reopen at 10 a.m. It will be the opening salvo for The Boxyard, a shipping container retail concept on Third Street.

Pair of local public relations companies merging

Tulsa World (OK) - November 21, 2016

A Tulsa public relations consulting firm has beefed up its staff to better serve its clients. Propeller Communications and Waller & Company announced Monday that they are joining forces. The combined company, which is at 1335 E. 11th St., will operate under the Propeller Communications mantle and will be headed by Propeller founder Jesse Boudiette. Waller & Company founders and principals Barrett Waller and Mary Waller will join Propeller's leadership team, the former as vice president and the latter as executive strategist.

BOKF a step closer to Mobank acquisition

Tulsa World (OK) - November 20, 2016

BOK Financial received regulatory approval from the Federal Reserve Board on Wednesday for its acquisition of Kansas City-based MBT Bancshares, known as Mobank. When the merger is completed, it will bump BOKF up a spot to 54th among the largest bank holding companies in the U.S. It's also a significant boost to the firm's Kansas City operations and market share.

HomeGoods store to hold a grand opening Sunday in south Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - November 11, 2016

The much-anticipated HomeGoods store will open its Tulsa location at 8 a.m. Sunday. HomeGoods, which offers discount home fashions, has renovated a 21,136-square-foot location at 101st Street and South Memorial Drive. It joins the retail-heavy corridor near the city's first Costco Wholesale store, which opened in April at 103rd Street and Memorial Drive. HomeGoods offers giftware, home basics, accent furniture, lamps, rugs and wall decor, and operates more than 526 stores in 45 states and Puerto Rico.

Peoria Avenue Wal-Mart holds grand reopening

Tulsa Business & Legal News – November 11, 2016

The newly remodeled Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market at 4404 S. Peoria Ave. is holding a grand reopening celebration this weekend. The project features a bright, open look in the store, an enhanced fresh produce experience and an updated pharmacy.

Tulsa's Miratech announces intellectual property acquisition from Vaporphase

Tulsa World (OK) - November 10, 2016

Miratech, a Tulsa-based leading manufacturer of emissions control solutions for industrial engines, announced Tuesday an acquisition that includes the purchase of intellectual property from Vaporphase. Certain key employees of the St. Louis-based heat recovery equipment company are also joining Miratech as part of the transaction, according to the news release. The Vaporphase product line includes both hot water and steam production systems, in both horizontal and vertical applications and have proven applications on numerous brands of engines fueled by diesel, gas and synthetic fuels.

Tulsa-based Channel Solutions Provider AgoNow to launch

Tulsa World (OK) - November 6, 2016

AgoNow LLC, a Tulsa-based pure industrial wholesaler and channel solutions provider, will open for business this month, the company announced this week. The new company facilitates profitable relationships between distributors and manufacturers through services that allow manufacturers to sell deeper into their portfolios and industrial distributors to identify new opportunities and grow their market share. AgoNow will sell only to distributors and resellers.

QuikTrip makes Best Companies to Work For list for 14th year

Tulsa World (OK) - November 5, 2016

QuikTrip added another year of being a best place to work to its stable of accolades. This week, Fortune Magazine released its best places to work list, and QuikTrip was ranked 76th on the 100 Best Companies to Work For. It also came in at No. 5 among large retailers. The company, which employs more than 20,000 workers, is no stranger to these honors, having made the Fortune list every year since 2003.

Refurbished, re-branded early learning center opens in Brookside

Tulsa World (OK) - November 4, 2016

Newly furnished and aptly located, Avant Garde offered its administrator a chance she couldn't pass up. "I felt like what a great opportunity for there to be a brand-new, fresh preschool in this area because there are not very many," said Amber Crisp-McCann, director of Avant Garde Preschool and Early Learning Center, which opened this week. Open house for the center, whose program is for infants through school-age children, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Located in Brookside at 4103 S. Detroit Ave. — between Peoria Avenue and Riverside Drive — Avant Garde will be within walking of the \$350 million A Gathering Place for Tulsa park that is under construction and slated to be finished at the close of 2017.

Grocery store chain's expansion into north Tulsa will give residents more options

Tulsa World (OK) - November 3, 2016

Come spring, shoppers in north Tulsa will have a new option for groceries — a Supermercados Morelos. The Hispanic grocery store chain plans to open its seventh Oklahoma location at the intersection of Pine Street and Harvard Avenue, adding a grocery store to an area of the city where the options are few and far between. In June 2015, the chain bought the whole strip mall at the northeast corner of the intersection after being told that the owners weren't looking to rent space, just to sell. They got a building permit late last week and have begun reconfiguring the interior of the strip center for what will be 15,000-square-foot grocery store.

Capital One preparing to move to Eastgate Metroplex

Tulsa World (OK) - November 1, 2016

An auto finance arm of Capital One Bank is scheduled to begin its move into Eastgate Metroplex this week, a spokesman said. "I expect they will be operational in different segments over the next two months," said Gerry Chauvin, development consultant for Eastgate, former home of Eastland Mall. "Certainly by year end, they will be all in and operational." The new Capital One location will house between 700 and 750 associates who will relocate from the company's auto finance business on the Verizon Cherokee Campus, 6929 N. Lakewood Ave., Chauvin said in a telephone interview.

Tenant in The Boxyard to feature beer, Belgian food

Tulsa World (OK) - November 1, 2016

An eatery and bar with a European flair and local music connection is planning a move into one of downtown's newest developments. Wirwar will feature beer and Belgian street food at The Boxyard, a \$2.5 million shipping-container development under construction at Third Street and Frankfort Avenue, said co-owner Mike McLaughlin of Tulsa. The other two partners are Tulsan Alex Desai and singer-songwriter/guitarist J.D. McPherson, a Broken Arrow native, McLaughlin said.

HollyFrontier buying Suncor Energy's Petro-Canada Lubricants business

Tulsa World (OK) - November 1, 2016

HollyFrontier Corp. announced Monday that it will acquire Suncor Energy's Petro-Canada Lubricants business for \$1.125 billion Canadian dollars, or approximately \$845 million U.S. One of the Dallas-based company's five refineries is located in west Tulsa. The company employs more than 600 people locally. With the addition of the Petro-Canada Lubricants business,

HollyFrontier will become the fourth-largest lubricants producer in North America with a capacity of 28,000 barrels per day, or approximately 10 percent of North American production.

Layoffs, Closings, Downsizes, Restructures

[Tulsa manufacturer files bankruptcy](#)

The Journal Record – November 11, 2016

Industrial manufacturing company Express Group Holdings LLC and five affiliates filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection on November 9.

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Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2016 October	4.8	5.1	4.9	4.7
2015 October	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.8

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