

October 2016

Spotlight on the Market

[Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa council receives national awards](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - October 30, 2016

The Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa Remodelers Council recently was recognized with two national awards. It received the National Association of Home Builders and Remodelers Council Award for Demonstrating Remodeling Excellence in outstanding council coordinator and in membership recruitment and retention. The awards were announced Oct. 6 during the NAHB Remodelers annual awards presentation at the 2016 Remodeling Show in Baltimore.

[Finalists for Tulsa StartUp Series selected](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - October 28, 2016

The Tulsa StartUp Series announced Thursday the five finalists for its live pitch competition. The group was selected by a panel of judges after Wednesday's semifinal round. The finalists will compete in the Demo Day live pitch finals at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 16 the Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity on the TCC Metro Campus. The winning entrepreneur will receive \$15,000 to advance the startup, a year's membership and desk at 36°North and a dedicated mentor for a year.

[Theatre Tulsa among Governor's Arts Award winners](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - October 21, 2016

Theatre Tulsa has been named one of the recipients of the 2016 Governor's Arts Awards, which honor individuals and organizations for their contributions to the state's arts and culture. The company, which is in the midst of its 94th annual season, is one of five recipients of the Community Service Award, which honors significant contributions to the arts in leadership and volunteerism.

[Ex-Tulsa World columnist gets Leadership Tulsa honor](#)

Tulsa Business & Legal News - October 21, 2016

Leadership Tulsa celebrated its Paragon Award winners Oct. 13 in a ceremony at the Cascia Hall Performing Arts Center. A special award was given to John Stancavage, former business editor and columnist for the Tulsa World. Stancavage was recognized with the Heart of LT Award for his work with the organization, including two terms as president of the board.

[Keynote speaker for Global Entrepreneurship Week dinner has Oklahoma State ties](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - October 19, 2016

An Oklahoma State University graduate who has made his mark at such places as the White House and the U.S. Department of Defense will be in Tulsa next month for Global Entrepreneurship Week. Andrew Stroup, 31, will be the keynote speaker during a GEW celebration dinner at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 16 at the Bond Event Center, 608 E. Third St. His talk is expected to focus on Tulsa's entrepreneurial ecosystem and how the city can position itself on a national level. Stroup's visit is sponsored by OSU Riata Center for Entrepreneurship, The Forge and 36 Degrees North. Created in 2008 and powered by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Global Entrepreneurship Week is a celebration of the innovators and job creators who launch startups that bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare.

[Tulsa is home to 16,000 call center jobs, and that number keeps growing](#)

Tulsa Business & Legal News - October 14, 2016

The former Eastland Mall is a hub of activity again. Once a retail outlet, the rebranded Eastgate Metroplex is home to a variety of businesses, including a growing trend in the Tulsa area. The complex is headquarters for a handful of call centers, which employ about 2,000 people. They are part of about two dozen call centers in the Tulsa area that employ some 16,000 people, according to data from the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce and World reporting. In 2014, Site Selection Group, an economic development consultancy firm, ranked the city, at 3.4 percent, seventh among similar-sized cities for call-center workers as a percentage of the workforce.

[Latest Oklahoma Energy Index shows job improvement news](#)

Tulsa World (OK) - October 14, 2016

After two years of losses, Oklahoma's oil and natural gas industry added jobs during the month of August, according to a recent report measuring the sector's activity. The Oklahoma Energy Index showed a gain of 100 jobs in energy produc-

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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

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tion employment during the month of August, according to the most recent report available. The report states that although modest, the growth in industry jobs helped mark four consecutive months of industry expansion, offering further evidence that the industry's current cycle has already reached its lowest point.

St. John Broken Arrow Receives Excellence in Healthcare Awards

Tulsa World (OK) - October 10, 2016

Based on surveys of its patients, St. John Broken Arrow recently received the following Excellence in Healthcare awards from Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC):

- 5 Star/top 10 percent Overall Quality of Care for Inpatient Surgical Services/Joint Replacement
- 5 Star/top 10 percent for Inpatient Discharge Information
- 4 Star/top 25 percent Overall Quality of Care for Inpatient Care
- 4 Star/top 25 percent Overall Quality of Care for the Emergency Department

Chamber trip to Cincinnati gives Tulsa-area leaders some new ideas

Tulsa World (OK) - October 9, 2016

CINCINNATI — A three-day field trip to Cincinnati left Tulsa-area business and government leaders coveting the Queen City's economic-development toolbox. Over 100 business and community leaders from Tulsa, Claremore, Bixby, Owasso, Jenks and other cities went on the trip. More than anything, the Oklahoma tourists salivated over Cincinnati's development and redevelopment with older buildings being restored to their former glory or re-envisioned for new futures.

Area companies enroll in state's Quality Jobs program

Tulsa World (OK) - October 8, 2016

A Tulsa-based brokerage company has pledged to create 46 new jobs to be eligible for Oklahoma tax incentives, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce said in an announcement Friday. Stan Johnson Services Inc., the nation's third-largest net lease brokerage company, could be eligible for just more than \$2 million in income tax rebates under the state's Quality Jobs program. Another area company, Unified Brands Inc. of Pryor, has promised to add 77 jobs, which could yield \$1.287 million in incentives. Unified Brands is a provider of food service equipment and systems. A third Quality Jobs enrollee, Valiant Artificial Lift Solutions of Oklahoma City, is expected to hire 74 people under the program.

Tulsa's Central Library unveils \$55 million renovations after three years of construction

Tulsa World (OK) - October 2, 2016

Tulsa's Central Library reopened its doors Saturday to hundreds of patrons eager to see the results of its \$55 million renovations after three years of construction. The 50-year-old building previously had infrastructural, electrical, plumbing and heating and air issues. It now features energy-efficient systems, such as solar panels, chilled-beam cooling and rainwater collection for irrigating landscape. Renovations also include state-of-the-art architectural design, expanded meeting spaces, a revamped children's play area, a 3-D printing station and a recording studio.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

Climbing gym coming to 31st and Yale

Tulsa World (OK) - October 30, 2016

A stretch of vacant land tucked next to the Broken Arrow Expressway is poised to become a world-class climbing gym, adding a new amenity to midtown Tulsa and the mature neighborhoods near 31st Street and Yale Avenue. Plans, according to city documents and the developer, are for a 17,000-square-foot climbing gym, 60 parking spaces and a small park with a water feature that will serve as a buffer to the neighborhood.

Aerospace company expanding in Grove

Tulsa World (OK) - October 28, 2016

GROVE — An aerospace manufacturing company is expanding its operation on Grand Lake to bring 60 new jobs to the area. Orizon Aerostructures, a Kansas City, Missouri, commercial, military and defense and general aviation manufacturing company, signed a development agreement with city officials this week. Formerly known as Precision Aero Group, Orizon employs 149 workers at its Grove plant. The \$45 million investment will expand the existing 140,000-square-foot building by an additional 80,000 square feet, Newell said. Salaries will range from \$17 to \$20 an hour plus benefits, he said.

Tenant in The Boxyard to feature beer, Belgian food

Tulsa World (OK) - October 28, 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. The Boxyard will be spread over a 14,000-square-foot lot in East Village at the southeast corner of Third Street and Frankfort Avenue. A total of 39 shipping containers, some stacked on one another, will be spread over the property, which will focus on local retail but also include restrooms, a restaurant and service providers, said project developer Casey Stowe, a principal with Elliot Nelson in Nelson-Stowe.

Tulsa energy management company relocates downtown

Tulsa World (OK) - October 25, 2016

An energy management solutions provider soon will celebrate its relocation to a building in the East Village. THG Energy

Solutions, 816 E. Sixth St., has scheduled an open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday. Its home since 2011 had been in the CityPlex Towers on the Oral Roberts University campus in south Tulsa. THG's 10 Tulsa employees — the Austin office also has a staff of 10 — will occupy about 2,800 square feet on the building's second floor, Frey said.

ADDvantage Technologies acquires Triton Miami

Tulsa World (OK) - October 22, 2016

ADDvantage Technologies Group, Inc. announced last week that it has acquired the assets of Triton Miami, Inc. (D/B/A "Triton Datacom"), a leading provider of new and refurbished enterprise networking products, including desktop phones, enterprise switches and wireless routers. This acquisition expands upon and further diversifies ADDvantage's operations into the broader market for enterprise-class telecommunications and data networking equipment. Triton, based in Miami, Fla., primarily sells products to brokers and end-users across the U.S. through a dedicated sales force and e-commerce program. Triton maintains a broad inventory of products from various manufacturers, with a majority of its sales coming from Cisco and Polycom products.

Arkansas Valley Cos. and Empire Petroleum Partners announce merger

Tulsa World (OK) - October 22, 2016

Tulsa-based Arkansas Valley Cos. and Dallas-based Empire Petroleum Partners LLC announced late last month that they would be merging some of their assets by adding the Arkansas Valley retail dealer business to Empire's portfolio. The assets consist of Arkansas Valley Cos. business unit AVP Metro Petroleum's 125 gas stations in Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas. Arkansas Valley Petroleum & Properties also sold five of its Fiesta Mart brand stores to Empire and retained six Fiesta Marts that will continue to be operated by Arkansas Valley Cos.

Table Talk: Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe to open Cherry Street location Tuesday

Tulsa World (OK) - October 21, 2016

Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe will open a new restaurant Tuesday on Cherry Street at 1551 E. 15th St., its second location in Tulsa. Taziki's is a Mediterranean-inspired restaurant featuring more than 100 items prepared from scratch daily. It is known for its salads, sandwiches and gyros made with lamb, beef and chicken, as well as seafood options, including salmon, tilapia and shrimp. The beverage list includes wines, cocktails and beers.

Casillas Petroleum Resource Partners announces \$294 million acquisition

Tulsa World (OK) - October 20, 2016

Tulsa-based Casillas Petroleum Resource Partners LLC announced earlier this week that it has closed on the purchase of certain oil and gas assets owned by Continental Resources, Inc. in the South Central Oklahoma Oil Province, or SCOOP, play. The adjusted purchase price is \$294 million. The assets include net production of 550 barrels of oil equivalent per day and approximately 30,000 net acres in Oklahoma's Garvin, Grady and McClain counties.

HomeGoods to open Tulsa store Nov. 13

Tulsa World (OK) - October 20, 2016

HomeGoods will open its south Tulsa store at 8 a.m. Nov. 13, store officials announced Thursday. HomeGoods, which offers off-price home fashions, will open the 21,136-square-foot store at 101st St and South Memorial Drive. It will be located 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, operating in more than 526 stores in 45 states and Puerto Rico. Norman has the only other HomeGoods in Oklahoma.

New facility boosts Alro Steel

Tulsa World (OK) - October 19, 2016

Alro Steel began moving into a new service center in July but waited until Tuesday to formally open it with a ribbon cutting. The facility at 4321 N. Garnett Road is 80,000 square feet with room to double — about eight times larger than the west Tulsa facility the company acquired in 1999. Inside are some 2,300 items, enough to supply most area customers for three months. The facility ships mostly different kinds of metal to customers every day from the Tulsa center. The main customers for the Tulsa center, the company's most western site, are in the petroleum and aerospace industries.

Cosmetics distribution center lands in Sapulpa

Tulsa World (OK) - October 15, 2016

SAPULPA — A homegrown entrepreneur is bringing a distribution arm of her California cosmetics company to Oklahoma. SeneGence International, a direct-sales cosmetics and skin care firm that operates in 13 countries, last week dedicated its Midwest Pick and Pack Warehouse in downtown Sapulpa and announced plans for its Midwest Distributor Center along Oklahoma 33. Founded in 1999, the Irvine, California-based company is headed by former Sapulpan Joni Rogers-Kante.

Club expansion underway at Patriot Golf Club

Tulsa World (OK) - October 12, 2016

Founding members of the Patriot Golf Club drove their heels into the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Owasso club's newest expansion project last week, a \$9.5 million clubhouse. The project, set for a summer 2018 completion, goes beyond the erection of a 20,000 square foot structure. Gary Hamby, in business development with Tom Hoch Design, said he and his team have spent three years working with the Patriot on this project, learning about the club's membership and its future needs.

SemGroup subsidiary to build new Canadian gas plant

Tulsa World (OK) - October 12, 2016

SemCAMS, a subsidiary of Tulsa-based SemGroup Corp., announced Tuesday that it has entered into an agreement with NuVista Energy Ltd. on a project that will include processing up to 120 million cubic feet per day of sour gas at a plant Sem-

CAMS will build in the Wapiti area of Alberta, Canada. The 15-year agreement provides for take-or-pay obligations creating a significant backstop for the investment to be made by SemCAMS, according to the Calgary-based company's news release. SemCAMS employs a workforce of about 250.

South Tulsa tennis club has new name and new emphasis

Tulsa World (OK) - October 11, 2016

The facility formerly known as The Grand Health and Racquet Club has a new name to go with a new look and amenities. The south Tulsa tennis club and gym is now Racquet & Health 91, or RH91, and is back under the management of former owners Hank and Molly Pellegrini. The Pellegrinis originally bought the facility near Delaware Avenue and 91st Street in 1998 when it was Tulsa Southern Tennis Club. The couple remained landlords when someone else took over the business in the early 2000s, but in August both parties decided to change directions and that it was time for the Pellegrinis to take back ownership.

Ediblend launches second location Tuesday

Tulsa World (OK) - October 4, 2016

Ediblend Superfood Cafe, owned by sisters Amy Murray and Piper Kacere, will open a new location Tuesday at 10115 S. Sheridan Road. The menu will feature all natural cleanses and blends that are vegan, gluten free, dairy free, soy-free and contain no added sugars, artificial colors, flavors or preservatives. Murray and Kacere won the TCC StartUp Cup in 2014 with their super-food smoothie blends.

NGL Energy Partners acquires Point Comfort terminal

Tulsa World (OK) - October 4, 2016

Tulsa-based NGL Energy Partners LP announced this week that it has acquired a crude oil and condensate marine terminal project and related assets from Pelorus Terminal: Point Comfort LLC. The terminal is located at the Port of Point Comfort in Point Comfort, Texas. It will include 350,000 shell barrels of storage capacity, multiple truck unloading bays and capabilities of loading both inland and ocean going vessels from three docks at the port.

Layoffs, Closings, Downsizes, Restructures

BOK Financial to layoff 100 companywide, including 36 in Tulsa

Tulsa World (OK) - October 27, 2016

BOK Financial, the holding company for Bank of Oklahoma, said Wednesday that it is laying off 100 workers, including 36 in the Tulsa market. That's a little more than 2 percent of its total workforce. In a news release announcing third-quarter earnings, CEO Steve Bradshaw described the layoffs as part of "right-sizing," which is expected to reduce expenses by about \$20 million in 2017. The company employed about 4,900 people, including 2,200 in the Tulsa area. Personnel expenses were more than \$143 million in the third quarter, according to SEC filings.

Creek Nation lays off 123 health employees, 55 others transferred

Tulsa World (OK) - October 6, 2016

OKMULGEE — Facing a multimillion-dollar budget shortfall, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Health closed out fiscal year 2016 by cutting its workforce by 15 percent. A Creek Nation spokesman confirmed that 123 health care employees were laid off Friday, with 55 more transferred to other positions within the tribe as part of a reorganization to balance the department's budget. A breakdown of the staffing cuts by facility or specialty area was not available as of Wednesday, but Creek Nation spokesman Thompson Gouge said most of the layoffs were on the operations and corporate side rather than direct patient care.

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Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2016 September	5.3	5.6	5.4	4.8
2015 September	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.9

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