

February 2018

Spotlight on the Market

[Tulsa StartUp Series to make 2018 debut](#)

Tulsa World - February 28, 2018

An entrepreneurial competition created by the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation is preparing to enter its second decade. The first Tulsa StartUp Series of 2018 — and 11th since the program's inception — kicks off with a new category (high growth/scalable) at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at 36 Degrees North, 36 E. Cameron Street. Delivering resources and mentoring opportunities to entrepreneurs, the Tulsa StartUp Series encompasses five pitch competitions categorized by business segment over the course of the year.

[New business announcements top \\$6 billion mark for 2017, report finds](#)

Tulsa World - February 28, 2018

The Tulsa area could see more than 1,100 jobs and \$151 million as a result of new investments announced in 2017. The largest Tulsa-area investment was \$77 million by Burlington Northern Santa Fe for an expansion to its Cherokee Rail Yard, according to a report from the state Commerce Department. The largest job expansion was DISH Network's announcement of 250 new jobs in the Tulsa area. New and existing companies in Oklahoma announced a total of more than \$6 billion in new investments last year.

[Broken Arrow's 'charming' Rose District recognized by USA Today](#)

Tulsa World - February 27, 2018

The Rose District in Broken Arrow is the state's representative in a collection of Main Streets from USA Today. Charming Main Streets — and main streets — in each state is an online slideshow from USA Today featuring a "cozy Main Street (or close approximation) in each of the 50 states." The Rose District has about 40 unique storefronts, including restaurants, from Midway Street south to the Performing Arts Center along Main Street and a couple of blocks west of Main on Broadway. It has had \$60 million in investments since it was branded five years ago.

[City of Tulsa to use economic study as road map on how best to pursue retail development](#)

Tulsa World - February 25, 2018

A new study expected to be finished in the first half of 2018 will help establish a strategic path for how best to pursue retail development in the city of Tulsa. The retail economic development study is a substantial piece of the massive Vision Tulsa package, said Nick Doctor, chief of community development and policy for the city of Tulsa. Commercial revitalization throughout Tulsa played an important role during the City Council discussions that laid out the foundation for Vision.

[City in discussions with Gathering Place to construct pedestrian bridge over Arkansas River](#)

Tulsa World - February 25, 2018

Nearly four years have passed since city officials began talking about building a new pedestrian bridge across the Arkansas River. According to Mayor G.T. Bynum, the city is discussing the possibility of creating a partnership with the Gathering Place that would give it responsibility for constructing the bridge.

[Convention Center Arena to be transformed into ballroom at Cox Business Center](#)

Tulsa World - February 23, 2018

The segment of Cox Business Center that houses the arena will be reconfigured into a 40,000-square-foot ballroom. Work on the project will begin in July, according to Cox Business Center assistant general manager Kerry Painter. Cox Business Center already has the biggest ballroom in the state at 30,000 square feet, but the addition of the new ballroom will allow the facility to offer 70,000 square feet of ballroom space and over 100,000 square feet of column-free exhibit hall space.

[MidAmerica Industrial Park](#)

Tulsa World - February 22, 2018

MidAmerica Industrial Park is investing \$18.5 million in infrastructure improvements to ensure the property is ready for new businesses. MidAmerica's investment includes an upgrade to its water plant and waste treatment facilities and an expansion of greenfields to open 400 new acres for development.

[Tulsa Tech expanding to meet needs of workforce](#)

Tulsa World - February 22, 2018

Tulsa Tech is growing and updating itself, even though it already ranks as the oldest and largest technology center in

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Oklahoma's Career Tech system. Tulsa Tech is completing work on its new Industry Training Center, which will update instruction in three specific areas: safety training, computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine operations and welding. Instructors will begin moving into the new facility over the next few weeks, and it should be fully operational by mid-summer.

Google announces \$600 million expansion in Pryor to make total investment \$2.5 billion

Tulsa World - February 17, 2018

Google plans to spend \$600 million at its facilities in Mayes County, the technology giant said Friday, which will bring the company's total investment in Oklahoma to more than \$2.5 billion. The funding will add another four-story data center to the campus at the Mid-America Industrial Park near Pryor, home to Google's second-largest data center in the world.

State of the Port: Tulsa Port of Catoosa reports on growth in 2017

Tulsa World - February 16, 2018

Growth, recovery, milestones and optimism were the themes of 2018 State of the Port speech this week by Chip McElroy, chairman of the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority. In 2017, more than 2.55 million tons moved through the port, making it the third-best in its 46-year history, he said. Those shipments along the Arkansas Waterway required 1,366 barges — the equivalent of more than 100,000 trucks — and 10,084 freight cars moved over the port's 15 miles of tracks during the year.

First Baptist Church investing millions in downtown expansion, renovation

Tulsa World - February 16, 2018

The most ambitious construction project in the First Baptist Church's 121-year history is taking place downtown. The \$13.7 million expansion will add a new, 72,000-square-foot building on Detroit Avenue between Fourth and Fifth streets while connecting to and renovating 10,000 square feet on the first floor of the former AT&T building (Detroit Tower), which the church has used for offices since buying it in 2009, Hart said.

Expansions, Openings, Relocations, Acquisitions

Drawn to Tulsa: National architectural firm opens office in town

Tulsa World - February 28, 2018

JCJ Architecture has been around since 1936, but the Hartford, Connecticut-based national design firm never has had an office in Tulsa. Until now. JCJ established its first Oklahoma location when it moved into a 2,000-square-foot space at 8811 S. Yale Ave. in January. The company's other offices are in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, San Diego, Atlanta, Phoenix and Hartford.

AAON logs record earnings, sales for 2017

Tulsa World - February 28, 2018

AAON Inc. posted record earnings in 2017, according to its earnings report released Tuesday. The Tulsa-based manufacturer of industrial and commercial HVAC equipment had net income of \$15.8 million in the fourth quarter. That represented a 38.1 percent increase from the \$11.4 million over the same period last year.

TCC makes student services a priority with new Success and Career Center

Tulsa World - February 27, 2018

Each year Tulsa Community College serves over 25,000 students, more than half of whom attend the school's Southeast Campus. Tulsa voters approved \$5.3 million in Vision Tulsa funding last year that will be used to build a Student Success and Career Center at the TCC Southeast Campus, 10300 E. 81st St.

TierPoint completes new data center in Tulsa

Tulsa World - February 26, 2018

A national provider of information technology and data center services announced Monday that it has completed its new data center in Tulsa. TierPoint partnered with Compass Data Centers on the new facility at 12151 E. State Farm Blvd. It is TierPoint's fourth data center in the state, joining two in Oklahoma City and one in the Tulsa Arts District.

Honor Capital finds Tulsa to be 'fantastic place' to develop a small business, combat food deserts

Tulsa World - February 25, 2018

Honor Capital has a vision to someday expand beyond grocery store offerings, perhaps to a concept of pairing a food market with affordable apartments or health-care facilities as a catalyst to revitalize lower socioeconomic communities. In the near future, the Tulsa-based business is targeting north Tulsa for a community grocery store to open most likely in the first quarter of 2019.

Michigan manufacturer to locate distribution center in Tulsa

Tulsa World - February 23, 2018

A Michigan company is building roughly a \$2.5 million distribution center in Tulsa, construction permits show. Saginaw Control and Engineering, which manufactures electrical enclosures, is expected to finish a 50,000-square-foot distribution center at 2725 N. 129th East Ave. this summer, Saginaw sales manager Dave Pankow said by phone.

ONEOK planning \$2.3 billion infrastructure investment through 2020

Tulsa World - February 22, 2018

ONEOK, a Tulsa-based midstream service provider, is planning to invest \$2.3 billion in infrastructure projects through 2020. Projects include a Mid-Continent to Gulf Coast natural gas liquids pipeline, a fractionation facility in Mont Belvieu, Texas, and a natural gas processing plant in McKenzie County, North Dakota. The 400,000-barrel per day NGL pipeline, the Arbuckle II, will create additional transportation capacity between the company's Mid-Continent infrastructure in Oklahoma and its exist-

ing NGL facilities in Mont Belvieu.

Arvest Mortgage Tops \$1 Billion Mark

GTR Newspapers – February 20, 2018

Arvest Bank has announced its mortgage division originated more than \$1 billion in purchase-money mortgage loans in 2017, the second year in a row it has done so. Passing the \$1 billion mark in purchase-money loans in 2016 was a milestone for Arvest, so topping the year-old record for performance a year later is particularly rewarding, says Steven Plaisance, president and chief executive officer of the mortgage division.

Manufacturing plant in Inola to bring 300 jobs, official says

Tulsa World - February 17, 2018

INOLA — A company is planning to break ground in mid-March on a plant that will initially employ about 300 people, said Scott Roy, president of the Inola Chamber of Commerce. Officials have declined to disclose the name of the company, but Public Service Company of Oklahoma last month sold 240 acres of the site it proposed decades ago for the Black Fox nuclear power plant to Sofidel America Corp., an Italy-based company that specializes in tissue paper production, land records show.

Expansion projects allow for record capacity in Williams' Transco pipeline

Tulsa World - February 10, 2018

Williams Cos. delivered record amounts of natural gas through its Transco pipeline earlier this year as a cold spell chilled the East Coast. A total of 15.58 million dekatherms passed through the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line on Jan. 5, breaking a record that was set just days before. The pipeline system also established a three-day market delivery record, averaging 14.90 million dekatherms from Jan. 4 through Jan. 6. Increased natural gas delivery was possible because of five Transco expansion projects that went online in 2017.

Office-retail development planned near Utica Square

Tulsa World - February 9, 2018

A new mixed-use building with retail and office space is scheduled to rise soon across from Utica Square. BAM Properties, a veteran developer in areas around the upscale shopping center, is behind a three-story, roughly 22,000-square-foot project at 2005 E. 21st St., site of the recently closed Goldie's Patio Grill.

Broken Arrow-based manufacturer CymSTAR to add 100 jobs

Tulsa World - February 5, 2018

BROKEN ARROW — A Broken Arrow-based manufacturing company said Monday it will add 100 jobs over the next five years. CymSTAR, which uses mechanical, electrical and software engineering to modify simulators for the U.S. military, will be hiring electrical and mechanical engineers, technicians and administrative staff. New jobs were added this week and about 20 are expected to be created by the end of the year, said Stephen Stankiewicz, president and CEO of CymSTAR.

Saltgrass Steak House to open Tulsa location

Tulsa World - February 5, 2018

Saltgrass Steak House appears set to open its first Tulsa location. The Houston-based steakhouse chain plans to open a restaurant near Interstate 44 and Yale Avenue, according to a city of Tulsa building permit. The permit shows that a \$1.5 million, 80,150-square-foot restaurant is to be built at 4550 E. Skelly Drive — an area between Kum & Go and Holiday Inn Express where Don Pablo's Mexican restaurant previously stood.

Frontier Airlines adding 2 new nonstop flights from Tulsa

Tulsa World - February 2, 2018

Frontier Airlines this spring will add two uninterrupted trips to both coasts from Tulsa. Starting April 10, the Denver-based, low-fare carrier will offer the only nonstop service to the Bay Area with flights to San Jose, California (SJC), and flights to Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) just outside of Washington, D.C.

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Comparative Unemployment Rates

Period	County %	MSA %	State %	U.S. %
2017 December	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9
2016 December	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.5

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