

Good News

Oklahoma

May 2017

State Headlines

Vance AFB Receives Effective Rating – Enid News & Eagle

A rating of “effective” on an evaluation wouldn’t seem to be cause for celebration, but 71st Flying Training Wing Commander Col. Darrell Judy is doing just that after Vance Air Force Base received an “effective” rating on the biennial Unit Effectiveness Inspection. “We can take assurance that we’re doing a great job in the mission – we’re producing pilots, we’re developing airmen, and we’re doing what they’re expecting of us,” stated Judy. “We did very well.”

Oklahoma Hotel Construction Ranks High – Tulsa World

Oklahoma ranks fourth nationally in the percentage of its hotel room inventory that is under construction. The state had 3,906 rooms under way through December 2016, representing 5.6% of its stock, according to the Marcus & Millichap 2017 U.S. Hospitality Investment Forecast. Oklahoma trailed only three states in percentage: New York (8.8); Washington (6.9) and Texas (5.7), according to the study.

Regional Headlines

OKC Developer Renovating Capitol Hill’s Yale Theater – Oklahoman

Developer Steve Mason, whose work to date includes helping revive Automobile Alley and the Plaza District, is setting his sights on Capitol Hill where he is starting to renovate the long-neglected Yale Theater. Once complete, he is preparing to reopen the theater as an event and wedding center. The Yale Theater redevelopment coincides with the opening this spring of a new Oklahoma City Community College branch and ongoing efforts to promote and grow festivities in Capitol Hill to help create the buzz and attraction that helped revive Midtown, Film Row and the Plaza District.

Luxury Apartments, More Retail Coming To Jenks – Tulsa World

The ever-expanding Village on Main in Jenks is adding another multifamily component to the mixed-use development. Officials plan to break ground on a five-story facility that will house 114 upscale apartments. In addition, work on two commercial buildings is set to begin within three to four months.

Cotton Patch Café Opens In Ada – The Ada News

The Cotton Patch Café opened in Ada in April. The 4,500 SF restaurant seats up to 156 guests and offers a menu of Southern favorites including chicken fried steak, crispy catfish, delicious aged steaks, premium salads, and decadent desserts. The Texas-based restaurant chain is expected to create more than 60 new jobs in the Ada area.

Bixby Council Oks Zoning For Homes – Tulsa World

The Bixby City Council approved rezoning 140 acres for a housing addition of 525 single-family homes near 161st St and Memorial Dr. The project developer seeks to build hundreds of homes in the span of a decade, calling the site Prairie Ranch. Retail development is included in the rezoning. Bixby, currently the 18th most populous city in the state, grew by more than 74% between 2000 and 2013, and 18% between 2010 and 2015.

Retail Sales Up Again In Enid – Enid News & Eagle

Oklahoma Tax Commission reports for April show Enid sales tax revenue increased by 13.5% for sales occurring mostly in the last half of February and estimated sales for the first half of March. That increase is attributed to the higher sales tax now charged in Enid after voters approved a three-quarter cent sales tax for the Kaw Lake water pipeline project.

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