



ECONOMIC UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2010

*Data provided by Strategic Insight Group
Intelligence Research Partner of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce*

In the Works

Initial construction on improvements to the aging **Will Rogers Memorial Center**, which are expected to bring more public events and economic impact to Fort Worth, will begin in March. The upgrades at Will Rogers include new equestrian facilities, such as horse stalls and warm-up areas, parking and overall maintenance projects such as sidewalk and seating improvements, and bathroom renovations.

Fort Worth Business Press, Feb. 1, 2010

Liberty Bank is building a branch at 2424 Merrick St. in Fort Worth, its second location in the city and fifth overall.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 8, 2010

Cousin's [Bar-B-Q] has leased a 4,200-square-foot building at **Alliance Town Center**, off Interstate 35W in far north Fort Worth. The building is under construction...and should be completed this fall.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 8, 2010

Samaritan House, a Fort Worth nonprofit that provides a home for homeless people who are HIV-positive, has big goals: open another campus in five years, broaden whom it serves and double its tenants.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 9, 2010

After four decades of talk about the need to build **Southwest Parkway**, dirt is finally starting to move. Dignitaries gathered Friday for a pair of groundbreaking ceremonies in Cleburne and Fort Worth to celebrate the expenditure of \$143 million in stimulus funds to at least get the massive toll road project started.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 20, 2010

Expansions and Moves

The **Tarrant County Commissioners Court** agreed Tuesday to add an extra floor to the planned expansion of the **medical examiner's facility** for future use.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 10, 2010

VLK Architects will move its Arlington office to the **West 7th development** on Fort Worth's near west side. The firm will be joined by **Fidelity Investments** as the latest tenants in the residential, retail and office project of Dallas-based Cypress Equities.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 18, 2010

On the Dotted Line

Fort Worth marketing and advertising firm **Concussion** will act as agency of record for Dallas Area Rapid Transit, which joins the **Fort Worth Transportation Authority** and Denton County Transportation Authority as the company's clients.

Fort Worth Business Press, Feb. 9, 2010

The **Crowley school district** has bought 22.5 acres for a school site [on South Summer Creek Drive in Fort Worth].

Star-Telegram, Feb. 15, 2010

Wednesday was the inaugural bottling at the Fort Worth branch of **Times Ten Cellars**, a boutique winery and wine bar that opened in September in a greatly remodeled pecan shelling plant at 1100 Foch St., just east of the city's **Cultural District**.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 18, 2010

The **Longhorn Council** of the Boy Scouts of America has bought a former **YMCA building** in north Fort Worth, which it plans to renovate for activities such as day camps, a climbing gym and overnight lock-ins.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 18, 2010

National home builder **Lennar Homes** has bought just under 292 acres of unimproved land adjacent to the huge, master-planned **Sendera Ranch** community it is co-developing in north Fort Worth, marking one of the area's largest land deals in quite some time.

Star-Telegram, Feb. 25, 2010

Fort Worth-based **TTI Inc.** announced Feb. 26 it has acquired United Kingdom-based **Flightspares Electronics Ltd.**, a specialty distributor of interconnect products for the railway and military/aerospace market segments.

Fort Worth Business Press, Feb. 26, 2010

Fort Worth-based **Bell Helicopter** announced Feb. 26 the acquisition of **Aviation Service**, a modifications and upgrades providers of avionics and special mission packages.

Fort Worth Business Press, Feb. 26, 2010

Around Town

The small Stockyards event [**The Cowtown Marathon**] that began more than 30 years ago has grown into a nationally recognized race that begins in Fort Worth's **Sundance Square**. "This is our second record-breaking year," said volunteer Deanna Weaver. "Last year we were over 17,000 and this year we're over 20,000." The crowd is helped by more runners making a mini-vacation of the event. The nearby Omni and Worthington Renaissance hotels are booked solid, with several foreign countries represented. "Fort Worth is just kind of a cool town and we wanted to maybe meet some good looking cowboys," said one runner, who traveled to the race with fellow medical school students.

WFAA.com, Feb. 27, 2010

Out of Town Reporting

Wound Management Technologies, Inc. announced today that it has completed the acquisition of secure data and messaging provider, **Secure eHealth, LLC**, along with certain other technology assets from **VirtualHealth Technologies, Inc....**

PR Newswire, Feb. 1, 2010

Leading telematics supplier **GuidePoint Systems** announced it has expanded its operations in metro Detroit and Fort Worth, Texas to meet growing demand for its services.

Technology News Focus, Feb. 3, 2010

There were 23 bids in all at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s auction in September of the \$1.3 billion portfolio of **Franklin Bank**. . . **Residential Credit Solutions** of Fort Worth won the auction, agreeing to pay about \$64 million for a 50% stake in Franklin Venture LLC, the entity in which the nonperforming mortgages were placed.

American Banker, Feb. 4, 2010

Richland's newest landmark towers over the Horn Rapids area, where it will ensure residents and their lawns don't go wanting for water. A 135-foot water tower, complete with a 1 million-gallon water reservoir, will provide needed water storage and better water quality and fire protection for residents and businesses in the growing Horn Rapids area, according to Richland public works officials... Crews from Fort Worth, Texas-based **Landmark Structures** recently set the reservoir into place atop a 90-foot-tall tower.

Tri-City Herald, Feb. 5, 2010

Behavioral Innovations, the premier provider of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services for families of children with autism and other developmental disorders, announces the opening of its San Antonio location, which will begin offering services February 1. The company is in the process of expanding to Fort Worth and Wichita Falls where they will begin serving families in early spring.

Pharma Investments, Ventures & Law Weekly, Feb. 7, 2010

Key Construction of Fort Worth recently completed CIGNA Pointe One: Regional Headquarters in Plano for CMC Commercial Realty Group of Dallas, Texas. It was designed and constructed according to LEED® sustainable design guidelines and is being submitted for Silver LEED certification. The 204,000 square foot, four-story complex was constructed to be a regional headquarters for CIGNA...

Computers, Networks & Communications, Feb. 11, 2010

GeoPure HydroTechnologies, LLC, a company devoted to recycling produced and flowback water, has secured an initial infusion of Series-A capital to commercialize its proprietary pre-treatment and membrane technologies. The financing was lead by Fort Worth-based **Stockyard Capital** and a group of Fort Worth-based businessmen.

Resource Week, Feb. 21, 2010

AUI Contractors of Fort Worth was recently selected to construct the new \$3.7 million Hurst Library Expansion. . . .

PR Newswire, Feb. 22, 2010

The **Metroplex Natural Gas Vehicle Consortium**, formed about five months ago, is a group of natural gas proponents the **Texas Christian University Energy Institute**, the **Barnett Shale Energy Education Council**, **Clean Energy Fuels** and some area gas operators, to name a few who are pursuing different directions with the same goal, as one group member put it. . . More specifically, the consortium aims to create a series of natural gas hubs or cities with significant natural gas-fueling infrastructure and support across Texas, beginning in Fort Worth, and perhaps into Oklahoma and Louisiana.

TendersInfo, Feb. 23, 2010

US-based **BJ's Restaurants** has opened a new BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse in Fort Worth, Texas. The restaurant is approximately 8,500 sq ft and contains seating for approximately 280 guests.

Datamonitor, Feb. 24, 2010

Construction of a huge shopping center at the site of the former **Masonic Home and School** in southeast Fort Worth is scheduled to begin in April, developers said Monday...The 400,000-square-foot Renaissance Square, set to open in late 2011, will bring much-needed retail services to the area. Market studies show that about \$70 million in spending leaves the city's southeast side every year because it lacks shopping options.

TendersInfo, Feb. 25, 2010

Amtrak's Heartland Flyer, traveling from Oklahoma City to Fort Worth, received a \$4 million award and **Fort Worth's Trinity Rail Express** was awarded \$7 million to improve commuter rail service between Fort Worth and Dallas. Both of the Texas grant awards directly impact existing passenger rail in the state, allowing existing lines to travel at higher speeds or avoid congestion.

States News Service, Feb. 25, 2010