



## ECONOMIC UPDATE

MAY 2010

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

### ***In the Works***

Less than two months after completing the sale of Encore Acquisition Co. to Denbury Resources in a deal valued at \$4.5 billion, Jonny Brumley and his father, Jon Brumley, are to play leading roles in a brand-new energy company, **Enduro Resource Partners LLC**.

*Star-Telegram, May 5, 2010*

The nearly century-old **Ranch Style Beans** plant off East Lancaster Avenue may soon become a vegetable canning operation for Arkansas-based **Allens Canning Co.**, which could employ more than 100 workers at the idled facility. Allens...is under contract to buy the 200,000-square-foot building and its 20-acre site near U.S. 287.

*Star-Telegram, May 5, 2010*

More than a year after halting construction, Fort Worth-based **Trademark Property Co.** said Wednesday that it will restart the upscale **West Bend Development** with the construction of at least one building on University Drive.

*Star-Telegram, May 6, 2010*

According to **Fort Worth South**, a nonprofit organization that supports revitalization of the city's neighborhood just south of downtown, **Spiral Diner** owner Amy McNutt and her filmmaker husband, James Johnston, plan a twin-screen theater in an existing building at 701 S. Main St., near the **Rahr & Sons Brewing Co.** and the historic former Coca-Cola plant. It will be called **The Citizen Theater**.

*Star-Telegram, May 6, 2010*

After 115 years of holding court and keeping time over downtown, the "queen" of North Texas architecture's dramatic high hat [the **Tarrant County Courthouse's** clock tower] has an appointment for a \$5 million makeover.

*Star-Telegram, May 10, 2010*

Unemployment, or its lesser cousin, underemployment, is such a thorny issue nationally that the National Guard headquarters has initiated a program to help soldiers improve their chances of landing a job through resume improvements, interview techniques and career placement. The pilot program – the only one in operation nationwide – is a small armory off McCart Avenue in south Fort Worth.

*Star-Telegram, May 11, 2010*

A toll road developer has offered to tear down and rebuild 10 miles of Interstate 35W from downtown to far north Fort Worth to relieve one of Tarrant County's biggest bottlenecks with a combination of toll and non-toll lanes.

*Star-Telegram, May 21, 2010*

**Fort Worth Housing and Economic Development** Director Jay Chapa outlined a plan May 18 in the pre-council chambers that would provide \$10.76 million in economic incentives in exchange for **RadioShack** extending its current lease to keep its headquarters in Fort Worth until 2016.

*Fort Worth Business Press, My 24, 2010*

## ***Expansions and Moves***

**Weatherford International**, an oilfield products and services, company, is expected to transfer a small number of employees to its operations in the Fort Worth area and Tulsa.

*Star-Telegram, May 12, 2010*

Citing a demographically strong, yet ‘underserved’ market, **Qdoba Mexican Grill** is forging ahead with Tarrant County expansion plans, including four to six new locations this year and 40 new sites in Dallas-Fort Worth in the next five years.

*Fort Worth Business Press, May 17, 2010*

Kee Song, owner of the well-known **Men’s Collections** at 3007 South Freeway, plans to open his new store at 1108 E. Berry St. in 16,000 square feet of space following more than \$800,000 in property renovations.

*Fort Worth Business Press, May 17, 2010*

Public accounting firm **Weaver** [of Fort Worth] announced May 21 it has expanded into the Midland/Odessa market with the acquisition of Elms, Faris & Co. LLP.

*Star-Telegram, May 21, 2010*

The Lego brand continues to build in Tarrant County as **LEGO Systems Inc.** has announced an expansion of its **North American Distribution Center at Alliance Global Logistics Hub** by nearly 200,000 square feet.

*Fort Worth Business Press, May 24, 2010*

The \$125 million expansion of the **Kimbell Art Museum** by Italian architect Renzo Piano offers something of an olive branch to critics: The design being formally unveiled today preserves the integrity of the Louis Kahn original while limiting encroachment onto the sweeping west lawn.

*Star-Telegram, May 27, 2010*

## ***On the Dotted Line***

**Speed Fab-Crete** general contractors in Fort Worth will build an animal shelter for Hickory Creek, north of Dallas. . .Speed Fab-Crete was awarded a \$580,000 contract.

*Star-Telegram, May 3, 2010*

The **West Seventh Street** corridor between Fort Worth’s central business and museum districts has inked yet another tenant to the growing lineup of retail and restaurants. **The Cross-Eyed Cow**, a trendy neighborhood bar, has signed a long-term lease on 3,500 square feet of space in an existing building at the corner of Crockett and Foch streets.

*Fort Worth Business Press, May 10, 2010*

**SNG Realty** in Fort Worth has bought 1.25 acres in Burleson for a medical office project.

*Star-Telegram, May 17, 2010*

**Fuzzy's Taco Shop** has leased 3,208 square feet for a restaurant in **Ridglea Plaza**, south of Interstate 30 on the southwest corner of Camp Bowie Boulevard and Bernie Anderson Avenue in Fort Worth.  
*Star-Telegram, May 23, 2010*

Fort Worth-based **Atlas Properties** has bought the remaining 27 units in the 34-unit Liberty Lofts condominium development in the Crossroads area of Kansas City, Mo.  
*Star-Telegram, May 31, 2010*

## ***Openings***

It was a joint celebration Wednesday at **Burnett Park** as city leaders marked the reopening of the downtown Fort Worth park while commemorating Cinco de Mayo with a performance from **Ballet Folklorico Azteca de Fort Worth**. The park recently underwent a \$1 million facelift and now features an open lawn, playground, and new tables and chairs.  
*Star-Telegram, May 6, 2010*

## ***Around Town***

And it's definitely the thing to do in Fort Worth this weekend when all eyes are riveted to the emerald knolls of Colonial Country Club for the final rounds of the **Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial**.  
*Star-Telegram, May 28, 2010*

## ***Out of Town Reporting***

McCarthy Building Cos. of Dallas began construction in August on the \$47-million, 12-mgd, surface-water **Fort Worth Westside Water Treatment Plant**... McCarthy also has a \$41-million, 1,300-acre wetlands construction for the **Tarrant Regional Water District**, which services Fort Worth, Arlington and Mansfield.  
*Texas Construction, May 1, 2010*

**Texas Health Resources** broke ground on a 50-bed acute rehabilitation hospital in the medical district, adding more space for patients recovering from major illnesses, traumas or surgeries and freeing up space in **Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth** for its specialty services.  
*TendersInfo, May 4, 2010*

**LG Electronics** has consolidated its cell phone repair business to its facility at **Alliance** in Fort Worth, adding 65 full-time employees and more than 65,000 square feet.  
*Dallas Business Journal, May 4, 2010*

**Rockwood Golf Course** will soon be an even better place for families to hit the links together, thanks to an equipment grant from the National Recreation and Park Association and the Professional Golfers Association of America. The PGA Family Golf Course program gives courses the equipment they need to set up a short course within any existing golf facility. Rockwood Golf Course is one of 60 courses throughout the country that will receive tee plates, cart path plates, templates for score cards and award certificates, and program guidelines for setting up the short course.  
*States News Service, May 11, 2010*

**Lockheed Martin Aeronautics**, Fort Worth, Texas, was awarded a \$325,485,969 federal contract by the U.S. Air Force's 312th Aeronautical Systems Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, for the development, integration and delivery of 35 mid-life upgrade kits for the Foreign Military Sales Pakistan Block 15 F-16A/B aircraft; and 18 retrofit kits for the Block 52 F-16C/D aircraft.  
*Targeted News Service, May 23, 2010*

**DR Horton**, a national homebuilder from Fort Worth, Texas, has purchased 170 lots and has contracts or options on 110 more in several developments in Florida.

*The Augusta Chronicle, May 23, 2010*

A New Jersey-based financial services company is working to expand into Fort Worth. The company, **American Prosperity Group**, provides retirement and estate planning services for clients in the age bracket of 55 to 85 years old.

*TendersInfo, May 25, 2010*

The city of Avondale, Arizona will use data-mining analysis, a way of capturing and analyzing information, under a \$75,000 contract with **Buxton Co.** The city is working with the Fort Worth, Texas-based company, which will create a strategy for retail development.

*The Arizona Republic, May 29, 2010*