



**This is a bi-monthly newsletter e-mailed to the Greater Oklahoma City Partnership to highlight economic development successes throughout the region. Please forward to your key stakeholders to keep them informed of the benefits of our partnership.**

**December 2012**



## **RECENT PARTNERSHIP RESULTS**

### **Northstar Agri Industries:**

Northstar is a subsidiary of PICO Holdings, Inc. They announced plans in late October to construct a canola process facility in Enid. Construction of the facility is expected to be completed in June 2015. Projections are for 55 jobs at an average wage of \$68,282. Congrats to Enid on this great success!

## **PARTNERSHIP NEWS**

### **Holiday Luncheon is Dec. 12**

We will hold our annual Holiday Luncheon Wed., Dec. 12 from noon to 1:30 p.m., at the Petroleum Club North, 1 N. Sooner Rd., in Edmond. If you have not, please RSVP to [Jana Mott](#), so we can make sure you have a seat.

### **Oklahoma Chamber Executives Recognize Partnership Members**



Several Partnership members received top recognition at the annual Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce Executives meeting November 7-9 in Norman. Becky Julian, executive director of the Mustang Chamber of Commerce, was named Executive of the Year. John Woods, President & CEO of the Norman Chamber, took honors as the New Executive of the Year. Roy Williams, CCE, President & CEO of the Greater Oklahoma City

Chamber was given the Hall of Fame Award. Tracy Mosley, president of the Choctaw Chamber of Commerce, was elected to serve as the 2013 President of the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce Executives (OCCE). A big congratulations to all the winners for all the work they do to make our region what it is.

### **Oklahoma a Top State for Doing Business**

As Economic Developers who spend countless hours working to grow our region's economy, we know what a advantages our state offers to businesses. Still, it is great when we get that third party that validates what we've been saying. Oklahoma ranked 10th in *Area Development Magazine's* annual list of "Top States for Doing Business" survey. The ranking surveys location consultants on a multitude of factors. Oklahoma ranked high in incentives and workforce development programs. These two areas show continued strides the region has made in its economic development platform

over the past decade. Read the full article [here](#). Also, remember you can see all the accolades our region receives [here](#).

### **Newest Issue of Velocity Released**

The new edition of our online magazine, VeloCity, is now available at [velocityokc.com](http://velocityokc.com). In addition to videos and interviews with Tom Ward, Martha Burger, John Richels, Joe Jacobi and more, the fully interactive Volume 5 features stories on the doings and dealings in Deep Deuce (the first in a series focusing on our city's diverse districts), our blossoming Biotech cluster and OMRF, the fun and fabulous deadCENTER film festival, the amazing amenities available on our corporate campuses, and the cool, modern Chesapeake Finish Line Tower and upcoming SandRidge Youth Pavilion on the Oklahoma River-in addition to the usual healthy dose of OKC's newest distinctions and accolades. We've made it easy for you to share OKC's success. To view the interactive publication, simply visit [www.velocityokc.com](http://www.velocityokc.com) and pass that address on to your friends, colleagues and business contacts. Previous issues of VeloCity and more than 1000 videos can also be accessed at our online video channel, [greaterokc.tv](http://greaterokc.tv). Spread the word and help us brag on Greater OKC!

### **United Announces Nonstop Flight to Cleveland**

United Airlines has announced it will connect its Cleveland hub to Oklahoma City with a nonstop daily flight to Will Rogers World Airport. The flight will begin Feb. 14 and Cleveland Hopkins International Airport will be the 22nd airport served from Will Rogers.

### **Midwest City**

#### **New Biofuel Station Opens**

Midwest City has opened a new biofuels station to serve city vehicles. The city and Association of Central Oklahoma Governments provided the funding for the \$270,000 project that included three new underground storage tanks for biodiesel, ethanol and unleaded fuels. The addition allows about 57 percent of the city's fleet to use some sort of alternative fuel.

### **Moore**

#### **Voters in Moore Approve Tax Plan**

Moore voters approved a \$25.1 million parks proposition, which promises to meet the needs of one of Oklahoma City's fast-growing suburbs for years to come. Voter approval of the parks package translates into a 50- to 60-acre city park at SW 4 and Broadway.

### **Norman**

#### **Norman's Cost of Living Among the Lowest in the Nation.**

Norman was ranked the second least expensive U.S. city to live in – according to the latest quarterly 2012 Cost of Living Index published by the Council for Community and Economic Research.

### **Oklahoma City**

#### **Devon Moving Jobs from Houston to OKC**

It was announced last month that Devon Energy will be closing down their offices in Houston. While it is not known at this time how many jobs will be coming to OKC, Devon had 500 employees in their Houston offices.

### **Stillwater**

#### **Entrepreneurship Program Gets Grant**

The Riata Center for Entrepreneurship in Oklahoma State University's Spears School of Business has been awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Wounded Warrior Project. The grant was presented to the Riata Center to support the Veterans Entrepreneurship Program, which was created to empower disabled American veterans to turn their business ideas into reality, and to find a path to financial independence through entrepreneurship.

## **PARTNERSHIP RESOURCES**

### **Customized Commercial Property Widget**

As part of the new and improved [OKCEDIS.com](http://OKCEDIS.com) relaunch, your community can have its own customized commercial property widget. The process could not be easier and several communities have already taken advantage of these widgets. All we need is contact information for your organization, geographic area, logo and social media links. An e-mail blast highlighting properties throughout the region was sent to approximately 430 site consultants to notify them of the recent relaunch of OKCEDIS. For more information contact [Mark Zitzow](#).

## EVENTS IN THE REGION

### Business Basics 101-OKC

Where: **One Sante Fe Plaza, Ste 100, Oklahoma City**

When: *Thursday, December 13 from 2 to 4:30 p.m.*

Topic: Business Basics 101 will focus on the information one needs for business start up. This time tested intro seminar is recommended for those wishing to be clients of the SBDC in Metro Oklahoma City area to prepare you to work with our staff on an individual basis that is more detailed to your specific needs. The first half will help you learn how to focus on your business concept; your potential market and how to reach them; the money generation possibilities; who and what you need to begin your concept in space, equipment, cash and personnel. This is not a full business planning seminar, what we call a "sticky note" business plan, but each item could be used to develop a full plan for start-up financing.

Fee is \$49

### Business Basics 101-Norman

Where: **710 Asp Ave, Ste 307, Norman**

When: *Thursday, December 20 from 2 to 4:30 p.m.*

Topic: Business Basics 101 will focus on the information one needs for business start up. This time tested intro seminar is recommended for those wishing to be clients of the SBDC in Metro Oklahoma City area to prepare you to work with our staff on an individual basis that is more detailed to your specific needs. The first half will help you learn how to focus on your business concept; your potential market and how to reach them; the money generation possibilities; who and what you need to begin your concept in space, equipment, cash and personnel. This is not a full business planning seminar, what we call a "sticky note" business plan, but each item could be used to develop a full plan for start-up financing.

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## About the Partnership

No matter where a primary job employer locates, everyone in the region "wins." The 10-county Greater Oklahoma City Partnership was established in 2003 for strategic economic development. Together, we are working to secure regional corporate locations, business retention and expansions and develop tools for local economic development professionals. Our cities, counties and governmental entities are co-dependent on each other. The Greater Oklahoma City Partnership looks forward to leveraging resources, uniting leadership, marketing our region and increasing our competitiveness.

## Future Issues

If you have announcements to be included in future issues of this newsletter, please e-mail Marcus Elwell at [melwell@okcchamber.com](mailto:melwell@okcchamber.com) to submit information.

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You have received this e-mail because you are a member of the Greater Oklahoma City Partnership and we consider you a valuable part of the economic development process of the Greater Oklahoma City region.

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If you would like to be removed from this list, [unsubscribe](#).

Thank you for your continued participation in the Partnership.