



# Invest In Our ECONOMY

Q3 UPDATE FY2015

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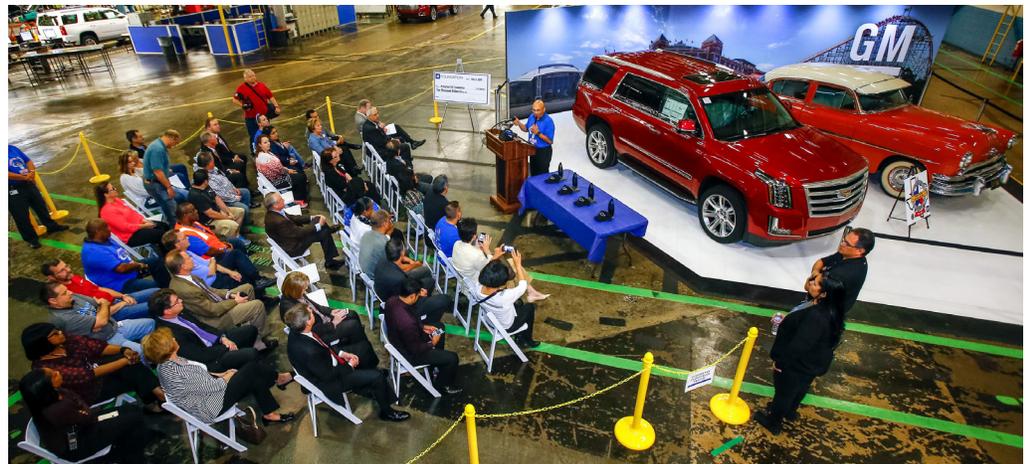


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## Urban Land Institute’s “Focus on Arlington”

The Urban Land Institute of North Texas selected Arlington to be featured as part of their City Series. Over 70 developers and land use professionals attended the “Focus on Arlington” event and had the opportunity to learn more about the exciting development projects underway in the city. Economic Development Manager Bruce Payne shared the City’s progress on development/redevelopment efforts and discussed targeted areas in Arlington of interest to the development community. UTA Vice President John Hall spoke to the growth of the university and highlighted campus developments on the horizon.



## GM Gives Back

The General Motors Assembly Plant in Arlington puts \$1 Million in wages into the community every day and provides over 4,500 jobs, making GM the top automotive manufacturing employer in Texas. The impact of GM’s investment in Arlington is far-reaching and doesn’t stop at employment.

On May 1st, Arlington Assembly announced that it will provide \$100,000 in grants to various community agencies as part of the GM Foundation’s Plant City Grants program. According to GM, these grants will be used to help fund essential outreach programs aimed at building a stronger community and enriching lives in the Arlington area. The plant team, city officials, and representatives from the local grant recipients attended the donation ceremony.

“We are thrilled to give back to a community that has been home to us for more than 60 years,” said Juan Carlos Jimenez, Arlington Assembly plant manager.

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# Highlights

## A tradition continues

In 2013, Ricos Products Company purchased an existing 100,000 sq. ft. building at 3011 Pinewood Drive in the Great Southwest Industrial District, and has since made an \$8 million investment in Arlington through the building purchase and renovations, as well as the addition of new manufacturing equipment. Ricos relocated into the Arlington facility to accommodate an expansion of its snack food manufacturing business. The company currently has approximately 60 employees and is well positioned to continue its growth in Arlington.

Founded in 1909, Ricos has always been a family owned and operated enterprise. The company is well known around the world as the originator of concession nachos, which were created in 1976 by third generation CEO, Frank Liberto, and first introduced to Rangers fans at Arlington Stadium. COO/ CFO Jeremy Powledge observed, "Arlington has a special place in Ricos' history, being that we

introduced nachos at Arlington Stadium. So, this has definitely been a coming home party for Ricos!"

The City of Arlington is proud to have Ricos Products back in the community, creating snack food lines of chips, sauces, popcorn, pickles, peppers and other fine products for their patrons and for sports fans all over the world.

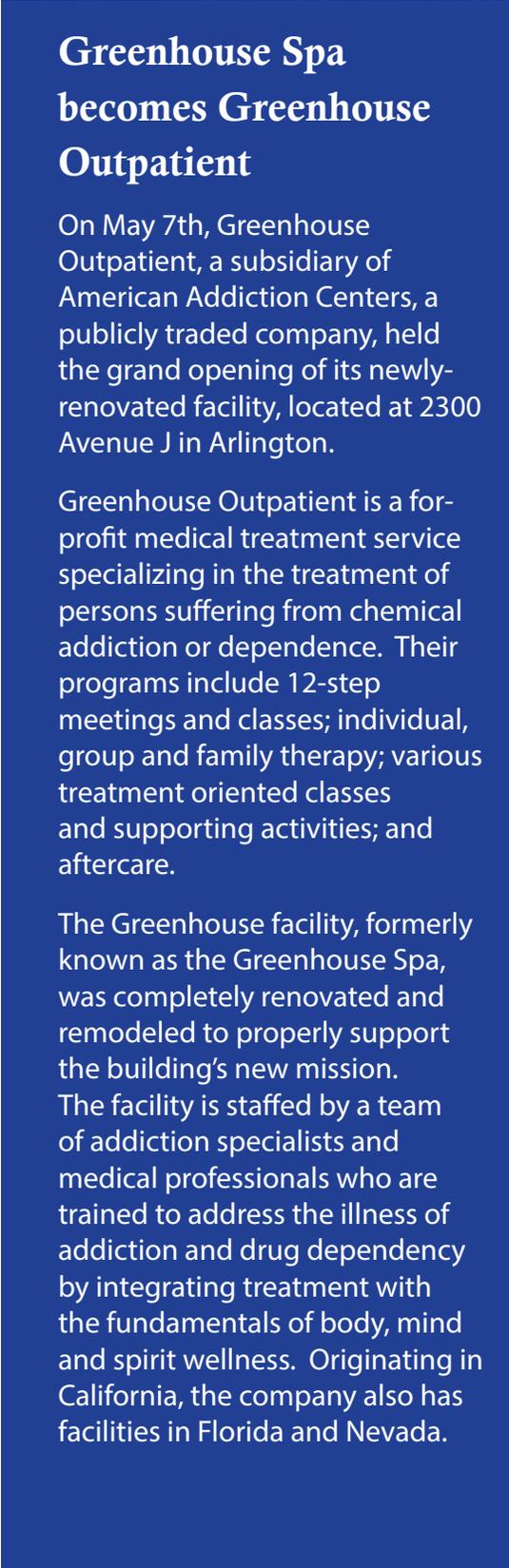
And, according to Mr. Powledge, Ricos "first full year of operation in Arlington has been a great success. We have been fortunate enough to experience record growth since moving into our new facility and have the footprint to at least double our production capacity over the next 2-3 years. The City of Arlington offered us the opportunity to take advantage of some excellent Economic Development incentives, the ability to retain key employees and tap into a favorable labor pool to accommodate our growth. The city also provides a very logistic-friendly place to do business, allowing us to optimize our inbound/outbound freight costs."

## Greenhouse Spa becomes Greenhouse Outpatient

On May 7th, Greenhouse Outpatient, a subsidiary of American Addiction Centers, a publicly traded company, held the grand opening of its newly-renovated facility, located at 2300 Avenue J in Arlington.

Greenhouse Outpatient is a for-profit medical treatment service specializing in the treatment of persons suffering from chemical addiction or dependence. Their programs include 12-step meetings and classes; individual, group and family therapy; various treatment oriented classes and supporting activities; and aftercare.

The Greenhouse facility, formerly known as the Greenhouse Spa, was completely renovated and remodeled to properly support the building's new mission. The facility is staffed by a team of addiction specialists and medical professionals who are trained to address the illness of addiction and drug dependency by integrating treatment with the fundamentals of body, mind and spirit wellness. Originating in California, the company also has facilities in Florida and Nevada.



*Ricos Products Company located at 3011 Pinewood Drive in Arlington's Great Southwest Industrial District.*

# By The Numbers

## WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS FOR TARRANT COUNTY

5,320 employers served through the workforce system

90,545 job seekers served

58,633 job seekers found employment with our assistance

11,107 veterans served

6,300 of those veterans have found employment

1,249 veterans active in WorkInTexas.com

522 youth served

Workforce Solutions 2014 at a glance; numbers captured between October 2013 and September 2014.

## TOP AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS IN TEXAS

GENERAL MOTORS (Arlington):  
**4,500+**

TOYOTA (San Antonio):  
**2,900**

PETERBILT MOTORS:  
**2,200**

TOSHIBA INTERNATIONAL CORP.:  
**2,000**

CATERPILLAR (ENGINE ASSEMBLY):  
**1,160**

*General Motors tops the Texas  
Wide Open for Business List*

Be a part of the conversation on  
social media @CityofArlington:

**#InvestInOurEconomy**

## Keeping Arlington working

On April 23rd, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County held one of their two annual *ArlingtonAnswers.com* job fairs at Grace Community Church in Arlington. Business Services Director Amber Gosser said the spring job fair was a great success with "79 employers, 14 resource agencies and 517 job seekers in attendance." Job seekers had the opportunity to attend workshops offering job search tips, resume critiquing, and overall career guidance. Mobile Workforce Units were available, providing on-site electronic services so attendees could submit online job applications, update resumes, and register with [workintexas.com](http://workintexas.com), a personalized job matching service provided through the Texas Workforce Commission.

The City of Arlington is proud to partner with Workforce Solutions for

Tarrant County to ensure that Arlington residents have access to the services they need to be active in the workforce. Workforce Solutions is also a valuable resource for Arlington businesses, offering recruitment and hiring services, customized skills training, and other employment assistance.

The Williams-Sonoma Distribution Center in Arlington provides just one example of how a business can benefit from the services offered. Before opening their doors in Arlington last August, Williams-Sonoma began working with Workforce Solutions to ensure their hiring needs were met. "We helped with a job fair at the Hampton Inn in early summer to hire their first employees. We have also held onsite hiring events at our center, and they attend all of our large job fairs in Tarrant County," Gosser explained. Gosser is also in the early stages of working with Williams-Sonoma and Tarrant County College to submit a Skills

Development Fund grant.

In addition to the *ArlingtonAnswers.com* job fairs, Workforce Solutions proudly hosts the *Red, White, Blue and You* job fair for veterans in Arlington every November. For more information about the services provided, please visit [www.workforcesolutions.net](http://www.workforcesolutions.net). The Arlington Workforce Center is located on the UTA Campus at 140 W. Mitchell.



Job seekers visit employer booths at Arlington job fair.

# Updates

## I-30/SH 360 Interchange & Great Southwest Industrial District

Using funding from Proposition 1, approved by voters in November, the Texas Department of Transportation has secured \$254 million to rebuild the I-30/360 junction. The new I-30/SH 360 interchange will not only address a longstanding traffic flow problem for Arlington, it will significantly enhance access to the Great Southwest Industrial Park (GSW).

The Park has historically been hampered by obscure ingress/egress facilities on the intersecting freeways. The improved access and points of entry to the highway system will



enhance the viability of the industrial properties within GSW. Additionally, the investment in the interchange is expected to spark developer interest in redevelopment opportunities that

could consolidate some of the older, smaller buildings into more modern and efficient structures, making them more attractive to new businesses considering locations in Arlington.

## Reconstruction of Lamar Boulevard

Although roadway reconstruction can always be difficult for existing businesses, work on E. Lamar Boulevard was clearly needed. During the construction phase, an area developer decided that the timing was right to redevelop one of the restaurant properties along this roadway – the former Trail Dust Steakhouse. Located at 2300 E. Lamar Blvd., the restaurant was in need of extensive repair. The work required to convert, remodel, and continue operation of the existing facility was deemed cost-prohibitive.

After doing due diligence with staff, the developer decided to demolish the structure and replace it with the Rock Wood Fired Grill, a new restaurant concept hailing

from Seattle, Washington. The Rock Wood Fired Grill is now moving forward, with completion anticipated by November of this year.

Because of the size of the site, a second restaurant (yet to be named) is planned for this location. The completion of Lamar Boulevard has created a beautiful corridor, which incentivized the developer to move forward with a substantial reinvestment in the area.

