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August 2017

Wall Street Braces for the Impact of Hurricane Harvey

Hurricane Harvey's catastrophic flooding could cost billions in damage. The markets are watching to see how much damage the storm has left in its path.

Read more [here](#).



Harvey Prompts Shutdown of Nearly One-Fourth of U.S. Gulf Oil Production

U.S. energy companies were forced to shut-in about 22%, or 378,633 barrels of oil per day, of Gulf of Mexico oil production due to Tropical Storm Harvey, according to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Roughly 26% of Gulf natural gas production was also down.

Read more [here](#).



Manufacturers Contribute to Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts

In a column for Shopfloor, the NAM writes about the ways in which, as Hurricane Harvey devastates the Gulf Coast, "manufacturers in the area are not only weathering the storm – they're pitching in to help with the relief effort and rebuild the communities they call home."

Read more [here](#).



Arkansas Energy Efficiency Conference and Trade Show Slated

for Sept. 12

The Arkansas Chapter of The Association of Energy Engineers is holding the Arkansas Energy Efficiency Conference and Trade Show from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Sept. 12 at the Crowne Plaza in Little Rock.

To register or for more information, click [here](#).



Trump Kicking Off Tax Reform Push with Visit to Missouri

Bloomberg News cites “an administration official familiar with the plans” who said President Trump “will kick off a campaign to overhaul U.S. tax policy this week with a visit to Missouri.”

Read more [here](#).



Arkansas Environmental Federation to hold 50th Annual Convention and Trade Show

The AEF will celebrate 50 years of serving as the voice of industry on environmental issue at the Hot Springs Convention Center October 25-27, 2017. This is the largest gathering of environmental professionals in the region and is a wonderful opportunity for everyone that works on environmental issues.

For details, click [here](#).



Yellen Says Response to Financial Crisis Strengthened System

The New York Times reports Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellen said that the global financial crisis instigated changes that have improved the resilience of the financial system.

Read more [here](#).



Arvest Bank Announces Acquisition of Bear State Financial Inc.

Arkansas State Chamber Pinnacle Peak member Arvest Bank recently announced an agreement to acquire Bear State Financial, Inc., the parent company of Bear State Bank.

Read more [here](#).



NAM, Industry Leaders Push U.S.

Negotiators To Keep ISDS in NAFTA

The NAM and other leading industry organizations are pushing U.S. negotiators to keep the investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) provision in NAFTA as negotiations continue.

Read more [here](#).

North
American
Free
Trade
Agreement



Windstream Closes \$228 Million Deal with Broadview Networks

Little Rock-based telecom operator Windstream Holdings Inc., a State Chamber Pinnacle Crown member, recently acquired New York cloud solutions operator Broadview Networks Holdings Inc. in an all-cash deal worth \$227.5 million.

Read more [here](#).



GP To Sell Pine Chemicals Business for \$315 million

Georgia-Pacific LLC announced it has reached an agreement to sell its pine chemicals business for \$315 million to Ingevity, a publicly-traded chemical manufacturer based in Charleston, S.C., that has more than 25 locations across the globe.

Read more [here](#).



EPA Planning 10 Meetings for Input on Rewriting WOTUS Rule

The EPA "is planning 10 public hearings to gather input" in its effort to rewrite the Obama Administration's WOTUS rule.

Read more [here](#).



Simmons Foods Inc. Unveils New Wet Ingredient Facility in Siloam Springs

Simmons Foods Inc., an Associated Industries of Arkansas Pinnacle Crown member, recently celebrated the grand opening of its new 72,000-SF ingredient facility in Siloam Springs, a \$30 million facility that the company expects will create 78 jobs.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Air Force Selects Lockheed, Raytheon To Develop New Nuclear-Capable Cruise Missile

The U.S. Air Force recently announced that it has awarded Lockheed Martin and Raytheon separate \$900 million contracts to develop new cruise missiles that are capable of carrying nuclear weapons and meant to be fired from either a B-52 or B-2 bomber.

Read more [here](#).



Virginia Company Acquires Arkansas Automatic Sprinklers/United Fire Suppression

VSC Fire & Security Inc. of Ashland recently acquired Arkansas State Chamber member Arkansas Automatic Sprinklers/United Fire Suppression of Cabot, a full-service fire protection and security company specializing in fire suppression and low-voltage integration.

Read more [here](#).



Canadian Manufacturer Opening U.S. Headquarters in Conway

Canada-based manufacturer DBG said recently that it will open its U.S. headquarters in Conway. The announcement is part of an acquisition of Navistar's IC Bus business and will allow the company to "be part of a growing community" with a "strong experienced workforce," according to a news release.

Read more [here](#).



Arkansas Children's Northwest on Schedule for Completion This Fall; 250 Workers To Be Hired

The new Springdale campus for State Chamber member Arkansas Children's Hospital is on schedule for completion this fall and between now and opening in January the hospital will need to hire 250 workers to help carry out the hospital's day-to-day operations.

Read more [here](#).



Riceland Foods and Riviana Foods Inc. Announce Expansion at Jonesboro Facility

AIA Pinnacle Crown member Riceland Foods and Riviana Foods Inc. are planning to spend millions of

dollars to expand into the rice/flour extrusion process market in Jonesboro, a move that will create up to 10 new jobs and should be completed in 6 to 8 months.

Read more [here](#).



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