Goldman Sachs Sees Big 2018 for Stocks Due to “Rational Exuberance”

The stock market is in for another strong year in 2018 so long as Congress is able to pass tax reform, according to a Goldman Sachs forecast.

Read more here.

In Win for Trump, Nebraska Approves Keystone XL Pipeline Route

Nebraska regulators approved a route for TransCanada Corp’s Keystone XL pipeline through the state on Monday, lifting the last big regulatory obstacle for the long-delayed project that U.S. President Donald Trump wants built.

Read more here.

NAM’s Timmons: House Is “Standing Up For American Manufacturing Workers,” Urges Senate To Do the Same

In a press release, the National Association of Manufacturers issued a statement from NAM President and CEO Jay Timmons on the House passage of HR 1 – The “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.”

Read more here.

Entergy Arkansas Reveals Plans for State’s Largest Delta Solar Project
Arkansas State Chamber Pinnacle Apex member Entergy Arkansas will expand its renewable energy portfolio with plans for a new solar project in the state’s Delta region that will be the largest sun-powered development in Arkansas.

Read more here.

**NAM, Mahindra Announce New Campaign To Address Skills Gap**

In a press release, the National Association of Manufacturers announced that the NAM and Mahindra have introduced “a new series as a part of the NAM’s ‘Creators Wanted’ campaign.

Read more here.

**Riggs Outdoor To Open $5 Million Facility in Benton Next Summer**

Riggs CAT, an Arkansas State Chamber member that has been providing Caterpillar heavy construction equipment to commercial operators in Arkansas for 90 years, will open a new division, Riggs Outdoor, in Benton next summer.

Read more here.

**IEA: U.S. Shale Boom To Last into Next Decade**

The shale boom has positioned the U.S. to become the world’s largest exporter of liquefied natural gas by the middle of the next decade, the International Energy Agency recently reported.

Read more here.

**Shearer’s Snacks Adding 85 Jobs to Newport Facility**

Shearer’s Snacks’ Newport manufacturing operation is in the process of adding 85 jobs in the coming weeks. When the hiring is complete, the company will employ 480 workers.

Read more here.
Housing Starts Jumped By 13.7 Percent in October, Beating Forecast

Bloomberg News reported the Census Bureau and HUD announced that housing starts “rebounded in October to the fastest pace in a year,” rising by 13.7 percent to a 1.29 million annualized rate and “partly reflecting recovery efforts in the hurricane-stricken South.”

Read more here.

Interfor Plans Major Investment at Monticello

Interfor Corporation recently announced it will invest $46 million to upgrade and modernize its sawmill in Monticello, Arkansas. The project is scheduled to be completed in early 2019.

Read more here.

Fed Speeches Demonstrate Readiness To Raise Rates in December

MarketWatch reported that Fed watchers “gleaned two important conclusions from a flurry of public appearances by central bankers” last week: that the central bank is set to raise interest rates in December.

Read more here.

First Orion’s New Global Headquarters Will Be in Downtown North Little Rock

First Orion, an Arkansas company that develops and sells software to help cellphone users identify and block unwanted calls, recently announced that its new global headquarters will be located in Argenta, the downtown neighborhood in North Little Rock.

Read more here.

U.S. Consumer Prices Rise in October, Retail Sales Increase

Reuters reports that the Labor Department announced that the Consumer Price Index “rose by 0.2 percent in October,” a trend that is “bolstering the view that a recent disinflationary trend worrying the
Federal Reserve probably had ended.”
Read more here.

**PRADCO Adding 60 New Jobs, Methodist Village Breaks Ground on $50-$60 Million Fort Smith Investment**

PRADCO Outdoor Brands announced the addition of 60 new jobs, and Methodist Village Senior Living kicked off a major expansion project during separate ceremonies in Fort Smith recently.
Read more here.

**Trump Administration Wants To Accelerate Review Process for Infrastructure Projects**

In an analysis, the New York Times examined President Trump’s pledge to accelerate the review process for completing major construction projects, including his goal for agencies to complete environmental reviews in two years.
Read more here.

**Chinese-Based Risever To Open First U.S. Plant in Jonesboro**

Hefei Risever Machinery Co. (Risever) has announced it will invest $20 million to build a facility inside the Craighead Technology Park in Jonesboro.
Read more here.

**U.S. Manufacturing “Picks Up Pace” During Trump Administration**

Fox Business reports that the American manufacturing sector is on an upswing thanks to steady global economic growth, a rise in energy and other commodity prices, and increased confidence.
Read more here.