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# Falcon Steel begins new chapter after \$30 million investment



*Falcon Steel provides fabricated products for utility poles, transmission towers and other industries from facilities in Haltom City, Euless and Kaufman. Falcon Steel*



*Jim Taylor*

BY STEVE KASKOVICH

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Two years ago, it looked like Falcon Steel might face the fate of many other old-line U.S. manufacturers when it filed for bankruptcy.

Instead, the 53-year-old fabricator, based in Haltom City near the border with Fort Worth, is ready for a new start 17 months after exiting bankruptcy, thanks to a \$30 million recapitalization that will pay for new equipment and help the company win more business, said CEO Jim Taylor.

If projections pan out, the company will add 60-75 employees over the next 12 to 14 months, adding to its workforce of about 300 at facilities in Haltom City, Euless and Kaufman, Taylor said in an interview.

“As we win jobs, we look for fitters and welders,” said Taylor, a turnaround expert who came in as a restructuring consultant and took over as CEO two years ago. “We will put on a second shift and expand as soon as we fill up the first shift.”

The company makes lattice towers, poles and substation structures for electric utilities such as Oncor and Centerpoint. It also supplies metal structures to hold highway signs throughout the state, and other pieces such as sculptures at Grapevine Mills mall and stairways at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

The financial injection came from two investment firms in Dallas — ReignRock Capital Partners and Inverdale Capital Management — plus a line of credit from Chase Bank. In a nice twist, the money bought out 24 shareholders, mostly managers at the company, who were able to make it through a bankruptcy reorganization that gave the company time to find new investors to pay off creditors.

Renamed Falcon Steel America, Taylor plans to capitalize on its position as a U.S. manufacturer. “When on-time delivery is critical, geographic and cultural proximity are major benefits,” he said in a statement. “American-made products also stand for quality — which is exactly what our reputation is built on.”

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Read more here: <http://www.star-telegram.com/news/business/article102292712.html#storylink=cpy>

# Best Places to Live 2016

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## 18. Euless, Tex.

Sept. 17, 2016

### AT A GLANCE



Population	57,457
Median Home Price	\$200,000
Property Tax	\$4,036
Unemployment rate	4.1%
Commute time	24 minutes

Tucked in between Dallas and Fort Worth, Euless prides itself on being a mid-size city with a small-town spirit. The community rallies around Trinity High School's football team, and for good reason: The Trojans won the 2015 district championship, boast a 14-year record of 165-25, and were even featured in a Gatorade commercial. The high school also earns points for being the most diverse public high school in Texas—a fitting accolade given Euless' significant Asian and Hispanic communities. Students at Trinity High can also take specialized classes in robotics, cosmetology, and pre-med at the Buinger Career and Technical Education Academy, which opened in 2014.

The Euless Public Library offers a number of specialized programs, including STEM learning courses for kids, movie matinees, and free counseling sessions for small business owners through the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE). For the outdoor minded, Euless has an 18-hole world-class golf course, an aquatic park, and over 300 acres of parkland. Although there aren't many major employers within the town itself, its proximity to Dallas (a 30-minute drive) offers a lot of jobs. Indeed, Euless' unemployment rate is only 4.1%. All of this comes with affordable real estate: the typical home here sells for \$200,000.

<http://time.com/money/4468986/euless-texas/>

50. Scottsdale, Ariz.

49. West Chester, Ohio

48. Edmond, Okla.

47. Ames, Iowa

46. Fremont, Calif.

45. Central Pasco, Fla.

44. Spring, Texas

43. Lee's Summit, Mo.

42. Matoaca, Va.

41. Levittown, Pa.

40. Greenwich, Conn.

39. Huntington, N.Y.

38. Hamden, Conn.

37. Cary, N.C.

36. Wellington, Fla.

35. Sioux Falls, S.D.

34. Oyster Bay, N.Y.

33. Koolaupoko, Hawaii

32. Novi, Mich.

31. Newton, Mass.

30. Fishers, Ind.

29. Overland Park, Kan.

28. Hunter Mill, Va.

27. Hoffman Estates, Ill.

26. Cherry Hill, N.J.

25. Broomfield, Colo.

24. Appleton, Wisc.

23. Franklin, N.J.

22. Ashburn, Va.

21. San Ramon, Calif.

20. Irvine, Calif.

19. Edison, N.J.

**18. Euless, Tex.**

17. Eastvale, Calif.

16. Nashua, N.H.

15. West Hartford, Conn.

14. Sammamish, Wash.

13. Centennial, Colo.

12. Pflugerville, Tex.

11. Woodbury, Minn.

10. Naperville, Ill.

9. Beaverton, Ore.

8. Weston, Fla.

7. Clarkstown, N.Y.

6. Highlands Ranch, Colo.

5. Parsippany-Troy Hills, N.J.

4. West Des Moines, Iowa

3. Plano, Texas

2. Eden Prairie, Minn.

1. Columbia, Md.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 9:20 AM

# H-E-B happenings: Pet fair, community meeting and Cuban expert



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## **ANNUAL PET FAIR, FUNDRAISER IS SATURDAY AT TRINITY HIGH**

Need a new pet or just want to get your little guy checked out?

Then the Trinity High School GAP Club's Fall Pet Fair is the place to be on Saturday.

The fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity High School, 500 N. Industrial Blvd., Eules.

The annual fair is the largest event and fundraiser for the Eules Animal Shelter and will offer low-cost vaccinations and microchipping for pets until 1 p.m., along with professional dog photos, dog bathing and nail trimming.

Did we mention the garage sale?

Local vendors will be selling crafts and all-things canine and the shelter will have pets available for adoption.

Visit [www.trinitygaprescue.org](http://www.trinitygaprescue.org) to check what pets are available.

## **OUTREACH MEETING FOR BEDFORD RESIDENTS IS THURSDAY**

Bedford residents wanting to know more about their city can attend Thursday's Residential Outreach Meeting at 7 p.m. at the former library building across from City Hall, at 1805 L. Don Dodson Drive.

Registration for the free event is at 6:30 p.m. and for a quick check-in bring your printed Eventbrite ticket (available at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) and which can be accessed through Bedford's Facebook page).

Sponsored by the Bedford Community Affairs Commission, the meeting will feature Eric Valdez, community services manager; Don Henderson, parks superintendent; Jim Griffin, mayor; and Jeff Gibson, police chief.

The winner of the first Katie Savage Resident of the Year award will also be announced.

Questions? Email Joy Brandon at [bonjourjoy@aol.com](mailto:bonjourjoy@aol.com).

### **CUBAN EXPERT SPEAKS AT TCC NORTHEAST CAMPUS MONDAY**

As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, Carlos Alzugary, a former Cuban ambassador and diplomat and current educator, will speak at Northeast Campus of Tarrant County College in Hurst.

Alzugary will speak on “Changing Relations with Cuba” at 12:30 p.m. Monday in the Student Union Building at TCC’s Northeast Campus, 828 W. Harwood Drive, Hurst.

Alzugary, a native of Havana, is a regular speaker and an expert on international affairs involving the U.S. and Cuba and beyond.

Read more here: [http://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/hurst-eules-bedford\\_news/article103393592.html#storylink=cpy](http://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/community/hurst-eules-bedford_news/article103393592.html#storylink=cpy)