

Pulse of Conway

THE PREMIER SOURCE FOR BUSINESS NEWS IN THE CONWAY AREA



Executive Q&A with Allen Dodson

Learn more about Faulkner County Judge Allen Dodson and his tenure as president of the Metroplan Board of Directors

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JUNE 2026

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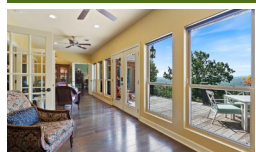


Focus: Aviation & Transportation

Faulkner County Manages, Modernizes Extensive Road Network

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WHAT'S THAT GONNA BE

Event Venue Coming Soon Near Conway

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The UCA Aviation Academy started in 2024 to help address the national pilot shortage. It offers private pilot license, commercial license, instrument rating, and multi-engine rating instruction. Pictured (left to right) are Mark Valenzuela, chief flight instructor; Mathew Ganis, flight instructor; Zane Harris, flight instructor; Rhiannon Umfleet, UCA Aviation Academy graduate; River Ferrari, ground instructor; Silas Stanton, flight instructor; and Brad Teague, UCA Aviation Academy director. Photo by Makenzie Evans Photography.

UCA Aviation Academy

Conway's New Pipeline to the Cockpit

The aviation industry is facing a pilot shortage that is only expected to grow in the coming years and decades. Industry experts say 200,000 pilots will be needed by 2030, and that number could be more than 600,000 pilots by 2040.

The UCA Aviation Academy was started in 2024 to help address this pilot shortage and address it within the state of Arkansas and the broader region. The demand and interest in the program were instantaneous.

"Within a week, we had 500 names," said Brad Teague, director of the UCA Aviation Academy. "We knew there was a pilot shortage, and we knew a lot of people were interested, but that initial rush was surprising."

The academy started in March 2024 with 15 students. Since then, it has found its cadence, starting new courses about every three months — in January, April, and September — with a new set of about 15 students, averaging about 50 students

throughout the academy at any one time.

The academy offers four certifications, all achievable within about two years. Students begin with the private pilot license, requiring a minimum of 35 flight hours, which permits the holder to fly during visual day and night conditions. From there, they can add an instrument rating, also 35 hours minimum, which allows a

UCA AVIATION ACADEMY
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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UCA.EDU/AVIATION



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UCA AVIATION ACADEMY

FROM PAGE 1

pilot to fly without visibility using only cockpit instruments. The commercial license follows, requiring 190 accumulated flight hours including night flying, cross-country routes and enhanced maneuvers, and permits a pilot to be compensated for flying. Finally, the multi-engine rating certifies a pilot to operate aircraft with more than one engine, requiring both ground and flight instruction including demonstrated proficiency flying on a single engine.

Completion of these four licenses and ratings opens opportunities for pilots as charter or taxi air pilots, ferry pilots, cargo and freight pilots, and as a flight instructor.

"When you finish all your certificates with us, you're at about 300 hours and still need another 1,200 hours to be able to sit for the license as a commercial airline pilot," Teague said.

To bridge the gap, many pilots become flight instructors to be able to log the hours necessary in a shorter amount of time. The UCA Aviation Academy has had two graduates of the program;

one now serves as a flight instructor for the academy and the other works with the Conway Regional Airport, where he is working on his instructor's license to also work with the academy.

The academy is taught by flight instructors from Central Flying Academy of Little Rock, a well-known and respected aviation firm in the region. In addition to teaching its students, that partnership has provided a pipeline for academy graduates to find jobs as flight instructors while they work to gain hours to one day become a commercial pilot or further their aviation career in another way.

"Central Flying Academy has been an incredible partner. We could not be as successful as we have without them," Teague said. "Phil Jordan and Mark Valenzuela get things done for our students. They are great to partner with and are committed to the best instruction possible for our students."

Another viable partnership has opened with a private jet charter service, Gen 4 Jets, in Newport, that has agreed to hire UCA Aviation Academy graduates for its company. The collaboration establishes a dedicated pilot pipeline program where graduates of the UCA Aviation Academy receive

a guaranteed interview with Gen 4 Jets.

"We have connections in a lot of places, so we feel like we can place our graduates so they can be paid to get those hours they need and find opportunities in aviation," Teague said.

The partnerships with Central Flying Academy, the Newport charter service, and the Conway Regional Airport have been vital to the growth of the academy in its first two years.

"Without the city, the mayor, and the airport director Jake Briley, we couldn't have done what we have," Teague said. "They have been extremely helpful. Every time I ask Jake for something, it's always 'yes.'"

Briley said UCA has been a great partner for the city and the local airport, and he is excited to see a new avenue for people to enter aviation. Specifically, Briley appreciated the opportunity for students to complete the aviation academy while enrolled at UCA in a separate degree field.

"I know a few who work for me are getting their degrees in areas like business, and that's amazing," Briley said. "It allows them other options, instead of just getting a general aviation degree and going through a traditional four-year, aviation program."



Since opening, the academy has graduated its first students and has opened its own hangar, which includes 8,000 square feet of hangar space and 2,000 square feet for flight simulators, classrooms, and offices. Photo by Makenzie Evans Photography.



They can be done within two years and start earning money and can advance in their aviation careers.”

The academy has also grown in terms of physical space, celebrating the groundbreaking and opening of its own hangar last year.

The aviation academy opened a 10,000-square-foot hangar in 2025. The hangar features 8,000 square feet for aircraft and 2,000 square feet for flight simulators, classrooms, and offices.

“Having our own dedicated space has been extremely beneficial,” Teague said. “When I see our students back here with our instructors, and especially the first time they walk in here, you see their faces kind of light up. They see the simulators, they see the workspace, they walk in the hangar, and it just hits them that this is real.”

Two years into the academy, Teague said he is focused on continuing to grow the aviation program, providing more financial aid to students, and deepening the pipeline for graduates.

“Our biggest obstacle right now is affordability,” he said. “Our biggest goal is finding ways to help our students more financially.”

The academy was recently awarded the Arkansas Workforce Challenge Grant, which will now provide up to \$3,000 for eligible students.

“We have worked with the UCA Foundation to raise money for scholarships now available for the private pilot license, as well,” Teague said. “We also have some new \$2,500 scholarships available, and we were just approved by Sallie Mae for student loans.”

As the program continues to grow and mature, Teague said he remains focused on helping to address a pilot shortage that sparked the idea for the UCA Aviation Academy and to offer aviation as a career to more Arkansans.

“We got into this space to help with the pilot shortage, which is only going to increase in the coming years, and we also want to see the UCA footprint continue to grow and in what is a completely new direction,” Teague said. “As we get more years under our belt, we’re going to start seeing more of our graduates in the industry and making a tremendous impact.” 📍





The recent improvements to Mitchell Road in southern Faulkner County (pictured here) are just some of the updates the Faulkner County Road Department will make this year as it oversees more than 900 miles of road throughout the county.

Faulkner County Eyes the Road Ahead

Stretch the roads the Faulkner County Road Department is responsible for maintaining end-to-end, and it would reach Charlotte, North Carolina. That is more than 900 miles under its control, more than any city or the Arkansas Department of Transportation manages within Faulkner County's borders.

"I have tasked [County Road Administrator] Tom [Anderson] and the entire road

administration with two things: we have to get our work done, and we have to be prepared for tomorrow," Dodson said. "Those are two different things. One is the operational side of the organization and the day-to-day of everything from personnel to capacity to purchasing major items of equipment to prioritizing projects and managing the life cycle of our roads. The other side is visioning and planning

for years into the future for Faulkner County."

As Faulkner County continues to grow, it requires more thought toward the future and matching the needs of residents throughout the county. Conway recently surpassed 72,000 residents and was among the 100 fastest-growing cities in the nation, but the growth was not only in the county's largest city. The smaller communities have seen con-

sistent growth, too. In 2025, Greenbrier grew 4.7%, Vilonia grew 4.4%, and Wooster grew 3.4%.

“Faulkner County has a lot to be proud of just as a place, as a community, and for all those reasons, it leads to higher growth,” Dodson said. “With that, you cannot afford to be behind in your strategic planning.”

One way the county has modernized its operations is by working to digitize its road quality for every mile of county road to help drive decisions on improvements and updates, based on current conditions.

“Tom has been a proponent of a system where we digitize road quality for every inch of county road,” Dodson said. “We hire a third party to come evaluate and report to us the conditions of our roads. We use that technology as a starting point for priority setting for resurfacing, maintenance, and other projects.”

This helps the county set a cohesive plan for action, while also monitoring situations as they arise.

“A road can fall apart faster than another, so if something crops up that is more urgent, naturally, we’re going to fix that,” Dodson said. “We cannot have roads that are impassable.”

Looking toward the long-term growth of the community, Dodson is focused on moving forward with a Conway loop that would help move traffic more efficiently in and around the county’s major city.

The Baker-Wills Parkway, which opened in 2017, was the first phase of this project that will continue over the next decade and beyond.

“In my view, that will be the biggest milestone for Faulkner County for the next 50 years,” Dodson said. “Obviously, we are talking about quite a few years and completing it in segments, but at the end of the day, it’s an opportunity to simplify the current state of the transportation network in and around Conway as being the spine of I-40.”

No decisions on next steps have been made at this time, but early contenders for next steps would be a connection between U.S. highways 64 and 65 in east Conway, and the continuation of the Baker-Wills Parkway in the southern portion of the city.

“The challenge is we don’t want to put it too far out where drivers pass through and don’t stop and buy a burger,” Dodson said. “There’s a tension there that you have to make an informed decision with engineering data and try to find that balance between what makes sense today and what will make sense 40 years from now.” 📍

2026 Asphalt Overlay Projects in Faulkner County

	Project	Contractor	Projected Start Date
1	Fortson Road	Rogers Group	2026
2	Mitchell Road	Rogers Group	2026
3	Ranchette Road	Rogers Group	2026
4	Blair Road	Rogers Group	2026
5	Plantation Road (portion)	Rogers Group	2026
6	Cornerstone Drive	Rogers Group	2026
7	Daugherty Hill Road	Rogers Group	2026
8	West Lewisburg Road	Rogers Group	2026
9	Ray Lane	Rogers Group	2026
10	Dougan Drive	Rogers Group	2026

2026 Cape Seal Projects in Faulkner County

	Project	Contractor	Projected Start Date
1	Matt Abbott Drive	Vance Brothers	2026
2	Roden Mill Road	Vance Brothers	2026
3	Pickles Gap Road	Vance Brothers	2026

Source: Faulkner County Government

Allen Dodson Talks Metroplan, Impact on County, Region

What is Metroplan and what role does it play?

Metroplan is a federally designated metropolitan planning organization for central Arkansas. It works with local governments and state and federal agencies to provide general planning, mapping, and technical assistance to local governments.

How does regionalism benefit Conway, Faulkner County, and central Arkansas as a whole?

Look at Northwest Arkansas, for example. People love that area. When a UCA, Hendrix, or Central Baptist College student graduates, they're going to be deciding what they want to do and where they want to live. So, we must ask ourselves why they would stay here, and we must address that. We must care about it.

We aren't guaranteed a certain population here. There must be enough for people to want to raise their kids here, or they can just go to Dallas or Chicago or Kansas City or anywhere else. It is that simple.

So, everything from quality of education to places to work, to the things we do when we're not sitting behind a desk, is all tied to the same immeasurable metric, which is the quality of community and the quality of life in a community.

What Metroplan initiative will have the biggest impact on Faulkner County?

The Conway loop. That will be the biggest milestone for Faulkner County as a county and as a region for the next 50 years.

We are talking about something that will take quite a few years, so it will be completed in segments. We need to complete the Baker-Wills Parkway, but there's also a huge need on the opposite side of town to connect U.S. highways 64 and 65. That would be working with the City of Conway and the Arkansas Department of Transportation, quite heavily, so it would be a multifaceted effort. That is likely the next phase.

You could really simplify the current state of the transportation network in and around Conway as being the spine of Interstate 40, and everything else hung off that spine. Any successful, growing city and region has networks allowing you to take a straight shortcut to where you're going or providing a much more direct path rather than everyone getting on at the same place and getting off where they need to go.

How does your involvement with Metroplan help you in your role as county judge?

It gives familiarity with the programs and helps me to position Faulkner County for projects and programs in the future.



Background: Allen Dodson has served as Faulkner County Judge since 2022. He previously served as the county's attorney and was appointed county judge in 2013 and held the office through 2014.

In addition to his role as county judge, Dodson currently serves as president of the Metroplan board of directors.

As the county judge, my first duty is to the people of Faulkner County, so when I'm serving as a board member or going to board meetings, I'm promoting Faulkner County. As president of the board, I have a fiduciary duty and responsibility to everyone else there.

A rising tide lifts all ships, and that is true. We need to do the best things for our region, for all parts of our region to succeed. I enjoy the broader view and the impact I can have as an officer there. Having Metroplan be as healthy as it can be is the best thing for Faulkner County and all other entities part of the organization.

What are your main priorities as president of Metroplan?

No. 1 is to have the organization well-run and make a significant effort to regionalize and not fall further behind regions outperforming us today. Building relationships and building engagement across the region is key to that.

You always want to improve the operations of the organization you're overseeing, but the most important goal is regionalization.

We think there are roles that are being played by planning organizations in other areas of the country that have been very successful and have helped their regions and have been worth the effort.

Where does central Arkansas need to be, and how do we get there?

First, we must figure out who we are, and then we need to develop a plan that involves stakeholders everywhere. We cannot fall further behind regions that are outperforming us today. We need to build relationships and build engagement across the region.

COMMUTER TRAVEL

How Conway Workers Travel for Work

Conway Residents to Jobs:

Rank	Destination	Workers	Shr of Total Wkrs
1	Conway	19,610	62.00%
2	Little Rock	5,825	18.40%
3	North Little Rock	1,625	5.10%
4	Greenbrier	330	1.00%
5	Russellville	200	0.60%
6	Jacksonville	185	0.60%
7	Maumelle	185	0.60%
8	Cabot	175	0.60%
9	Benton	160	0.50%
10	Sherwood	155	0.50%
11	Vilonia	155	0.49%
12	Hot Springs	110	0.35%
13	Batesville	100	0.32%
14	Rose Bud	85	0.27%
15	Morrilton	80	0.25%
16	Clinton	70	0.22%
17	Bryant	65	0.21%
18	College Station CDP	55	0.17%
19	Plumerville	50	0.16%
20	Rogers	50	0.16%
Other		523	1.65%

TOTAL

31,630

Residents of Places to Conway Jobs:

Rank	Destination	Workers	Shr of Total Wkrs
1	Conway	19,610	54.60%
2	Greenbrier	925	2.60%
3	Vilonia	605	1.70%
4	Little Rock	555	1.50%
5	Morrilton	435	1.20%
6	North Little Rock	400	1.10%
7	Sherwood	380	1.10%
8	Cabot	325	0.90%
9	Mayflower	315	0.90%
10	Maumelle	265	0.70%
11	Wooster	250	0.70%
12	Enola	115	0.32%
13	Holland	110	0.31%
14	Benton	105	0.29%
15	Jacksonville	105	0.24%
16	Crossett	85	0.24%
17	Beebe	80	0.22%
18	Guy	80	0.22%
19	Plumerville	80	0.22%
20	Springfield CDP	65	0.18%
Other		1,138	3.17%

TOTAL

35,895

Data universe is workers age 16+ | Source: CTPP 2017-2021.

Compiled by Metroplan 6/6/2026

EDUCATION

Hendrix College has announced new leadership for its board of trustees. Walter Pryor was elected chair, and Eric Jackson was elected vice chair. Kim Evans will continue in her role as secretary.

Pryor joined the board in 2012. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Hendrix College and a law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center. He received the Hendrix Odyssey Medal for Professional & Leadership Development in 2008 and has also received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Hendrix College Students for Black Culture.



Jackson is senior vice president and a member of the board of directors for Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort. He has served numerous local and state chambers of commerce, economic development initiatives, and healthcare boards, and currently serves on the Arkansas Parks and Tourism Commission.



He earned a bachelor's degree in business and economics from Hendrix.

Evans joined the board in 2017. She is an

experienced senior leader specializing in nonprofit management, governance, fundraising, and strategic initiatives.

She holds a bachelor's degree in foreign service from Georgetown University and a law degree from the William H. Bowen School of Law at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.



HEALTHCARE

Steve Nixon has been named vice president of hospital operations for Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway. He has more than 20 years of healthcare experience, including clinical and leadership roles.

James C. Walker, M.D., has joined the Baptist Health Surgical and Specialty Clinic-Conway. He is a board-certified general surgeon specializing in minimally invasive, robotic-assisted procedures and enjoys advanced endocrine surgery.

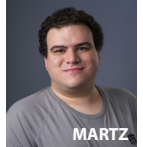


He earned his medical degree from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 2009 and completed both his surgical internship and residency at UAMS, where he also conducted

research focused on the effects of diabetes on the nervous system. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

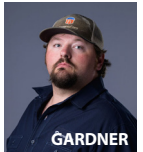
UTILITIES

Joshua Martz recently earned his System Operator certificate from Northwest Lineman College. The certification provides advanced training in system operations, electrical systems, and utility coordination.



Martz is a dispatcher and system operator apprentice at Conway Corp. He started at the company in 2022.

Zach Gardner earned his Basic Industrial Wastewater Treatment license from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. Gardner is an environmental coordinator for Conway Corp. He started at the company in 2023.



Darrell Yates recently earned his Key Accounts certification from the American Public Power Association.



Yates serves as an account executive at Conway Corp. He started at the company in 2002. 🌱

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ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

The Key Economic Indicators for Conway & Faulkner County

PRESENTED BY



LABOR

April 2026

Civilian Labor Force



169,995,000



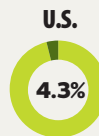
1,454,535

Seasonally Adjusted

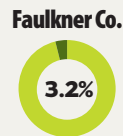
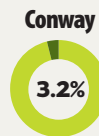
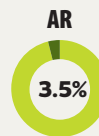
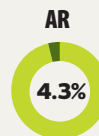
U.S.	AR	Conway	Faulkner Co.
169,548,000	1,453,431	38,501	68,517

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Unemployment Rate



Seasonally Adjusted



Not Seasonally Adjusted

TAX COLLECTIONS

Total Sales May, YTD

Conway

2026 **\$831.27m**

2025 **\$795.63m**

4.48% increase

Faulkner County

2026 **\$1.09b**

2025 **\$1.04b**

4.24% increase

Total Use May, YTD

Conway

2026 **\$140.13m**

2025 **\$143.61m**

2.43% decrease

Faulkner County

2026 **\$230.47m**

2025 **\$228.63m**

0.80% increase

Restaurant Sales Tax* April, YTD

Conway

2026 **\$105.36 million**

2025 **\$100.47 million**

4.87% increase



*includes mixed drink sales

Hotel Sales Tax April, YTD

Conway

2026 **\$7.54 million**

2025 **\$6.80 million**

10.84% increase



SINGLE FAMILY HOME SALES

April 2026, Year-to-Date

Home Permits

Conway

2026 **54**

2025 **55**

1.82% decrease



Homes Sold

Conway

2026 **253**

2025 **286**

11.54% decrease

Faulkner County

2026 **683**

2025 **637**

7.22% increase

Home Sales

Conway

2026 **\$80.269 million**

2025 **\$81.504 million**

1.51% decrease

Faulkner County

2026 **\$205.362 million**

2025 **\$179.988 million**

14.10% increase

Median Home Price

Conway

2026 **\$277,000**

2025 **\$238,000**

16.39% increase

Faulkner County

2026 **\$260,000**

2025 **\$239,000**

8.79% increase

View more economic data at pulseofconway.com

Data is current at the time of printing. *Methodology Note: Conway figures are now for "Conway City Limits"



The Conway Regional Airport has experienced growth in infrastructure, operations, and capacity over the last several years. Director Jake Briley says opportunities for growth continue into the future. Photo by Makenzie Evans Photography

Conway Regional Airport Charts Course Ahead

Growth is happening all over the Conway Regional Airport, whether it's activity, fuel sales, hangar space, or infrastructure expansions, and Conway Regional Airport Jake Briley sees more opportunities moving into the future.

The size and scale of operations of the airport have grown consistently in the last five years. Takeoffs and landings are up 66.7% since 2022, totaling 20,108 in 2025. The number of aircraft based at the airport has grown 6.5% to nearly 100 planes. Briley said he has an additional corporate hangar he will take to the city council for approval soon.

"We have a 76-person waitlist for hangar space," Briley said. "Our growth has correlated with how much the city has grown. We are very business jet heavy for our size airport."

Briley said the airport sees corporate traffic weekly as corporations fly into Conway to visit

local and nearby offices or locations.

"The majority of the bigger corporations with locations in or near Conway are going to fly into Conway," he said. "We're very aware that we're the first thing these people see when they come to Conway, so we always keep portraying the city in a positive way in mind."

The Conway Regional Airport has also seen solid growth in fuel sales. Total Jet A fuel sales totaled 423,938 gallons in 2025. That was up 20.5% from 2024 when sales totaled 351,686 gallons, and it was up 61.3% from 2022 when it totaled 262,799 gallons.

Low-Lead fuel sales totaled 64,019 gallons, up 10.8% since 2022.

"We try to be competitive with surrounding airports and still make a good profit for the city," Briley said.

In addition to increasing the available space at the airport, important infrastructure

improvements have been made, including a recent extension of the runway from 5,500 feet to 6,010 feet.

"That allows pilots more safety when taking off and landing," Briley said.

Briley said he is always looking for new ways to get more people interested in aviation, crediting the UCA Aviation Academy as a valuable partner. He said he is also considering an air show in the future and mentioned that younger kids can learn more about aviation through the airport's Civil Air Patrol program.

As for future growth, Briley said he is searching for a potential partner for the airport to offer smaller commuter flights to nearby cities and beach destinations.

"The Jonesboro airport offers something similar, so that is one thing we're continuing to look into," he said. 🍌

BY THE NUMBERS: CONWAY REGIONAL AIRPORT

AIRPLANE TAKE-OFFS AND LANDINGS

2025 **20,108**

2024 **18,238**

2023 **17,560**

2022 **15,061**

2021 **10,689**



LOW LEAD AVIATION FUEL SALES

2025 **64,019**

2024 **62,769**

2023 **69,000**

2022 **57,764**

2021 **60,344**



**measured in gallons*

JET A FUEL SALES

2025 **423,938**

2024 **351,686**

2023 **348,347**

2022 **262,799**

2021 **195,172**



**measured in gallons*

TOTAL BASED AIRCRAFT

2025 **98**

2024 **92**

2023 **87**

2022 **82**



Source: Conway Regional Airport



GENESIS OF CONWAY

ELECTRIC
GV60



ELECTRIC
GV70





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Riverfront Events Venue Coming to Conway Area This December

The Lookout at Stony Point will offer Arkansas River views and space for hundreds to gather for a variety of events



The Lookout at Stony Point, a 7,000-square-foot venue, is set to open in Houston, Arkansas, this December. It will be open to a host of events like weddings, receptions, galas, family celebrations, corporate gatherings, reunions, and private parties. *Rendering courtesy of The Lookout at Stony Point*

A new events center, overlooking the Arkansas River, is coming soon to the Conway area that will be open to a host of events like weddings, receptions, galas, family celebrations, corporate gatherings, reunions, and private parties.

The Lookout at Stony Point, a 7,000-square-foot venue, is set to open in Houston, Arkansas, this December. The Lookout is owned by Fason Entertainment, a partnership between Brad and Ashley Fason and Brian and Briana Fason. Brad and Brian Fason are co-owners of Car-Son Construction.

"Our goal is to create a beautiful, welcoming space where people can celebrate life's most meaningful moments, from weddings and family gatherings to corporate events and community celebrations," Brad Fason said. "The stunning river views, thoughtfully designed spaces, and scenic atmosphere make it a truly unique destination in central Arkansas."

The Lookout at Stony Point will offer a spacious patio with firepits and a view of the Arkansas River, and a large glass-enclosed patio.

The venue will be able to accommodate up to 320 guests in its open event space, making it ideal for corporate events, fundraisers, and larger celebrations. It will also feature an intimate chapel setting that seats up to 180 guests for ceremonies and special occasions, as well as additional features catered toward a wedding experience.

"We will also have private bridal and groom suites, each designed to provide a comfortable retreat for the special day, all while offering breathtaking views of the river and surrounding landscape," Fason said. "These dedicated spaces allow wedding parties to relax, prepare, and enjoy the day in a setting that is both luxurious and welcoming."

The Lookout has partnered with Vincent Scherry, a local caterer and restaurateur at Vincent's BBQ & Catering, for hospitality services.

"Together, we will offer our clients a seamless experience complemented by outstanding cuisine and attentive service," Fason said. "The venue will be fully equipped with a commercial kitchen that will allow us to prepare meals and serve on-site, ensuring freshness, efficiency, and an elevated guest experience."

Fason said he is excited to bring The Lookout at Stony Point to people to give them an opportunity to create meaningful moments.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to support local businesses, vendors, and our community," he said. "My hope is that our venue becomes a place where lasting memories are made and where guests can experience the natural beauty of Arkansas while celebrating with the people they love most." 🌿

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7,000
SF Event Venue

320
Open Event Space
Capacity

**December
2026**
Estimated Open Date

Top Conway 2026 Road Projects

	Project	Scope	Project Start Date	Cost
1	Donaghey Avenue Final Phase	Improvements to Donaghey Avenue from Ada Avenue to Caldwell Street	2026	\$1.7 million
2	Court Street Alleyway Improvements	Improvements to the alley connecting Chestnut and Court streets and Oak and Main streets	2026	\$1.7 million
3	Salem and Meadowlake Roundabout	Construction of a roundabout at intersection of Salem and Meadowlake roads	2026	\$1.2 million
4	Farris Road Cross Access	Construction of a public cross access road to connect new commercial development	2026	\$500,000
5	Augusta Avenue Improvements	Construction of a complete street from College Avenue to Ada Avenue; also includes sidewalk on College Avenue to connect Donaghey Avenue and Farris Road	2026	\$300,000
6	Country Club Road and Tyler Street Improvements	Construction of a dedicated turn lane for eastbound Tyler Street traffic and extended queue for school traffic	2026	\$150,000

Upcoming Conway Road Projects

	Project	Scope	Partner	Project Start Date	Cost
1	Dave Ward Drive Widening and Intersection Improvement	Harkrider Street to I-40	ArDOT	2027	\$15 million
2	Salem Road Reconstruction	Reconstruction of Salem Road from Dave Ward Drive to College Avenue	Metroplan	2027	\$7.5 million
3	Harkrider and Robins Intersection Improvement	Grade raise and traffic signal update upgrade to improve railroad crossing	ArDOT	2027	\$7 million
4	East Dave Ward Drive, East German Lane, and Mayor Lane Roundabout	Construction of roundabout at intersection of East Dave Ward Drive, East German Lane, and Mayor Lane; widening of East Dave Ward Drive	ArDOT	2027	\$5 million
5	College Avenue Bridge over Tucker Creek	Replacement of existing bridge with pedestrian underpass	Metroplan	2027	\$4.5 million
6	Harkrider Street Widening and Intersection Improvement	Widening of Harkrider Street from Bruce Street to Oak Street; traffic signal at College Avenue	ArDOT	2027	\$3.5 million
7	South German Lane and Favre Lane Roundabout	Construction of roundabout at intersection of South German Lane and Favre Lane		2027	\$1.2 million
8	Oak Street Reconstruction	Locust Avenue to Front Street; Stormwater drainage infrastructure improvements and streetscaping		TBD	TBD
9	Meadowlake Road Widening	Construction of a complete street from Donaghey Avenue to Washington Avenue		TBD	TBD
10	Country Club Road and Stermer Road Improvements	Stermer Road from Salem Road to Country Club Road; Country Club to Dave Ward Drive		TBD	TBD

Upcoming Roundabouts

	Project	Scope	Project Start Date	Cost
1	Prince Street and Hogan Lane Roundabout	Roundabout at intersection of Prince Street and Hogan Lane	TBD	TBD
2	Tyler Street and Hogan Lane Roundabout	Roundabout at intersection of Tyler Street and Hogan Lane	TBD	TBD
3	College Avenue and Hogan Lane Roundabout	Roundabout at intersection of College Avenue and Hogan Lane	TBD	TBD

Source: City of Conway



This Mayflower home was the second most expensive home sold in Faulkner County in May. It sold after 264 days on the market for \$865,000 and \$156.50 per square foot. Photo courtesy of CARMLS

\$895K Conway Home Tops County List in May

The top home sold in Faulkner County in May was a 4,865-square-foot home on Round Mountain in Conway. The Collins Drive home sold for \$895,000 and \$183.97 per square foot. It was built in 2011 and is situated on 3 acres.

Four of the five top homes were sold in Conway. The No. 2 home, a Mayflower home on High Point Drive, was the only one not located in Conway. It sold after 264 days on the market for \$865,000 and \$156.50 per square foot.

Two Orchard Lane homes in Conway were the Nos. 3 and 4 homes in May. They sold for \$856,047 and \$253.64 per square foot, and \$815,000 and \$229.45 per square foot, respectively. They were the two most expensive homes per square foot in the top five.

The No. 5 home was sold on Bear Trail in

Conway for \$800,000 and \$111.87 per square foot. Located on 1.64 acres, the home has 7,151 square feet, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, and 4 half baths.

The top five homes averaged \$846,209 and \$187 per square foot, and 4,894 square feet.

Faulkner County Housing Report: May 2025

Most metrics remain up in the local housing market through the first five months of the year.

In Faulkner County, the number of homes sold is up 7.0% to 683, while the value of homes sold in the county is up 14.1% to \$205.36 million. That is up from \$179.99 million through May in 2025. The median price per square foot in Faulkner County is up 2.4% to \$154.87, and the median

home price is up 8.8% to \$260,000.

In Conway, the number of homes sold and the value of homes sold are down. The number of homes sold is down 11.5% to 253 homes. The value of the homes sold in Conway this year is down 1.5%, from \$81.50 million in 2025 to \$80.27 million this year. Meanwhile, the median price per square foot in Conway is up 3.1% to \$156.00, and the median home price is up 16.4% to \$277,000.

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	ADDRESS	PRICE	PRICE PER SQ. FT.	APPROX. SQ. FT.	BEDS	FULL BATHS	DAYS ON MARKET
1	2680 Collins Drive, Conway	\$895,000	\$183.97	4,865	5	4	8
2	67 High Point Drive, Mayflower	\$865,000	\$156.50	5,527	5	5	264
3	3965 Orchard Lane Drive, Conway	\$856,047	\$253.64	3,375	4	3	0
4	3915 Orchard Lane, Conway	\$815,000	\$229.45	3,552	5	3	43
5	332 Bear Trail, Conway	\$800,000	\$111.87	7,151	6	5	21

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