

A roundup of independent hotel news

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This month's roundup of news from the independent hotel sector includes: The debut of Houston's Post Oak Hotel; Boyne Resorts' latest acquisition; and more.



By HNN Newswire (/Author/208/HNN-Newswire)

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Hotel News Now's Independent Insights newsletter each month features a news roundup from the independent hotel sector. Subscribe to the free monthly newsletter here (<https://hotelnewsnow.com/registration>).

Boyne Resorts acquires six properties

Michigan's Boyne Resorts has agreed to acquire six mountain resorts across five states and one Canadian province from Ski Resort Holdings, an affiliate of Oz Real Estate. According to report in The Record-Eagle (http://www.record-eagle.com/news/business/boyne-to-buy-six-resorts/article_dca40d31-91ac-53fb-91ce-f5428f89d2d8.html) (Traverse City, Michigan), Boyne has already been managing the resorts and scenic chairlift.

Resorts in the acquisition include: Brighton Resort near Salt Lake City, Utah; Cypress Mountain in Vancouver, British Columbia; Loon Mountain in New Hampshire; Sugarloaf and Sunday River in Maine; and The Summit at Snoqualmie near Seattle. The chairlift included in the transaction is the Gatlinburg Sky Lift in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

These acquisitions join the resorts already in Boyne's ownership portfolio, including Big Sky Resort in Montana, and Michigan's Boyne Mountain, Boyne Highlands and the Inn at Bay Harbor.

Houston's Post Oak Hotel opens doors

The Post Oak Hotel in Uptown Houston, part of a 10-acre mixed-use development project by billionaire Tilman Fertitta, opened this month. The \$300-million hotel project has 250 guestrooms, 22 residential apartments, a 16,000-square-foot ballroom, a wine cellar, a two-level Rolls Royce showroom and art from Fertitta's personal collection.

Fertitta is owner of Landry's, Golden Nugget Casinos and the Houston Rockets.

Miami's Tower Hotel gets new life as boutique hotel

The Tower Hotel in Miami's Little Havana neighborhood has been many things since it opened in 1920, including a YMCA, a World War II hospital and a hotel, and now it's getting a new life, according to a report in the Miami Herald (<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/business/article204754109.html>).

The historic property is under development to become Little Havana's first boutique hotel, developed through a partnership between the Barlington Group and Selina, a hotel management company with properties throughout Latin America. This will be its first U.S. outpost. Barlington purchased the property in 2012 for \$1.7 million.

Throughout its history, the building hosted noted jazz musicians including Billie Holiday, Count Basie and Chet Baker. For several months, a local theater company staged an immersive play inside the hotel building with actors portraying some of the icons who stayed at the hotel.

In its new life as a hotel again, that history will play a big role, according to the paper.

Antebellum home will be a boutique hotel

Buford, Georgia-based Ascent Hospitality purchased the Murphy House, one of Montgomery, Alabama's most recognizable antebellum-era homes, and will develop it into a boutique hotel. According to a story on AL.com (http://www.al.com/business/index.ssf/2018/03/montgomerys_murphy_house_to_be.html), the Civil War-era building will have 100 rooms and suites, and meeting space, and will be part of Marriott International's Autograph Collection.

Openings, management, people on the move

- The Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia, reopened in early March following a four-year, \$85-million renovation. The 85-room hotel is now part of Marriott's Autograph Collection.
- Hotel Paseo, in Palm Desert, California, opened in early March. The 150-room new-build hotel is part of Marriott's Autograph Collection.
- San Francisco's Serrano Hotel in the city's Union Square neighborhood is nearing completion on a \$16-million renovation that includes a name change. Now known as Hotel Spero, the 236-room hotel will officially launch under its new name in April. The hotel has been open throughout its renovations.
- Woodside Hotel Group is now managing the Harvest Inn in St. Helena, California. The Napa Valley hotel is owned by City-Core Hospitality.
- Waterville Valley Resort in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, acquired the Silver Fox Inn, formerly the Best Western Silver Fox, from its former owners Tor and Susan Brunvand.

Compiled by Stephanie Ricca.