

April 2017

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.

Connections

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce



The President's Perspective

The Elephant Returns

Well, it's back. The elephant in the room, or in this case the Capitol, where the elephant no one wants to admit to is transportation funding. You have heard the adage about the elephant in the room, that no one wants to admit is there but everyone can see. Well, welcome to the 2017 legislative session.

Several years ago, I wrote about the issue to describe how our elected officials seem to believe that if they do not deal with funding improvements to Missouri's transportation system that no one will notice. While the problem sits right in front of them, they simply choose to ignore it, talk around it or kick it down the road, if you will. Guess what, the elephant is not going to go away.

Sometimes it gets a bit confusing about who is responsible for what in government. Is it a federal issue, a state issue or maybe a local issue? Despite federal funding for transportation, it is clearly a responsibility of the state to maintain and improve the highways and transportation system. That said, our state elected officials have a duty and responsibility to come up with a plan and take action to provide adequate funding for transportation in Missouri.

While most of us may realize the importance of transportation, it bears mentioning that next to an available workforce, transportation (the ability to ship and receive goods and services) is the most important consideration when businesses look to locate in Missouri. Making an investment in transportation is an investment in the state's future economy, allowing for job growth and new investment.

While the elephant appears to have found a comfortable place to stay in the Capitol this legislative session, let's hope our legislators and governor begin making plans now to deal with Missouri's transportation needs and commit to getting something done in 2018. By then though we may have a whole herd of elephants to deal with.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO



LEAD Members Have Professional Photos Taken & Learn About Business Etiquette

LEAD, the Chamber's group of professionals under 40, had a special treat in March. Chamber member photographers LaTonya Williams and Lura Landis took new professional headshots for group members to use. The meeting that followed was led by Rebecca Lobina, of Northwest Missouri State University's Small Business and Technology Resource Center, and focused on business etiquette dos and don'ts.

NEW MEMBERS

The following businesses and individuals have been approved for membership in the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce:

Dan Hausman
5102 Cook Road (05)
(816) 244-5678
dphausman67@yahoo.com
Civic Membership

Urgent Care Express
Tiffany Kiehl
4776 Verona Drive (06)
(816) 396-9500
tiffanykiehl@ucareexp.com
Health Services

Hoof and Horn Steakhouse
Austin Stock
429 Illinois Ave. (04)
(816) 238-0742
ajstock10@gmail.com
www.hoofandhornsteakhouse.com
Restaurant

Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City-St. Joseph & NW Missouri
Kathy Yost
P.O. Box 6201 (06)
(816) 465-0373
kyost@jagkc.org
www.jagkc.com
Education

Evergreen Initiative, LLC
Emily Baumann
3831 Frederick Ave. PMB 177 (06)
(816) 237-0177
office@evergreeninitiative.com
www.evergreeninitiative.com
Marketing

Titlemax of St. Joseph
Chris Webb
1616 S. Belt Highway (07)
(816) 232-9444
tm-stjoseph-mo1@titlemax.biz
www.titlemax.com
Loans

Bill McMurray
2810 Joslin Lane (06)
(816) 390-4403
mcmurraybill@gmail.com
Civic Membership

Kansas City Airport Marriott
Pam Lloyd
775 Brasilia Ave.,
Kansas City, MO 64153
(816) 464-2200
pam.lloyd@marriott.com
www.marriott.com/mciap
Hotels/Motels



www.saintjoseph.com
(816) 232-4461
chamber@saintjoseph.com

April Calendar

All members, employees and guests are invited to attend events. Call the Chamber for any dietary needs.

5 & 19 13 & 27 **Circle of Influence**

Circle of Influence is a leads group composed of small business professionals who are looking to increase their revenue by forming relationships with other Chamber members for the purpose of exchanging direct client referrals and leads. The group also provides a forum for the discussion of issues which businesses commonly encounter. Only one member per profession/speciality in each group. There is a \$100 joining fee. There are two groups, one that meets the first and third Wednesdays at Stoney Creek Hotel and another that meets the second and fourth Thursdays at Commerce Bank at Ashland and Karnes roads. Contact Natalie Redmond for more information, redmond@saintjoseph.com or (816) 364-4107.

April 5 & 19; April 13 and 27
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., **Guests Free**

7 **CHAMBER NIGHT AT THE BULLRIDES**

Dust off your cowboy hats and pull on your boots. Join us for Chamber Night at the Bullrides Pre-Ride Party. Free appetizers, cash bar and shoot the bull with bull riders, bull fighters.

Friday, April 7
5 to 7 p.m., **Free**

Ground Round
123 S. Sixth St.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

11 **Lunch & Learn Seminar**

Lunch by Planet Sub

Presented by CliftonLarsonAllen

Topic: "Building Your Team Through Stories"

Storytelling has many applications in the workplace and strengthening your team is just one of them. Storytelling can help create a unified vision, foster both productivity and creativity, as well as build trust and enhance communication between different personality types. We are all storytellers and as with any art form, we can all learn ways to grow and improve. The program will be presented by Will Stuck, storyteller, workshop presenter and public speaker.

Tuesday, April 11
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., **\$10**
3003 Frederick Ave.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or
www.saintjoseph.com

13 **DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast**

Presented by Mosaic Life Care

The Diplomats Club is a fun group that provides opportunities to promote your business and serve as a link between the Chamber and the community. Join them for their monthly meeting!

Thursday, April 13
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., **\$5**

Breakfast provided

Castle Bridge Event Center
8403 B U.S. Highway 59 South

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

14 **BUSINESS during the DAY**

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Can't come to (or don't care to) go to Business After Hours? Here's your chance to make some new business connections during the day. Bring your business cards!

Friday, April 14
8 to 9 a.m., **Free**

Paradox Coffee & Theatre
107 S. Sixth St.

18 **Career Fair**

This is the largest annual career fair in Northwest Missouri. The St. Joseph Employment Coalition assists in the organization and planning for this event. Have jobs you need filled and want to participate, for more information call Mary Brown at (816) 364-4102 or visit saintjoseph.com.

Tuesday, April 18
2 to 5 p.m., **Free**

Civic Arena
100 N. Fourth St.

18 **BUSINESS after HOURS/PRIMETIME**

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

This Business After Hours is a little different! Come meet businesses that have recently joined the Chamber, make them feel welcome and enjoy food and drinks from Chamber Tastes caterers.

Tuesday, April 18
5 to 7 p.m., **Free**

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
1201 N. Woodbine Road

20 **LEAD**

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

LEAD, the Chamber's group of young professionals will host a CEO Panel to learn success stories and gain advice from area business leaders. Does your company have someone 40 or younger that you'd like to see grow as a leader? Have them come to this meeting and sign up for the club. Learn more at saintjoseph.com/lead

Thursday, April 20
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., **\$10**

Lunch provided
Rolling Hills Library
1904 N. Belt Highway

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

24 **Women's Leadership Group**

Presented by Sam's Club

Co-sponsored with Northwest Missouri State University's Small Business and Technology Development Center, each month has a different featured topic for women business owners, managers and employees. This month learn about Charmaine Wood, a female entrepreneur who owns a women's only business and the importance of taking care of your well-being.

Monday, April 24
12 to 1 p.m., **FREE**

Char's Circuit
1305 Village Drive
Bring your own lunch