

December 2019

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



Connections

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Make Your Voice Heard

While all eyes may be on Washington, D.C., these days, our attention will soon switch to closer at home as the Missouri State Legislature begins its 2020 legislative session the first part of January. It will be a statewide election year, so "all bets are off" as to what legislation is likely to make it to final passage.

The St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce stays engaged in the legislative session as part of our governmental advocacy role. We work to support pro-business issues of importance to our members, as well as partner with other local entities to support laws that benefit the St. Joseph community. Some of the issues we will be following in the 2020 legislative session are:

- Funding support for Missouri Western
- Sustainable funding for the state's highways and bridges
- Continued enhancements of workforce development efforts
- The passage of an internet sales tax providing fairness to local businesses
- Tort reform that levels the playing field for business

In addition to these issues, we are always on the lookout for legislation that may do harm.

We are fortunate to have an excellent state legislative delegation representing our interest in Jefferson City beginning with Sen. Tony Luetkemeyer, along with representatives Sheila Solon, Bill Falkner and Brenda Shields. And while Sen. Dan Hegeman's district lies just beyond the county line, we also claim him. I have had the privilege to work with each of these elected officials and would offer that St. Joseph could not be better served or represented in the Missouri Legislature. I should also mention that Sen. Luetkemeyer and Rep. Shields were recently recognized by the Missouri State Chamber as Freshman Legislators of the Year. Well deserved!



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

In the upcoming month you will receive in the mail the Annual Chamber Legislative Priorities brochure providing information and positions on federal, state and local issues. In addition, beginning in January, members will receive weekly e-mail updates on legislative issues of importance. The Chamber works to keep you engaged. Make sure you take the opportunity to make your voice heard. Your voice does matter!

NEW MEMBERS

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

L D Data Solutions
Leameana Davis
2400 Frederick Ave. Ste. 312 (01)
(816) 343-4830
contact@liddatasolutions.com
www.liddatasolutions.com
Web Development

Pathfinder Pest Solutions
Stacie Sanders
17620 State Route D (05)
(816) 396-8003
brian@pathfinderpestsolutions.com
pathfinderpestsolutions.com
Pest Control

Larry Reynolds Insurance
Larry Reynolds
3814 Northridge Terrace (06)
(816) 344-1669
larry@larryreynoldsinsurance.com
larryreynoldsinsurance.com
Insurance

Bryson Bolton
Farmers Insurance Agency
Bryson Bolton
3411 S. 22nd St. (03)
(816) 259-5555
bbolton@farmersagent.com
agents.farmers.com/bbolton
Insurance

Modern Cleaners
Kathy Lawrence
2510 Frederick Ave. (06)
(816) 279-1461
kathyimogene@gmail.com
Dry Cleaners

Pro Cellular LLC
Mathew Graf
2608 N. Belt Highway (06)
(816) 248-9682
procellularllc@gmail.com
www.procellularllc.com
Cellular Phones

Larson Heating & Air
Kirk Zwiers
4902 Frederick Ave. (06)
(816) 593-2412
kirk@justcalllarsen.com
www.justcalllarsen.com
Heating & Cooling Contractors

PFLAG St. Joseph
Carla Willis
927 Faraon St. (01)
(816) 536-1600
pflagstjoe@yahoo.com
Human Service Organizations

Black Kat Salvage
Jan Ruoff
817 Francis St. (01)
(816) 749-4232
jan.eckardscarpet@gmail.com
Retail

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

December Calendar

All members, employees and guests are invited to attend events. Call the Chamber for any dietary needs. Mark your calendars now, and confirm your reservation one week prior to the event. Reservations must be cancelled 24 hours in advance to avoid charges. For more information, call 816/232-4461. **CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, www.saintjoseph.com**

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BUSINESS after HOURS Holiday Party

Tuesday, Dec. 3
5 to 7 p.m., Free

Metropolitan
107 S. Sixth St.

Please join us for the 2019 Holiday Party, the Chamber's annual member appreciation party, featuring Chamber Tastes. Enjoy food and drinks from member caterers and beverage providers. The Holiday Party is a free event and open to all Chamber members. Please bring a non-perishable food item or cash to donate to Second Harvest Community Food Bank.

4, 18/ Circle of Influence

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Dec. 4 & 18 and Dec. 12
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guests Free

Circle of Influence is a leads group composed of small business professionals looking to exchange 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 is allowed. Cost is \$100 to join. 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.

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FOODIE FRIDAY

Friday, Dec. 6
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$15

Shakespeare Chateau
809 Hall St.

Join other Chamber members as they experience foods all around St. Joseph in a new networking event. Each month is held at a different St. Joseph eatery at either breakfast or lunch.

This month experience your own "Christmas at the Chateau" by having lunch at the Shakespeare Chateau on beautiful Hall Street. RSVPs and payment are required for this event as a lunch will be specially prepared for those who attend.

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

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Lunch & Learn Seminar

Lunch by Planet Sub

Tuesday, Dec. 10
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$10
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

Presented by CLA

"Are You Managing Your Time or is Time Managing You?"

If you've ever felt:

- Burned out, stressed out, rundown or tired
- Out of balance; out of control
- Frustrated with wheel spinning
- There's too much to do; not enough time for family and yourself
- You're not able to get it all done and more...

then you won't want to miss the presentation. Learn what tools will help you to create habits that will keep you focused, take ownership and develop a plan that actually works! It will be presented by Gail Hermes of Bandura Plus.

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

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GET TO KNOW ST. JOSEPH EVENT

Wednesday, Dec. 11
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Norty's Bar & Grill
1117 Frederick Ave.

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc. and Mosaic Life Care

Have employees new to St. Joseph? Invite them to enjoy some Christmas cheer at the Uncommonly Ugly Christmas Sweater Party. Food, drinks, fun games and lots of merriment provided. Help them feel welcome to St. Joseph this holiday season. This event hosted by Commerce Bank and Van-Am Tool & Engineering.

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DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Thursday, Dec. 12
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7

Breakfast provided

Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art
2818 Frederick Ave.

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!

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

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Shop St. Joseph

Nov. 13 to Dec. 18
go to www.saintjoseph.com
for more information

Presented by the News-Press NOW

This popular program encourages residents to shop locally during the holidays. Collect your tickets through Dec. 16. The grand prize drawing is Dec. 18. You could win \$10,000 or second chance prizes.

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BUSINESS after HOURS

Thursday, Dec. 19
5 to 7 p.m., Free

Fairfield Inn & Suites
4779 Tuscany Drive

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

There's no shortage of chances to meet new people through the Chamber! Bring your business cards, talk to some potential new customers and make some new friends.