#### February 2020

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.

## Connections

### ST. JOSEPH Chamber of Commerce

#### The President's Perspective

#### Exploration

I was recently asked to speak to the Cotillion for Achievement finalists that have been selected from area high schools in recognition of their academic achievements. The group consists of eight young ladies and eight young men. My task was to offer insight to the St. Joseph business community and convey to the group the career opportunities available here in their hometown. As you might guess -- a great group to have the opportunity to interact with and get to know.

Some of the students already knew what they wanted to do: astronomy, healthcare and one who wanted to be an actuary. There were several looking forward to returning to St. Joseph to pursue a career once they completed their education. As I spoke, I realized that this was another opportunity to offer career exploration to the students. We discussed employers in St. Joseph and the many interesting and rewarding careers available in our community. We also discussed what we must do as a community to attract and retain talent, just like them, to support local employers. I shared several of the initiatives in Imagine St. Joseph 2040, to reinforce our commitment to making St. Joseph the kind of place they want to be part of.

Student career exploration is an important element of the Chamber's workforce development efforts. All of us can appreciate the importance of having an idea of what you want to do as you pursue education and training beyond high school. Our goal is to work with businesses and our local schools to offer students and their parents a way to learn about jobs and careers in St. Joseph. We have Manufacturing Day, the School District's apprentice program, mentoring programs, the My Success Event and most recently Edge Factor, an online program that allows students and parents to explore numerous jobs and careers. We also partner with the School District to offer a teacher externship program during the summer that allows teachers and counselors an opportunity to spend time in local businesses and learn about potential jobs and careers first-hand.



R. Patt Lilly President & CEO

Today we live in a talent-driven economy. Those communities who can retain the talent they have and attract new talent will be the success stories of the future. Providing an opportunity for local students to explore careers increases the chances they will stay or return home.

If you stop and think about it, we can all play a role in career exploration. If you have kids, take them to work. There does not have to be a special day. If your child or grandchild has a career interest, contact a local employer. I bet they would be happy to talk about their business and the jobs they offer. And of course, encourage your student to get involved in the career exploration programs already available. We can all benefit from exploration!

### **NEW MEMBERS**

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

The Angry Swede Brewing Company Michael Olinger 513 Francis St. (01) (816) 262-9789 mto3219@gmail.com Bars & Taverns

UnitedHealthcare Michael Margherio 10895 Grandview St. Overland Park, KS 66210 (913) 802-5612 michael\_margherio@uhc.com www.uhc.com Insurance

Dexter Home Inspection LLC Paul Dexter 9375 S.W. Z Highway Trimble, MO 64492 (816) 416-0752 pdexter@dexterhomeinspectionllc.com Home Inspections Shoppes at North Village --BMA North Village LLC Jay Peirick 301 N. Broadway, Ste. 300 Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 585-8870 jay.peirick@berengariadevelopment.com www.berengariadevelopment.com Real Estate

Majestic Franchising, Inc. dba Jani-King of Kansas City Luis Pastrana 14821 W. 95th St., Lenexa, KS 66215 (913) 385-1440 kcsls2@janikingks.com www.janiking.com Janitorial & Maid Service

City of Rock Port Terri McGuire 102 W. Clay St., Rock Port, MO 64482 (660) 744-2676 rpmuoffice@rpmo.com Government Tracy Lindley Voiceovers, LLC Tracy Lindley 12852 Lakeland Drive (06) (816) 383-4145 tracy@tracylindley.com www.tracylindley.com Advertising

> United States Animal Health Association Benjamin Richey 4221 Mitchell Ave. (07) (816) 671-1144 brichey@usaha.org www.usaha.org Associations

Jenkins Lawn and Landscape LLC Edward Jenkins 2760 S.W. Martin Road, DeKalb MO 64440 (816) 646-1219 ed@jenkinslawn.com www.jenkinslawn.com Landscaping & Lawn Maintenance

### Food S St. Joseph Pestaurant Deck presented by Joe Town Fun and the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce

CCREDITED

#### Food Specials -- Exclusive Menus -- Fan Favorites

Foodies are invited to savor and save on new dining options or tried and true favorites

### Feb. 21 to March 1, 2020

www.stjrestaurantweek.com

# February 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

### Great Northwest Day at the Capitol

**4 & 5** The Chamber partners with other Northwest Missouri communities to sponsor a trip to the State Capitol to meet and talk with our state legislators. The two-day trip includes a luncheon with regional legislators, viewing of the Legislature in action, and a reception for all members of the General Assembly.

### 5 & 19/ Circle of Influence

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

13 & 27 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.



Lunch by Marek's Catering & Delicatessen

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

Tuesday, Feb. 11

816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

"Digital Transformation in the Workplace"

Are you still using excel sheets to track your data or even worse, antiquated paper logs? It may be time to upgrade. And the BEST way to figure out next steps into the digital world is to learn from someone who has helped manufacturers like YOU make the switch. Our guest speaker, Chad Haney of Noviqu, will share insight into how digital transformation can help businesses achieve productivity, efficiency and data improvements. Join the Chamber and Missouri Enterprise for this important session.

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#### SPECIAL BUSINESS after HOURS Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Come sail away with the Chamber at this cruise ship style business mixer. Enjoy all of your favorite parts of a cruise ship, like a spa, dance club, candy shop, casino and much more. Make time in your calendar to attend this fun event and make some new business connections. Food and prizes provided and a cash bar will be available.

#### DIPLOMATS (LUB 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!

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### **Public Affairs Coffee**

Presented by Cochran, Head Vick & Co., P.C.

This Public Affairs Coffee will feature Mayor Bill McMurray, who will give his State of the City address. Public Affairs Coffee events feature issues involving social, economic, governmental, legislative and corporate activities that are of concern to Chamber members and the business community.

### Women's Leadership Group

Presented by Garden Gate Floral & Gifts

Co-sponsored with Northwest Missouri State University's Small Business Development Center, each month has a different featured topic for women business owners, managers and employees. This month Gail Hermesch of Bandura Plus will highlight two new programs coming to St. Joseph that are specifically designed for Women in Leadership.

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BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

There's never a shortage of ways to grow your professional network with the Chamber. Come to Business After Hours to meet some new people and help grow your business.

#### Thursday, Feb. 13 7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7

Tuesday, Feb. 11

5 to 7 p.m., Free

MWSU, Spratt Stadium

4525 Downs Drive

Breakfast provided Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center 1201 N. Woodbine Road

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

### Friday, Feb. 21

7:30 to 8:30 a.m., \$15 Continental breakfast provided Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center 1201 N. Woodbine Road

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

#### Monday, Feb. 24 Noon to I p.m., Free Bring your own lunch

St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce 3003 Frederick Ave. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: 816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

> Thursday, Feb. 27 5 to 7 p.m., Free Moila 701 N. Noyes Blvd.

Follow the Chamber on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

Jefferson City, MO \$90 -- To register: www.greatnorthwestday.com

Feb. 4 & 5

Tuesday & Wednesday,