

February 2017

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



Connections

ST. JOSEPH Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Keep the Faith

I have written before about the many positive things happening downtown. New investment, new businesses and new jobs have marked last year. While the progress can be a little daunting at times, I believe everyone can agree downtown is finally moving in the right direction.

Unfortunately, in the midst of all the good news, came the unfortunate news of the loss of two major historic buildings downtown as a result of fire. The Pioneer Building at Fifth and Francis streets, once known as the Tootle Opera House, was a real loss to the downtown community. Not only was the building a historic icon in the community, but it was located in the heart of downtown, an area seeing a great deal of revitalization. Of course, the fires and related clean-up impacted other adjacent businesses that are still attempting to recover. The result of the fires is that both buildings are a total loss and where they once stood will now become vacant lots with memories of what might have been.

There was debate and some finger pointing following the fires as people looked for answers. This we know: the longer old buildings set empty, the more likely it is that bad things will befall them. Yes,

buildings need to be maintained and secured, but this is a short-term solution, not a multi-year answer. The goal is to get these buildings into a productive reuse that creates jobs and add to the tax base. Hopefully, the necessity of restoring and revitalizing older buildings will be part of the discussion, as we look for ways to clean-up and revitalize our community.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

The loss of two buildings within weeks is a real blow to downtown St. Joseph. That said, it is certainly not a knockout punch. Just consider all of the many positives with the renovation of the German American Building, the new parking garage and retail, ongoing building renovations and new businesses locating downtown. And, let's not forget Not Just Desserts by Mom, SJC Marketing, and more who were impacted by the Pioneer Building fire. They're back and kept their faith in the future of downtown. We need to keep the faith as well!

NEW MEMBERS

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

Wild Layne Boutique

Kelly Dahl
3500 N. Village Drive
(816) 273-3588
kellydahl23@yahoo.com
www.wildlayne.com
Retail

Lean Kitchen Company

Austin Evans
1331 S. Belt Highway (07)
(816) 259-5222
www.leankitchenco.com
Food Service

Ostrea

Erik Borger
724 Felix St. (01)
(816) 396-9107
illazarone1@gmail.com
www.ostreaoystercompany.com
Restaurants

Komatsu Ramen

Erik Borger
726 Felix St. (01)
(816) 396-9107
illazarone1@gmail.com
www.komatsuramen.com
Restaurants

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Dan Culver
2318 N. Belt Highway (06)
(816) 233-9999
christopher.d.wedel@ehi.com
www.enterprise.com
Rental Service

Cornerstone Church

Stan Saunders
805 S. 36th St. (07)
(660) 646-2231
stan@cornerstonechurch.cc
www.cornerstonechurch.cc
Churches

Contact 6 Tactical LLC

Tiger Parsons
30011 Whispering Oaks Drive,
Oregon, MO 64473
(816) 262-5143
contact6tactical@gmail.com
www.contact6tactical.net
Consultants

Tax Services of Northwest Missouri, Inc.

Cary Alburn
3110 Karnes Road, Ste. 101 (06)
(816) 901-9575
nwmotax@earthlink.net
www.nwmotax.com
Tax Return Preparers

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices

Stein & Summers Real Estate
-- Michelle Schaup
1007 E. St. Maartens Drive (06)
(816) 351-8795
mschaup@bhhsstein.com
Realtor (Associate)

Coverage Photography

Patrick Evenson
4304 N. 31st. St. Apt. B (06)
(816) 294-2624
ppevenson@gmail.com
www.coveragephotography.com
Photographers

Wicked Entertainment

Chad Hammond
602 S. Beech St.,
Savannah, MO 64485
(816) 273-9797
www.wickedentertainmentinc.com
Entertainment



Changing of the Guard at Annual Banquet

More than 800 people attended the Chamber's 97th Annual Banquet on Jan. 7. The event, which serves as the Chamber's annual meeting and gala event, had the theme "Come One, Come All," and had a vintage circus feel. Above, Commerce Bank's Corky Marquart, 2017 Board Chair, thanks Stet Schanze of Gray Manufacturing Co. Inc. for serving in the role in 2016.



February Calendar

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

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Great Northwest Day at the Capitol

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.

**Tuesday & Wednesday,
Jan. 31 & Feb. 1**
Jefferson City, MO

\$90 -- To register:

www.greatnorthwestday.com

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15
& 23

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/specialty 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.

Feb. 1 & 15 -- Feb. 9 & 23
11:30 a.m. to 1p.m., Guests Free

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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, Feb. 9
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., Free

Breakfast provided
St. Joseph Rec Center
2701 S.W. Parkway

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

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Lunch & Learn Seminar

Lunch by Pizza Shoppe

Presented by CliftonLarsonAllen

Topic: "Get Ahead of Yourself: An Educator's Guide to Time Management"

Learn how to develop time management skills within the context of goal setting and prioritizing what's important in the long and short term. Learn how to put an emphasis on setting "SMART" goals and how to hold yourself accountable for your time. This session will be presented by Derek Evans, Academic Advisor at Missouri Western State University.

Tuesday, Feb. 14
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$10
3003 Frederick Ave.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

816/232-4461 or

www.saintjoseph.com

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BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Please join us for your monthly chance to make some new business connections. Bring your business cards and meet some new people! This month is hosted by Aramark.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
5 to 7 p.m., Free

Spratt 214-216

Missouri Western State University,
4525 Downs Drive

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St. Joe Rising

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

This St. Joe Rising will feature Mayor Bill Falkner, who will give his State of the City address. The theme will be "Building for Success." St. Joe Rising events feature issues involving social, economic, governmental, legislative and corporate activities that are of concern to Chamber members and the business community.

Friday, Feb. 24
7:30 to 8:30 a.m., \$15

Continental breakfast provided
Fulkerson Center, Kemper Room
Missouri Western State University,
4525 Downs Drive

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

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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 lunch will be provided.

Monday, Feb. 27
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., FREE

Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art
2818 Frederick Ave.
Lunch provided



In an effort to make St. Joseph one of the healthiest cities around, the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce has launched a health and wellness initiative, Healthy St. Joseph. We recognize healthy employees are better employees. We know people and businesses are attracted to strong, healthy communities. **Healthy St. Joseph is focused on four pillars of health: Nutrition, Physical Activity, Tobacco Cessation, Work-Life Integration**

Apply to be a Healthy St. Joseph business. Companies will obtain a Gold, Silver, Bronze, or Honorable Mention certification upon completion of their application and will be recognized in the Spring of 2017. Applications are open for every company, big or small. If your wellness program isn't where you want it to be, we will help you get there.

First round of applications are due Feb. 1. It only takes 15 minutes to apply. Do it today at saintjoseph.com