



Connections

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Don't Mess With St. Joseph!

Perhaps you have traveled to Texas or have seen an ad somewhere, and are aware of the state's popular anti-litter campaign that uses the slogan, "Don't Mess with Texas." The words set a tone that littering in any form is unacceptable and encourages people to take pride in themselves and their state.

A little closer to home, a recent grassroots group calling themselves St. Joseph Sanitation has sprouted and has been embraced at least initially by the City Council. As I understand from reading media reports, they have been formed to research, discuss and provide recommendations to the City Council on what actions should be taken to address the litter, trash, maintenance of property and illegal dumping that has become so common in St. Joseph. This is a big task for a group of residents who, to their credit, have taken it upon themselves to get something done about this critical issue.

I have long advocated for a comprehensive approach for dealing with the appearance of the community. The unsightliness of trash and debris throughout the community should be disappointing to all of us. One might even go far as to say, as residents we should have more pride in our community and ourselves. The truth is the appearance of St. Joseph does not always make a good impression to visitors, residents or those who are considering the community as a place to live or do business.

So, what to do? A few thoughts:

- Litter is a blight. There needs to be a long-term marketing effort to convey that litter is not acceptable. While having volunteers clean up litter feels good and helps improve the appearance that day, we must address a local culture that seems to convey that litter is

acceptable.

- Much of the trash and debris we see around the community is a symptom of a much larger problem; there is no comprehensive system for collecting waste. Today everyone decides individually what they will do to get rid of their trash and some unfortunately choose a solution that imposes their trash on the rest of us. Let's be honest, until trash collection services are provided to every residence and business, we will have problems with trash and debris.

- Improving the appearance of St. Joseph starts at home. Property owners, land lords, renters and home owners must be held accountable for keeping up their property. It seems obvious that what we are doing now is not particularly effective. We must look for innovative solutions that establish reasonable property maintenance standards that can be effectively enforced by the City.

None of this is easy. If it were, it would have already been done. I hope St. Joseph Sanitation has success. They certainly have my support for what they are trying to do and I have pledged the Chamber's assistance in working through the issues. Improving the appearance of St. Joseph will benefit everyone and will demonstrate a sense of pride that this great community deserves. To put it simply, "Don't Mess with St. Joseph!"



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO



Join Your Co-Workers, Friends and Neighbors at Parties on the Parkway

Parties on the Parkway is an annual event hosted by the Chamber and the City of St. Joseph to get residents out of their daily routine and encourage them to come and enjoy St. Joseph's fantastic 26-mile parkway system. Live music, food and drinks and balloon animals for the kids are just part of the fun. For a full schedule, see saintjoseph.com. Parties on the Parkway is presented by Nodaway Valley Bank.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Libel Hearing Aid Center
Andrew Lekashman
1105 S. Belt Highway Ste. A (07)
(816) 558-3411
andrew@asiaaudiology.com
www.libelhearingaids.com
Hearing Services

Ka-Boomer's Ent., Inc.
Dan Bunjer
847 Highway 77, Wahoo, NE 68066
(402) 443-4593
kaboomersfireworks@yahoo.com
www.kaboomersfireworks.com
Retail

Bublitz Material Handling
Stacey Stratton
703 E. 14th Ave.,
N. Kansas City, MO 64116
(816) 221-7335
sales@bublitzco.com
www.bublitzmaterialhandling.com
Industrial Equipment & Supplies

Ad-Trend Outdoor Advertising
David English
14450 S. U.S. Highway 71
Kansas City, MO 64081
(816) 283-0600
denglish@ad-trend.com
www.ad-trend.com
Advertising

M Con, LLC
Tyler Miller
1004 Vernon Road,
Wathena, KS 66090
(785) 989-4550
tyler@mconunderground.com
www.mconunderground.com
Underground Utility Contractor

Patrick Modlin
16021 S.E. 65th Road,
Faucett, MO 64448
(816) 261-2899
Civic Member

AFLAC Regional Office
Christi Farnan
3500 N. Village Drive Ste. 277 (06)
(816) 582-4736
christi_farnan@us.aflac.com
www.aflac.com
Insurance

The Restoration Project
Tim Doyle
117 Francis St. (01)
(816) 273-0118
info@restorationstj.com
www.restorationstj.com
Churches

Ag Resource Management
Bryce Loyd
5506 Corporate Drive, Ste. 1760 (07)
(816) 558-6182
bloyd@armlend.com
www.armlend.com
Agribusiness

Sheila Solon
2105 N. Leonard Road (06)
(816) 507-5483
Civic Member

June Calendar

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

7 & 8
21 & 22

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.

June 7 & 21; June 8 and 22
11:30 a.m. to 1p.m., Guests Free

8

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, June 8
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$5
Breakfast provided
East Hills Shopping Center
3702 Frederick Ave.

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

8

PARTIES ON THE PARKWAY

Presented by Nodaway Valley Bank

Join us for Parties on the Parkway! These events are open to the public and allow those who attend to enjoy food, drinks, live music and St. Joseph's incredible Parkway system. Food and beverages are available for purchase. No alcoholic beverages may be brought into the event. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Park. The band will be *Kalani*.

Thursday, June 8
5 to 8 p.m., FREE
S.W. Parkway and 28th Street
(Rain date: June 15)

13

Lunch & Learn Seminar

Lunch by Chau's Catering

Presented by CliftonLarsonAllen

Topic: Conquering Conflicts for Middle Managers and Other Supervisors, Working Towards Reconciliation
Learn how to recognize the nature of conflict and its benefits, about different models of conflict and discover which one best describes you, about the science of relationships and how it affects managers and supervisors and how to put into practice the art of re-framing conflict for reconciliation purposes.

Tuesday, June 13
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$10
3003 Frederick Ave.

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

14

THE CHAMBER CLASSIC

Presented by Al J. Mueller Construction Co. and Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation

Join us for the annual Chamber Classic Golf Tournament. The \$90 per person cost includes green fees, cart, lunch, refreshments, team photo, goodie bag, prizes and more! The format is a four-player scramble. Contact Natalie Redmond to register at redmond@saintjoseph.com or (816) 364-4107.

Wednesday, June 14
8 a.m. shotgun start
\$90 per player
St. Joseph Country Club
50 Ridgeland Road

15

LEAD

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

LEAD, the Chamber's group of young professionals will learn about the upcoming eclipse from Beth Conway of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and from Stan Saunders on how to turn chaos into control.

Thursday, June 15
4 to 5:30 p.m., Free
Cornerstone Church
805 S. 36th St.

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

16

Chairman's Breakfast

Presented by Farmers State Bank

Charlie Shields, President and CEO of Truman Medical Centers and President of the Missouri State Board of Education, will present "The Role of K-12 in Developing the Future Workforce." He also has 20 years of service in the General Assembly, culminating with two years as President Pro-Tem of the Missouri Senate.

Friday, June 16
7:30 to 9 a.m., \$25
Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center
1201 N. Woodbine Road

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

20

BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Need to broaden your portfolio of potential clients and customers? Make some new real life connections at this networking event.

Tuesday, June 20
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Radisson St. Joseph
102 S. Third St.

26

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 Tricia Steffes with Crossing Arrows will be the guest speaker. Crossing Arrows is a clothing line designed by spirited women for spirited girls.

Monday, June 26
12 to 1 p.m., FREE
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.
Bring your own lunch