

April 2019

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



Connections

ST. JOSEPH Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

That Feeling

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been enjoying that feeling you get when spring has begun. After this past winter, I am enjoying it even more. Spring comes with a sense of renewal, the excitement of something new and that hope for something better.

Enjoying the recent almost spring-like weather, I participated in some of the St. Patrick's weekend activities. I started downtown and then stopped in at all the activity along Frederick Avenue. Wow, it was great to see so many people out walking up and down Frederick, cheering on St. Patrick and enjoying spring. It dawned on me that all of us were actually enjoying St. Joseph as well. Things I have seen in other vibrant communities were happening here, the place I live and call home. That is something to enjoy.

So, did this feeling of spring just creep up on us? Not hardly with the past winter. It was a difficult and long journey, just like the redevelopment of downtown and the success that has spread to the Frederick Avenue Corridor. Efforts to revitalize downtown began almost 30 years ago when the city removed the old Felix Street Mall and while it has been difficult and slow at times, there is now a feeling of renewal, something new and excitement about downtown being a better place.

Downtown's new fortunes have not been about one thing, but many. The ongoing city investment, those entrepreneurs that took a chance when no one would, like Mod Podge and The Lucky Tiger. A commitment to the community by Mosaic Life Care in revitalizing the German American Bank Building, bringing hundreds of jobs downtown and most importantly, demonstrating not only a commitment to the community, but that downtown is a place you should invest. This message has now been heard by others who have followed with new investment, new businesses and new jobs.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

There is, of course, more to come. Success begets more success, just as we are seeing along Frederick Avenue. So, as you are out and about St. Joseph enjoying the feeling of spring, take a moment and consider, maybe what you are feeling is the excitement and enjoyment of living in St. Joseph? Enjoy!

NEW MEMBERS

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

Rescare Workforce Services
Shelly Shaffer
2311 N. Belt Highway (06)
(816) 463-3521
shelley.shaffer@rescare.com
rescare.com
Service Organizations

GGA-PC
Lawrence Goldberg
805 N. 36th St. Ste. B (06)
(816) 233-9300
larry.g@gga-pc.com
goldbergarchitects.com
Architects

Family Heritage
Dominique Sherrod
515 W. 11th St. Apt. 9,
Maryville, MO 64468
(417) 496-1821
dsherrod@fhlagent.com
familyheritagelife.com
Insurance

AR Workshop St. Joseph
Jessica Estes
139 N. Belt Highway, Ste. K (06)
(816) 282-0266
stjoseph@arworkshop.com
arworkshop.com/stjoseph
Retail

Pony Express Baseball Inc. (PEB)
Shane Hebert
P.O. Box 1588 (02)
(816) 344-3131
presidentpeb@gmail.com
ponyexpressbaseballleague.website.
splay.com
Sports

Batteries Plus Bulbs
Cristy Steeby
5301 N. Belt Highway (06)
(816) 558-3080
mgr527@batteriesplus.com
Automobile Parts, Supplies, Service

McCownGordon Construction
Lynn Parman
422 Admiral Blvd.,
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 960-1111
lparman@mccowngordon.com
mccowngordon.com
Construction Management

RPS Benefits by Design, Inc.
Jennifer Jimenez
400 Jules St., Ste. 310 (01)
(816) 233-9091
jenni.jimenez@rpsbbdi.com
rpsbenefitsbydesign.com
Insurance, Employee Benefits

Merle Norman Cosmetics
Jennifer Milbourne
3843 Frederick Ave. (06)
(816) 279-3132
jennifermilbourne@merlenormanstudio.com
merlenorman.com
Insurance

START MARKETING YOUR BUSINESS NOW



The Total Resource Campaign is an excellent way increase brand awareness for your business. Brought to you by the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, you'll receive the best B2B marketing opportunities our community has to offer from event sponsorships to ad placements in Chamber publications.

Be an agent of change, discover the benefits of brand building today --
CALL: (816) 364-4107 | E-MAIL: redmond@saintjoseph.com

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.

- 2-3** **Washington, D.C. Fly-In** **Tuesday & Wednesday, April 2-3**
Presented by Missouri Western State University **Washington, D.C.**
- A delegation of local business and community leaders annually visit the nation's capitol as part of the Chamber's Fly-In. While in D.C., the delegation meets with members of Congress, U.S. Senators, legislative staff and U.S. Chamber officials. Contact Natalie Redmond for more information at (816) 364-4107.
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- 3, 17/11, 25** **Circle of Influence** **April 3 & 17 and April 11 and 25**
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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- 5** **Foodie Friday** **Friday, April 5**
7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., Free
Cafe Pony Espresso
114 S. Eighth St.
- Join other Chamber members as they experience foods all around St. Joseph in a new networking event. Enjoy specials at each restaurant and get to know some new business contacts. Free to attend, but cost of meal is up to the individual.
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- 9** **Lunch & Learn Seminar** *Lunch by Enchilada Lady* **Tuesday, April 9**
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$10
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461
or www.saintjoseph.com
- Presented by CLA
"Video Conferencing for Small Businesses"
Learn the best ways to use video conferencing and about the pros and cons of different services. Rebecca Lobina, Small Business Development Center Director, will lead the session, as well as a live demonstration of video conferencing.
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- 11** **DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast** **Thursday, April 11**
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7
Breakfast provided
American Red Cross
401 N. 12th St.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com
- 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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- 11** **PRIMETIME - NEW MEMBER WELCOME** **Thursday, April 11**
5 to 7 p.m., FREE
Castle Bridge Event Center
8403 B U.S. Highway 59 South
- Presented by Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation
Help the Chamber roll out the red carpet for new members at Primetime! This event allows existing members to meet the Chamber's newest members, who showcase their goods and services in a tradeshow-like format. Enjoy food and beverages by Chamber Tastes caterers.
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- 22** **Women's Leadership Group** **Monday, April 22**
5 to 6 p.m. Free
The Tiger's Den
519 Felix St.
- Presented by Sam's Club
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 is "Unhappy Hour," and will bring attention to National Equal Pay month. Join the conversation!
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- 23** **Career Fair** **Tuesday, April 23**
2 to 5 p.m., Free
Civic Arena
100 N. Fourth St.
- 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.
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- 25** **BUSINESS after HOURS** **Thursday, April 25**
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Collision Repair Specialists
3900 Frederick Ave.
- Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.
There's no shortage of chances to meet new people through the Chamber! While any of our events could be seen as networking, Business After Hours are set up for just that. Bring your business cards, talk to some potential new customers and make some new friends.
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- 30** **Speed Networking** **Tuesday, April 30**
8 to 9:30 a.m., \$10, continental breakfast provided
St. Jo Frontier Casino
777 Winners Circle
- Presented by St. Jo Frontier Casino
Need to network, but don't like to approach strangers in a mixer-like environment? Come to the Chamber's Speed Networking event for your chance to make many meaningful business connections in a very short amount of time.

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**