

May 2019

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



Connections

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Game Changers

Over the last month or two there have been several decisions made that will impact St. Joseph for many years to come. While things happen every day that impact us individually, and our community collectively, it behooves us to take stock of those actions that truly can be characterized as "game changers."

After much debate and consideration, the City Council adopted an ordinance that will create a rental housing inspection program. While there is not enough room in this newsletter to get into the details, it is fair to say the adopted ordinance represented a compromise that, over time, will stimulate the repair and renovation of many sub-standard houses in our older neighborhoods. Taking this step, along with LLC registration and a local land bank, sets the stage for transformation of our older housing stock, creating new investment, new residents, and improved property values in these important historic neighborhoods.

Over the past four years, the Chamber has worked with local employers and educators to address the education gap in St. Joseph that has led to a shortage of skilled workers. Recently, the Board of Trustees of Metropolitan Community College (MCC) of Kansas City gave its approval to bring community college programs to St. Joseph. MCC will partner with the school district, MWSU, and the business community to bring two-year degrees, certificate programs, and technical training to St. Joseph. Programs are to begin the fall of this

year. Addressing our education gap will not only ensure a skilled workforce for local employers, but will also provide career opportunities that have not been available for many of our students.

Last, but certainly not least, was voter approval of the school tax levy proposal. The past problems have been well debated and discussed, but the reality is, you can not have a successful community without a successful public school system. I believe those who voted for the tax levy intuitively understood this. With strong leadership at the School District and a reasonable tax levy proposal, voters by over 60 percent said it was time to move on and begin focusing on making our school district successful.

All three of these decisions are game changers for our community and I don't think I am overstating it when I say that these decisions will have a positive impact for generations to come. We should feel good about that and take a sense of pride from it, but realize that it took strong local leadership and a lot of hard work by many to make these game changers happen. This should give us both hope and excitement for the future of St. Joseph.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

NEW MEMBERS

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

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

Lower Marketing & Advertising, LLC
Jim Lower
1903 N. 33rd St. (06)
(816) 262-3748
jimlower@lowermarketing.com
lowermarketing.com
Marketing

Cafe' Pony Espresso
Sydney James
114 S. Eighth St (01)
(816) 273-0059
cafeponyespresso816@gmail.com
Coffee Shops

The Vine & Barley Line
Abby Dillon
12851 Private Drive 3395,
Savannah, MO 64485
(816) 287-9644
vineandbarleyline@gmail.com
thevineandbarleyline.com
Entertainment

T-Mobile
Michael Clark
4106 N. Belt Highway (05)
(816) 617-3700
michael.clark@wdiwireless.com
tmobile.com
Telecommunications

The Studio by Seth Bradley
Seth McCaslin
103 S. Fourth St. (01)
(816) 259-5359
sethbradleystudio@gmail.com
vagaroo.com/thestudiobysethbradley
Hair Salons

20 After 4
Andrew Hicks
1303 S. 22nd St. (07)
(816) 259-5180
info@20after4.life
20after4.life
Retail

Midland Empire Equality Coalition
Casey Campbell
P.O. Box 1412 (02)
(660) 373-1981
midlandequality@gmail.com
midlandequality.com
Human Service Organizations

The Hays Companies, Inc.
Kevin Schaffer
1200 Main St., Ste. 2310
Kansas City, MO 64105
(816) 474-3535
kschaffer@hayscompanies.com
hayscompanies.com
Employee Benefits

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



May Calendar

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

1, 15/ Circle of Influence

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

9, 23

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.

3

Foodie Friday

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.

Friday, May 3
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Free
Rib Crib
3704 Faraon St.

9

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, May 9
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7

Breakfast provided
Belt Entertainment
210 N. Belt Highway

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

9

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 80s cover band Retro@ctive.

Thursday, May 9
5 to 8 p.m., Free
S.W. Parkway and King Hill Drive
(Rain date: May 16)

14

Lunch & Learn Seminar

Lunch by Friedrich's Market

Presented by CLA

"Simplifying Great Content"

The key to simplifying content creation on platforms like Facebook and Instagram is finding a great recipe that you can go back to time and again. Today we are inundated with millions of pages, groups and online communities, so how do you stand out? Find out with Nicole Radke of Friedrich's Market.

Tuesday, May 14
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

23

BUSINESS after HOURS

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.

Thursday, May 23
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Stroud and Associates, Keller Williams St. Joseph
16617 Highway 71
Savannah, MO

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**



Presented by Triumph Foods

Want to support the Made With Uncommon Character campaign in a fun and easy way? Come to the Apple Blossom BBQ! Watch cooks from across the Midwest compete for a \$10,000 prize purse, hear live music, eat great food, have drinks and enjoy activities for kids.

Friday, May 3

5 to 10 p.m. with music by Blue Oyster Culture Club (BOCC) at 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 4

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come have lunch after the parade, enjoy kids activities and a live KKJO remote.

Made With Uncommon Character is a joint endeavor by the Chamber, City of St. Joseph, St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mosaic Life Care, Missouri Western State University and the St. Joseph School District.

Need help recruiting or retaining talent?



Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Uncommon Life is here to make recruiting employees to work and live in St. Joseph easier. The St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce has incorporated the Made with Uncommon Character brand to highlight why St. Joseph is a unique place... and why your recruits should call it home. This includes tools for you as a recruiter or human resources specialist to use when hiring and getting new hires acclimated to the community.

Tours -- Gift Baskets -- Welcome Rallies -- Icebreakers -- Website

To see tools: uncommonlife.saintjoseph.com/hr

Share the website for potential residents: uncommonlife.saintjoseph.com