

August 2019

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



# Connections

**ST. JOSEPH**  
Chamber of Commerce

## The President's Perspective

### What is the Future of Ag?

St. Joseph has a long history with agriculture, not only in the early days supporting the production of farm products but evolving into a community that took these farmed-raised products and processed them into human and animal food. Our more recent history saw the development and growth of the animal health and nutrition industry represented by companies locally like Boehringer Ingelheim, Nestle Purina and BioZyme. Today agriculture is a major part of our local economy represented by some of the leading ag companies in the world employing thousands of area residents. So, the question of "What is the future of agriculture?" carries a lot of significance to St. Joseph.

As part of the planning process leading to the community plan, Imagine St. Joseph 2040, we began to explore what our future economy might evolve into. One highlight from that discussion was the growing high-tech nature of agriculture and what this might mean for the farmer, the consumer and for those in agricultural-related businesses. How will innovation and changing consumer demands stimulate the growth and nature of agriculture and, in turn, bring future change to related businesses and economic change to communities like St. Joseph?

As we were contemplating our own future a statewide group, the Missouri Agricultural Foundation, was also exploring the issue. Their conclusions for the future focused on three areas:

-Based on regional food systems, facilitate development of

new, value-added food product manufacturing.

-With the growing focus on human and animal health and wellness, take advantage of consumer interest in healthy foods stimulating new research and innovation.

-Enhance the use of locally sourced commodities through development of value-added processing activities.

New value-added food products, healthier foods through research and innovation and development of enhanced value-added uses for existing commodities are all things that are currently underway in St. Joseph or being discussed for the future.

St. Joseph has the opportunity to continue to grow its ag economy, but we also have the potential to be a global leader in the ag tech economy of the future. While major companies will continue to be an important part of this new ag economy, we will also see the rise of entrepreneurs and ag technology startups focused on developing new products and finding innovative ways to grow, process and deliver these products.

What is the future of ag? You need to look no further than 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:

**Carrie Baker Agency LLC**  
Carrie Baker  
2721 Pembroke Lane (06)  
(816) 279-7770  
cbaker@amfam.com  
**Insurance (Associate)**

**Perfect Dreamer/  
Ideal Furniture St. Joe**  
Jerod Kobzej  
5325 U.S. Highway N. 169 (05)  
(816) 387-7245  
idealfurniturestjoe@gmail.com  
**Retail**

**Plato's Closet**  
Jill Martin  
1407 S. Belt Highway (07)  
(712) 490-8686  
platosclosetsaintjoemo@gmail.com  
platosclosetstjosephmo.com  
**Retail**

**John Gourley**  
5701 Venture Ave. (05)  
(816) 279-6348  
john@marqueemediaworks.com  
**Civic Membership**

**Tina Goodrick**  
5102 Mockingbird Lane (06)  
(816) 617-4012  
tm.goodrick@gmail.com  
**Civic Membership**

**ALDI Inc. No. 16**  
Mark Bersted  
3201 S. Belt Highway St. A (03)  
(913) 768-1119  
aldi.com  
**Grocers**

**JKM DME dba Care 4 All**  
Audrey Polley  
2207 N. Belt Highway Ste. G (06)  
(816) 259-5599  
apolley@c4adme.com  
**Home Health Care**

**Gordmans**  
Hoa Nguyen  
3702 Frederick Ave. (06)  
(816) 232-1789  
customerservice@stage.com  
gordmans.com  
**Retail**

**Wallis Guttering Co LLC**  
Doug Wallis  
2908 Felix St. (01)  
(816) 248-8563  
doug@wallisguttering.com  
wallisguttering.com  
**Home Improvements**

**We Hang Christmas Lights**  
Doug Wallis  
2908 Felix St. (01)  
(816) 248-8563  
doug@wallisguttering.com  
**Home Improvement**

**Coldwell Banker General Properties**  
-- Jennifer Pflugradt  
2700 N. Belt Highway (06)  
(816) 364-1000  
jenniferpflugradt@yahoo.com  
jennypflugradthomes.com  
**Real Estate (Associate)**

**FMS Metals LLC**  
Teresa Smither  
9431 Highway T, Amazonia, MO 64421  
(816) 536-9246  
sales@fmsmetals.com  
fmsmetals.com  
**Recycling**



## Need help recruiting or retaining talent?

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](http://uncommonlife.saintjoseph.com/hr)**

**Share the website for potential residents: [uncommonlife.saintjoseph.com](http://uncommonlife.saintjoseph.com)**



[www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)  
(816) 232-4461  
[chamber@saintjoseph.com](mailto:chamber@saintjoseph.com)

# August 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](http://www.saintjoseph.com)**

**2** *Foodie Friday* **Friday, Aug. 2**  
4 to 5 p.m., Free  
Cabana  
2131 St. Joseph Ave.  
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.

**7** **DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast** **Wednesday, Aug. 7**  
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7  
Breakfast provided  
Chiefs Training Camp, MWSU  
4525 Downs Drive  
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!  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461 or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

**7, 21/  
8, 22** *Circle of Influence* **Aug. 7 & 21 and Aug. 8 & 22**  
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](mailto:redmond@saintjoseph.com) or (816) 364-4107.

**8** *Parties on the Parkway* **Thursday, Aug. 8**  
5 to 8 p.m., Free  
Corby Pond  
(Rain date: Aug. 15)  
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 country band Whiskey Bend.

**13** **Lunch & Learn Seminar** **Tuesday, Aug. 13**  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$10  
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce  
3003 Frederick Ave.  
Presented by CLA  
"What It Means to be a Group Health Fiduciary"  
Come learn from Jackie Golon, the Supervisory Benefits Advisor at the Kansas City Department of Labor Office about what it means to be a Group Health Fiduciary. She will answer questions from the audience to help everyone get the best understanding possible.  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461  
or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)  
*Lunch by Jimmy John's*

**14/  
20** *POINTERS & PINTS* **Wednesday, Aug. 14**  
4 to 5 p.m., Free  
River Bluff Brewing  
1224 Frederick Ave.  
Presented by T.S. Conard, Inc. Technology Solutions  
Come to this series of sessions for small businesses that blend learning in a relaxed environment. Learn about "Dark Web & Ransomware: The Business Owner's Guide to Protecting Your Company" on Aug. 14 and "An Accountant, Lawyer and Banker Enter a Bar..." on Aug. 20.

**20** **Thursday, Aug. 20**  
4 to 5 p.m., Free  
Room 108  
722 Felix St.

**22** **BUSINESS after HOURS** **Tuesday, Aug. 22**  
5 to 7 p.m., Free  
Moila, 701 N. Noyes Blvd.  
Host: Fairway Independent  
Mortgage Corporation  
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.

**26** *Women's Leadership Group* **Monday, Aug. 26**  
Noon to 1 p.m. Free  
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce  
3003 Frederick Ave.  
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.  
Bring your own lunch.

**28** **Economic Development Summit** **Wednesday, Aug. 28**  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$25  
Fulkerson Center, MWSU  
4525 Downs Drive  
Partnership for Success Investors  
Get Two Tickets Free  
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461 or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)  
The Economic Development Summit is designed to keep members current on economic development activities and showcases a recognized speaker. At this year's event, hear from Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City President Esther George. She is a Missouri native and graduate of Missouri Western State University, a member of the Federal Open Market Committee, which has authority over U.S. monetary policy. President George will speak to the economic conditions and the economy.