



Connections

ST. JOSEPH Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Be Prepared

The events of the last several months has put me in a reflective mood. The impact of COVID-19 and its disruption to our world and the sickness and deaths it has caused. Then of course more recently is the tragic and senseless death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the resulting opening of unhealed racial related wounds from our past. As I have reflected on both of these generational changing events it has made me realize that I am unprepared.

In my youth I was a Boy Scout and perhaps for those of you who also followed this path you will remember the Boy Scout motto, "Be Prepared." Knowing myself, I probably thought at the time, be prepared for what? I think I may know the answer now.

We live in a world today that seems to defer much responsibility to others to be prepared and make decisions for us. Someone will tell us what we need to do and when to prepare. Of course, when things do not go well, we are quick to blame those who we deferred to. It certainly was not our fault. This move away from personal responsibility and accountability has placed us all in a position of not being prepared. Frankly, I have come to the conclusion that no one was prepared for the pandemic -- not the government, not business and certainly not me. I guess I was waiting for someone to tell me to prepare. I had forgotten the Scout motto, be prepared. This was my responsibility.

I believe if we stop and think about the last several months there is much to be learned. Some might even call it a teaching moment. Obviously, we know much more today about COVID-19: how we

should prepare for future occurrences, the safety of our employees, the way we operate our business, how to relate to our customers and how we should address our finances. We were not prepared; the excuse was how does anyone prepare for a pandemic? This excuse will not fly in the future. No one is going to prepare for us, we must be prepared as individuals, as businesses and as a community to face future challenges whatever they may be.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis was not only tragic and unnecessary but shocking. My initial reaction is how could this happen? It brought back so many racial related tragedies I have witnessed over my lifetime. That said, I was not prepared for George Floyd's death. Once again, I forgot the Scout motto, be prepared. I must be prepared to listen to the anger and outrage that has been highlighted by the peaceful protests here and around the country. I must be prepared to understand what this means for us as a nation of one people and finally, I must be prepared to act and speak out when I see or encounter racial injustice of any kind.

We must be better prepared as individuals, as businesses and as a country to face and address the challenges before us. It is not someone else's responsibility, it is our responsibility, each of us. If you question that just ask a Boy Scout!

Chamber Receives 5-Star Accreditation for the Third Time

The United States Chamber of Commerce has awarded the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures and positive impact on the community. The 5-Star status is the highest level a Chamber can receive and the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce has received it three times in a row, in 2009, 2014 and 2019.

Local staff learned of the news in March, during the height of the initial pandemic crisis.

"Like everyone, we were too preoccupied with addressing the response to COVID-19 to celebrate this accomplishment," said R. Patt Lilly, President and CEO. "Now that recovery is beginning, we can take a moment to discuss what 5-Star Accreditation means."

Accreditation is the only national program that recognizes chambers for their effective organizational procedures and community involvement. In order to receive Accreditation, a chamber must meet minimum standards in their operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs, and technology. This extensive self-review can take six to nine months to complete. To achieve 5-Star Accreditation, a Chamber must exceed in all of these areas.

"Being awarded this rating for the third time in a row is a sign of what board leadership, a strong staff, volunteer base and community partners can do to help businesses and the community move forward," Lilly said.



The Total Resource Campaign has begun! This is your chance to increase brand awareness for your business. Receive the best B2B marketing opportunities St. Joseph has to offer from event sponsorships to ad placements in Chamber publications.

Discover the benefits of brand building today -- (816) 364-4107 or redmond@saintjoseph.com

NEW MEMBERS

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

John P. Anderson Agency LLC
John Anderson
1807 N. Woodbine Road, Ste. A (06)
(816) 232-5404
johnanderson@shelterinsurance.com
Insurance

Royalty Sports Company
Andrew Stasiak
19037 Hwy 59, Ste. B
Country Club, MO 64505
(816) 852-0600
info@royaltysportsco.com
www.royaltysportsco.com
Sports

Jonathon Bell Studios
Jonathon Bell
3412 E. Devonshire Drive (06)
(816) 866-5367
jon@jbellphoto.com
www.jbellphoto.com
Video Production



Agent Jo -- Hire MORE Than A Sign 16+ years of experience

Earned 7 additional educational designations/certifications such as ABR, CRS, GRI, SFR, SRS, MRE and ePro!

Transaction plus education working for you! Don't just hire someone who passed a test and got a piece of paper.

Hire EXPERIENCE! Hire MORE than a sign.

Call or text 816-617-4412 and visit AgentJo.com to search ALL listings from ALL companies.

July Calendar

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

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

Breakfast provided
East Hills Shopping Center
Belt & Frederick

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

9, 23/ Circle of Influence

15, 29 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 and another that meets the second and fourth Thursdays. Contact Natalie Redmond for more information, redmond@saintjoseph.com or (816) 364-4107. Meetings held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 Woodbine.

July 9 & 23 and July 15 & 29
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guests Free

14 Lunch & Learn Seminar

Presented by CLA

“Social Media Tips to Reach Younger Audiences”

Get tips and tricks on how to reach the younger demographic and gain their attention with creative content. Choose the right social media platform for the right demographics. Learn how to create content with TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat. Event will be limited in attendance. Presented by MWSU Center for Entrepreneurship.

Lunch by Planet Sub

Tuesday, July 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.

Let's get back to some in-person networking at an outdoor Parking Lot Party hosted by Stephen Lorenz American Family Insurance, Pronto Cafe and Katherine's Distinctive Gifts.

Thursday, July 23
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Parking Lot Party, 2513 Frederick Ave.

27 Women's Leadership Group

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 hear about the challenges of dealing with aging parents -- the reality and the resources. This will be presented by Brent Hoffart of Home Instead Senior Living. Limited attendance.

Monday, July 27
Noon to 1 p.m. Free
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.
Bring your own lunch.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Parties on the Parkway

We hope to have the first Parties on the Parkway of the season soon. That's still to be determined at the time of this printing. Check our website and Facebook page to see an announcement from the Chamber.

Foodie Fridays

Join other Chamber members as they experience foods all around St. Joseph! Eat at a featured restaurant during its regular business hours that day, post to Facebook tagging the Chamber and you could win a prize!

July 10 -- Jake's Steakhouse & Sports Bar, 620 Edmond St.

July 17 -- Pizza Ranch, 3007 N. Belt Highway, Ste. A

July 24 -- Ground Round Grill & Bar, 123 S. Sixth St.

July 31 -- Fredrick Inn, 1627 Frederick Ave.

FIRESIDE SPORTS BAR SPECIALS!



SPECIALS AVAILABLE 5PM-8PM

TACO TUESDAYS 3 tacos, ground beef or chicken, rice and beans served with pico de gallo, choice of hard or soft shell	\$4.99
WING WEDNESDAYS Choice of barbecue or Buffalo sauce	50¢ ea. (min. 8)
THIRSTY THURSDAYS Bucket of beers (Domestic only) Pitcher of beer (Domestic only)	(6) \$15.00 \$10.00
ALL AMERICAN CHEESEBURGER FRIDAYS Your choice of American or Swiss cheese served with fries. Add bacon for \$1.00	\$4.99
TENDERLOIN SATURDAYS Breaded pork tenderloin served with fries. Add cheese for \$1.00	\$4.99

MORE OFFERS · VALUE · REWARDS

OPEN:

Tuesday - Saturday

ST JO FRONTIER CASINO
ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

777 Winners Circle
St. Joseph, MO 64505
Must be 21. Gambling problem?
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