

September 2020

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



Connections

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

The President's Perspective

Be a Champion

Last spring as many of our local businesses were shutting down or changing their business model in response to COVID-19, the Chamber was busy finding new opportunities to connect to members and provide support and assistance. At the same time, we were also working with the City and County on an economic recovery plan. An important focus of this plan is a buy local initiative to encourage consumers to support our many local businesses, many of whom have been greatly impacted by the response to the virus.

It has been a challenging six months, but I am excited that we have kicked off our buy local campaign, titled "Champions of Commerce." We know that the consumer has been hit hard by both the concerns of the virus, as well as the impact to the economy. They are reluctant to get out and shop, changing their buying habits and reducing expenditures during a period of uncertainty. All very understandable.

The Champions of Commerce buy local campaign will feature many of our local businesses with the message we are here, we are open, and we need your support. And, as business owners, we are willing to meet you where you are, in our place of business, at the curb, at your door or online. The important part of the message is

that local businesses need your business if they are going to survive during this time of COVID-19.

Another important aspect of the buy local campaign is to assist businesses with taking the steps necessary to instill confidence with their customers. This includes such things as communicating the ways customers can access their business, maintaining consistent business hours and conveying what they are doing to keep their customers and employees safe when they come to their place of business. We will also provide a toolbox of ideas to encourage customers to visit their business and spend their dollars locally.



R. Patt Lilly
President & CEO

So here is your chance to be a champion. Get out and support that favorite local bar, restaurant, or retail shop in whatever manner you feel comfortable. In this way we can ensure that our unique, local businesses will survive and the economic benefit they provide the community can be sustained. Be a champion!



CHAMPIONS
of commerce

Be a Champion of Commerce

SHOP LOCAL DECIDE LOCAL

Now more than ever it's important to spend money with our St. Joseph businesses.

Visit the website below to see a listing of local businesses, their hours, offerings and if they wear masks or require them of customers.

championsofcommerce.com

Check your e-mail and be watching our social media channels for tools you can use to encourage your customers to return, either in person or online.

The Total Resource Campaign is wrapping up! 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:

Electronic Quill
Debra Bouillon
514 Green St. (05)
(641) 220-4334
electronicquill@gmail.com
www.electronicquill.net
Signs & Banners

Tropical Smoothie Cafe
Nick Patel
5101 N. Belt Highway, Ste. B (06)
(816) 396-6979
npatel@napkinhospitality.com
www.tropicalsmoothie.com
Restaurants

Ag-Power, Inc.
Jason Boyd
10031 S.E. U.S. Highway 36,
Easton, MO 64443
(816) 667-5400
jboyd@ag-power.com
ag-power.com
Farm Equipment and/or Supplies



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.

September Calendar

For more information, call 816/232-4461. **CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, www.saintjoseph.com**

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.

2, 16/ 10, 24 *Circle of Influence*

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.

Sept. 2 & 16 and Sept. 10 & 24
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guests Free

8 *Lunch & Learn Seminar*

Presented by CLA

“Marketing in Uncertain Times”

Changing times call for changing methods, especially with your digital marketing! However, you don't have to reinvent the wheel. Come learn all the everything you need to know about how to utilize digital marketing in this new “normal.” Kevin Puckett of On the Top Search will lead the discussion. Limited seating.

Lunch by Rib Crib

Tuesday, Sept. 8
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

10 *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, Sept. 10
7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$7

Breakfast provided
Jake's Steakhouse & Sports Bar
620 Edmond St.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

10 *Parties on the Parkway*

Presented by Nodaway Valley Bank

It's the last Parties on the Parkway of the year! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and spread out along the Parkway while listening to some great local music. The band will be country act Center Stage. Bring donations for Second Harvest Community Food Bank, which needs help stocking school pantry shelves.

Thursday, Sept. 10
5 to 8 p.m., Free
Remington Nature Center
1502 McArthur Drive

23 *Virtual Pointers & Pints*

Presented by T.S. Conard, Inc. Technology Solutions

Pull up a chair and a pint to your laptop and join us for Pointers & Pints, a series of webinars made to help your business with technology. At this session, the topic will be “Your Employees' Social Media Effects on Your Brand,” which will be presented by Nancy Potter Lyle and Lindsey Holcumbink, of MTSE Law.

Wednesday, Sept. 23
4 to 5 p.m., Free

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

23 *My Success Event*

Presented by Boehringer Ingelheim

Thousands of high school students will learn more about possible career paths at this year's My Success Event. Representatives from St. Joseph businesses will interact with students online during this two-day event.

Wednesday & Thursday, Sept. 23 & 24
8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

24 *BUSINESS after HOURS*

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Get out those business cards and come meet some new business connections! Your next client or colleague could be waiting for you.

Thursday, Sept. 24
5 to 7 p.m., Free
John Joe Insurance Agency, Inc.
1802 Union St.

28 *Women's Leadership Group*

Presented by Garden Gate

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 from Susan Campbell of SJC Marketing. Bring your own lunch, limited seating.

Monday, Sept. 28
Noon to 1 p.m. Free
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

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

29 *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.

Tuesday, Sept. 29
10 a.m. shotgun start
\$90 per player
St. Joseph Country Club
50 Ridgeland Road
Limited spots available.

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! Check our website and Facebook for dates and locations.