

December 2022

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



# Connections

ST. JOSEPH  
Chamber of Commerce

## The President's Perspective

In the last few weeks there has been some talk about a gentleman who didn't live in St. Joseph and his opinion piece that was 90% negative about our town. Here is the deal: negative sells on social media – it gets more clicks, it gets more comments. Everyone says they like a feel-good story, but negative sells. I personally don't think we should let someone who has never lived in St. Joseph tell our story. We know the good, bad and the ugly. We are the ones fighting every day to make it better, not a guy who spent 10 minutes here and profits from views and clicks. We have a plan, and we are working the plan. So, I want to use this newsletter article to highlight some of our recent wins.

Recent wins from the Imagine St Joseph 2040 Community Plan:

### Create a Better Place

- River Bluff Gateway Project, quite the enhancement to our hike and bike trails!
- The groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Children's Discover Center.
- The parks tax passed to support our fantastic parks and recreational facilities.
- The Civic Arena will be repaired and remodeled.
- A new downtown hotel has been approved.
- I-229 is being reimaged.
- Merchants and residents are working together on the Main Street initiative for downtown.
- Residents are participating in Beautify St. Joseph, a volunteer initiative to clean up the community.
- Neighborhoods are being revitalized with urban home-steading.

### Grow Prosperity

Employers and educators are collaborating on new initiatives

that include an expansion at Hillyard Technical Center and the creation of the Convergent Technology Alliance Center (CTAC) at Missouri Western State University. This will develop education and training pipelines to build a stronger workforce in St. Joseph.

### Invest In People

- Social service agencies are working on a Continuum of Care for Homelessness Services Blueprint, a plan designed to attain functional zero in managing the homeless population.
- Law enforcement agencies are participating in the Grow Our Own Law Enforcement Officers program to improve public safety and reduce the shortage of police officers.
- A new Mental Health/Substance Abuse Urgent Care is opening. In the 2021 Community Survey, 64% of residents supported these additional resources.
- Vision Forward, an 18-month community engagement initiative to create a plan to improve our public schools has helped our school district.

These wins are because of investments, collaboration and the hard work of all of us in St. Joseph. The beauty of these projects is the level of involvement. So many community members are committed to the goals of the Imagine St. Joseph 2040 plan. We all want the same thing, to make our little corner of the world better. It is a town I am proud to call home!



Natalie Redmond  
President & CEO

## NEW MEMBERS

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

**Rachel Kagay**  
Coaching & Consulting LLC  
Rachel Kagay  
3115 S.W. Ketchum Road,  
Maysville, MO 64469  
(816) 769-7868  
rachel@rachelkagay.com  
www.rachelkagay.com  
**Consultants**

**D&G Pub & Grub Brew Haus**  
Christina Grimes  
1918 Frederick Ave. (01)  
(816) 671-1141  
cafeacousticbar2605@gmail.com  
www.dgpubgrub.com  
**Restaurants**

**Three Oaks Hospice**  
Trevor Hall  
1213 N. Belt Highway, Ste. E (06)  
(816) 232-2400  
trhall@threeoakshospice.com  
www.threeoakshospice.com  
**Hospice Care**

**Wiseguy's Italian Catering and Cuisine**  
Chris Moon  
1139B Frederick Ave. (01)  
moonpie1111@gmail.com  
(Search Wise Guys Italian on Facebook)  
(816) 689-8376  
**Catering**

**Tim Lager Insurance Agency LLC**  
Tim Lager  
1502 S. Belt Highway (07)  
(816) 364-2311  
tlager@farmersagent.com  
https://agents.farmers.com/tlager  
**Insurance**

**Card My Yard**  
Aurora Kerns  
10470 S.E. State Route 371 (07)  
(816) 262-5670  
amkerns40@hotmail.com  
**Signs/Banners**

**Tubes Bike Shop**  
Brent Petersen  
1826 Frederick Ave. (01)  
(816) 205-7934  
tubesbikeshop@gmail.com  
www.tubesbikeshop.com  
**Retail**

**Crumbl Cookies**  
Shawn Davis  
5301 N. Belt Highway Ste. 111 (06)  
(816) 596-9998  
mo.saintjoseph@crumbl.com  
crumbl.com  
**Bakeries**

**CII Missouri**  
Jack Waldron  
3001 Eastowne Drive (07)  
(913) 727-3434  
www.ciifoods.com  
**Manufacturers**



**THIS HOLIDAY & EVERY DAY**  
**SHOP LOCAL DECIDE LOCAL**

**Be a Champion of Commerce**

# December Calendar

For more information, call 816/232-4461. **CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, [www.saintjoseph.com](http://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. See COVID-19 event guidelines at [saintjoseph.com](http://saintjoseph.com)

## 1 Chairman's Breakfast

Presented by John Joe Insurance

Join Chairman of the Board Brett Carolus as Ron Eidshaug, Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Division, gives his "View from the Hill." Eidshaug is the Chamber's chief lobbyist on energy, environmental, and regulatory reform issues. He joined the Chamber team in 1999 and has served in a variety of roles. \$35 for general public. Triumph Foods is the Speaker Sponsor.

Thursday, Dec. 1  
7:30 a.m., \$25

St. Joseph Country Club  
50 Ridgeland Road

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461  
or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

## 6 BUSINESS after HOURS HOLIDAY PARTY

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

It's the biggest Business After Hours of the year! Come to the annual Chamber member Holiday Party and as a thank you for being a member, enjoy food and drink samples from our Chamber Tastes caterers and providers. Come see old friends and meet some new ones!

Tuesday, Dec. 6  
5 to 7 p.m., Free

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center  
1201 N. Woodbine Road

## 7, 14 & 8 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. Contact Tony Luke for more information, [luke@saintjoseph.com](mailto:luke@saintjoseph.com) or (816) 364-4101. Meetings held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 Woodbine.

Dec. 7, 14 and Dec. 8  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guests Free

## 8 DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., John Joe Insurance & On the Top Search

The Diplomats Club is a large networking and service 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, Dec. 8  
7:15 a.m., \$7

Breakfast provided  
St. Jo Frontier Casino  
777 Winners Circle

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461  
or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

## 13 Lunch & Learn Seminar

Presented by Butchart Flowers Inc. & Greenhouse

"Building Community in Your Business"

Volunteering is a great way to build relationships among your team, elevate your organization's image, warm your heart and make a difference in the community. At this event, Kylee Strough, President of the United Way of Greater St. Joseph, will discuss how volunteering can be a strategy for your business, your team or your non-profit.

*Lunch by  
Marek's Catering  
& Delicatessen*

Tuesday, Dec. 13  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce  
3003 Frederick Ave.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461  
or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

## 15 Economic Development Summit

Presented by R/S Electric Corp.

Dr. Chris Kuehl, Managing Director of Armada Corporate Intelligence, provides economic forecasts and strategic guidance with an easy to understand delivery. His topic will be, "Now What: Economic Scenarios for 2023." In addition to the keynote address, attendees will hear about local economic development highlights and learn about new jobs planned and capital investments being made by St Joseph companies.

Thursday, Dec. 15  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$25

Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center  
1201 N. Woodbine Road

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:  
816/232-4461  
or [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

## 15 Shop St. Joseph

Presented by News-Press NOW

This popular program encourages residents to shop locally during the holidays. Shoppers collect tickets through Dec. 13 and a \$10,000 grand prize winning ticket number is released on Dec. 15. Lots of fabulous second chance prizes are available as well. See our website for more information.

Nov. 9 to Dec. 15

go to [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)  
for more information

## 15 BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Don't miss the last Business After Hours of the year! It's your last chance to make those new business connections before the new year. Free refreshments. Bring your business cards.

Thursday, Dec. 15  
5 to 7 p.m., Free

Room 108  
722 Felix St.

**SAVE YOURSELF TIME, MONEY & CONFUSION**

**CUSTOMIZED HEALTH INSURANCE FOR:**

Individuals, Families and Small Business

**JODY JORDAN**

Agent/Broker

816-390-3689

[jjordan.myhst.com](http://jjordan.myhst.com)

