

October 2023

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

Connections

The President's Perspective

Imagine St. Joseph 2040 calls for a plan for housing and neighborhood redevelopment strategies. This year the Chamber started a housing task force to look at housing strategies to help meet the needs of housing in St. Joseph. The task force includes the City, County, builders, developers, real estate professionals, investors, contractors, non-profits and more.

As I meet with employers, affordable workforce housing, whether it's renting or buying, has become a need.

The lack of middle-income or "workforce" housing is caused from:

- An aging population leaving the workforce (retiring), but not leaving home
- Dilapidated structures taking up potential building space while raising the cost for potential redevelopment
- Lack of homebuyer education, especially in more rural communities

- Inflation and rising interest rates that make it riskier for private contractors while costing buyers more
- Communities feeling like they do not play a role in housing development

Those renting have really felt the hit. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that apartment rent has increased 8% in the 12-month period ending in July of 2023, compared to 4.9% for food and 3.5% for new vehicles.

If you have an interest in joining this conversation, please let me know at redmond@saintjoseph.com.



Natalie Redmond
President & CEO

NEW MEMBERS

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

St. Joseph Pretzels
Stephanie Tripp
P.O. Box 8544 (08)
(816) 724-5060
stjosephpretzels@gmail.com
Restaurants

Journey Walk
Linda Huffman
3801 Oakland Ave. Ste. 205A (06)
(816) 248-4527
linda@journeywalkforwomen.com
Consultants

ADP
Nicole McClure
7301 College Blvd. Ste. 230,
Overland Park, KS 66210
(214) 733-4006
nicole.mcclure@adp.com
www.adp.com
Payroll

Sanchez Tree Services
David Sanchez
708 S. 16th St. (01)
(816) 937-7365
sanchezcontractingservices1@gmail.com
Tree Services

Johnna Mae's LLC
Johnna Wheeler
15675 SE 43rd Service Road,
Faucett, MO 64448
(816) 803-6753
johnna.wheeler@yahoo.com
Catering

Kurtz Medical Aesthetics
Amanda Kurtz
24585 Hwy 59,
Oregon, MO 64473
(660) 446-3302
amanda@kurtzmedical.com
www.kurtzmedical.com
Health Services

The Bee Hive-InterServ
Tracy McCrae
5400 King Hill Ave. (04)
(816) 262-7470
beehive@interservstjoe.org
www.faithfullyserving.org
Coffee Shops

idea+
Inbal Hazlett
2812 Commercial St. (03)
(816) 596-0576
ideaplusplanning@gmail.com
Architects

Elite Air Heating and Cooling
Eric Hazlett
2812 Commercial St. (03)
(816) 676-0305
eric.hazlett888@gmail.com
Air Conditioning/Heating Equipment Supplies



Shop local at Bee and Thistle & Provisions!
Spend \$100 on a single purchase in October and receive a \$15 gift card to be used on a future purchase.

*Present this ad or use the codeword "Autumn" to participate.
(Gift card is not exchangeable for cash or replaced if lost or stolen.)*

Elegant Decor, Unique Gifts, Gourmet Food & Drink Items

1137 Frederick Ave., St. Joseph, MO -- 816-752-4030



October Calendar

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

4, 18 *Circle of Influence*

Oct. 4 & 18 and Oct. 12 & 26
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Guests Free

12, 26 Circle of Influence is a leads group composed of small business professionals looking to exchange direct client referrals and leads. Contact Tony Luke for more information, luke@saintjoseph.com or (816) 364-4101. Meetings held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 Woodbine.

Economic Development Summit

Presented by R/S Electric Corp.

Come get an economic update from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. The keynote speaker will be Joseph Gruber, Executive Vice President & Director of Research. 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.

Wednesday, Oct. 4
7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., \$30
Fulkerson Center, MWSU
4525 Downs Drive
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461
or www.saintjoseph.com

Open Spaces Downtown Workshop & Tour

Are you thinking of opening a business, or new a need space? See the opportunity that awaits in Downtown St. Joseph. Come to a workshop at 2 to learn the "Business Basics" and then stay for a tour of six open spaces. A reception will be held at 5 p.m. at River Bluff Brewing, 1224 Frederick Ave. This event is held in partnership with Main Street St. Joseph.

Wednesday, Oct. 4
2 p.m. Workshop,
3 p.m. Tour
Free
Room 108, 722 Felix St.

Manufacturing Day

Manufacturing Day is a national day set aside to recognize the importance of the manufacturing industry and the diverse, highly-skilled, jobs that are available in our community. Held in October of each year, companies open their doors to students to display and discuss the industry and the possible career paths available.

Thursday, Oct. 5

Lunch & Learn Seminar

*Lunch by
Johanna Mae's LLC*

Presented by Jeremy Eaton Yoga
"From Diversity to Dollars: Unveiling the Business Growth"

Attendees will unravel the tangible links between diversity and increased business profitability and explore data with Maria Jose Ramirez Braiz, founder and CEO of Te Lo Cuento News LLC. Dive into actionable strategies that not only promote an inclusive workplace but also translate into measurable business growth. Come and discover how embracing diversity can be your company's most potent competitive advantage.

Tuesday, Oct. 10
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

DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., John Joe Insurance & Rogers Pharmacy

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, Oct. 12
7:15 a.m., \$10
Breakfast provided
St. Jo Frontier Casino
777 Winners Circle
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or saintjoseph.com

TECH TALKS

Presented by TS Conard, Inc. Technology Solutions

Many businesses put off upgrading workstations and servers. Sometimes this might mean slower and less responsive systems. Let's talk with Tim Conard about how this impacts your business and what you can do to be more productive.

Thursday, Oct. 12
4 to 5 p.m.
Room 108
722 Felix St.

12,17 BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Bring your business cards and prepare to meet your next business connection. Enjoy food, drinks & great conversation at these events. At the first BAH, come pre-game before Thursday Night Football. Special contests will be held. At the second, get in the Halloween spirit at a new bed & breakfast that might make you feel like Harry or Hermione.

Thursday, Oct. 12
5 to 7 p.m., Free
River Bluff Brewing
1224 Frederick Ave.

Tuesday, Oct. 17
5 to 7 p.m., Free
& The Hallows
619 S. 13th St.

17, 18 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 during this two-day event.

Tuesday & Wednesday,
Oct. 17 & 18
Civic Arena
100 N. Fourth St.

Donut Dash 5k+

Presented by Gold N' Glaze Donut & Coffee Shop

Join us for a family-friendly 5k+ run/walk through historic St. Joseph, featuring and benefiting Mount Mora Cemetery, Robidoux Row and Patee House museums. Strollers and pets welcome. Stay after the run for brunch at the Hi-Ho! Children 12 and younger are \$10. More info and register at saintjoseph.com.

Saturday, Oct. 21
8 a.m., \$25, includes T-shirt
Patee House Museum
1202 Penn St.
Fee is \$35 after 10/13
(no shirt)

23 Women's Leadership Group

Presented by Human Resource Management Association of Northwest Missouri

Each month the Chamber and Northwest Missouri State University's Small Business Development Center bring business topics to light that are important to women. This month go on the "She Means Business" 3rd annual Shop Crawl of women-owned businesses. Swag bags for first 40 guests. See website for more information.

Monday, Oct. 23
5 to 8 p.m.
\$30
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com