

November 2024

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



ST. JOSEPH  
Chamber of Commerce

# Connections

## The President's Perspective

### Your Voice Matters

As we gear up for election season, it's vital to highlight the significance of state and local elections. While national races often dominate the news cycle, the outcomes of state and local elections have profound effects on our daily lives and communities. Here's why your participation is essential.

### Direct Impact on Daily Life

State and local governments make decisions that directly influence various aspects of our lives, including education, healthcare, transportation, and public safety. For example, state legislatures set funding levels for schools and local programs, while county commissions decide on community resources like infrastructure. By voting in these elections, you help determine the policies that shape your community.

### The Power of Local Representation

State and local elections provide an opportunity for candidates who are closely connected to their communities to run for office. These officials are often more accessible than their national counterparts, making it easier for you to engage with them, ask questions, and voice your concerns. By voting for candidates who share your values, you ensure that your community's unique needs are represented.

### Encouraging Civic Engagement

Participating in state and local elections sets a powerful example for others in your community. When you vote, you encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same, fostering a culture of civic engagement. Increased voter turnout at these levels leads to a more representative democracy and ensures that elected officials are held accountable to their constituents.

### Take Action: Get Involved

As election day approaches, take the time to educate yourself about the candidates and issues on your state and local ballots. Attend community forums like the Chamber routinely hosts, read candidate platforms, and discuss these topics with friends and family. Make a plan to vote.

Your vote is your voice. By participating in state and local elections, you play an integral role in shaping the policies that affect your everyday life. Let's ensure our voices are heard and our communities are represented. Every vote matters—make sure yours is counted this election season.



Natalie Hawn  
President & CEO

## NEW MEMBERS

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

**MDS Print & Design**  
Matt Porter  
10124 Hutton Road,  
Kansas City, KS 66109  
(816) 646-8551  
matt@midwest-data.com  
www.midwest-data.com  
**Office Equipment & Supplies**

**NestPay**  
Freddy Ramirez  
7509 NW Tiffany Springs Parkway,  
Ste. 330, Kansas City, MO 64153  
(913) 747-5982  
freddy@nestpay.com  
www.nestpay.com  
**Merchant Card Processing**

**St. Joe Upholstery**  
Sandra Lanning  
3609 Lafayette St. (07)  
(816) 259-5303  
spudson62@yahoo.com  
**Furniture**

**EMI Ristorante**  
Erik Borger  
2217 Frederick Ave. (06)  
(816) 344-0857  
ristoranteemi@gmail.com  
www.emiristorante.com  
**Restaurants**

**Realty ONE Group Cornerstone**  
Julie Hesselmann  
3500 N. Village Drive, Ste. 282 (06)  
(816) 232-4506  
julie@cornerstonerog.com  
**Real Estate**

**Edward Jones**  
Tyler Wilt  
419 W. Main St.,  
Savannah, MO 64485  
(816) 324-0433  
tyler.wilt@edwardjones.com  
**Financial Services**

**EquipmentShare**  
Jenifer Berry  
807 Roseport Road,  
Elwood, Kan. 66090  
(816) 538-3457  
jenifer.berry@equipmentsshare.com  
www.equipmentsshare.com  
**Construction Equipment & Supplies**

**Nine Line Accounting LLC**  
Doug Williams  
820 SW Keck Lane (04)  
(503) 962-9744  
doug@ninelineaccounting.com  
www.ninelineaccounting.com  
**Accounting Services**

**McBee's Coffee N' Carwash**  
Emily Rinacke  
3016 N. Belt Highway (06)  
(816) 867-0908  
marketing@mcbeescnc.com  
www.mcbeescnc.com  
**Car Wash**

**NEW MEMBERS GET UP TO**

**\$500 FREE SLOT PLAY!**

MUST BE A NEW A-PLAY CLUB MEMBER. Offer valid on day of sign up.

**MORE OFFERS • VALUE • REWARDS**

**ST JO FRONTIER CASINO**  
ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI  
777 Winners Circle  
St. Joseph, MO 64505  
StJoFrontierCasino.com  
(800) 888-2946

# November Calendar

For more information, call 816/232-4461. CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)

**6, 20  
14** **Circle of Influence** **Nov. 6 & 20 and Nov. 14**  
**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 and another that meets the second and fourth Thursdays. (Holidays affect this schedule.) 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.

**12** **Lunch & Learn Seminar** *Lunch by Hunan Restaurant* **Tuesday, Nov. 12**  
**11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$12**  
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce  
3003 Frederick Ave.

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.  
Amy Ryan, Senior Vice President of Commerce Bank will lead a presentation about fraud trends that are targeting businesses. Come have lunch, learn and leave prepared to fight off fraudsters.

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

**Shop St. Joseph** **Nov. 13 to Dec. 16**  
go to [www.saintjoseph.com](http://www.saintjoseph.com)  
for more information

Presented by First Option Bank

This popular program encourages residents to shop locally during the holidays. Shoppers collect tickets through Dec. 16 and a \$10,000 grand prize winning ticket number is released on Dec. 18. This year a small business prize and lots of fabulous second chance prizes are available as well. See our website for more information.

**14** **DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast** **Thursday, Nov. 14**  
**7:15 a.m., \$10**

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!

Breakfast provided  
Jake's Steakhouse & Sports Bar  
620 Edmond St.

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

**19** **Elected Officials Social** **Tuesday, Nov. 19**  
**5 to 7 p.m., Free**

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., Deluxe Truck Stop L.L.C., & News-Press NOW

Don't miss your chance to meet our elected officials from the St. Joseph School District, City of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri Senate. Appetizers and drinks provided.

The Benton Club  
402 N. Seventh St.

**21** **BUSINESS after HOURS** **Thursday, Nov. 21**  
**5 to 7 p.m., Free**

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Bring your business cards and prepare to meet your next business connection. Enjoy food, drinks & great conversation at Business After Hours.

Hazel's Coffee & Roasting Co.  
3829 Frederick Ave.

## 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.

**On the web: [uncommonlife.info](http://uncommonlife.info)**  
**E-mail [arthur@saintjoseph.com](mailto:arthur@saintjoseph.com)**

Know a business that should be a Chamber member?

Ask them to join today!

Contact [luke@saintjoseph.com](mailto:luke@saintjoseph.com)  
or send them to our website:  
[saintjoseph.com](http://saintjoseph.com)

**Get to Work!**

**JOBS.SAINTJOSEPH.COM**

ST. JOSEPH  
Chamber of Commerce

Looking for a job?  
See our jobs board.

Want to make a job  
posting on this site?

Go to  
[choosesaintjoseph.com/job-post-form](http://choosesaintjoseph.com/job-post-form)  
(Small employer listings appear under  
the Chamber icon.)