

March 2025

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.



ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

Connections

The President's Perspective

Investing in Education: Building Our Community's Future

As members of the business community, we understand that a strong economy depends on a well-educated workforce. That journey begins in our local elementary and secondary schools. By supporting education, we invest in the future of our businesses, workforce, and overall economic vitality.

Building a Skilled Workforce

The students in our schools today will become the employees, business owners, and community leaders of tomorrow. By ensuring they receive a quality education, we equip them with the critical thinking, problem-solving, and technical skills necessary to drive innovation and economic growth. Strong local schools attract businesses, create job opportunities, and contribute to a more vibrant economy.

Encouraging Community Engagement

Businesses play a crucial role in supporting schools through mentorship programs, internships, and scholarships. These partnerships not only provide valuable real-world experiences for students, but also foster a sense of civic responsibility and collaboration that strengthens our community.

Enhancing Quality of Life

Communities with strong school systems experience higher property values, increased public safety, and improved over-

all quality of life. Families are more likely to settle in areas with reputable schools, leading to a stable and engaged population that supports local businesses.

How You Can Get Involved

There are many ways for local businesses to support education, including:

- Partnering with schools to provide career exploration opportunities
- Donating supplies, technology, or funding for extracurricular programs
- Volunteering as guest speakers or mentors
- Advocating for policies that promote educational excellence

When businesses and schools work together, we all benefit. Investing in education is an investment in our future, ensuring that our workforce remains competitive, our economy thrives, and our community prospers.

There's an important issue on the April ballot that the St. Joseph Chamber Board has endorsed. This would build a new high school for St. Joseph. Let's continue to support and strengthen our local schools to build a brighter future for all.



Natalie Hawn
President & CEO

Need help recruiting or retaining talent?



Uncommon Life is here to make recruiting employees to work and live in St. Joseph easier. The Chamber 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
E-mail arthur@saintjoseph.com**

NEW MEMBERS

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

US Dermatology Partners
Jennifer Miller
3508 N. Belt Highway (06)
(816) 250-4123
jmiller@usdermpartners.com
www.usdermatologypartners.com
Health Services

PCH Beauty
Piper Twombly
3500 N. Village Drive (06)
(620) 687-3328
pchbeauty@icloud.com
www.pchbeautyspa.com
Beauty Salons & Services

Jackson Stickler
5006 Mockingbird Lane (06)
(816) 344-9349
jacksonstickler@gmail.com
Civic Membership

Teladoc Health
Kelsey LeGrande
14694 S. Rene St.,
Olathe, KS 66062
(985) 285-7701
kelsey.legrande@teladochealth.com
www.teladochealth.com
Health Services

Doculock
Paul Janicek
3801 Oakland Ave. Ste. G (06)
(816) 341-4436
janicek@doculockllc.com
www.doculockllc.com
Scanning & Copying

Top Property Realty, LLC
- Joella Schultz
4409 Rochester Road (06)
(816) 617-7119
joellastopproperty@gmail.com
www.toppropertyrealty.com
Real Estate (Associate)

360° PAINTING

**\$100 off fence or deck staining for Chamber members (with \$1,000 purchase).
Call (816) 281-6217 to book.**

March Calendar

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

5, 19
&
13, 27

Circle of Influence

March 5 & 19 and March 13 & 27
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 or (816) 364-4101. Meetings held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, 1201 Woodbine.

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Lunch & Learn Seminar

Lunch by
Big Daddy BBQ

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Topic: New Sick Time Law

Beginning May 1, 2025, most employers will be required to provide employees a new benefit called "earned paid sick time." This Lunch and Learn will focus on the specifics of earned paid sick time, including eligibility, accrual, use, and record-keeping requirements under the new law. It will also provide employers with strategies for compliance. This will be presented by Seth Slayden, attorney with Taylor Siemens Elliott Creedy & Lyle P.C.

Tuesday, March 11
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$12
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461
or www.saintjoseph.com

12 &
27

Public Affairs Coffee

Presented by Farmers State Bank

The Public Affairs Coffee series features issues involving social, economic, governmental, legislative and corporate activities that are of concern to Chamber members and the business community.

Before the election the candidates for the St. Joseph School District Board of Education will meet in a forum moderated by Brent Martin on March 12. Full breakfast will be served. There is a \$15 charge to attend in person, but it will be broadcast live on the radio with KFEQ 680.

The second Public Affairs Coffee this month will feature Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, President of Missouri Western State University, who will give attendees insight on what is happening in higher education and at MWSU with a presentation titled "Discover More at Missouri Western."

Wednesday, March 12
7:30 to 9 a.m., \$15
and

Thursday, March 27
7:30 to 8:30 a.m., \$15
Breakfast provided
Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
1201 N. Woodbine Road

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

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DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc., Nodaway Valley Bank & 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, March 13
7:15 a.m., \$10
Breakfast provided
inspireU Children's Discovery Center
521 Felix St.

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

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FARM CITY BREAKFAST

Presented by LifeLine Foods

This popular event recognizes the farmer/producer and the importance of agribusiness to the area economy. Proceeds benefit Agriculture Future of America (AFA) scholarships. Kevin Wanzer will be the keynote speaker. He's spoken in front of more than 3,000 audiences, encouraging and entertaining all who attend. The Spencer family also will be recognized as Farm Family of the Year.

Friday, March 14
7 to 9 a.m., \$12
Word of Life Church
3902 N. Riverside Road
Tickets available at the Chamber or online

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Women's Leadership Group

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc. BMS Logistics Inc., Candlewood Suites, Human Resource Management Association of Northwest Missouri, RitePack, Inc., Sealed Air Corporation, Top Property Realty

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 there will be a special keynote speaker and lunch will be served. Dr. Kasi Lacey will present "Overcoming Imposter Syndrome and Self-Doubt."

Monday, March 24
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

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SPECIAL SPRING BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Don't miss this special Business After Hours! Every spring we like to pull out all the stops and do something extra fun. Thank you to sponsors Hazel's Coffee & Roasting Company, Somewhere on a Beach Tanning & Boutique, B'Lashed Society and Fantastic Fido's for helping make this event extra special at Ricky Dean's. Come have some fun at the indoor/outdoor entertainment center, plus music bingo, fun, prizes and more!

Thursday, March 27
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Ricky Dean's - St. Joseph
3620 N. Village Drive

Know a business that should be a Chamber member?

Ask them to join today!

Contact luke@saintjoseph.com
or send them to our website:
saintjoseph.com