

May 2025

Connecting the Chamber with members in a monthly news source.

Connections

The President's Perspective

Planting Seeds of Community Growth

As spring brings new life to our gardens and fields, it also serves as a powerful metaphor for what we strive to cultivate in our community—growth, renewal, and a future full of possibility.

At the Chamber, we believe that planting seeds today—through small business support, workforce development, and community partnerships—yields long-term prosperity for everyone. Growth doesn't

happen overnight. It takes intention, collaboration, and care. And just like any garden, it starts with preparing the soil.

We're investing in programs that empower entrepreneurs, from start-up resources to mentorship connections. Our upcoming business workshops and networking events are designed to equip local business owners with the tools they need to grow smart and grow strong. These are the seeds of sustainable local commerce.

We're also proud to support efforts that strengthen our workforce pipeline. By partnering with schools, career

centers, and training programs, we help ensure that the next generation is not only ready to work but ready to lead. These young minds are the future of our local economy, and they deserve our full investment.

Equally important are the roots we put down through community engagement. Every time we shop local, sponsor an event, or attend a ribbon cutting, we're nurturing a culture of support and shared suc-

cess. These connections matter—they create a foundation that makes our entire community more resilient.

Let's take this season as a reminder that the work we do today matters tomorrow. Whether you're a business owner, a community leader, or a resident who cares, you are part of the ecosystem that makes growth possible. Let's continue planting thoughtfully, cultivating intentionally, and celebrating the growth we see—together.

Here's to a season of renewal and opportunity.



Natalie Hawn
President & CEO



ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

IT'S NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK!

Let's celebrate our entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Presented by

Sunday Fun Day!

Go on a new adventure somewhere in St. Joe! Try a local restaurant, shop a small boutique, take up a new sport, or indulge with a sweet treat.

may 4



Small Business Member Crawl

Join the Chamber Diplomats as they visit some of our small business members. Starting at 11:30am at IV Nutrition, 6501 N. Belt Hwy.

may 5

Workshop: Insurance 101

Todd Joe with John Joe Insurance will present on insurance needs for small businesses. 4pm at the Chamber.

Register at saintjoseph.com

SBA Virtual Summit: Day 1

Connect with like-minded business owners, receive real-time guidance from industry mentors, and gather resources specifically designed for small business success. Register at sba.gov

Workshop: Social Media Strategies

Miu Edlin with Miuze Marketing will present on social media platforms to connect with your audience, build your brand, increase sales, and drive website traffic. 11am at the Chamber. Register at saintjoseph.com

may 6

Cup of Joe

Weekly meeting of entrepreneurs, 8:30am, East Hills Library, 502 N. Woodbine Road.

may 7

SBA Virtual Summit: Day 2

Every session delivers practical strategies you can implement right away to boost your business performance, increase efficiency and drive growth. Register at sba.gov

Latino Business Seminar

Resources for business and conversation with Latino business owners. Event by Latinos Connect and Te Lo Cuento News in partnership with the Chamber. 6pm-7:30pm. East Hills Library, 502 N. Woodbine Road.

Small Business Owner Round Table

Get together with other small business owners to learn, share and discuss important business topics. If you are a small business owner, join us downtown at Alchemy Tea at 8:30am. Register at saintjoseph.com

may 8

Small Business Post and Tag Photo Contest

Visit small businesses around town, step inside to shop, dine, play, etc. Snap a photo, post and tag #sjchamber for a chance to win a \$50 gift card.

Sponsored by



may 9

Self-Care Saturday

Take some time just for you with a trip to a local salon, get a massage, visit a local gym or grab a healthy treat.

may 10

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

ST. JOSEPH
Chamber of Commerce

May Calendar

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

7, 21
&
8, 22

Circle of Influence

May 7 & 21 and May 8 & 22
11:30 a.m. to 1p.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/specialty 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 N. Woodbine Road.

8

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, May 8
7:15 a.m., \$10

Breakfast provided
Belt Entertainment
210 N. Belt Highway

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

8

PARTIES on the PARKWAY

Presented by Nodaway Valley Bank

It's the first 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. Enjoy the Dirty Bourbon Band, which will perform outlaw country from the 70s, 80s and 90s. Food, treats and drink vendors available, no coolers allowed. A free balloon artist is available for the kids! Bring friends, family and pets and enjoy the beautiful parkway.

Thursday, May 8
5 to 8 p.m., Free

S.W. Parkway & King Hill Drive
Rain date: May 15

13

Lunch & Learn Seminar

*Lunch by
Little Caesars*

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Topic: Building a Stronger Workplace Culture: Understanding Personality Styles
An interactive session designed to help strengthen workplace culture by better understanding how people communicate, collaborate, and engage at work. Annette Weeks with Aspire Business Consulting will introduce the True Colors personality tool—a practical way to explore different working styles and how they impact team dynamics. You'll also learn the five key ingredients that contribute to a healthy culture: trust, respect, clarity, appreciation, and communication. Whether you're a team leader or team member, you'll leave with fresh insights and simple takeaways to help your workplace thrive.

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

Tuesday, May 13
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$12
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

14

Public Affairs Coffee

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Join us for Mayor John Josendale's annual State of the City address. Not able to attend and have a full breakfast with us? You'll still be able to see the address on the city's website after the event and social media.

Wednesday, May 14
7:30 to 8:30 a.m., \$15
inspireU Children's Discovery Center
521 Felix St.

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

19

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

This month Women's Leadership Group will host "Cocktails for a Cause." Join them at Fantastic Fido's, where tents will be set up outside and you can enjoy food and drinks and meet some furry friends. The only cost is a donation of cash or products to the Friends of the Animal Shelter.

Monday, May 19
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Fantastic Fido's
6108 N. Belt Highway

22

BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec Industries, Inc.

Don't miss this fun Business After Hours. Have some food and drinks and maybe meet your next business connection. Bring your business cards!

Thursday, May 22
5 to 7 p.m., Free
Wil Fischer Companies
1601 N. Woodbine Road

NEW MEMBERS

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

Budget Blinds of St. Joseph MO
Tracy Hickman
2465 280th Ave., Sidney, IA 51652
(816) 384-1224
tracy.hickman@budgetblinds.com
budgetblinds.com/st-joseph-mo
Home Improvements

Swing365
Saxton Thuston
4797 Sienna Drive, Ste. B (06)
(816) 752-3772
saxton@swing365golf.com
swing365golf.com/saint-joseph
Golf Courses

Forge & Build
Alycia Nelson
807 Roseport Road, Elwood, KS 66024
(913) 365-1500
alycia.nelson@equipmentsshare.com
www.forgeandbuild.com
Building Supplies