

ST. JOSEPH AREA  
**C**HAMBER OF COMMERCE

CONNECTING THE CHAMBER WITH MEMBERS IN A MONTHLY NEWS SOURCE

CONNECTIONS

**INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT**

***Our nation's healthcare issues are at the forefront of our leaders' and residents' minds. What kind of an effect does healthcare have on businesses?***

Health insurance costs have been largely shouldered by employers, and as insurance prices rise, businesses must recover those expenses by increasing the price of their goods or services.

Having insurance was once considered a fringe benefit. It has become an entitlement for those who are fortunate enough to still have health insurance provided to them. However, there's no "free lunch." As we have recently witnessed with our domestic auto makers, eventually they price themselves out of the global market.

***What is the Chamber's position on healthcare reform?***

This monumental problem will not be resolved until small businesses and individuals have access to affordable health insurance coverage. Both groups are at a substantial disadvantage in the cost of insurance coverage compared to large employers.

The burden of indigent care continues to grow out of control and so we anticipate some form of mandatory base coverage to be at the center of this debate. Simply mandating that all businesses provide basic health coverage is not

the answer. Such action would dramatically increase business bankruptcies and encourage more off-shoring of jobs to less-regulated countries.

***Should the government get into the insurance business?***

Medicare and Medicaid are likely to be expanded, bringing greater competition with private insurance carriers. Competition is normally a good thing in free markets, but a government program has the unfair advantage of publicly funded subsidies.

While increased government regulation and interference is unavoidable, we prefer to see healthcare solutions coming from the private sector rather than an expanded dependence on a governmental bureaucracy.

We also feel that the final solution must encourage healthier lifestyles and greater awareness of the actual cost of care. Public policy should be adopted to shift more responsibility from employers to individuals. Unfortunately, that's not the prevailing view on Capitol Hill.



Ted Allison, CED  
 President & CEO

**Did you know?**

Did you know one of the nation's favorite summertime treats is made right here in St. Joseph?

When you put your next hot dog on your backyard grill, make sure it's a Ball Park frank, which are made by Sara Lee Foods in St. Joseph.



Do you have an interesting tidbit people may not know about your company? If so, e-mail it to Kristi Rasmussen, [rasmussen@saintjoseph.com](mailto:rasmussen@saintjoseph.com).



**Parties on the Parkway in full swing**

A balloon monkey grabs on to this boy's head at the June Parties on the Parkway at 28th Street and S.W. Parkway. John Perry of Up, Up and Away! creates the balloon masterpieces at the events, which have been well-attended so far this year. Come to the next Parties on the Parkway event on July 9!

**NEW MEMBERS**

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

**Our Town**

Pete Corwin  
 P.O. Box 1062, Blue Springs, MO  
 (816) 228-8696  
[corwin.pete@ourtown.net](mailto:corwin.pete@ourtown.net)  
[www.ourtownamerica.com](http://www.ourtownamerica.com)

**ADVERTISING/DIRECT MAIL**

**Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar**

Earnie Watkins  
 5403 N. Belt Highway (06)  
 (816) 387-8320  
[193@buffalowildwings.com](mailto:193@buffalowildwings.com)  
[www.buffalowildwings.com](http://www.buffalowildwings.com)

**RESTAURANT**

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## DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

**Presented by Heartland Health**

With monthly breakfast meetings and seven subcommittees, membership in the Diplomats Club provides a number of opportunities to promote your business and serve as a vital link between the Chamber and the St. Joseph community. Join us for our monthly meeting!

**Thursday, July 9**  
**7:15 to 8:30 a.m., \$5**  
 Missouri Western State University  
 Fulkerson Center  
 4525 Downs Drive

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

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## Parties on the Parkway

**Presented by Nodaway Valley Bank**

Join us for our third Parties on the Parkway event of the year! These fun events are open to the public and allow those who attend to enjoy food, drinks, live music and St. Joseph's incredible Parkway system. July's featured band is *Exit 47*, which plays Classic Rock and New Country music. Food and beverages are available for purchase. No alcoholic beverages may be brought into the event. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Park.

**Thursday, July 9**  
**5 to 8 p.m., FREE**  
 S.W. Noyes & Messanie, Parkway A  
 (Rain date: July 16)

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## Lunch & Learn Box Lunch Seminar

**Presented by Missouri Western State University**

A Fred Pryor DVD presentation will focus on "Dealing with Employee Discipline & Performance Problems." This program will show managers how to prevent good employees from becoming troublesome. Managers also will learn why certain employees become ineffective and how to communicate with staff to get the best possible results.

*Lunch Catered  
 by Jimmy John's*

**Tuesday, July 14**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$10**  
 Chamber of Commerce  
 3003 Frederick Ave.

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

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## BUSINESS after HOURS

**Presented by Altec**

This networking event is offered at a different Chamber business each month. Attend six or more mixers to get your name in a special door prize drawing at our 2009 Holiday Party.

**Tuesday, July 21**  
**5 to 7 p.m., FREE**  
 Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art  
 2818 Frederick Ave.

## NEW MEMBERS

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

### Elmore Family Dentistry

Ben Elmore  
 3906 Sherman Ave. (06)  
 (816) 279-3300  
[elmoredentistry@gmail.com](mailto:elmoredentistry@gmail.com)  
[www.elmoredentistry.com](http://www.elmoredentistry.com)  
**DENTAL SERVICES**

### Curious Eye Productions

Anna Jaffe  
 201 Main St., Ste. 7  
 Parkville, MO 64152  
 (816) 584-9995  
[ajaffe@curiouseye.tv](mailto:ajaffe@curiouseye.tv)  
[www.curiouseye.tv](http://www.curiouseye.tv)  
**VIDEO PRODUCTION**

### Advanced Dermatology & Skin Care Center

Stephanie Heck  
 1419 Village Drive (06)  
 (816) 364-1507  
[sahheck@hotmail.com](mailto:sahheck@hotmail.com)  
[www.advanceddermatologyscc.com](http://www.advanceddermatologyscc.com)  
**SKIN CARE**

### St. Joseph Mustangs Baseball Club

Rick Muntean  
 2600 S.W. Parkway (07)  
 (816) 279-7856  
[rmuntean717@gmail.com](mailto:rmuntean717@gmail.com)  
[www.stjoemustangs.com](http://www.stjoemustangs.com)  
**BASEBALL TEAM**

### Create Attitude

Bridget Fridley  
 6965 N.E. 352nd St. Cameron, MO  
 (816) 724-1680  
[bridget@createattitude.com](mailto:bridget@createattitude.com)  
[www.createattitude.com](http://www.createattitude.com)  
**CONSULTING**

### TekCollect

Lanny Daise  
 2633 Fairleigh Terrace (06)  
 (816) 273-7661  
[lanny.daise@tekcollect.com](mailto:lanny.daise@tekcollect.com)  
[www.tekcollect.com](http://www.tekcollect.com)  
**ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE FINANCE**

### Sprint by Wireless Lifestyle

Jimmesha Winston  
 7864 Barton St., Lenexa, KS 66214  
 (913) 599-1920  
[jimmesha.winston@wlexpress.com](mailto:jimmesha.winston@wlexpress.com)  
**CELLULAR SERVICES**

### Linda Nicoson

4406 Windsor Court (06)  
 (816) 671-9052  
**CIVIC MEMBERSHIP**

### The Dance Arts Center, LLC

Marla Heeler  
 1902 Jules St. (01)  
 (816) 233-5442  
[marla@thedanceartscenter.com](mailto:marla@thedanceartscenter.com)  
[www.thedanceartscenter.com](http://www.thedanceartscenter.com)  
**DANCE INSTRUCTION**

### Pastor Steve Sewell

4513 Iris Ave. (03)  
 (816) 262-9066  
[steve@welcomhope.com](mailto:steve@welcomhope.com)  
**CIVIC MEMBERSHIP**

### Protein, Inc.

Justin Roberts  
 2700 Stockyards Expressway (02)  
 (816) 279-7220  
[justin@proteininc.com](mailto:justin@proteininc.com)  
**PET FOOD MANUFACTURER**

### Auto Glass Center

Mike Kendall  
 1802 Frederick Ave. (01)  
 (816) 279-6500  
[r958@autoglasscenter.com](mailto:r958@autoglasscenter.com)  
[www.autoglasscenter.com](http://www.autoglasscenter.com)  
**AUTO GLASS NEEDS**

### Maurice's

Kerry Peppard  
 3702 Frederick Ave. (06)  
 (816) 364-4424  
[kerber5@hotmail.com](mailto:kerber5@hotmail.com)  
**WOMEN'S CLOTHING RETAILER**