

CHAMBER Connections

CONNECTING THE
CHAMBER WITH
MEMBERS IN A
MONTHLY NEWS
SOURCE

INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT

There has been a lot of bad news about the economy lately. What's leading this?

"We're in a very volatile period right now that is caused by a few different issues nationwide. The recent debt crisis, ongoing uncertainty of public policy at the federal level, and political campaign rhetoric for next year's general election are all taking a toll on consumer confidence and generating wild swings from day to day in the stock market."

How does this affect economic development?

"All of this uncertainty and volatility discourages large employers from moving forward with capital investments and creating new jobs. The small business sector continues to starve for working capital due to tighter credit standards driven by a more restrictive regulatory environment."

What about the economic news in St. Joseph?

Locally, the threat of flooding has disrupted many businesses and made a significant economic impact. Numerous businesses in

the Stockyards Industrial Park have been affected by the suspension of rail service and having to focus their efforts on building barriers and moving supplies and equipment out of harm's way. We expect a temporary increase in our local unemployment rate resulting from the disruption of business operations in that area. Assuming the levees hold, the problem will eventually correct itself as the river recedes, the damages are mitigated, and normal business operations resume.

Is there a silver lining?

"We can take comfort in the fact that our industrial base in St. Joseph is diverse and resilient. We've been able to retain nearly all of our major employers and our unemployment rate during this economic cycle has been significantly lower than state and national rates. I believe we're well postured for measurable growth locally in 2012."



Ted Allison, CECD
President & CEO



Chiefs Red Rally Kicks Off Camp

The St. Joseph Metro Chamber, Missouri Western State University and the City of St. Joseph hosted a Red Rally to kick off the Chiefs Training Camp in St. Joseph on July 29. Pictured here are Board Member Dan Nicoson, President & CEO Ted Allison, Board Member Tim Knapp & family, and MWSU President Dr. Robert Vartabedian.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Country Cookies

Amy Bally
2013 S. Belt Highway
St. Joseph, MO 64507
(816) 676-2000
countrycookies1@aol.com
COOKIE SHOPS

Zak Companies, Inc

Linda Marie Grawl
13545 Barrett Parkway Drive, Ste 200, Ballwin, MO 63021
(314) 822-2217
info@zakcompanies.com
DESIGN/BUILD

Dave Thompson "It's Your Money" Radio Show

Dave Thompson
6210 W. 132nd Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66209
(913) 681-6195
dave@davethompson.net
INVESTMENTS

Activate Your Health

Dr. Sivi Helsel
3915 Beck Road, Ste. A (06)
(816) 676-9100
drsivi@stjoelive.com
www.activateyourhealth.net
CHIROPRACTORS

Smith Seckman Reid

Darren Harvey
11460 Tomahawk Creek Parkway
Ste 320, Leawood, KS 66211
(913) 319-3560
dharvey@ssr-inc.com
www.ssr-inc.com
ENGINEERING

Chris Sargent

18642 Country Place Court
Country Club, MO 64505
(816) 863-0368
alphalambda663@gmail.com
CIVIC MEMBER

Center for Life Long Learning, Inc.

Bill Rose-Heim
210 N. Main St.,
Cameron, MO 64429
(816) 632-2237
br_h@nwareacc.org
CONFERENCE CENTERS

Sopharmia, Inc.

Dr. Larry D. Sutton
4221 Mitchell Ave. (07)
(888) 329-4693
larry@sopharmia.com
www.sopharmia.com
BIOTECHNOLOGY

Route 59 Auto Sales & Leasing

Todd Hill
6501 S. Memorial Highway (04)
(816) 238-5900
tristatefordlm@gmail.com
www.southsideautocredit.com
AUTO DEALER

September Calendar

All members, employees and guests are invited to attend events. Call the Chamber for any dietary needs.

8

DIPLOMATS CLUB Breakfast

Presented by Heartland Health

The Diplomats Club provides opportunities to promote your business and serve as a link between the Chamber and the community. Join them for their monthly meeting!

Thursday, Sept. 8
Meeting is from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m.
\$5, breakfast included

American Red Cross
401 N. 12th Street

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

8

parties on the parkway

Presented by Nodaway Valley Bank

This year is extra special, as it's the event's 10th anniversary. At the finale this month, we're giving away the Party Passport prizes! True North, a popular local country band, will finish off the Parties on the Parkway series this year!

Thursday, Sept. 8
5 to 8 p.m., FREE

Northside Complex
(Rain date: Sept. 15)

9

ST. JOE RISING

Presented by Cochran Head Vick & Co.

Join other Chamber members at our quarterly St. Joe Rising. This quarter, Mark Laney, MD, Heartland Health President and CEO, will be the featured speaker. Dr. Laney will discuss "Developing A High-Performing Organization." Leadership, customer and workforce focus are some of the topics Dr. Laney will address. This amazing presentation has been shared with prominent audiences throughout the county and we are confident you will be energized by his comments.

Friday, Sept. 9
7 to 8:30 a.m., \$10, breakfast included

Holiday Inn
102 S. Third St.

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

12

YEN Meeting

Presented by Altec

The Young Executives Network (YEN) is a group of young professionals representing the future of St. Joseph. YEN's mission is to provide professional and leadership development opportunities through social and educational programs. Interested in joining? Call 364-4107 or e-mail redmond@saintjoseph.com. This month's program is about career mapping and goal setting. It will be presented by Shawn Broughman, Director of Product Development & Marketing at Altec, Industries.

Monday, Sept. 12
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Altec Industries
2106 S. Riverside Road

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/364-4107 or www.saintjoseph.com

13

Lunch & Learn

Box Lunch Seminar

*Lunch by
Jimmy John's*

Presented by Missouri Western State University

This month's Lunch and Learn is brought to you by Midwest Federal. **The TRUTH about Credit Card Processing Fees.** Presented by Kim Dickerman, President Marcl, Inc. He will teach attendees how to save money on credit card processing fees, how to determine the true cost of accepting debit and credit cards, about how the process works from the time the card is swiped to when the money is in the bank, how to potentially reduce costs by as much as 25 percent or more, how to protect customer information when the card is swiped and much more!

Tuesday, Sept. 13
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$10,
lunch included

Chamber of Commerce
3003 Frederick Ave.

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

14

Create a Healthy Workforce Culture

Sponsored by Aetna and Heartland Health

Let's get our workforce healthy and happy! Learn how healthier, happier employees make a difference in the culture of a workforce. Join Chamber Board Chairman Brad McAnally as he "coaches" attendees through a pre-seminar pep rally to kick off this business/community initiative. Leanne Kaiser Carlson, a health futurist, will help your organization consciously evolve and find potential and resources in unusual places. Mitch Holthus, Voice of the Kansas City Chiefs, will share how the Chiefs incorporate health and wellness into the culture of its workforce.

Tuesday, Sept. 14
7 to 9 a.m., FREE
breakfast provided

Fulkerson Center
Missouri Western State University
4525 Downs Drive
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
816/232-4461

20

BUSINESS after HOURS

Presented by Altec

Make some new business connections at this networking event. Bring your business cards to exchange with other Chamber members!

Tuesday, Sept. 20
5 to 7 p.m.
Free

Norty's Bar & Grill
1117 Frederick Ave.

22

PRIMETIME EVENT

Help welcome new members to the Chamber by attending our Primetime event. Join us at a free Academy Award-themed tabletop tradeshow and after-hours mixer featuring new member displays, entertainment and more! Lots of prizes will be given during the evening. This is a Chamber Tastes event, so food and drinks will be provided by Chamber members.

Thursday, Sept. 22
5 to 7 p.m.
Free

Knights of Columbus Hall
1205 N. 49th Terrace

27

NEW EXECUTIVES LUNCHEON

Presented by the St. Joseph News-Press

Join the Chamber of Commerce as we recognize the business community's newest executives at the 39th annual New Executives Luncheon.

Tuesday, Sept. 27
11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., \$25

St. Joseph Country Club
50 Ridgeland Road
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

816/232-4461 or www.saintjoseph.com

Mark your calendars now, and confirm your reservation one week prior to the event. Reservations must be cancelled 24 hours in advance to avoid charges. For more information, call 816/232-4461. **CREDIT CARD RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE, www.saintjoseph.com**