

Business Perspective

April 2019

Foundation leadership changes

After serving as Chairman of the Chamber Foundation for more than 15 years, Mark McKinzie, **Wallace Saunders**; has turned over the chairman's reigns to Rick Worrel, **Affinis Corp.**

McKinzie served as Chamber Chairman in 1997 before becoming Foundation Chairman. Under his leadership, some Foundation successes include growth of the annual Leadership Overland Park (LOP) program, addition of LOP class projects, a countywide community scan that helped affirm community public policy priorities, programming such as the Biz Ed series and sponsorship of nationally-known speakers such as Tommy Spaulding. The recent renovation of the Chamber building enhanced building amenities and fulfilled the original intentions of the Foundation – to transfer building ownership to the Chamber of Commerce.

"It was my honor to serve on the Foundation board," McKinzie said. "The foundation was not only the 'landlord' for the Chamber, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and other tenants, but also provides many quality educational resources for the business community. The Foundation is now ready to move forward with new, and energetic leadership and the Chamber itself, can move forward with ownership of its building, a long time goal of many of early chamber leaders."



Mark McKinzie



Rick Worrel

LOP class hosting volleyball tourney fundraiser

As part of its class project, the Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class is hosting a sand volleyball tournament on **April 25** at Martin City Volleyball Beach. The event is a fundraiser for **Safehome**, which provides a healing atmosphere for survivors of domestic violence.

The registration deadline for teams of six with alternates is April 22. The top three winning teams receive trophies.

If you can't participate, you can support the project with a tax-deductible donation. For more details: <http://bit.ly/2TqePLO>.

Mark your Calendar!

Chamber Golf Tournament

August 19 Shotgun start at noon
Nicklaus Golf Club at Lionsgate

Be a golfer ...

Play with co-workers, host clients and make new business contacts while spending a day on the golf course! Register by June 28 for the early-bird discount rate.

For more information, contact Celia at (913) 766-7603 or critzwatson@opchamber.org.

Promote your company ...

Numerous promotional opportunities are available. Sponsor a hole or a specific tournament activity, provide a door prize or registration bag items (150 like items).

Sponsored by



Our Mission:

To enhance the business environment and quality of life in our community.



Chamber Calendar

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 - 8:00-9:00 a.m.
AdventHealth South Overland Park,
7820 West 165th Street
Free and open to Chamber members only

Executive Leadership Series

Featuring Marshaun Butler, Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas

Sponsored by First National Bank

Wednesday, April 26, 2019 - 7:30-9:00 a.m.
DoubleTree by Hilton, 10100 College Boulevard
\$30 per person for members; \$40 per person for non-members; \$330 for table of 10 for members; \$400 for table of 10 for non-members

Working Lunch

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 - 12:00-1:30 p.m.
Gordon Biersch, 11652 Ash Street
\$25 per person for Chamber members only

LOP Sand Volleyball Tournament

Leadership class project fundraiser for Safehome
Thursday, April 25, 2019 - 3:00-6:00 p.m.
Martin City Volleyball Beach
\$500 per team of 6

Legislative Breakfast #4

4th in series of four legislative breakfasts presented by the Johnson County Public Policy Council

Featuring Representatives Stephanie Clayton, Owen Donohoe, Jan Kessinger, Nancy Lusk, Jarrod Ousley and Rui Xu

Saturday, May 18 - 7:30-9:00 a.m.
DoubleTree by Hilton, 10100 College Boulevard
\$25 per person for members; \$30 per person for non-members

Please make reservations at www.opchamber.org or call (913) 491-3600.

Ribbon cuttings

Wednesday, April 10 - 4:00 p.m.
Shepherd Elder Law Group,
8717 West 110th Street, Suite 420

Wednesday, April 17 - 4:00 p.m.
The Art of Dentistry, 7550 West 160th Street

Thursday, April 25 - 4:00 p.m.
Edward Jones-Tracy Kunkel,
7011 West 121st Street, Suite 102

Friday, April 26 - 1:15 p.m.
Fine Arts & Design Studios at **Johnson County Community College**, 12345 College Boulevard

Chamber Board and Staff

BOARD OFFICERS:

Mike Hess, *Chairman*

HNTB Corporation

Bobby Olm-Shipman, *Chair-Elect*

Saint Luke's South Hospital

Bill Ferguson, *1st Vice Chairman*

Central Bank of the Midwest

Steve Troester, *2nd Vice Chairman*

PGAV Architects, Inc.

Doug Lynn, *Secretary*

Sprint

Chris Wally, *Treasurer*

Wally & Co.

Brett Bogan, *Past Chairman*

Spencer Fane LLP

BOARD MEMBERS:

Faruk Capan, **Intouch Group**

Greg Crowley, **Crowley Furniture**

Tim Danker, **SelectQuote**

Jim Edwards, **Nothing Bundt Cakes**

John Fuller, **DLR Group**

Dr. Michael Fulton, **Shawnee Mission School District**

Jim Hemenway, **Chicago Title**

Tom Herzog, **Netsmart Technologies**

Brenner Holland, **Hunt Midwest**

Craig Jeffries, **Empower Retirement**

Jodde Lanning, **Payne & Jones, Chartered**

Karsten Randolph, **AdventHealth Shawnee Mission**

Cindy Rock, **DexYP**

Stacy Rose, **AdamsGabbert**

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Matt Sheets, **First National Bank**

Joan Wells, **Wellington**

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EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. David Cook, **The University of Kansas Edwards Campus**

Bill Ebel, **City of Overland Park**

Mayor Carl Gerlach, **City of Overland Park**

Dana Markel, **Visit Overland Park**

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, **Overland Park Chamber**

Greg Wolf, **Dentons**

Brett Bogan, **Spencer Fane LLP**

[2019 Chairman of Overland Park Chamber Economic Development Council]

CHAMBER STAFF:

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, *President & CEO*

Stacey Cowan, *Membership Director*

Andie Drummond, *Member Services Coordinator*

Frank Ebling, *CFO*

Celia Fritz-Watson, IOM, *Director of Events & Member Services*

Tim Holverson, IOM, *Recruitment & Retention Director, Economic Development*

Chris Jackson, *EDC Policy & Communications Coordinator*

Beth Johnson, CECd, *Senior Vice President of Economic Development*

Stan Lawson, *Communications Director*

Erin Murray, *Assistant to the President*

Amanda Schumacher, *Special Projects*

Kevin Walker, IOM, *Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy*

What are the iconic sounds of your life?

Recently on the way to work I heard NPR's Steve Inskeep report about the Library of Congress announcement of its 2018 class for the National Recording Registry. This is our national library's "kind of hall of fame for recorded sound, both voice and music." According to the Library of Congress, the registry is a list of sound recordings deemed "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant." They're not necessarily selected as the "best" recordings, but are important to the preservation of our American culture.

This year's list runs the gamut from Jay-Z's album "The Blueprint" to Earth, Wind & Fire's "September" to Yiddish cylinders from the Standard Phonograph Company of New York and Thomas Lambert Company. The short refrain, "Oh, girls just wanna have fun" from Cyndi Lauper's 1983 "She's So Unusual" album took me straight back to high school. And Neil Diamond's 1969 hit "Sweet Caroline?" For many of us, that's a beautiful sunny day when the **Kansas City Royals** are winning.

One of my favorites on this list is the album "The Best of Schoolhouse Rock." If you were a child of the 70s, you likely can recite (or sing) the Preamble to the Constitution thanks to Schoolhouse Rock.

For me, the most poignant of the list was the inclusion of Robert F. Kennedy's extemporaneous speech in Indianapolis following the assassination of Martin Luther King. Kennedy said, "In this difficult day, in this difficult time for the United States, it's perhaps well to ask what kind of a nation we are and what direction we want to move in."

When the story ended, I sat in my car for a moment, thinking about the recorded sounds selected and what these say about the passage of time, how they express opinion and emotion and preserve our cultural heritage. I wondered about the sounds we're creating now that will be selected 10, 20, 50 years from now as significant in our country's development. If you could select those sounds what would they be?

I invite you to think about this in two ways. First, from the broadest perspective. What are the recorded sounds that have shaped not just your life but also our national culture in a way that you believe should be preserved? My list would include President Reagan's "Tear Down This Wall" speech to the people of West Berlin.

The second perspective is more personal. These are the sounds that likely reside only in your memory, but you turn to throughout your life for wisdom, courage, solace, support, and happiness. If only there was a library that could keep these for us and for future generations. Here are a few of my choices: the sound of my Nanny's laughter with her many sisters (who all sounded alike) at family picnics and the special sound her front door made when you opened it . . . the sweet toddler voice of my oldest niece, graduating from college this year, who twenty years ago would enthusiastically wake up with the sun singing, "It's day! Time to get up and play!" . . . one of my early mentors who reminded me, "You've got to crawl before you walk. Walk before you run," when I grew impatient with progress on our goals.

What sounds shaped you? How are you shaping those around you with your words? If someone chose your voice to add to their playlist, what legacy will you leave?



Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, IOM
President & CEO
[@traceylosborne](https://twitter.com/traceylosborne)

Business Perspective is published monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce.

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Build your business network!

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

Wednesday, April 10

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Hosted by



7820 West 165th Street



Join us for networking over coffee and a continental breakfast and learn how **AdventHealth** is expanding to meet the needs of our growing community. Later this year, AdventHealth will break ground to expand AdventHealth South Overland Park with a 193,000 square-foot, 85-bed hospital. Also later this year, AdventHealth will open an outpatient health center at the corner of College Boulevard and Metcalf Avenue where it will provide emergency room, imaging center, physician offices and laboratory services.

2019 Series Sponsor:

Free and open to Chamber members only.

**To register, [click here](#)
or call (913) 491-3600**



**Maximize the time in your busy work day
by combining lunch with the opportunity
to cultivate new business relationships!**



Wednesday, April 24

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Hosted by



**\$25 per person for
Chamber members only.**

11652 Ash Street

To register, [click here](#) or call (913) 491-3600

Member Orientation

Thursday, May 2

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Overland Park Chamber of Commerce

New members and new employees of existing members are invited to learn about Chamber resources and how to maximize opportunities available to members. Network with fellow members and meet Chamber staff and representatives of the Chamber Board, Economic Development Council and the City.

Sponsored by



**To register, [click here](#)
or call (913) 491-3600.**



Join us for this program featuring
executive insight on business leadership.

Proudly sponsored by:



Friday, April 26

featuring

**Marshaun Butler, Vice President
[Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas](#)**

Marshaun Butler has been active in health care for more than 20 years with extensive leadership, strategic planning and business development experience. At Children's Mercy Hospital, she is responsible for overseeing facility operations, guiding and directing planning activities and coordinating resource utilization and management. Marshaun has direct responsibility over three medical practices. She is a past chair of the Chamber EDC.



Breakfast program: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park
10100 College Boulevard

Members: \$30 per person or \$330 for a reserved table of 10 /
Non-members: \$40 per person or \$440 for a reserved table of 10

To register, [click here](#) or call (913) 491-3600

Drummond joins Chamber staff to provide member services

Andie Drummond has joined the Chamber staff as Member Services Coordinator. In this role, Andie helps Chamber members engage with the Chamber. She also manages front of the house functions including conference room rentals and assisting guests at the Chamber office. Plus she provides administrative support for events, member engagement and operations including maintenance of the membership database.



Andie previously worked for Susan G. Komen Kansas and Western Missouri. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City where she served as President and Secretary of the School of Education Student Government Board.

Help us welcome Andie to her new role. You can reach her at (913) 491-3600 or adrummond@opchamber.org.

Diplomat Q&A

Jim Edwards, [Nothing Bundt Cakes](#)



I am the owner of four Nothing Bundt Cakes franchises in the Kansas City area serving joy to the community.

Q: Who is a best connection / partner for you in business?

A: Businesses looking for client appreciation, client prospecting and employee appreciation/celebration solutions.

Q: Why are you a Chamber Diplomat?

A: I joined the Diplomats to help the Chamber support its members both new and existing which in turn supports the community.

Q: What has been your favorite benefit or moment as a member of the Overland Park Chamber?

A: I love to learn and a major benefit is that I meet new people in different fields. It amazes me the large diversity of businesses that the Chamber is composed of.

Q: Where are you from / what brought you to Overland Park?

A: I am from Warren, Pa., and my first job out of Penn State brought me to Lenexa in 1979 where I was a warehouse manager of a Teamster work crew.

Q: What are you passionate about in life?

A: Serving others is a passion I have and I am blessed that I am involved in a hospitality business where this is appreciated.

Q: What do you consider your greatest achievement?

A: Raising four children to be good and productive citizens of our country. One an assistant Attorney General for the State of Kansas, one partnering with me in the bundt cakes business, one working her way through law school and one helping to make lives better at a national fraternity. All of this accomplished with a wonderful and supporting wife.

To find out about becoming a Chamber Diplomat, contact Stacey Cowan at (913) 766-7604 or scowan@opchamber.org.

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

hosted on March 13

FIREBIRDS
WOOD FIRED GRILL



Dustin Kendrick, Curtis Brown and Audrey Jones, **Pinstripes**; Chris Muehlbach, **Museum at Prairiefire**.



Susan Sears, **Firebirds Wood Fired Grill**, told attendees about her restaurant's specials and the many opportunities for business dining.



Member Orientation

2019 Series Sponsor:



Garrett White talks about his business, **White Lawn and Landscape LLC**.



Julie Spaulding tells attendees about **Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Kansas City Homes**.



Dan Vater shares information about the activities of the **Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park**.

Leadership class studies state and city government

The Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class had two sessions last month in which they learned about state and city government processes.

During State Government Day, they joined other Johnson County leadership classes in Topeka where they toured the Capitol Building and heard from state leaders including Governor Laura Kelly, Secretary of Commerce David Toland, Secretary of Transportation Julie Lorenz and four Johnson County legislators.

On City Government and Public Safety Day, the class heard from fire and police department leaders and had overviews of the emergency operations center and dispatch center. At City Hall, the class heard from Mayor Carl Gerlach and city department heads. After having dinner with City Councilmembers, class members attended a City Council meeting.

This month, the class is studying education and Johnson County Government.

Governor Laura Kelly (at right) addressed Johnson County leadership classes during State Day.



Leadership class members toured command vehicles and equipment and saw a demonstration by the Police Department canine unit (below).



Ed O'Malley, President & CEO of the **Kansas Leadership Center**, shared key leadership successes as the featured speaker at last month's Executive Leadership Series breakfast sponsored by **First National Bank**.

Click below for event details.

JOIN US AT **Stems**

2019
A GARDEN SOIRÉE

JUNE 22, 2019
7-11 P.M.
At the beautiful Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

Visit stemssoiree.org
or call **913.322.6467**
for all ticket and event information.

Purchase your tickets or sponsorship package today.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: **LMC TRUCK** PARTS & ACCESSORIES

LEGACY SPONSORS: **Bank of Blue Valley** in partnership with the Regnier Family Foundations, **THE frank AGENCY**, **THE FRANK FOUNDATION OF OVERLAND PARK**



Chamber Diplomats recently volunteered at Hope Lodge, a cancer patient and caregiver home away from home facility of the **American Cancer Society**. They conducted a "stock the pantry" drive, then cooked and served a meal for patients and their caretakers.

Diplomat Q&A

Rebekah Fosbinder, [Little Sunshine's Playhouse and Preschool](#)



I am the Area Manager with Little Sunshine's Playhouse and Preschool in Kansas City. We have two preschools in the area that serve children and their families from age 6 weeks to 6 years.

Q: Who is a best connection / partner for you in business?

A: I love partnering with other businesses and organizations that have services that cater to children and/or their families.

Q: Why are you a Chamber Diplomat?

A: I have been a Chamber Diplomat for about three years and I have made so many wonderful friendships that have allowed me to understand more about the community in which we live. I enjoy meeting new people and learning each unique story that comes with them.

Q: What has been your favorite benefit or moment as a member of the Overland Park Chamber?

A: Leadership Overland Park.

Q: Where are you from / what brought you to Overland Park?

A: I grew up in a small community on the Oklahoma border and moved to Manhattan to attend college (EMAW :). My husband and I moved to Louisburg after we married and I have been working in the Overland Park area ever since.

Q: What is the best advice you've ever received?

A: Make a list. Do today what you can do today. The rest you can check off tomorrow.

Q: What recent book / movie are you recommending to others?

A: I just finished "Anxious for Nothing" by Max Lucado. Great book!

To find out about becoming a Chamber Diplomat, contact Stacey Cowan at scowan@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7604.

Welcome new members!

We are pleased to introduce these new Chamber members:

Alzheimer's Association

Laura Blatter, Walk Manager
3846 West 75th Street
Prairie Village, KS 66208
(913) 831-3888
lblatter@alz.org
www.alz.org
Non-Profit Organizations, Associations

Apartment Association of Kansas City

Debbie Haukenberry, Executive Director
6700 Squibb Road, Suite 200
Mission, KS 66202
(913) 248-0355
dhaukenberry@aakc.us
www.aakc.us
Associations, Non-Profit Organizations

Brew Haha Coffeehouse - Opening this Summer!

Jason Presley, Owner
10332 Mastin Street
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 563-0447
mail@brewhahacoffeehouse.com
www.brewhahacoffeehouse.com
Coffee Houses, Event Space

Chuy's

Jake Bloom, General Manager
6700 West 135th Street
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 755-9395
overlandpark@chuys.com
www.chuys.com
Restaurants, Caterers, Event Space

Comfort Keepers of Overland Park

Crystal Andrist, Business Development
8249 West 95th Street, Suite 109
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 295-9203
crystalandrist@corp.comfortkeepers.com
www.comfortkeepers.com/overland-park-ks
Home Care Services, Health Care

Foresters Financial

Scott Siripalaka, Vice President
6900 College Boulevard, Suite 800
Overland Park, KS 66211
(913) 906-9313
scott.siripalaka@foresters.com
www.foresters.com
Financial Services, Investments

Mercer-Zimmerman Inc.

- **2019 EDC Investor!**
Jeannie Wilcox, Marketing Manager
8981 Bond Street
Overland Park, KS 66214
(913) 438-4546
marketing@mzltg.com
www.mzltg.com
Lighting Fixtures-Wholesale

Minuteman Press-Overland Park

Dennis Reardon, Owner
7911 Bond Street
Overland Park, KS 66214
(913) 383-9859
www.overlandpark.minutemanpress.com
Printing, Banners

PEBB Enterprises-Pinnacle Village

Chris Stewart, SVP of Leasing
7900 Glades Road, Suite 600
Boca Raton, FL 33434
(561) 613-4020
cstewart@pebbent.com
www.pebbenterprises.com
Real Estate - Management, Real Estate - Investments

Tropical Smoothie Cafe Rosana Square - Opening Soon!

Nick Patel, President
7592 West 119th Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
(971) 200-5139
tscks3@napkinhospitality.com
www.tropicalsmoothiecafe.com
Restaurants, Caterers

Veracity Consulting, Inc.

Angela Hurt, CEO & Founder
8100 Newton Street, #210
Overland Park, KS 66204
(913) 945-1912
info@engageveracity.com
www.engageveracity.com
Technology, Management Consultants

Verizon Wireless

Chris Harrell, Network Engineer & Community Engagement
10740 Nall Avenue, Suite 400
Overland Park, KS 66211
(602) 686-7631
www.verizonwireless.com
Cellular Phone Supplies and Service, Telecommunication Dealers and Services

Please support fellow Chamber members who have made investments to enhance the prosperity of our community!

Member Renewals

We thank these companies for reinvesting in the Overland Park Chamber in February 2019:

50+ Years

Central Bank of the Midwest
Kansas City Power & Light

40-49 Years

Overland Park Racquet Club

20-39 Years

Abdallah Shriners
Agenda: USA
Ash Grove Cement Company, Inc.
Barley's Kitchen + Tap
Courtyard by Marriott Overland Park
Hampton Inn of Overland Park
Heavy Constructors Association
Hyatt Place Overland Park/
Convention Center
Stinson Leonard Street
Yaeger Architecture, Inc.

10-19 Years

Equity Bank
Fry-Wagner Moving & Storage
Kansas City Royals Baseball Club
Mutual of Omaha
Pittsburg State University-Kansas
City Metro
PNC Bank
Scott Rice Office Works

Super 8 Overland Park
3&2 Baseball Club of Johnson
County, Inc.
Walmart Neighborhood Market

5-9 Years

The Goddard School
Goody Tickets
Kansas City Regional Association
of Realtors
Overland Park Modern Dentistry
SCS Engineers

1-4 Years

Arcadia at Overland Park
Candlewood Suites - Overland
Park
Cavern Technologies
Cornerstones of Care - Overland
Park
Cosentino's Market - Blue Valley
Cosentino's Price Chopper
Couches to Curios
Haas & Wilkerson Insurance
Inspireity
Phoenix Home Care and Hospice
Premier Mazda of Overland Park
PreservingUS, Inc.
SEOMike Consulting
Vision Bank



City Councilmember Rick Collins, Chamber EDC Director of Recruitment & Retention Tim Holverson and Chamber Diplomats helped Aaron Hay and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Verizon Authorized Retailer-TCC**, 8061 West 159th Street. For more information: (913) 229-9612 or www.tccrocks.com.



City Councilmember Paul Lyons, Chamber EDC Director of Recruitment & Retention Tim Holverson and Chamber Diplomats helped Matt Maciel celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Maciel Wealth Management**, 8101 College Boulevard. Maciel Wealth is an independent financial advising firm, a fiduciary and does not accept commissions and works on a fee-only basis. For more information: (913) 717-4977.



Receiving new member plaques last month from Chamber Board Member Jim Hemenway, **Chicago Title**; Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen and Membership Director Stacey Cowan were Jeannie Wilcox, **Mercer-Zimmerman Inc.**; Scott Siripalaka, **Foresters Financial**; Gabe Phillips, **Experimax of Overland Park**; Maureen Mitchell, **Keller Williams**; Jason Presley, **Brew Haha Coffee**; Dr. Kory Kirkegaard, **The Art of Dentistry**; Pam Eilenberger, **Keller Williams**; Aaron Hay, **Verizon Authorized Retailer-TCC**; Paul Eilenberger, **Eilenberger's Automotive**; and Crystal Andrist, **Comfort Keepers of Overland Park**.



City Council President Terry Happer Scheier, Chamber EDC Vice President Beth Johnson and Chamber Diplomats helped owner Shane Bedford and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the new Overland Park location of **Elite Martial Arts**, 8910 West 95th Street. Shane and Kristen Bedford opened their first school in 1999 and are committed to teaching children and adults the confidence, leadership and fitness skills achieved through martial arts with a foundation of morals, values and core character traits. For more information: (913) 766-6070 or www.elitemartialarts.net.

RECENT EVENTS / SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

OP *After Hours*

hosted on February 28 by



Mark Naster, **Hillcrest Transitional Housing of Kansas**; Cindy Sims, **SIMSdirect LLC**; Denise Cross, **Cornerstones of Care-Overland Park**.



Carol Lehman, **Johnson County Community College**; Joy Broils, **SLCKET**; Pete Belk, **Johnson County Community College**.



Top photo: Senator Jerry Moran visits with Marilyn and City Councilmember Paul Lyons.

Kate Allen, **Johnson County Community College**; led a tour of the new Fine Arts & Design Studios.



Ray and Roseann Newcomer, **Serenity Homestead**; James Kelly, Sen. Moran's office.

Sponsor Spotlight:



Moving Communities Forward

Affinis is a civil engineering firm based in Overland Park. But more than that, they believe they have a responsibility to advance the quality of life in their communities. That's a privilege they enjoy and take very seriously. They believe in *Moving Communities Forward*. As civil engineers and land surveyors, they impact a wide variety of communities through expertise in transportation and water resources.

Affinis's 35 professionals design roads that are safe for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists. They make roads work smarter with Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). Engineer stormwater solutions to keep water off of roads and out of basements. Design and inspect levees and dams to help control water flow from a small backyard pond to a major river flood. Their land survey team has a reputation for providing accurate surveys and exceptional client service. That's the cool stuff they do - the important infrastructure work that keeps our communities moving forward.



www.affinis.us | 913-239-1100
[Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

OPEDC recognizes business leaders with annual awards

Last month the Chamber Economic Development Council presented its annual EDC Honors awards to recognize companies that have made contributions to the transformation of the economic landscape of Overland Park.

Sponsored by



Receiving NOVA Awards were Bardavon Health Innovations, accepted by Matthew Condon (at right); Fire Door Solutions, accepted by Jeff Perry (below left); and **Zoom Video Communications**, accepted by Luke Haselwood (below right). Awards were presented by EDC Chairman Bobby Olm-Shipman and Chamber EDC Senior Vice President Beth Johnson.



Bobby Olm-Shipman, **Saint Luke's South Hospital**; was recognized for his service as the 2018 Chairman of the Overland Park Chamber Economic Development Council with a plaque presented by Chamber EDC Senior Vice President Beth Johnson.



Receiving Commercial Development Awards were InterUrban Lofts, accepted by Hal Shapiro, **REAL Property Group** (top left); **Avenue 80**, accepted by Austin Bradley (top right); **Mercer-Zimmerman**, accepted by Jon Lee, (middle left); Promontory, accepted by Jennifer Ryan, **Arbor Development** (middle right); Nall Corporate Centre II, accepted by Max Wasserstrom, **Block Real Estate Services** (bottom left); and Overland One, accepted by David Rezac, **VanTrust Real Estate LLC**; and Jonathan Knapp, **Creative Planning** (bottom right). Awards were presented by Mayor Carl Gerlach and Chamber EDC Senior Vice President Beth Johnson.



2019 LEADERSHIP OVERLAND PARK CLASS



Julie Anderson
OMNI Human
Resource Management



Josh Beck
MarksNelson LLC



Ericka Beeler
St. Joseph
Medical Center



Mike Boyd
JE Dunn Construction
Company



Page Burks
Black & Veatch



Jenifer Clausen
Saint Luke's
South Hospital



Laura Beth Cochran
DLR Group



Phil Eilers
HNTB Corporation



Feras El-Ghusein
Terracon



Suzanne Gunning
Visit Overland Park



Sandi Harkins
Agenda: USA



Crystal Howard
Spencer Fane LLP



Jeff Hoyer
Johnson County
Community College



Mike Levitan
AREA Real Estate
Advisors



Greg Lowery
McCownGordon
Construction



Steven Lucas
Rouse Frets White Goss
Gentile Rhodes, P.C.



Jessica Marin
Menorah
Medical Center



Tara Markley
Johnson County K-State
Research and Extension



Matt Miller
Harmon Construction



Kyle Nelson
AdventHealth
Shawnee Mission



Aaron Otto
Johnson County
Airport Commission



Megan Parsons
Burns & McDonnell
Engineering Company



Elliot Payne
UnitedLex
Corporation



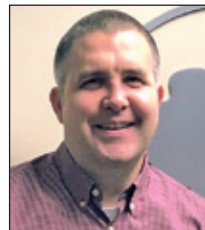
Susan Pekarek
Johnson County
Wastewater



Niki Seltzer
CommunityAmerica
Credit Union



Susan Shafer
First National Bank



Shaun Shufelberger
Central Bank of
the Midwest



Suzanne Small
Olsson



Brent Taylor
BT Advisors, LLC



Sean Tucker
Children's Mercy
Hospital Kansas



Lynde Tyrrell
Overland Park Regional
Medical Center



Josh Vincent
WaterOne



Kelly Wessel
Blue Valley
School District



Heather Wiebke
Commerce Bank



Reggie Woolridge
Marriott Kansas City
Overland Park

Sponsor Spotlight:



**JOHNSON COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Johnson County Community College (JCCC) has achieved a milestone – 50 years dedicated to student success, affordable tuition rates and extracurricular experiences that put tomorrow within reach. Throughout 2019, JCCC is celebrating with events and activities focused on students, campus and community.

As it commemorates the anniversary, JCCC also is setting the stage for its next 50 years. The largest Campus Transformation initiative in JCCC’s history is underway. It’s building and renovating to ensure facilities align with students’ needs and future careers. When complete, the campus will be home to two new buildings: the Fine Arts & Design Studios and the Hugh L. Libby Career and Technical Education Center. JCCC also is updating athletic facilities, renovating the Student Center and much more.

Experience JCCC’s Fine Arts & Design Studios

On **April 26**, at 1:15 p.m., JCCC will celebrate completion of its Fine Arts & Design Studios with a dedication and ribbon cutting. Community members, local businesses and JCCC supporters are invited to participate.

The Fine Arts & Design Studios, a modern, LEED-certified masterpiece, provides an innovative and collaborative learning environment for our Fine Arts, Photography, Graphic Design and Filmmaking students.

Just steps away from the Carlsen Center and bordered by Wylie Hospitality and Culinary Academy and the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, the facility exudes synergy and imagination. It features:

- **Hallway gallery spaces** that allow visitors to regularly experience art and challenge students to think beyond the classroom.
- **A covered outdoor courtyard**, which functions as a year-round workspace for student and faculty artists alike.
- **A first-floor multiple-use classroom** that promotes collaboration across disciplines.

Stay in the know as JCCC continues to celebrate its anniversary and evolve its campus. Visit jccc.edu for the latest news and updates.



Lisa Ragan, **Safely Delicious**, was recognized with a 2019 Kansas SBDC Small Business of the Year award. Ragan’s company was one of 16 businesses selected from more than 2,400 businesses that received Kansas SBDC one-on-one business advising services in 2018. The company produces snack food that is free of the top eleven food allergens and is available in in more than 100 retail locations in 10 states, plus Bermuda as well as eight online stores and at www.safelydelicious.com.

Unemployment

	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2018
Overland Park	3.2%	3.0%
Johnson County	3.2%	3.1%
Kansas City Metro MSA	3.8%	4.0%
State of Kansas	3.4%	3.7%

*(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)
– Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)*

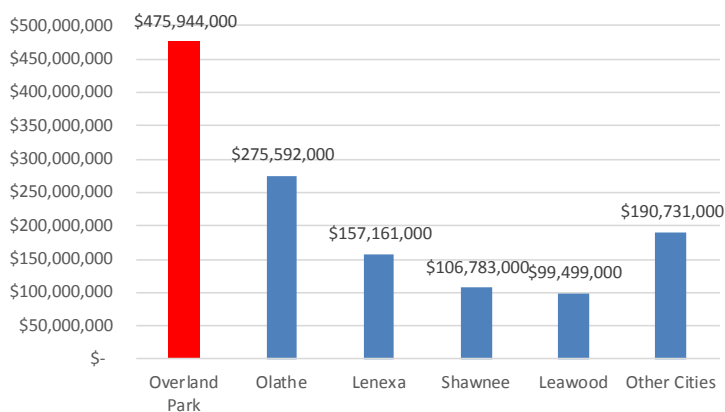
Building Permits in Overland Park

	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools	Other Commercial	Totals
Jan. 2019	4	0	37	41
Square Feet	45,026	N/A	0	45,026
Value	\$5,047,884	\$0	\$5,805,522	\$10,853,406

– City of Overland Park

Overland Park Retail Sales

December 2018



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To add your name to this list each month,
contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen
at (913) 491-3600 or
tosborne@opchamber.org.



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Member News & Events

Stephens & Associates Advertising Inc., took home 14 VETTY awards, including four gold medals for clients at the Veterinary Meeting and Expo.

Twenty-nine students have been awarded scholarships funded by donations to **The Builders' Association** Scholarship Foundation.

Four graduate students at **Kansas State University Olathe** are being awarded Johnson County Education Research Triangle (JCERT) scholarships for the spring 2019 academic semester.

Blue Valley Schools announced Dr. Tonya Merrigan, currently deputy superintendent, will succeed Dr. Todd White when he retires after the 2019-2020 school year.

HMN Architects announced that Vice President Dave Brown will succeed Larry Ralph as president. Ralph will stay on as a vice president and shareholder.

TPP Certified Public Accountants, LLC, has hired Heather Davidson, CPA,

as a senior tax manager in the CPA Services Division; and Alexis Cottle as a Retirement Plan Administrator.

Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes has promoted John Larigan to equity shareholder and Neal Woodworth to shareholder.

Long-time **Blue Valley Recreation Commission** facilities manager Jim Hook recently earned the Kansas Recreation and Park Association's Distinguished Service Award.

Michael T. White, **Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes**, recently was named 2019 Baron of the Boardroom by the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association.

Darin Heyen, **Pearce Construction Company**, is 2019 Chairman of the Board of The Builders' Association.

To submit company news, [click here](#).

To submit company events, [click here](#).