

The Chamber

View

Quarterly Newsletter



David Koechner

Guest Speaker at the 100th
Year Banquet Celebration
on January 18th, 2020, at
Arrowhead Stadium



*A Great American Story... Proudly serving
Independence Businesses for 100 Years!*

Oct/Nov/Dec 2019

Charter Members

The Independence Chamber of Commerce is grateful to our Charter members for their ongoing support, which allows us to offer programs and events that help our city and members grow and prosper.



CENTERPOINT
MEDICAL CENTER



One Company - One Call - 800.304.8604

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

truckmovers.com[®]
Trucks moved with care.



210 West Truman Road
Independence, MO 64050
816-252-4745
www.iChamber.biz

October Luncheon

Guest Speaker



Kay Barnes

**2018 Kansas Citian of the Year &
former Kansas City Mayor, Kay Barnes**

Plan to attend the Monthly Membership Luncheon to hear remarks from 2018 Kansas Citian of the Year award recipient and former Kansas City Mayor.

When:

Wednesday
October 16, 2019
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Where:

The City House
14300 E US Hwy 40
Kansas City, MO 64136

PRESENTING SPONSOR

**CHURCH OF THE
FOUR CORNERS**

PRESENTED BY: **CareNow** Urgent Care **HCA MIDWEST HEALTH** **INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER** OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS



Historic Independence Square

Grand Marshall

Terri Steele • Chamber Board Chair

BOO BUDDY SPONSORS



Great Pumpkin Contest

GUESS THE CORRECT WEIGHT OF THE MONSTER PUMPKIN AND WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD FROM



Pumpkin on display at Community America Credit Union inside Hy-Vee on Noland Road



Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 1

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

OCTOBER 4

JOB FAIR
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Independence Center
18801 E 39th Street S



OCTOBER 5

RIBBON CUTTING for ISD Academies
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Blue Ridge Bank & Trust
201 W Lexington Ave

OCTOBER 7

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

OCTOBER 8

AMBASSADORS COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

OCTOBER 9

BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

OCTOBER 10

Let's TACO 'bout it
Prospective Members Event
4:00 PM-5:30 PM
Los Cabos
18201 Bass Pro Drive



OCTOBER 11

FOODIE FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Islamorada Fish Company
18001 Bass Pro Dr.

OCTOBER 11

Spirits & Spirits
Hosted by the YIP's
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM
3 Trails Brewing
111 N Main Street

OCTOBER 15

SPEAKER SERIES
TOPIC:
Making Your Business Bankable
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road



TOPIC: Making Your Business Bankable

Joe Drake with Bank Midwest will give us informative tips on banking for your business and how to make it work for you regardless of the industry or size of business.

OCTOBER 16

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
The City House
14300 E US Hwy 40

Be sure to join us for our monthly membership luncheon where Former Kansas City Mayor, Kay Barnes will be the guest speaker.



SPONSORED BY:



OCTOBER 17

RIBBON CUTTING
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Bella Casa Flooring & Design
17001 E US 24 Hwy

OCTOBER 18

MARKETING COMMITTEE MEETING
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Road

OCTOBER 18

FOODIE FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
El Pico
106 W Maple Avenue

OCTOBER 22

IN BIZ RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Drury Inn & Suites
20300 E 42nd Street S.

OCTOBER 22

RIBBON CUTTING
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Ecologix
Noland Plaza Building
3675 S Noland Rd.

OCTOBER 22

RIBBON CUTTING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
ELOAH
2425 S Crysler, Suite 7

OCTOBER 24

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Alissa's Flowers, Fashion & Interiors
19321 E US Hwy 40, Suite H



OCTOBER 25

FOODIE FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Lion's Choice
4049 Little Blue Pkwy

OCTOBER 26

71st ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE
10:00 AM
Historic Independence Square



OCTOBER 30

iMEMBERSHIP 101
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

NOVEMBER 4

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

NOVEMBER 7

PROGRESSIVE PARTY
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

Join us for the 7th Annual Progressive Party! Enjoy food and drink from various Independence businesses! Sponsored by the Independence Chamber of Commerce and Independence EDC. All members and prospective members are welcome.

NOVEMBER 12

AMBASSADORS COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

NOVEMBER 12

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

NOVEMBER 20

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Hilton Garden Inn
19677 E Jackson Dr.

Be sure to join us to hear for our November Membership Luncheon!



Contact Morgan Welch for sponsorship info!
Morgan@ichamber.biz or

NOVEMBER 20

GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK
HAPPY HOUR CELEBRATION:
Hosted by the YIP's
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
East 40 Brewing
1201 W Main Street
Blue Springs, MO 64015

NOVEMBER 26

IN BIZ RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Drury Inn & Suites
20300 E 42nd Street S.

DECEMBER 2

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

DECEMBER 4

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

DECEMBER 4

HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Independence Uptown Market
211 W. Truman Rd.

SPONSORED BY:



DECEMBER 6

LEAD Alumni Holiday Lunch
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Carrabba's Italian Grill
19900 E. Valley View Pkwy



DECEMBER 6

AMBASSADORS COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

DECEMBER 11

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Road

DECEMBER 11

GRAND RE-OPENING & RIBBON CUTTING
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
Summit Salon Academy KC
815 W. 23rd Street S

DECEMBER 12

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS TOURNAMENT & NETWORKING EVENT

Hosted by the YIP's
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Independence Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

DECEMBER 18

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Ophelia's
201 N Main Street

Make plans to join us for the Holiday Membership Luncheon.

Contact Morgan for sponsorship info!
Morgan@ichamber.biz or
call (816) 875-4112

Register for these events or for more information, please visit

www.iChamber.biz

Ribbon Cuttings



August 1, 2019

**Any Lab Test Now
18921 E Valley View Pkwy
Suite E
Independence, MO 64055**



August 15, 2019

**American Shaman CBD
4201 S Noland Road
Independence, MO 64055**



August 20, 2019

**La Quinta by Wyndham
3402 NW Jefferson Street
Blue Spring, MO 64015**



August 22, 2019

**Bolero Salon & Spa
19321 E US 40 Hwy, Suite F
Independence, MO 64055**



September 10, 2019

**Cubsmart
14400 E US Hwy 40
Kansas City, MO 64136**

LEAD INDEPENDENCE



The 2019-2020 LEAD class met for the first time in September for Retreat. This year's class is comprised of 18 individuals that work for Independence Chamber of Commerce Members. They enjoyed discussing the True Colors personality assessment and playing icebreaker games. In the afternoon, Tucker Leadership Lab led team building games and activities. At the end of the day, they learned their group members for planning future LEAD activity days, including days focused on Education, State and Local Government, Health and Wellness, and more. They are a fantastic class and it should be a great year!

Save the Date

Create your own
7th Annual
**ISLAND OASIS
PROGRESSIVE PARTY**
November 7th, 2019
4-6 PM

INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
210 W Truman Road

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

INDEPENDENCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER
OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

FOOD | DRINKS | DOOR PRIZES | RAFFLE | FUN

Contact Morgan Welch - Morgan@ichamber.biz | (816) 875-4112 to sign up for a room!

Save the Date



PRESENTED BY:
**Community
America**
CREDIT UNION

100 CELEBRATION

*A Great American Story...
Proudly serving Independence businesses for 100 Years!*

January 18, 2020 • 6-9 PM
Arrowhead Stadium

DAVID KOECHNER

Actor, writer and producer David Koechner stars as Tush on CBS's "Superior Donuts." He's also well-known for his roles as Todd Packer on "The Office" and Champ Kind from "Anchorman" and "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues." Koechner recently starred in Legendary's "Krampus" and Roadside Attraction's "Priceless." On the small screen, he appears in Showtime's "Twin Peaks," Comedy Central's "Another Period," ABC's "The Goldbergs" and voices reoccurring characters on FOX's "American Dad" and Netflix's "F is for Family" and "All Hail King Julien."



An alumnus of Chicago's Second City Theater, Koechner got his first break as a cast member on "Saturday Night Live" and since has become an instantly recognizable face appearing in more than 160 films and television shows. Additional notable film credits include "Waiting," "Out Cold," "Talladega Nights," "Get Smart," "Extract," "Thank You for Smoking," "A Haunted House," "Scouts Guide to the Zombie Apocalypse" and the dark, twisted, film festival award-winning thriller, "Cheap Thrills."

When not filming, Koechner performs live stand-up comedy across the country and creates original content videos for his YouTube channel, "Full On Koechner." He also co-hosts Big Slick Celebrity Weekend - an annual charity event benefiting Children's Mercy Hospital of Kansas City - with fellow KC natives, Rob Riggle, Paul Rudd, Jason Sudeikis and Eric Stonestreet. Koechner currently resides in Los Angeles, Calif. with his wife and five children.

*See David at the Chamber's 100-Year Celebration
on January 18th, 2020!*

Caught on Camera...





Perfect end-of-summer weather brought record crowds and record sales for vendors. Wynonna attracted the largest Main Stage audience ever at 12,000. Her performance was spectacular! Families with happy children enjoyed the Community Stage performers, carnival rides and panning for gold on Main Street 1849. Food and fun was the order of the day, every day of the festival. Nearly 200 volunteers made this longstanding Independence tradition a truly special event. Thank you to our sponsors, supporters, vendors and volunteers for a successful year! See you next year!



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHO HAVE JOINED OUR 110% CLUB



- 1st MidAmerica Credit Union
- American Funding Solutions
- Beth Franklin Real Estate Team
- Downey Construction
- Evans & Steele
- Hartsook
- Hollis & Miller
- Independence EDC
- Rotary Club of Independence
- Speaks Chapels, LLC
- Independence Ennovation Center
- JE Dunn

- Kapke & Willerth
- Leone-Knipp Insurance Group
- RDS Equipment
- Rotary Club of Eastern Indep.

We invite you to join our 110% Club. When members voluntarily contribute an extra 10% over their annual investment amount, your contribution is tax deductible and will help the Chamber in strengthening our infrastructure.

As a member of the 110% Club, participating businesses will receive recognition on the Chamber's website, social media pages, in the Chamber's newsletter, and at Chamber events throughout the year. **QUESTIONS?** Contact Kris Zerr - kris@ichamber.biz or (816) 787-0313.

Member News



Fairmount Family Medical Care has a **new name.**

Starting October 1, our clinic will be known as **University Health Community Care Fairmount.** Only the name is changing! The same great providers and staff will be there for your family's medical needs.

Truman Medical Centers has a longstanding partnership with the UMKC Schools of Medicine. **Now the name defines that partnership.**

November Luncheon

Guest Speaker



Square One Morgan Perry

Make plans to join us for the Monthly Membership Luncheon in November to hear about entrepreneurship in the Kansas City region and it's impact on small business.

When:

Wednesday
November 20, 2019
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Where:

Hilton Garden Inn
19677 E Jackson Dr.
Independence, MO
64057

Sponsorships available. Contact Morgan Welch if you are interested
Email: morgan@ichamber.biz -or-
Phone: (816) 875-4112

Come and join us at this year's
SP RITS & SPIRITS



FRIDAY | OCTOBER 11 | 6:30 PM-10:00PM
BEGINS AT COURTHOUSE EXCHANGE
113 W. LEXINGTON

DINNER • DRINKS • NETWORKING
TOUR 1859 JAIL & MARSHAL'S HOME

Tickets must be purchase in advance.
Contact Sarah Beth for more details - sarahbeth@ichamber.biz

 **CONGRATULATIONS**

THE EXAMINER
www.examiner.net
INDEPENDENCE • BLUE SPRINGS • GRAIN VALLEY

Shout out & congratulations to The Examiner.
They took third place for **General Excellence** among
mid-sized daily newspapers in the Better Newspaper
Contest held by Missouri Press Association
2nd Place-Best of Show

Examiner Staff members also received individual honors:

Michael Smith - Assistant Sports Editor

Bill Althaus - Reporter & Columnist

Jeff Fox - Editor

www.examiner.net

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

1-4 Years

KC Cajun
Glory Sun Designs
Jack in the Box
St. Michael the Archangel
North American Thrombosis Forum
MUSTANG PLUS
Lighthouse Legal, LLC
A.G. Spanos Companies
Smoothie King
MVP Awards and Engraving
Synago LLC
Kim Connects KC Home Team
Lip Sense by SeneGence with Angie Judy
@ Pucker Up
Luckducks
Target Marketing
Austin Conley Agency
CareNow Urgent Care
Peace Partnership
Lotus Key Homes LLC
Budget Blinds of Independence
HeavyRemoval.com
Caris Healthcare
Hap Graff
KS StateBank
KJ Remodeling LLC
Jim Carter Truck Parts

Live by Change Consulting
Specialized Home Care
Speaks Chapels
Speaks Buckner Chapel
The Print Shop KC
Independence Family Eye Care
Community Blood Center
Peggye Turner
Kelly Freeland
All Star Pictures
Leone-Knipp Insurance Group
Happy Hour Inc.
Slim Chickens- Independence
Twin Peaks
Fairmount Family Medical Care
Kansas City Comets
Blair's Foster Socks
Old Chicago Independence
Azalea Sage
My Place Hotel
Medley Smiles
Allis Chalmers Industrial Park
The Arc of the Ozarks
Main Event Entertainment
Legacy Mergers & Acquisitions
Batteries + Bulbs

15-24 Years

Cornerstone Apartment Homes
BerganKDV
ISA
Rand Construction Co.
Hereford House Restaurant
Hilburn Trucking Inc.
Independence School District Foundation
Siemens Energy, Inc.
State Farm Insurance, Stacey Schell Newland
American Family Insurance, Thomas Blau
Auto Color & Equipment Inc.
McDaniel Furnace & Sheet Metal Inc.
Recognition Plus
Red Carpet Service
Silverstein Eye Centers PC
V's Italiano Ristorante
Gallagher Insurance & Risk Management
Housing Authority of the City of Independence, MO
Midwest Machine Co. Inc.
Rotary Club of Independence
Smokehouse Barbecue

25-39 Years

Balanced Body Chiropractic Center PC
Junior Service League of Independence
1st MidAmerica Credit Union
Cargo Largo
Columbia College
Greg's Tire Center
The Fountains at Greenbriar
Independence Womens Clinic
Downey Construction Inc.
Greg's Lock & Key Service Inc.
Harry S. Truman Library and Museum
Fort Osage R-I School District
Sam's Club
Bank of Grain Valley
City of Independence
City of Independence Fire Dept.
City of Independence Police Dept.
City of Independence Power & Light
Comcast

5-14 Years

Independence Square Tax Benefit District
Toppers Food Mart Inc
Remax Elite, Realtors- T. David Rogers
Diamond Bowl
Applied Path
Newmark Grubb Zimmer
First Federal Bank of Kansas City
Fred Hahn
Charlie's Car Wash
Courthouse Exchange Restaurant & Lounge
El Pico Mexican Restaurant
Wild About Harry Men's Accessories & Furnishings
Hy-Vee Food & Drug Store 23rd St
Servpro of Lee's Summit, Raytown, East Kansas City
Phoenix Home Care & Hospice
Hope House
UpDog
Yogurtini

Mauer Law Firm
Heritage Physicians Group
Adams Mark Hotel & Resort - CoCo Key Water Resort
Liberty Exposition Services, Inc.
State Farm Insurance, Chad Mitchell
Main Street Coffee House
Kansas City Mavericks Pro Hockey
Edward Jones, Chris Thiele
Edward Jones, Adam Kliethermes
Mother's Refuge
Studio on Main
AAA Disposal Service
Children's Mercy
BeHereNow
Ron Bruch
Cafe Verona
Clinton's Soda Fountain
Gilbert Whitney & Co
Ophelia's Restaurant & Inn
Primary Colors
Square Pizza
Kansas City Public Library -Trails West Branch

40 Plus Years

Scott King, Attorney
The Groves
Ted's Trash Service Inc.
L & C Meat Inc.
Floyd R Brown Jr & Company
Cornell Roofing & Sheet Metal Co.
Blue Ridge Bank and Trust Co

For more info about these businesses & all Chamber members visit www.iChamber.biz

Officers:

Terri Steele

Chairman of the Board
Evans & Steele Financial, LLC

Sonci Bleckinger

Chair Elect
Central Bank of the Midwest

Ron Finke

Treasurer
Stewardship Capital

Jonathan Zerr

Past Chair of the Board
Kapke & Willerth, LLC.

Ex Officio Members:

Kurt Graham

Harry S Truman Library

Tom Lesnak

Independence EDC

Dr. Dale Herl

Independence School District

Dr. Jason Snodgrass

Fort Osage School District

Dr. Paul Kinder

Blue Springs School District

Zach Walker

City of Independence

Dr. Thomas Meyer

MCC - Blue River

Board of Directors:

Matt Beem

Hartsook Companies

Laurie Dean Wiley

Justin Larkin Team at Waddell & Reed

Austin Conley

Austin Conley Agency

Eric Knipp

Eric Knipp Agency, Inc.

Kim Deveney

American Funding Solutions, LLC

Bret Kolman

Centerpoint Medical Center

Beth Franklin

Keller Williams Real Estate

Brad Smith

Drumm Farm Center for Children

Bob Glaser

Community America Credit Union

Brad Speaks

Speaks Family Legacy Chapels

Steve Graffeo

Community of Christ

Trevor Tilton

The Trevor Tilton Farmers Agency

Cindy McClain

McClain Enterprises, Inc.

Whitney Watson

Northrop Grumman

Matt Medley

Medley Smiles

Tom Weir

Blue Ridge Bank & Trust

Julie Moreno

The Examiner

Dr. Lynette Wheeler

Truman Medical Center Lakewood

Chamber Team:

Tom Lesnak

President & CEO
tom@ichamber.biz

Trina Anderson

Director of Membership Services
trina@ichamber.biz

Lois McDonald

Vice President of Community Development
lois@ichamber.biz

Kris Zerr

Vice President & Director of Finance
kris@ichamber.biz

Mikealene Evans

Director of Marketing & Communications
mikealene@ichamber.biz

Morgan Welch

Special Projects Manager
morgan@ichamber.biz

Sarah Beth Wood

Program & Operations Manager
sarahbeth@ichamber.biz



Independence Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (816) 252-4745

www.ichamber.biz

DC TRIP

Chamber representatives accompanied Mayor Eileen Weir and other city representatives on a trip to Washington D.C. in September. In meetings with Senator Josh Hawley, Senator Roy Blunt, and Representative Sam Graves, the group discussed items on the Chamber's and the City's legislative agenda items. The Chamber Legislative Agenda is drafted every year in the fall to reflect what issues our members care about and wish to have the Chamber advocate for. This year, those issues included City funding, the upcoming census, workforce programs, and more. It was a great trip and the members of Congress agreed to help us with our legislative agendas moving forward. If you would like to speak to the Public Policy Committee to get your topic included on the 2020 Legislative Agenda for trips like these, email Sarah Beth Wood at sarahbeth@ichamber.biz to find out how.





Leadership

Quote of the Quarter

The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson ~



New Chamber Members

July - September 2019

Summit Salon Academy KC
 Rothwell Construction
 JDog Junk Removal & Hauling
 LegalShield
 Metro Motors KC
 Dentists of Independence
 Dutzel's Catering
 Deals Thrift Mart
 Mark One Electric Co., Inc.
 LaQuinta Inn and Suites
 Integrity Roofing LLC
 Kansas City Structural Steel Inc
 Bolero Salon and Spa
 Centum Consulting
 EPIC KC
 Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches
 KMC Dermatology
 Bella Casa Flooring & Design, Inc.
 HopeKids Kansas City
 ADP
 Pinnacle Bank
 RE/MAX Elite Realtors- Linda Pringle
 Marshall Arts Productions
 Clear Entertainment and Marketing Group

Save the Date

Alumni Holiday Luncheon



December 6, 2019 | Carrabba's Italian Grill