

The Chamber

# View



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April/May/June 2022



*Industrial Technology Academy: Construction Pathway  
Leading the future of Independence!*

# Regional & Community Leader Members

The Independence Chamber of Commerce is grateful for our Regional & Community Leader Members!  
We appreciate their ongoing support allowing us to offer programs and events that help our city and members grow and prosper.

**CONTINENTAL**  
★ ★ SIDING ★ ★

**SEAMLESS**  
POLYMER SIDING

**AS**  
ASPHALTIC SURFACES  
LLC.

*Paving our way into the future*



CENTERPOINT  
MEDICAL CENTER



**INDEPENDENCE**  
★ MISSOURI ★

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY



**university**health  
Lakewood Medical Center

# CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY  
JUNE 17, 2022

WINTERSTONE GOLF COURSE

**SIGN UP BY  
JUNE 3RD  
FOR THE BEST  
PRICING!**

**SPONSORSHIPS  
AVAILABLE!**

**PRIZES  
RAFFLES  
& fun!**



## EARLY BIRD TEAM PRICING UNTIL JUNE 3RD!

CHAMBER MEMBERS: \$500/EARLY BIRD TEAM  
\$550/TEAM AFTER JUNE 3RD -OR- \$150/INDIVIDUAL  
NON-MEMBER: \$600/EARLY BIRD TEAM  
\$650/TEAM AFTER JUNE 3RD -OR- \$175/INDIVIDUAL

7:00 AM  
REGISTRATION &  
BREAKFAST  
8:00 AM  
SHOTGUN START

TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ANDREA ZORICH -  
ANDREA@ICHAMBER.BIZ OR 816.607.4911

## APRIL 8

**Ambassador Informational**  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
Online Via Zoom

Join current ambassadors for an informational meeting as they will share more about the program and answer questions. The meeting will also discuss how serving as a Chamber Ambassador will make a difference for you, the community, and support local businesses and services.

## APRIL 9

**ANNUAL CHAMBER BANQUET**  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Adams Pointe Conference Center  
1400 NE Coronado Drive

Join us for an evening honoring Chamber businesses and individuals who stood out in 2021!



We will be hearing from our President and outgoing and incoming Chairs of the Board in addition to an exciting program featuring **DUELING PIANOS!**

## APRIL 12

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

## APRIL 13

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
8:00 AM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## APRIL 15

**LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING** **LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## APRIL 15

**RIBBON CUTTING**  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
The Delaware: Events + Coffee  
125 S Main Street, Independence Square

## APRIL 20

**MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Ctr.  
18011 Bass Pro Drive



*Featured Speaker*

**Michael Baxley**  
Executive Director  
Englewood Arts

Plan to attend the April Membership Luncheon. Our speaker this month will be Michael Baxley, Executive Director of Englewood Arts. He will be sharing the latest status on the Englewood Arts projects including some slides!

PRESENTING SPONSOR

**capa**

Child Abuse Prevention Association

## APRIL 22

**MEMBERSHIP PERKS**  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
Chamber of Commerce  
210 W Truman Rd.



Join us for Part 1  
Events and Networking  
Learn about the many different  
programs and networking events  
the Chamber offers.

## APRIL 26

**YIPS COFFEE & NETWORKING**  
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM  
The Delaware: Events + Coffee  
125 S Main St, Independence



## APRIL 28

**SPEAKER SERIES:**  
Workforce Development  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Chamber of Commerce  
210 W. Truman Rd.



*Featured Speaker*



**Trence James**  
Missouri Department  
of Higher Education &  
Workforce Development

Workforce in Independence and across the nation is facing widespread shortages reflecting a complex trend in changing demographics, emerging talent requirements, and a shift in expectations between employer and employee. Presenter, Trence James with Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development will discuss how they are addressing these challenges.

## APRIL 28

**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**  
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
RG Capital Partners, LLC  
3675 S Noland Rd Ste 215



## MAY 3

**IN BIZ RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  
Online Via Zoom

## MAY 6

**FOODIE FRIDAY**  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Location: TBA



## MAY 9

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## MAY 10

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

## MAY 11

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
8:00 AM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## MAY 18

L.E.A.D. GRADUATION & MONTHLY  
MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Ctr.  
18011 Bass Pro Drive



Plan to attend the May Membership Luncheon & L.E.A.D. Graduation as we celebrate the graduates of the L.E.A.D. 2021-2022 program. We will also hear remarks from one of the L.E.A.D. instructors.

## MAY 20

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom



## MAY 26

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS  
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
United Consumers Credit  
Union  
1111 E 23rd St S



## JUNE 1

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM  
Chamber of Commerce

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
Event dates and details are  
subject to change without notice.  
Please check the Chamber  
calendar for the most current  
event details.

## JUNE 2

ANNUAL CHAMBER PICNIC  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  
Independence Uptown Market  
211 W Truman Rd.

# PICNIC

Join your fellow Chamber Members for  
Member Appreciation Day.  
FREE food, fun & games!  
PLEASE RSVP so that we may plan  
accordingly!

## JUNE 3

**BREAKFAST!**

FOODIE FRIDAY  
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM  
Location: Whataburger  
18811 E US 40 Hwy



Join us for a special twist on Foodie Friday, featuring a breakfast hour instead of lunch! Members are invited to join us for this informal breakfast gathering to enjoy a great meal, some networking and patronize a valued chamber member.

## JUNE 7

IN BIZ RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM  
Online Via Zoom

## JUNE 8

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
8:00 AM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## JUNE 13

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Chamber of Commerce &  
Online via Zoom

## JUNE 14

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

## JUNE 15

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
Location: TBD

Plan to attend the June  
Membership Luncheon.  
More information about the  
program to come soon.

PRESENTING SPONSOR

UMKC TalentLink

## JUNE 17

42ND ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC  
7:00 AM-3:00 PM  
Winterstone Golf Course  
17101 E Kentucky Road



Join us for the  
42nd Annual Chamber Golf Classic!  
This is one of the Chambers best opportunities to network with business leaders and golf with clients and associates while genuinely having a great time. Participants will enjoy breakfast, lunch, contests, 50/50 Raffle, prizes and more!

## JUNE 23

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS  
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
Corporate CopyPrint  
111 S Main Street



Help us to plan  
accordingly, by registering for  
these events online:

[www.iChamber.biz](http://www.iChamber.biz)



# Ribbon Cuttings



**January 4, 2022  
Belle Nail Studio  
16641 East 23rd St. S.  
Independence , MO 64055**



**January 19, 2022  
Whataburger  
18811 E US 40 Hwy  
Independence MO 64055**



**March 16, 2022  
Animator Coworking Space  
14300 E US Highway 40  
Kansas City, MO 64136**



**March 29, 2021  
Andy's Frozen Custard  
3424 NW Duncan  
Blue Springs MO 64015**

# LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

Interact with legislators representing Independence, hear legislative updates, and learn about activities at the local and state levels. The briefings are open to all Chamber members and are free of charge.



April 15, 2022 • 8:30 AM  
May 20, 2022 • 8:30 AM



Independence  
Chamber of Commerce  
210 W. Truman Road  
Independence, MO 64050



Online via Zoom  
Please register to receive  
Zoom information

*You're  
Invited!*

## 9th Annual Member Appreciation Chamber Picnic

JUNE

11:30 AM

2

1:30 PM

**Food, fun, networking & games!**

Independence Uptown Market  
211 W. Truman Rd.

# Member Spotlight



*Lynne Baker*  
Business to  
Education Connector

## Industrial Technology Academy: Construction Pathway

Spotlighting businesses of the Independence community has been such a joyful experience for me, however, for this issue, I would like to turn the focus to one of the Academy Pathways: Construction.

John Amos, the leader of the Construction Pathway, within the Industrial Technology Academy, has brought so much industry-related experience, as well as great pleasure, to return to his own alma mater, William Chrisman High School. After graduating from WCHS in 1981, John attended University of Central Missouri and attained a BS in Construction Management. John had been a part of a family immersed in that industry and had spent countless hours working alongside his father, a Superintendent for a General Contractor. Upon graduation from college, John started as a project engineer, in the first tier of Management, where he oversaw such projects as working on the B-2 hangers for the Stealth Bombers at Richards-Gabaur Airforce Base, as well as renovating Kauffman Stadium.

However, a divorce and the need to parent his small children, led John to a schedule which was more conducive to the needs of his children. Thus, John returned to ISD and started teaching 4 and 5th graders at William Southern Elementary School, while earning his elementary certification at Graceland University. He then moved to Bridger Sixth Grade center, where he taught math for three years. He connected with a friend from the past, who was presently working at WCHS, who told John about the Academies and how he would be the “perfect” teacher for the job, with both practical work knowledge of construction, as well as the educational certification he needed. These first three years at WCHS leading the Construction Pathway, was a more difficult learning experience, because of COVID.

parade of playhouses

APRIL 2 - 10

“The Magic School Bus” Playhouse 2022



Home Builders Association of Greater KC - Parade of Playhouses  
Built by students of the ISD Academies. Public can bid on a playhouse for their own backyard in an online auction - <https://kchomework.com/foundations-for-the-future-week/>

Even with the Covid Pandemic requiring changes to the school days and times, last year John's students took home the only two awards given by the Home Builders Association. In 2021, John's class built a playhouse, which looked like a travel Trailer. The HBA has this competition every year, to engage high school students in the building process. For their hard work, John's students were awarded the Best Innovation 2021 Award Winner, as well as the Pick of the Parade, Future Builders 2021 Award, both with cash prizes totaling \$3500, which is used to take field trips to expose his students to the educational and trade union opportunities for further education in their field of interest. To John's credit, all of his upper-level students (28 total) passed their OSDA-10 Safety Test, which is a 100% passing rate!

John's desire is to give every student the opportunity to seek employment in the Construction field, if they so desire. Today, because of the number of retiring workers in the Construction Trade Industries: Plumbers, Electricians, HVAC, Roofers, Carpentry, and Concrete, are desperately needed. However, as Mr. Amos reported to me, the employers in these Construction Trades want candidates who are committed to doing the work in their chosen career area. He was told by one of the industry training Schools they had 40 to 100 candidates who wanted to be tested to be trained.



The Independence Academies provides every student with the opportunity to select a Career pathway. There are jobs to be had...but students must demonstrate a strong desire to get the training and pursue their career choice. I salute John Amos, as one of the many strong and incredible professional teachers in ISD, for making every opportunity available to his students. On many occasions today, it seems students are unwilling to move out of their routine life pattern to do something new and different, leading them to new adventures they will miss, if they chose not to participate. John Amos is doing everything possible to impact our students lives, giving them a brighter and stronger position for the future!



## parade of playhouses

APRIL 2 - 10

### WHEN:

Playhouses on display April 2-10

### WHERE:

Union Station

30 W. Pershing Rd., Kansas City, MO 64108

View playhouses in Haverty Family Yards  
(grassy area outside Science City)

### BID:

Bidding opens April 2 at 9:00 a.m. and ends  
April 10 at 5:00 p.m. Bid now!

To learn more about Parade of Playhouses or  
to bid on this playhouse online

[kchomework.com/foundations-for-the-future-week/](http://kchomework.com/foundations-for-the-future-week/)

# Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

## 1-4 Years - April-June 2022

Building Blocks Bookkeeping, LLC  
Freedom Financial Advisors, LLC  
Phone Systems Design, LLC  
The Trash Box  
Sunshine's Hair Haven  
Tasty Unicorn  
St. Croix Hospice  
Mary Kay  
Roberts Turf & Landscape LLC  
Ladybug Mobile Notary  
Mortan Man HVAC and Plumbing  
Sunshine Art by Nancy  
NS Custom Cakes LLC  
Commcare/ Alternatives  
Fully Promoted  
Forza Property Management  
Classy Canines  
Terrace Home Health  
Tagine House  
Budget Blinds of Lee's Summit  
Salvatore's Restaurant  
Julie Moreno  
Yummy Favorites Catering

Thomas R. and Eileen N. Weir  
Crisp Cuts & Styles Barbershop  
Robert Sauls, State Representative  
CubeSmart  
Treo Marketing  
Edward Jones, Matt Flax  
Blue Ridge Bank- Independence Square  
Blue Ridge Bank- Raytown  
Blue Ridge Bank- Sterling  
Kansas City Property Solutions LLC  
Secret Service House  
The Pavilion Event Space  
Gerken Rent-All Inc.  
Vivilore  
Landmark National Bank  
West inD Connection 501(c)3  
Pure Water Oasis  
Ghafoor Cook Ellis, LLC  
Alicia Scott State Farm Agency  
Commercial Concepts & Furnishings  
State Farm Agent, Lesley Siegfried  
Carter Broadcast Group, Inc.  
FISH Window Cleaning  
Rainbow Center for Communicative Disorders

## 15-24 Years - January-March 2022

Better Business Bureau  
American Funding Solutions LLC  
American Sweeping Inc  
Burd & Fletcher Co.  
Opdahl & Bowen DDS, PC  
Superior Bowen Asphalt Company LLC  
CommunityAmerica Credit Union- Noland  
Fairmount Plaza Apartments  
McGrath Heating and Cooling LLC  
Winterstone Golf Course  
Carrabba's Italian Grill  
Aldi Inc. - 16007 E 23rd Street  
Edward Jones, Corey Long  
State Farm Insurance, Kim Downey Noble

## 25-39 Years - January-March 2022

Kansas City Royals  
Widick Marketing  
McDonald's Restaurant - 3921 Bolger Road  
ServiceMark Telecom  
Corporate CopyPrint  
Custom Engineering Inc.  
Landmark Dodge Chrysler Jeep  
Edward Jones, Doug Hammer  
Metropolitan Community College - Blue River  
Child Abuse Prevention Association (CAPA)  
Hi-Boy Drive-In  
McDonald's Restaurant - 16235 E. 24 Highway  
Burns & McDonnell  
Discover Vision Centers  
Community of Christ International Headquarters

## 5-14 Years - April-June 2022

University Health on the Go!-Noland Rd  
Laurie Dean Wiley, Financial Advisor - Hoot  
Owl Financial  
Centerpoint Orthopedics  
Centerpoint Physicians Group  
Family Care of Eastern Jackson County  
Family Care of Independence  
Jackson County Pulmonary Medical Group  
LLC  
Midwest Neurology Physicians  
John Kimak  
Nancy C. Kimak  
Bank Midwest  
Minsky's Pizza  
JobOne  
Evans and Steele Financial Services  
Bass Pro Shops  
Hollis+Miller Architects  
Kansas City Managed IT  
GFI Digital  
R & K Auto Body LLC  
Alissa's Flowers, Fashion & Interiors  
St. Luke's Health System  
A Little Bar-B-Q-Joint  
Jackson County  
JE Dunn Construction Co  
Planet Fitness- Noland Rd.

County Beverage Company Inc.  
Pepperwood Apartments - Office  
Sunrise Montessori Academy of Independence  
AutoTek LLC  
Monterey Park Rehabilitation & Health Care  
Center  
Midwest Public Risk  
Town & Country Building Services  
Staybridge Suites  
Mid-Continent Public Library - Midwest General-  
ogy Center  
Mid-Continent Public Library- North Indepen-  
dence Branch  
Mid-Continent Public Library-Administrative  
Headquarters  
Mid-Continent Public Library-South Indepen-  
dence Branch  
Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance  
Associated Services in Insurance Inc  
Emerick & Company, CPAs  
Full Employment Council Inc./Missouri Job  
Center  
East Side Baptist Church  
GEHA Government Employees Health Associa-  
tion Inc.  
Reece & Nichols Realtors, Daniel O'Neill  
Eastland Trails Apartments

## 40-48 Years - January-March 2022

Graceland University - Independence Campus  
Independence Adult & Community Education  
Humphrey, Farrington, & McClain, PC  
Space Center Kansas City, Inc.  
Cable-Dahmer Chevrolet Inc  
The Examiner

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT, YOUR ENGAGE  
MENT AND MOST OF ALL YOUR  
COMMITMENT TO THE  
INDEPENDENCE  
COMMUNITY! WITH MEMBERS  
LIKE YOU, WE CAN MAKE A POS  
ITIVE IMPACT IN MANY  
BUSINESS INITIATIVES.

# Cheers for Success!

# WELCOME

## New Chamber Members

January-March 2022

NorthPoint Development  
Visiting Nurse Association  
Dc's Contracting LLC  
MIVA MEDICAL  
MetroMedia  
Apex Business Advisors  
SproutHouse Supply LLC  
Midwest GI Health  
Taste of Aloha  
G&G Property Care  
Andy's Frozen Custard  
City Wide Facility Solutions  
sumnerone  
Aflac

Agape Touch Massage Therapy  
AGI Investigations  
Alscott Surety Inc  
American Fusion Wheel & Tire  
Apex Underground LLC  
Arrowhead Electric  
Atlas Home Group  
Bank of Springfield  
Berenson LLP

Beverly Shelton Girls Town Club  
Black Lemon Boutique  
Blue Mango Boutique  
Builders Financial Service LLC  
Bukaty Companies  
By George PR  
Capital One N.A.

Carpenter Vending Service  
Certified Carpet Systems  
Chicago Title  
Complete Lawn Professionals  
Control Service Company. Inc.  
CThrough Window Cleaning  
Daikin TMI  
Davlin Services  
Dayco Painting  
Diaz Painting Company LLC  
Ditty's LLC  
Doin It Major

Element Enterprises, LLC  
Fastsigns  
Float Daddy

Form Systems  
Freedom Painting  
Garage Pros KC  
Gears Unlimited LLC  
Gomez Roofing LLC  
Grace Christian Assembly  
Great Western Expeditions  
Harris Rebar  
Healthy Brands  
Heartland Capital Advisors, LC  
Heartland Cremation and Burial Society  
Hiestand Land Management  
Jr & Brothers Hauling LLC  
KC Wireless Inc.  
Kings Trucking LLC  
Kyle Given Agency Country Financial  
Lan Tel Communications Services, Inc  
LC's Trading LLC  
MarksNelson  
Midwest REI  
Mudjack Joe's

Naomi Lawson- 1st Class Real Estate KC  
Northwestern Mutual- Jared Wirsig  
OKM Professionals  
Olathe Fleet Solutions  
One Way Cleaning Co  
PACT

PennTech, Inc.  
Pierpoint Plumbing  
Premiere Outdoor Enterprises, Inc.  
PrimeLending  
Pro Roofers, LLC  
Que Tal Pollo Grill and Cantina  
Queen City Baseball Association  
Quick Mobile Repair  
RC Tree Service

RE/MAX Heritage- Sara Davis  
RNS Private Duty Care  
Santa Fe Tow  
Smoothie King- Noland Rd.  
Steve William Asphalt  
Stone Amp SEO  
Swanson Bernard, LLC  
Team Jesus  
Terry Snelling Construction

Time Wise Media  
Timely Signings  
Tom Neill Trucking  
Totta LLC  
Tracker Door  
Tropicana Paleteria  
Turkey Creek Properties  
Uni Floor Inc  
Union Home Mortgage  
Unlimited RV  
VFW Post 1000  
VG Designs  
VIP Maintenance USA  
Your Chamber Connection  
JV Garage Door, LLC  
Four Birds Apparel  
Planet Sub  
Carmen's Cantina and Mexican Grill  
Engle Motors, Incorporated  
UMKC TalentLink  
23rd Street Auto & Tire  
Watchdog Advisory  
Happy Trails Esthetics  
Animator Co-working Office Space  
Express Oil Change & Tire Engineers

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT  
THESE BUSINESSES &  
ALL CHAMBER MEMBERS  
VISIT  
[WWW.ICHAMBER.BIZ](http://WWW.ICHAMBER.BIZ)



# SUPPORT ECONOMIC GROWTH IN INDEPENDENCE!



**10 MILLION FEET OF INDUSTRIAL SPACE**

## EASTGATE COMMERCE CENTER



The **EastGate Commerce Center** is a tremendous opportunity for Independence to attract over **\$800 million** in private capital investment.

**CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUPPORT THE EASTGATE COMMERCE CENTER PROJECT**

**LITTLE BLUE VALLEY WILL RESULT IN ONE OF THE LARGEST INVESTMENTS & ECONOMIC IMPACTS IN THE HISTORY OF INDEPENDENCE**

The project will attract new employers who will create over **5,000 family supporting jobs**.



The **Independence, Fort Osage and Blue Springs school districts** will all see **significant increases** in tax revenue and the **city has no financial risk**

**THE PROJECT IS BEING ENTIRELY FUNDED BY THE DEVELOPER**

**HELP SUPPORT THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR INDEPENDENCE!**

**SCAN CODE TO FILL OUT THE FORM**



The Independence City Council needs to hear from the community that they support this project so that this isn't a lost opportunity for Independence. We are asking Chamber members to share support for the EastGate Commerce Center project with members of the Independence City Council. We have set up a very simple process for you through a web page we have created. Please go to the web page and fill out the form that will contact each one of the Independence City Council members on this important issue and to show your support in the project.

**ACTNOWINDEPENDENCE.COM**



# Download the NEW Chamber Mobile App!

## Stay organized and connected with Chamber news, announcements, and upcoming events!

### APP FEATURES



Ability to quickly search the member directory to find fellow members



Easy accessible list of important dates and upcoming events with the ability to register for events anytime



On-demand video: Watch the latest Chamber videos anytime



Read weekly newsletters anytime



Engage and interact with each other through the groups feature



Search Independence Chamber in your app store

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD



# APRIL LUNCHEON

*Featured Speaker*



*Michael Baxley*  
Englewood Arts

Please make plans to attend the April Membership Luncheon. Our speaker this month will be Michael Baxley, Executive Director of Englewood Arts. He will be sharing the latest status on the Englewood Arts projects including some slides!

**PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND!**

*When:*

**APRIL**

**Wednesday**

**20**

**11:30 AM-1:00 PM**

*Where:*

**Stoney Creek Hotel  
18011 Bass Pro Dr.  
Independence, MO  
64055**

**PRESENTING SPONSOR**

**CaPa**

Child Abuse Prevention Association

# MAY LUNCHEON



*Graduation Day!*

It's graduation day! Plan to attend the May Membership Luncheon & L.E.A.D. Graduation to celebrate the graduates of the L.E.A.D. 2021-2022 program. We will hear remarks from a few of the graduates on what they experienced through the program and also from one of the L.E.A.D. instructors.

**PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND!**

*When:*

**MAY**

**Wednesday**

**18**

**11:30 AM-1:00 PM**

*Where:*

**Stoney Creek Hotel  
18011 Bass Pro Dr.  
Independence, MO  
64055**

**PRESENTING SPONSOR**



## Officers:

**Eric Knipp**  
Chair of the Board  
i360 Insurance, LLC

**Doug Cowan**  
Treasurer  
Community Services League

**Matt Medley**  
Chair Elect  
3 Trails Brewing Company

**Beth Franklin**  
Past Chair of the Board  
Keller Williams Real Estate

## Ex Officio Members:

**Kurt Graham**  
Harry S Truman Library

**Dr. Dale Herl**  
Independence School District

**Dr. Robert Jerome**  
Blue Springs School District

**Dr. Thomas Meyer**  
MCC - Blue River

**Dr. Jason Snodgrass**  
Fort Osage School District

**Zach Walker**  
City of Independence

## Board of Directors:

**Aaveg Anand**  
GEHA

**Jim Allin**  
Fish Window Cleaning

**Austin Conley**  
Austin Conley Agency

**Alec Cook**  
Continental Siding

**Ron Finke**  
Stewardship Capital

**Bob Glaser**  
Community America Credit Union

**Yvonne Hall**  
Blue Ridge Bank & Trust

**Mary House**  
Cruise Planners

**Bret Kolman**  
Centerpoint Medical Center

**Christina Leakey**  
Truman Habitat for Humanity

**Cindy McClain**  
McClain Enterprises, Inc.

**Brad Smith**  
Drumm Farm Center for Children

**Kenny Soule**  
Asphaltic Surfaces

**Brad Speaks**  
Speaks Family Legacy Chapels

**Terri Steele**  
Evans & Steele Financial, LLC

**Trevor Tilton**  
The Trevor Tilton Farmers Agency

**Laurie Dean Wiley**  
Financial Advisor - Hoot Owl Financial

**Jonathan Zerr**  
Kapke & Willerth, LLC

## Chamber Team:

**Tom Lesnak**  
President & CEO  
tom@ichamber.biz

**Trina Anderson**  
Director of Membership Services  
trina@ichamber.biz

**Lynne Baker**  
Business to Education Connector  
lynne@ichamber.biz

**Amy Knipp**  
SantaCaliGon Festival Director  
amy@ichamber.biz

**Mikealene Evans**  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
mikealene@ichamber.biz

**Paula McKinney**  
Administrative Assistant  
paula@ichamber.biz

**Kris Zerr**  
Vice President & Director of Finance  
kris@ichamber.biz

**Andréa Zorich**  
Events Coordinator  
andrea@ichamber.biz



## MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBER

### Welcome to the Chamber, Amy Knipp!

Amy has joined the Chamber staff as the SantaCaliGon Festival Director.

Amy is an Independence native and previously worked for the Chamber as the Events Coordinator until 2017 when she left to serve as the Director of the Independence School District Foundation. Amy has not only been a volunteer of the festival the last several years, but also volunteers for many numerous organizations in the community.



#### CONTACT INFO:

EMAIL - amy@ichamber.biz  
OFFICE PHONE - (816) 333-4850

**AMY KNIPP**  
SantaCaliGon Festival Director



# Leadership

Quote of the Quarter

“Everyone has the potential to become an encourager. You don’t have to be rich. You don’t have to be a genius. You don’t have to have it all together. All you have to do is care about people and initiate.”

~ John C. Maxwell ~



OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

210 West Truman Road  
Independence, MO 64050  
816-252-4745  
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# ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



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