

The Chamber

View



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
April/May/June 2024



Annual Chamber Golf Classic

Friday, June 21, 2024
Winterstone Golf Course

Legacy Partner & Community Leaders



The Independence Chamber of Commerce is grateful for our Legacy Partner & Community Leader Members!

We appreciate their ongoing support allowing us to offer programs and events that help our city and members grow and prosper.

Legacy Partner



Community Leaders

As
ASPHALTIC SURFACES

LLC.

Paving our way into the future



CENTERPOINT
MEDICAL CENTER



INDEPENDENCE
MISSOURI

A GREAT AMERICAN STORY



stewardship
capital

Financial Advisors
With a Unique Investment Philosophy



CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY

JUNE 21, 2024

WINTERSTONE GOLF COURSE

**SIGN UP BY
JUNE 8TH
FOR THE BEST
PRICING!**

**SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**

*Prizes
Raffles
& Fun*



**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS
JUNE 14TH!**

EARLY BIRD TEAM PRICING UNTIL JUNE 8TH!

CHAMBER MEMBERS: \$500/EARLY BIRD TEAM PRICING
\$550/TEAM AFTER JUNE 8TH -OR- \$150/INDIVIDUAL
NON-MEMBER: \$600/EARLY BIRD TEAM PRICING
\$650/TEAM AFTER JUNE 8TH -OR- \$175/INDIVIDUAL

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

TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFO
CONTACT ANYONE AT THE CHAMBER
INFO@ICHAMBER.BIZ OR 816.252.4745

**» REGISTER
NOW!**



APRIL

APRIL 4

TASTY THURSDAY
Networking from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Carrabba's Italian Grill
19900 Valley View Pkwy



APRIL 5

MEMBERSHIP PERKS
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.



The Chamber offers many membership perks that can help your business. Whether you are a new member or a member that needs a refresher on all things Chamber related, be sure to join us for an informative meeting to learn about Chamber benefits and programs offered to our members.

APRIL 9

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

APRIL 10

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

APRIL 15

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce

APRIL 17

NEW MEMBER SHOWCASE & MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
The City House
14300 E Us Highway 40

PRESENTED BY

capa
Child Abuse Prevention Association



Featured Speaker

Steven McBee
Owner
McBee's Coffee N' Carwash

Join us for an an inspiring speaking event, with Steven McBee with McBee's Coffee N' Carwash, "Thriving Through Chaos: Strategies for Success". Steven will dive into the transformative journey of a startup, evolving from chaos to a structured and productive business system. Discover how a well-defined business environment can lead to success and enhance the personal and professional lives of every team member. Learn valuable insights into customer retention, team satisfaction, and the intrinsic value of an efficient system. Don't miss this opportunity to unlock the secrets of startup success with Steven McBee, in a world where chaos is the only constant.



The New Member Showcase will feature exhibit tables where our newest members will present information about their businesses. It's a perfect chance for you to make valuable business connections and build professional relationships. Don't miss out on this exciting addition to our event!

APRIL 19

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

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

APRIL 19

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

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

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

APRIL 23

SMALL BUSINESS BREAKFAST CLUB
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd



APRIL 24

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce

APRIL 25

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

United Consumer Credit Union is our host this month. Stop by to mingle, strengthen your professional contacts, network, and socialize while enjoying complimentary snacks and beverages.



MAY

MAY 1

DEI LEARNING SERIES
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd



During this DEI Learning Series we will discuss understanding what unconscious bias is and how it impacts decision-making in business and the strategies to recognize and address unconscious bias.

MAY 2

TASTY THURSDAY

Networking from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
El Pico Mexican Restaurant
106 W Maple Avenue



MAY 7

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
BIZ, BITES & BANTER**
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd



Calling all Young Professionals! Join us for Biz, Bites & Banter! Are you a Young professional between the ages of 18 and 39? This is the perfect lunchtime group for you! We will be hearing from Big Brothers Big Sisters KC about their organization and volunteer opportunities. We will also be hearing about other civic organizations in Independence and volunteer opportunities.

SPONSORED BY



MAY 8

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

MAY 14

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

MAY 15

**L.E.A.D. GRADUATION & MONTHLY
MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON**
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
The City House
14300 E US Highway 40

Join us for the May Membership Luncheon featuring the graduation of this year's LEAD class!



MAY 17

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

MAY 17

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

MAY 20

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING**
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce

MAY 28

SMALL BUSINESS BREAKFAST CLUB
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd



JUNE

JUNE 5

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

JUNE 6

**ANNUAL CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP
APPRECIATION PICNIC**
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
211 W Truman Rd (Uptown Market)



All Chamber Members are invited to attend the annual Member Appreciation Day!

This exciting event promises to be a fun-filled day of free food, amazing networking opportunities, and plenty of opportunities to connect and engage with other members of our community. This is the perfect chance to learn more about your fellow Chamber Members and the businesses they represent.

JUNE 11

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

JUNE 12

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

AND

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Englewood Arts
10901 E Winner Rd



Featured Speaker

Michael Baxley
Englewood Arts

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE

Please contact Mikealene Evans if you are interested. Email: mikealene@ichamber.biz
-or- Phone: (816) 607-8827

JUNE 17

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING**
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce

JUNE 21

44TH ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC
7:00 AM-3:00 PM
Winterstone Golf Course
17101 E Kentucky Road

SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



JUNE 27

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
The Peace Pavilion
607 W Lexington Ave

Join us for an engaging Business After Hours event hosted by Corporate Copy Print! Enjoy complimentary snacks and beverages while you connect with peers and build valuable relationships.



Ribbon Cuttings

INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER



January 5, 2024

9 Round
19321 E US 40 HWY Suite K
Independence, MO 64055



January 17, 2024

Eastgate Commerce Center
Building A2
2500 Little Blue Parkway
Independence, MO 64057



January 24, 2024

The Big Biscuit
16506 East US Highway 40
Independence, MO 64055



February 16, 2024

Mattress Mike
9101 E US Hwy. 40
Independence, MO 64055



February 21, 2024

KC Hearing Center
17601 E US Hwy 40, Suite L
Independence, MO 64055

Ribbon Cuttings

INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER

INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER



March 1, 2024

EPIC Center KC
19310 E 50th Terrace
Independence, MO 64055



March 6, 2024

TNC Community
17601 E US Highway 40, Suite A
Independence, MO 64055



We would be delighted to help your business celebrate a grand opening, new management, new location, or a remodel or expansion at your present location with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Please contact Paula McKinney at paula@ichamber.biz to schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony or scan the QR code to apply online.



Be a part of our Lunch Mob!

Join us for a lunch mob the **first Thursday of each month**, where we patronize a Chamber member in the food industry. Each month a different Chamber member is selected. The best part? There's no set time – come whenever it suits you! But mark your calendars for the **dedicated networking hour from 12 pm to 1 pm**. Can't make it on the day? No worries! Show your support by leaving a glowing review for our fantastic Chamber member on social media.

REGISTER TO ATTEND ONLINE



April/May/June 2024 **7**

I INDEPENDENCE

Video Contest

iloveindependence.org

Capture the soul of the city through stories, people, events and places in Independence



SPONSORED BY



SCAN CODE TO LEARN MORE



Contest opens April 2, 2024
Closes July 4th, 2024
Independence Day



Contest open to all individuals high school age or older.

L.E.A.D. CLASS 2024

APPLY NOW!
DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS SEPTEMBER 1ST

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE INDEPENDENCE L.E.A.D. 2024-2025 CLASS



REGISTER TODAY! The 2024-2025 L.E.A.D. Independence class will meet 9 times on the third Thursday of each month from September to May. The L.E.A.D. Independence 2024 class will choose what they study and what businesses and sites they will visit.

**CLASS STARTING SOON!
DON'T DELAY IN REGISTERING!**



CALL FOR MORE INFO
816.252.4745

SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE INFO OR TO APPLY



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.



8:30 AM • April 19, 2024
8:30 AM • May 17, 2024

JOIN US IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM



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



Online via Zoom
Please register to receive Zoom information

TO ATTEND, PLEASE KINDLY REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT



You're Invited!



11th Annual
Member Appreciation
Chamber Picnic

JUNE

11:30 AM

6

1:00 PM

Independence Uptown Market
211 W. Truman Rd.

Join fellow Chamber Members for
a Member Appreciation Day!

Food, fun & networking!

FREE event celebrating
our Chamber members!

LET US KNOW
YOU ARE COMING
SCAN THE CODE TO
REGISTER



Member Spotlight



Lynne Baker
Business to
Education Connector

“It’s Like a Big Hug...”

Walking into Pickens Sweet Treats on the Independence Square is entering a chocolate heaven. You are swept up in viewing the beautifully decorated Easter Baskets, specially designed bunnies, lovely chocolate candies displayed in a perfect setting and my favorite...cookies! The Pickens sisters, Natalie and Nanette, arrived in Independence by a very circuitous route, but are so very pleased to now be a part of our warm and welcoming community.

Natalie and Nanette were born into a very special family. Their father was an LA Police Officer and their mom was raising six children, three girls and three boys, but an entrepreneur, as well. She made and sold candy at craft fairs and doctors’ offices. Together, they believe their parents gave them the strong foundation for life...teaching them to be hard-working, independent thinkers with integrity and honesty. The sisters have used their families teachings to guide them throughout their lifetime. The Pickens family grew up in Huntington Beach, California, however, when their Dad retired, he wanted to find a place where there was lower crime and lower taxes. He researched and visited five cities and states which were potential new homes. The Pickens Family settled in Warsaw, MO in 1991. Their parents had raised their six children, with a strong sense of supporting and caring for each other. “Look around the table, these are the best friends you will have in your life” was a statement and a goal the parents wanted to pass on to their children.



Natalie and Nanette found initial life goals in two different directions. Their parents invested in a Subway franchise, making Natalie the youngest franchise owner in Subway history...she was 18 years old at the time. Nanette attended BYU, with a declared major in Communication and Broadcasting, but she knew that career wasn't for her. Thus, to make a living, Nanette began working in restaurants, waiting tables, but moved up to becoming a store manager for Einstein Bagels. She called Natalie to join her in Utah and soon both sisters were employed by Einstein Bagels. Natalie became the Vice-President of Operations and Training and Nanette was a Director of Operations. In 2015, Einstein Bagels were sold and many upper management positions were eliminated. The sisters had moved to the Kansas City area to be near their parents and brothers. As their parent's health declined, the sisters became the main caretakers for their parents...continuing the theme of their parent's teaching: "Family comes first!". Following family tradition, two of their brothers are KCPD police officers. While caring for their parents, their Dad reminded the sisters, "Everybody loves chocolate. You girls need to open a candy store." The sisters continue to use some of their mom's recipes and her molds for candy making.

“
Family
comes first
”

Starting part-time at the Ennovation Center in Independence, Natalie and Nanette began taking small steps in building their new business. Because of the Ennovation Center structure, they were able to make Pickens Sweet Treats viable. The sisters were able to grow from a seasonal, hourly side business to full-time year round entrepreneurs! On December 1, 2023, Pickens Sweet Treats found a new home on the Square. With the help of the Chamber's own Jodi Krantz, they located the perfect spot. The sisters immediately knew...this spot was meant to be their new store! In an ironic twist, they are located in a store front which served the ISD student store and their first wholesale order was received from the Independence School District.

Natalie and Nanette are so excited to have received such a warm and appreciative welcoming to Independence. They stated their business has received such strong support from the Independence Chamber and the Independence Square Association! The sisters believe their business, as well as themselves, have received such a delightful and appreciative reception, it is "like a big hug".

Natalie and Nanette were quick to give their appreciation to Jodi Krantz, Vice President of Economic Development, Xander Winkel, the former manager of the Ennovation Center, as well as our amazing Independence community. Natalie and Nanette are all you would hope to find in new business owners in Independence. Warm, inviting and kind, following the important teachings of their parents, and bringing fabulous and delicious sweet treats to our Independence Square. The chocolate goodies are divine.

I purchased some of their bunny sticks for my friend and her companions at a local senior care center. These ladies were thrilled because they were given a unique, lovely decorated, wonderful tasting chocolate treat. That is the way I felt, upon leaving Pickens Sweet Treats, it had given me a delightful start to my day, so very welcoming me to their store and I too, felt



Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

1-4 Years - April-June 2024

1st Class Administrative Services LLC
3rd Generation Plumbing
A Plus Janitorial Services LLC&G Property Care
Ace Pipe Cleaning, Inc.
Adjuvant Physical Therapy LLC.
Adobe
Authentic Life Clinical Counseling & Wellness
Baptist Homes of Independence
Bennie Eubanks
Brent Schondelmeyer Consulting
Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center
Coomber Consulting LLC
Dedicated Senior Medical Center
Dream Vacations - Jason Fiola & Associates
Extra Space Storage
Fit Learning KC
Fully Promoted Independence
GO Car Wash
Gutter Helmet
GVC Chiropractic of Independence

Here on Earth LLC
Impress KC
Julie Moreno
KC Scholars
LR Taylor Agency LLC
Lucas Commercial Flooring Group, Inc.
Market 1900 Apartment Homes
Market Advisory Group
McBee's Coffee N' CarWash
Meyers Funeral Chapel Inc
Morton Man HVAC and Plumbing
Oak Street Health
Paws & Pals
Ravelco Midwest LLC
RW Bolger Square LLC
RYAN'S, LLC
St. Croix Hospice
Sunshine Art by Nancy
Superior Electrical Construction
The Davies Group, Chartwell Realty

5-14 Years - April-June 2024

A Little Bar-B-Q-Joint
Alicia Scott - State Farm Insurance Agent
Alissa's Flowers, Fashion & Interiors
Bank Midwest
Bass Pro Shops
Blue Ridge Bank- Independence Square
Blue Ridge Bank- Raytown
Blue Ridge Bank- Sterling
B-Vogue Salon & Gallery
Carter Broadcast Group, Inc.
Centerpoint Physicians Group
Commercial Concepts & Furnishings
Cook Ellis, LLC
County Beverage Company Inc.
Edward Jones, Matt Flax
Evans and Steele Financial Services
Family Care of Independence
FISH Window Cleaning
Gerken Rent-All Inc.
GFI Digital
Hollis+Miller Architects
Jackson County
Jackson County Pulmonary Medical Group LLC
JE Dunn Construction Co

Job One
John Kimak
Kansas City Managed IT
Kansas City Property Solutions LLC
Landmark National Bank
Laurie Dean Wiley, Financial Advisor - Hoot
Owl Financial
Midwest Neurology Physicians
Midwest Public Risk
Minsky's Pizza
Monterey Park Rehabilitation & Health Care
Center
Nancy C. Kimak
Pepperwood Apartments - Office
Planet Fitness- Noland Rd.
Pure Water Oasis
R & K Auto Body LLC
Sound Check
State Farm Agent, Lesley Siegfried
Sunrise Montessori Academy of Independence
Town & Country Building Services
Treo Marketing
Under the Awning Boutique
West iND Connection 501(c)3

15-24 Years - April-June 2024

American Funding Solutions LLC
American Sweeping Inc
Associated Services in Insurance Inc
Better Business Bureau
Burd & Fletcher Co.
Carrabba's Italian Grill
CommunityAmerica Credit Union- Noland
Eastland Trails Apartments
Edward Jones, Corey Long
Emerick & Company, CPAs
Fairmount Plaza Apartments

Full Employment Council Inc./Missouri Job Center
Mid-Continent Public Library - Midwest Genealogy Center
Mid-Continent Public Library- North Independence Branch
Mid-Continent Public Library-Administrative Headquarters
Mid-Continent Public Library-South Independence Branch
Opdahl & Bowen DDS, PC
Reece & Nichols Realtors, Daniel O'Neill
State Farm Insurance, Kim Downey Noble
Staybridge Suites
Winterstone Golf Course

WELCOME

New Chamber Members

25-39 Years - April-June 2024

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

40-49 Years - April-June 2024

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

50 Years Plus - April-June 2024

The Examiner

Cheers for Success!

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

January-March 2024

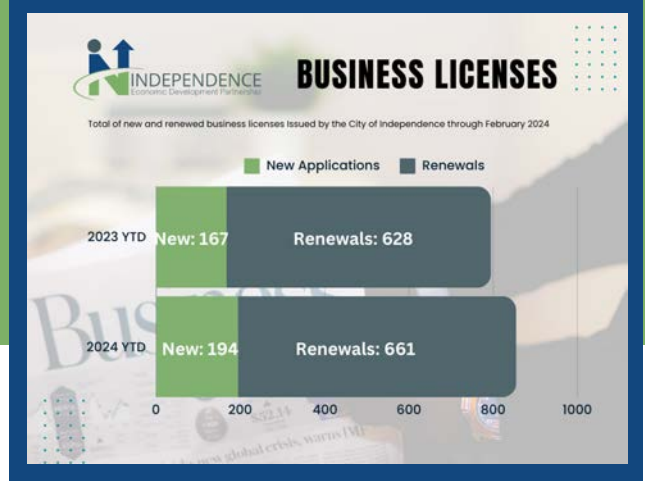
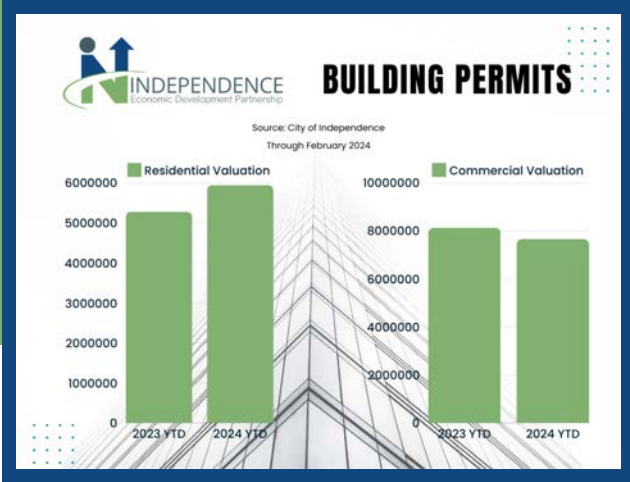
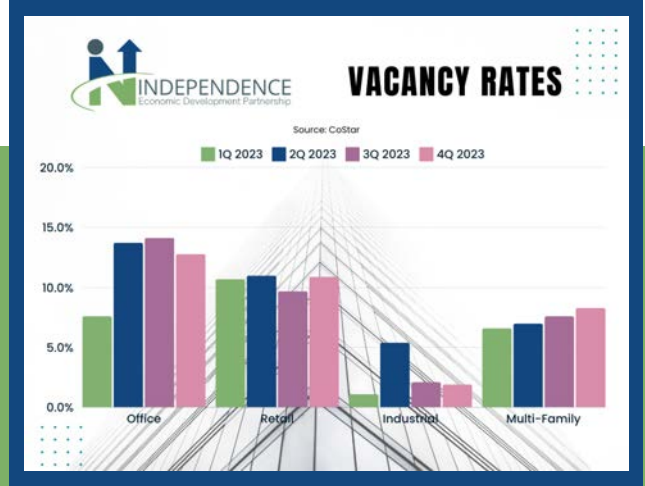
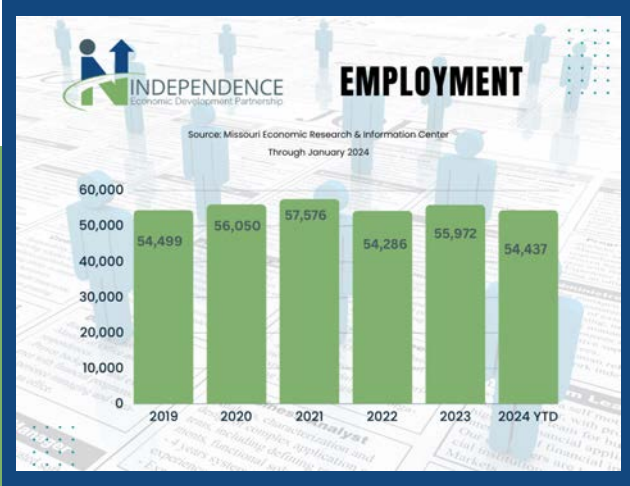
- 3.14 Catalyst
- Academy Bank
- BA Botanicals
- EEC Windows, Siding & Roofing
- Emmy's Nails
- Empower Financial Group of USA LLC
- FACE KC
- Ferguson Computer Services, Inc
- Heather Wiley - Candidate for City Council
- Katie Volz
- KC Dental Implants & Oral Surgery
- Key City Locksmith and Security
- Mattress Mike
- Melissa Olivarez-Mary Kay
- Meritas Health
- Missouri Model Railroad Museum
- Penner Property Management
- Pickens Sweet Treats
- Shack Shine
- Spirit World
- Sweep Dreams
- The Vendor Divas LLC
- United States Army Recruiting Station
- Well Within Collective

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THESE BUSINESSES AND ALL CHAMBER MEMBERS VISIT THE CHAMBER DIRECTORY WWW.BUSINESS.ICHAMBER.BIZ/DIRECTORY

SCAN QR CODE FOR THE DIRECTORY



Visit the NEW IEDP page on the Chamber's website
ichamber.biz/iedp



IMPACT AWARDS



Mattress Mike



KC Hearing Center



TNC Community

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES CONTACT

Jodi Krantz, Senior Vice President
 Independence Economic Development Partnership
 Email: jodi@ichamber.biz Phone: 816-463-3512

Leadership

Quote of the Quarter

“The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people.”

~ Theodore Roosevelt ~



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

ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



LABOR DAY WEEKEND
AUG. 30-SEPT. 2ND, 2024

COMING SOON!

SANTACALIGON.COM



Caught on Camera

