

The Chamber

View

Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome



New year, new focus, new energy!

January/February/March 2022

Community Leader Members

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



As
ASPHALTIC SURFACES

— LLC. —
Paving our way into the future



AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT



Lakewood Medical Center



LAKE CITY ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT

From the Chair



Eric J. Knipp
i360 Insurance, LLC

INCOMING BOARD CHAIR

When I first joined the Chamber over 15 years ago I never imagined where the road of membership would take me. I joined the Chamber with the purpose of meeting other business owners and people that would expand my business.

After joining the Chamber I was introduced to SantaCaliGon and joined the committee not long after. This event has been my passion for 14 years and has opened many doors to business, civic involvement and most importantly many great friendships.

As we enter this new year my challenge to our members is to get involved. Chamber membership can be the catalyst for many opportunities going forward. I encourage you to attend a business before or after hours, a Chamber luncheon, legislative briefing, or any of the many opportunities offered throughout the year.

Now is a great time to be a Chamber member. I encourage all members to get involved at whatever level is the right fit. The Chamber has many committees and opportunities that need your input and time to make them successful. **Now is the time!!**

Your Chamber is poised to enter 2022 strong and ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities this new year will bring.

The Chamber Board is dedicated to increasing membership, being a strong advocate for business and the community at City Hall, and looking at ways to continue strong community involvement for our members.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as Board Chair this year. I look forward to working with our Board, Chamber Members and the awesome Chamber Staff to make this a great year !

Eric J Knipp
Chamber Board Chair 2022
i360 Insurance, LLC

“
**Now is
the
time!!**
”

Calendar of Events

JANUARY 4

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

JANUARY 4

RIBBON CUTTING
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Belle Nail Studio
3424 NW Duncan

JANUARY 10

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

JANUARY 11

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

JANUARY 12

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

JANUARY 14

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



Join us for Part 1 on January 14th
and Part 2 February 4th.
Each get together will be based around
a different topic of membership.
January's topic is Events and
Networking.

JANUARY 14

FOODIE FRIDAY
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Hereford House
19721 E Jackson Dr.



Kick off KC Restaurant Week with us at
HEREFORD HOUSE! Guests will be able
to choose from a lunch specials menu
featured for KC Restaurant Week or the
restaurant's regular menu.

JANUARY 15

ANNUAL CHAMBER BANQUET
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Hilton Garden Inn

Join us for an evening
honoring Chamber busi-
nesses and individuals
who stand out in 2021!

We hear remarks from our President
and outgoing and incoming Chairs of
the Board in addition to an exciting
program featuring DUELING PIANOS!

JANUARY 18

YIPS LUNCH & LEARN
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Location: TBD



JANUARY 19

RIBBON CUTTING
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Whataburger
18902 E US Hwy 40

The doors have been open for a while
but we are thrilled to officially welcome
Whataburger to the Independence
business community with a ribbon
cutting ceremony.

JANUARY 21

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce



JANUARY 24

EJC CHAMBERS JOINT LUNCHEON
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Adams Pointe Conference Center
1400 NE Coronado Dr.
Blue Springs, MO 64014



Featured Speaker

Governor
Mike Parson

Join the Eastern Jackson County
Chambers for a special joint luncheon.
Featuring
Governor Mike Parson
as the guest speaker!

JANUARY 25

SPEAKER SERIES:
How to Stay Relevant in a Digital World
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Rd.



Staying relevant in a digital world is
crucial for business owners. Even when
it seems to run smoothly on word-of-
mouth referrals, we guarantee you've
lost business if a potential customer
found your website or social media
accounts outdated – or couldn't find
them at all.

Presenters
Alex Colley & Lori Davies

JANUARY 28

AMBASSADOR INFORMATIONAL
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W. Truman Rd.

FEBRUARY 1

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

FEBRUARY 2

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce

FEBRUARY 4

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



Join us for Part 2
Events and Networking
Learn about the many different
programs and networking events the
Chamber offers.

FEBRUARY 8

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

FEBRUARY 9

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

FEBRUARY 14

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

FEBRUARY 16

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



Featured Speaker

Zach Walker
City Manager

Plan to attend the February
Membership Luncheon to hear remarks
from City Manager, Zach Walker as he
presents the State of City Address.

FEBRUARY 18

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce

**LEGISLATIVE
BRIEFING**

FEBRUARY 18

MARKETING COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce

MARCH 1

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

MARCH 1

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DAY IN
JEFFERSON CITY
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MARCH 4

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



Join us for Part 1 on March 4th
and Part 2 on April 1st.
Each get together will be based around
a different topic of membership.

MARCH 8

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

MARCH 9

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

MARCH 11

FIRST RESPONDERS RECOGNITION &
AWARDS BREAKFAST
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Independence Uptown Market
211 W. Truman Rd.



Join us in honoring the men and
women that protect our city every day.
Annually, the Independence Chamber
recognizes and gives thanks to our
local first responders for the significant
and highly valued contributions they
provide to the businesses and citizens
in the City of Independence.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



FIRSTNET.
Built with AT&T

MARCH 14

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

MARCH 16

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

Plan to attend the March
Membership Luncheon at City House.
More information about the program
to come soon.

MARCH 18

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce

**LEGISLATIVE
BRIEFING**

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

www.iChamber.biz



PLEASE NOTE:

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

**INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER**
OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

Ribbon Cutting



October 1, 2021

Archwell Health
11605 E 23rd St S
Independence, MO 64050



October 8, 2021

Peterson Home Team
4706 S Shrank Dr
Independence MO 64055



October 14, 2021

MyMedicareRates.com
208 W. Lexington Avenue
Independence, MO 64050



October 15, 2021

THI Roofing & Guttering, LLC
3424 NW Duncan
Blue Springs MO 64015

Advocacy Day in Jefferson City



Tuesday | March 1, 2022

The Eastern Jackson County Chamber of Commerce's are traveling to Jefferson City to meet with representatives of local government, including Governor Mike Parson.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ITINERARY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

10:00 AM

Arrive at Missouri Chamber of Commerce 428 E. Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO

10:30 AM

Workforce Development Update

11:15 AM

Lunch (\$25/person)

NOTE: Transportation will be on your own)

11:30 AM

Legislative Update Kara Corches, Vice President Government Affairs Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry

12:15 PM

Depart for State Capitol 201 W Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO

12:45-3:00 PM

Meeting with Governor & Leadership: Governor Parson, Senate and House Leadership

3:00 PM

Meetings with Individual Representatives

5:00 PM

Depart for Kansas City

★ NOTE: Times are subject to change ★

QUESTIONS? Contact Tom Lesnak
tom@ichamber.biz or (816) 463-3510

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED
SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER**



PRESENTED BY:



Friday, March 11, 2022

7:30 AM

**Independence Uptown Market
211 W Truman Rd.**

Honoring the Men and Women that protect our city every day. Annually, the Independence Chamber recognizes and gives thanks to our local first responders for the significant and highly valued contributions they provide to the businesses and citizens in the City of Independence.



Heroism, bravery, dedication and outstanding service

Nominate a first responder from IPD, IFD or AMR to any of the four award categories which are:

NOMINATE NOW!

PLEASE FILL OUT THE NOMINATION FORM BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



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.

When:

January 21, 2022 • 8:30 AM
February 18, 2022 • 8:30 AM
March 18, 2022 • 8:30 AM

Where:

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

CANDIDATE FORUM

Meet the Candidates

CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE
February 2, 2022

MAYORAL
February 3, 2022

Both events will begin at **7:00 PM**
Fairmount Community Center
217 S Cedar Ave

EDUCATION	PRIORITY	MONITOR & SUPPORT	ONGOING SUPPORT
Continue to support full funding of Pre-K education and the A+ program through the foundation model.	X		
Support legislation increasing the bond capacity of public-school districts from 15% to 20%.			X
Support current law which limits charter schools to Kansas City and St. Louis school districts. All local tax funds should be under the control of a publicly elected local board.	X		
Support current legislation that grants the Local Education Agency (LEA) the ability to determine the best educational placement of a student including the impacts of virtual school participation.	X		
Support full funding of public education transportation funding.	X		
Support reasonable licensing fees for literary products for public libraries .			X

ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Support an increase in MTC Funding.			X
Re-establishment and designation of the Independence Tourism Department as a Destination Marketing Organization (DMO).			X
Support reasonable tax credit programs for historic preservation, affordable housing, job creation, work-force development, youth services and education as necessary incentives for the community.		X	
Support balanced economic development in partnership with the City and local taxing entities through the Incentive Review Committee to ensure Independence can remain competitive in attracting jobs and capital investment			X

INFRASTRUCTURE

Support access to state and federal funding for improvements to Missouri Highway 7 in Independence.	X		
Support funding from any federal infrastructure program to provide funding for bridges, roads, transit, commuter rail and pedestrian trail options in Eastern Jackson County.	X		
Support full funding for Amtrak River Runner allowing for two trains per day connecting Kansas City and St. Louis.	X		
Support renaming of the Kansas City airport in honor of President Harry S Truman	X		

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Expand the MOABLE Program through supporting the ABLE Age Adjustment Act.	X		
Renew the Hospital Reimbursement Allowance.		X	
Support funding of Medicaid Expansion as approved by Missouri's Voters in 2020.		X	

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

Support establishment of a Charter Review Commission to review the City of Independence Charter	X		
Support legislation that would reinstate municipal courts the ability to enforce and assess fines for violations of minor traffic offenses including the suspension of licenses for offenders who fail to pay court fines and/or appear in court and to place the limit of the fine amount to \$500.00.		X	
Support legislation that protects the cable franchise fee for municipalities.	X		
Oppose election law changes which would alter election dates, filing deadlines, partisan municipal elections and early voting/absentee voting.	X		

UTILITIES

Support the Balance Energy Resolution.		X	
Continue positive dialogue between the municipal utility company and the community to achieve the best possible electric utility rates and services for commercial ratepayers including costs related to future electrical generation.	X		

Member Spotlight



Lynne Baker
Business to
Education Connector

I have met very interesting people while being a part of the Independence Chamber, and I will add Brett Starr, owner of Auto Beauty Center to that list! Brett, a native of Oregon, came to the Midwest, through a set of fortuitous circumstances! A D-I Basketball Player (Oregon State Beavers), Brett came to the Kansas City area to work at Meyers Laboratories. Brett traveled a very circuitous route...living in Hawaii, then LA and then to Blue Springs, MO... to work with Meyers Labs. His spirit of entrepreneurship has been a leading force in his life, leaving his job with Meyer Labs, to follow his next vision. His company, Auto Beauty Center is a one stop service business for automobiles, which is defined by his belief in providing every possible car service for the satisfaction of his customers!

Auto Beauty Center, provides auto body repair, cosmetic repair, paint less dent removal, as well as a detailing service. In addition, Auto Beauty Center has expanded into windshield repair, auto mechanical repairs, as well as rental of cars to customers, bed liners, undercoating and rust proofing. Brett's ultimate satisfaction is seeing the face of an appreciative and happy customer.

Brett has molded his own business after two very well know brands, Southwest Airlines and Beauty Brands. He noted Southwest Airlines employees are always friendly, and helpful and provide customer service extraordinaire! Beauty Brands and their concept was brought to his attention, because his wife and two daughters would travel to one place and find all the services and products needed to keep them as "young and beautiful" as possible! Brett also noted Auto Beauty Center is one of the few companies continuing to provide the Ming Paint Protection Process. He has customers come from great distances to receive that protection service for their vehicles, even from California.

With my work for the Academies of ISD, I was particularly interested in his explanation of himself as an "entrepreneur at heart"! Brett explained that having an entrepreneurial spirit is a person who is willing to take a risk, has a visionary mind, evaluates a business and measures how that business can be made more attractive, to separate it from the competition.

Dillion, the oldest of his three children, also works at Auto Beauty Center. He has done every job at the business and Brett is very proud of the strong work ethic his son has demonstrated. As Brett says, "There are no silver spoons in this family"!

Brett and his wife, who is from Boston, MA, never envisioned living in the Midwest! They have found a "great quality of life" here and really enjoy the friendliness that we Midwesterners offer.

Brett's goal for his company is to create an environment where his customers can receive all the services their cars need, saving them time and money, as well as keeping their cars in the best possible condition, both inside and out. Brett, we are so pleased that you have established your company, Auto Beauty Center, in this area. We, further appreciate your membership in the Independence Chamber of Commerce.

**"There are no
silver spoons in
this family"**



JANUARY EJC CHAMBERS LUNCHEON



Featured Speaker

**Governor
Mike Parson**

Join the Eastern Jackson County
Chambers for a special joint luncheon.

Featuring
Governor Mike Parson
as the guest speaker!

JANUARY

Monday

24

11:00 AM-1:00 PM

**Adams Pointe Conference Center
1400 NE Coronado Drive
Blue Springs, MO 64014**

SCAN TO REGISTER

**SCAN QR CODE
ON YOUR PHONE
TO REGISTER.**



FEBRUARY LUNCHEON STATE OF THE CITY



Featured Speaker

**City Manager
Zach Walker**

Plan to attend the February
Membership Luncheon to hear remarks
from Independence City Manager,
Zach Walker as he
presents the State of City Address.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday

16

11:30 AM-1:00 PM

**Stoney Creek Hotel & Conf. Center
18011 Bass Pro Drive
Independence, MO 64055**

SCAN TO REGISTER

**SCAN QR CODE
ON YOUR PHONE
TO REGISTER.**



Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

1-4 Years - January-March 2022

Pearl Electric LLC
Whataburger
Azure Apartments
K&K Kommercial Kleaning LLC
OUTFRONT
Wise Choices Financial LLC
DJHP Broadcasting
Interior Landscapes
Flying Horse Flatbreads
Independence Police Department Foundation
Expert Flooring Solutions
Oak Ridge Memory Gardens
Restoration 1 of Kansas City
Winchester LCAAP
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.
Nabholz Corporation
Albonée Country Inn and Vineyards LLC
Frannie Franks Coffee Cakes
Marr and Company, P.C.
Old Town Barber College
Baker Bros. Contractors, Inc.
RPS Benefits by Design
Novus Power Products LLC
Leo Accounting
Noland Road Community Improvement District
Big Boy Burgers
Bridget McCandless
Fattyhead Keto Dough
Budget Blinds of Concordia/Blue Springs
Philip Snodgrass State Farm Agency
Phoenix Nail Lounge
Associated Audiologists
Black Bear Diner
Hathhorn CPA LC
Lakewood Oaks Country Club
WIL-PAV, INC
BBBSKC
Big Bob's Flooring Outlet of Kansas City Inc
Workstrate LLC
Harbor Hospice
Real Country 1030 AM KCWJ
Taylor Garner - American Republic Insurance Services
Ambassador Corporate Renovations
Madden Media
Planet Fitness- 291 Hwy
Savior Auto
Game Cafe LLC
3 Trails Brewing Co.
Zarda Bar-B-Q and Catering Co.
Jackson County Historical Society
ELOAH Creativity Center
Heritage Companies
RJ's CoffeeLand
Good Shepherd Hospice
H&R Block-Independence Square
Sunterra Springs Independence
Church of the Four Corners
PeacePathways
Candlewood Suites
National Association of Parliamentarians
RDS Equipment, Inc.
The Delaware Event Space
ACS Services
Flying Colors Painting
Sarpinos Pizzeria
Paramount Health Chiropractic

5-14 Years - January-March 2022

Collins Roofing
Resource Health Services (formally Rachel House)
Brent Lilly Agency
Adventure Oasis Water Park
Bingham-Waggoner Estate
Chicago and Alton 1879 Depot
National Frontier Trails Museum
Hartsook
LDS Independence Missouri Visitors' Center
Nancy K Eppert
McAlister's Deli
GM Peters Agency, Inc.
Duluth Trading Company
Sonshine Sports Apparel, LLC
The Trevor Tilton Farmers Agency
Matchstick Websites
Zucca & Daughters & Sons Roofing Co., Inc
Truckmovers.com
Carhartt Independence Center
All Copy Products
Victorian Society of the Vaile Mansion and Dewitt Museum
Continental Siding Supply
Big Frog Custom T-Shirts & More
Crossroads Hospice and Palliative Care
Sibley Orchards and Cider Mill
Revive Church
GOAD COMPANY
One Community Hospice
Palmer Place Leasing Office
Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center
McClain Brothers Real Estate
Villages of Jackson Creek
University of Central Missouri
Wyatt Violin Shop LLC
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Kansas City
Village Heights Community of Christ
Kansas City Zoo
Blue Springs Ford
Family Wrench LLC
Drury Inn & Suites Independence
Sterling Plaza Apartments
Jackson County Health Department
Medical Imaging Eastland
WIC Independence (Women, Infants and Children Nutrition)
Vance & Associates, Inc.
Office Products Alliance
Sonic Drive In - Jackson Drive

Cheers for Success!

Happy Anniversary continued...

15-24 Years - January-March 2022

Cruise Planners
Edward Jones, Jon Klassen
Jim Blau Insurance Agency Inc.
Hy-Vee Food & Drug Store 40 Hwy
DeLuccie and O'Hara Law Offices LLC
Summit Computer Solutions
Swope Health Independence
Developing Potential, Inc.

Nativity of Mary School
NorthWest Communities Development Corporation
Residence Inn by Marriott
Consultants in Gastroenterology
City of Sugar Creek
Specialty Landscape Services LLC
Stewardship Capital, Ltd.

25-34 Years - January-March 2022

Blue Springs School District
CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services of K.C.
Truman Heartland Community Foundation
Drumm Farm Center for Children
Kapke & Willerth LLC

United Consumers Credit Union
Hawthorn Bank
K Martin Kuny Attorney
Super 8 Independence
Tim's Pizza

35-49 Years - January-March 2022

University Health Lakewood Medical Center
Spire Inc.
Unilever
Independence Center
Republic Services of Kansas City
AT&T
State Farm Insurance, Phil Burress
Jeannie Colvin CPA PC
Comprehensive Mental Health Services

Independence School District
Commerce Bank
Independence Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
Pharaoh Cinema 4 Theater
Stewart Cook Constance & Minton LLC
UMB Bank
Centerpoint Medical Center
Speaks Chapels LLC

50 Years

Carpenter and Company, Inc.

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 IN MANY
BUSINESS INITIATIVES.

WELCOME

New Chamber Members

October-December 2021

Nature Med
Cardinal Points Construction, Inc.
Funny Bones Chiropractic
Belle Nail Studio
L R Case-Harmon & Co CPA, LLC
Mum's Here
FedEx Ground
Allstate Insurance
Park University
Summit Pizza
Edward Jones, Michael Rowe
RG Capital Partners, LLC
Edward Jones, John Roberson
1st Class Real Estate KC
Marie A Hudson Farmers Insurance Agency
Allen Garner
Chefs For Seniors
Onin Staffing
dameSpeak
Austyn Anderson Summit Lending

FOR MORE INFO
ABOUT THESE
BUSINESSES & ALL
CHAMBER MEMBERS
VISIT
WWW.ICHAMBER.BIZ



Independence Chamber of Commerce 2022 Membership Directory and Resource Guide

Dear Valued Independence Chamber Member,

In 2021 the Chamber produced a beautiful Directory and Resource Guide. This year we are including more updated stories to attract visitors and new businesses to our area.

The magazine style publication will continue to feature us and why our community is so welcoming and wonderful for business. Readers will also learn why we are so vibrant and inviting for our way of life.

Our gorgeous, quality photos will tell our story. The new publication will be mailed out to all Chamber members as well as distributed to government offices, realtors, hospitals, visitor centers, major area employers, schools and other businesses. We will reach up to 15,000 readers! We also send copies to those requesting various information.

We will have sections on tourism, commerce, education, history, recreation, demographics, transportation, health, along with a detailed membership and business directory.

Reserve a space in your favorite section to promote your business to fellow members, consumers, as well as businesses seeking to relocate. Contact Chamber member Tammie Eason at 417-629-7935 or teason@metromediapublishers.com to secure the best placement in our 2022 publication.

Thank you for supporting the Chamber as we continue to promote our area as a great place to live, work, shop and play.

Sincerely,



Mikealene Evans

Independence Chamber of Commerce
Director of Marketing & Communications
Email: mikealene@ichamber.biz
Phone: (816) 607-8827



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
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Lynne Baker
Business to Education Connector
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Mikealene Evans
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Paula McKinney
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Kris Zerr
Vice President & Director of Finance
kris@ichamber.biz

Andréa Zorich
Events Coordinator
andrea@ichamber.biz


**INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER**
OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS
210 W. Truman Rd.
Phone: (816) 252-4745
www.ichamber.biz

MEET OUR NEW TEAM MEMBER

We'd like to introduce, Paula McKinney!

Paula McKinney will be assuming the part time position of administrative assistant. Paula has spent the last 18 years working as the office secretary at Proctor Elementary in the ISD school district. Paula will be assisting all the various Chamber divisions and committees, answering phone calls, website chats, and helping staff on various events and activities.

Help us welcome Paula to the Chamber team!



CONTACT INFO:

EMAIL - paula@ichamber.biz | OFFICE PHONE - (816) 875-9328

Paula McKinney
Administrative Assistant



Leadership

Quote of the Quarter

“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.”

~ Maya Angelou ~



OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

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

SOMETHING NEW IS Coming SOON

STAY TUNED

