

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Oct/Nov/Dec 2022



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









A GREAT AMERICAN STORY







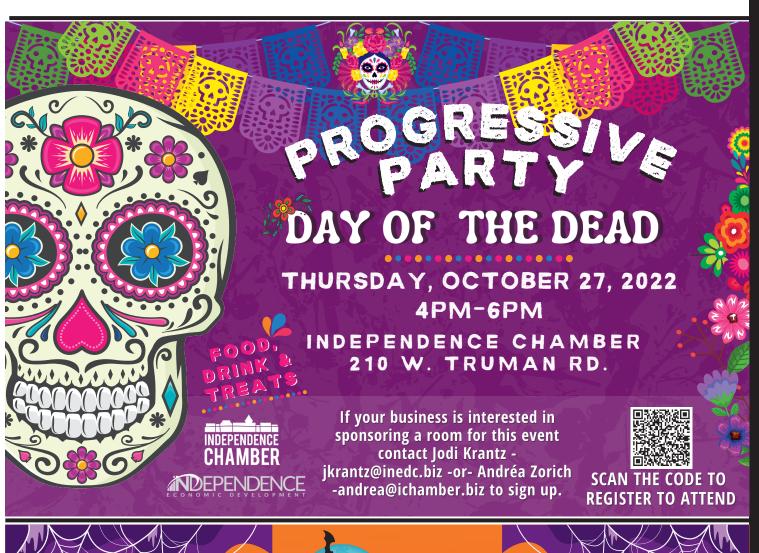
















Calendar of Events

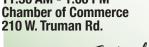
OCTOBER 5

RIBBON CUTTING 4:00 PM-5:00 PM Athletico Physical Therapy 4600 S Noland Rd

OCTOBER 6

SPEAKER SERIES:

Harnessing the Power of Story to Level
Up Your Marketing
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce





Featured Speaker

Evan Cox Evan Cox Consulting

Please register and plan to attend the Speaker Series where Evan Cox will be presenting on StoryBrand Marketing and how to communicate the right message for your business to stand out from the competition.

OCTOBER 7

FOODIE FRIDAY 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM V's Italiano Ristorante 10819 E US 40 Hwy



Have you ever been part of a "Lunch Mob"? This is our version. Members and their guests are invited to join us for this informal lunch gathering to enjoy a great meal, some networking and patronize a valued chamber member. This month we will be visiting V's Italiano Ristorante.

Please register so we can give the restaurant a heads up!

OCTOBER 10

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

OCTOBER 11

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

OCTOBER 12

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

OCTOBER 14

RIBBON CUTTING 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Nirvana Coffee 10707 E Winner Rd.

OCTOBER 18

CANDIDATE FORUM - CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE 6:30 PM Chamber of Commerce & Live on the Chamber's Facebook page



OCTOBER 19

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Hiram Young School Homeownership Ctr 505 N Dodgion Avenue

Women in Business

To celebrate Women in Business month, this month's program will be featuring a panel of women in business from within our community. Please register and join us for the October Membership Luncheon!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



OCTOBER 21

RIBBON CUTTING 11:30 AM-12:30 PM Classy Canines 12500 E US 40 Hwy, Suite I

OCTOBER 25

CANDIDATE FORUM - STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS 20, 21, & 29 6:00 PM Chamber of Commerce & Live on the Chamber's Facebook page



OCTOBER 27

PROGRESSIVE PARTY-DAY OF THE DEAD 4:00 PM-6:00 PM Chamber of Commerce

Join the Independence Chamber and Independence EDC for a frightfully fun progressive party networking event. This years theme is "Day of the Dead"! Each office will be decorated according to the theme and each room participant/business will provide a food, drink or treat item for our guests.



OCTOBER 28

RIBBON CUTTING 11:30 AM-12:30 PM The European Furniture Center 18809 E 39th St S

OCTOBER 29

74TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE 10:00 AM-11:30 AM Historic Independence Square

The 74th Annual Halloween Parade hosted by the Independence Chamber of Commerce will take place on October 29th, 2022! The parade consists of local businesses, organizations, and community leaders.



NOVEMBER 1

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

NOVEMBER 7

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

NOVEMBER 8

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

NOVEMBER 9

BOARD OF DIRECTORS RETREAT 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM Drumm Farm Center for Children Nelson Hall

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

NOVEMBER 16

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Hilton Garden Inn

Join us as we celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week with our own version of Shark Tank as three budding entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas to a panel of "sharks." With help from our audience, the sharks will select the company that gets funded with the winning pitch receiving \$500 to help fund their concept.

PRESENTING SPONSOR





NOVEMBER 17

BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM LOCATION: TBD



DECEMBER 2

L.E.A.D. ALUMNI HOLIDAY LUNCHEON 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Carrabba's Italian Grill 19900 E Valley View Pkwy



DECEMBER 6

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

DECEMBER 7

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

DECEMBER 8

HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vaile Mansion 1500 N Liberty St



DECEMBER 12

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

DECEMBER 13

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

DECEMBER 14

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

DECEMBER 14

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

Location: TBD

Please register and join us for the December Membership Luncheon. Program is to be determined.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact
Andréa Zorich
andrea@iChamber.biz or call
(816) 607-4911

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

www.iChamber.biz







July 21, 2022

Hiram Young School Homeownership Center 501 N Dodgion Street Independence, MO 64050



July 27, 2022

Drumm Farm Center for Children Drumm Campus 3210 S Lee's Summit Road **Independence MO 64055**



August 26, 2022

Adjuvant Physical Therapy 20101 East Jackson Drive, Suite C **Independence MO 64057**



September 22, 2022

Drumm Farm Center for Childre Duvall Campus Phase 2 3635 S Ponca Drive **Independence MO 64057**



September 29, 2022

Silver Heart Inn & Cottages 1114 S Noland Rd Independence, MO 64050

CANDIDATE FORUMS

CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE (Independence)

OCTOBER

Tuesday

6:30 PM

Independence Chamber of Commerce 210 W. Truman Road

-OR-

WATCH ON

LIVE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE Districts 20, 21 & 29

OCTOBER

Tuesday

6:00 PM

Questions for candidates may be submitted by email to: forum@ichamber.biz

ON QUESTION

THE INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER BOARD OF **DIRECTORS ENDORSES THE COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S SERVICES FUND**

The Independence Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has voted to support Question 1 (Community Children's Services Fund) on the upcoming November 8th ballot. The vote to support this ballot issue was unanimous at the September Chamber Board of Directors meeting.





Presented by:

xfinity

The 50th celebration of the SantaCaliGon Days Festival is now in the history books. We had a weekend filled with glorious weather, a fabulous lineup of talented performers, fantastic vendors, delightful dancing performances, competitive contests, and the ever so popular amusement rides at the carnival/midway. We also took time to honor our veterans and those who served our country with a pinning ceremony.

The festival has brought millions of dollars to Independence over the last 50 years. Those dollars have helped raise money for many non-profit and civic groups, sports teams, scouts, and small businesses that give back to the community. Many volunteers of the festival are your neighbors and friends who enrich this community by giving their time and efforts to make this event a huge success and fun family weekend.

This year we brought back the search of the hidden SantaCaliGon medallion, which was another big hit with getting the community involved with the event.

We also hosted the first wedding during the festival, when Troy Kuhnert, a long-time volunteer, married the love of his life Michelle Hawkins, who also performed at the Main Stage Saturday night.

We love hosting this event and we especially love bringing the community together to experience this unique Independence tradition. We hope you enjoyed it too!











THANK YOU

2022 SANTACALIGON SPONSORS xfinity

















































































Member Spotlight



I held the card in my hand. What a creative, ingenious card designed by Matchstick Websites... with a burned edge! So very clever! The two people behind the brand are just as creative and ingenious as their card. Andrew and Kelly Lightfoot are the technical and creative minds behind this powerful website design company. Kelly brings the creative genius, from her background of graphic design with her company, Ampersand. She received her education in the Commercial Art department, specializing in graphic design, at the University of Central Missouri. In working in the branding and design field with her clients at Ampersand, she realized that they needed websites, as well. Andrew, who was working with a software consulting firm, became an expert in WordPress, which is a somewhat complicated "Lego-type" building system for websites. In 2015, Matchstick Websites was born...a partnership that has embodied many aspects of Andrew and Kelly's life, both professional and personal. The Lightfoot's would be considered

the technical and creative "Chip and Joanna

Gaines" of the website world.

Kelly was raised in Troy, Missouri and Andrew's home was in Normal, Ill. They were both attending a local Lee's Summit church where they became friends and eventually were married in April 2011. Their professional partnership was established in 2015, when the couple began collaborating with the building of websites. Not only does Matchstick build websites, but they also provide ongoing security and maintenance for their clients...taking the stress away from the clients as they turn their website management over to the capable hands of Andrew and Kelly.





Most of Matchstick's clients are nonprofit and small business organizations. Andrew stated their key to success is to bring their personal touch to others, unlike many of the more commercial website creators, who may be located states away. Andrew related that he gained a new client simply by answering the phone! The client liked hearing a "live" voice on the other end of the line. Most of their clients are in the greater Kansas City area, however, Matchstick Websites also represents companies located in North and South Carolina, Illinois and South Dakota. One of their clients, Brent Wright of LifeNabled, has a nonprofit which creates prosthetics for adults and children in Third World countries. Andrew and Kelly manage over forty different client websites.

Faith has been an essential component of Andrew and Kelly's life journey. They strive to live out the "Golden Rule" in their business and personal lives. "Treat others the way you would like to be treated" is the hallmark of their success. People passing on their satisfaction "by word of mouth" has been a huge part of their business achievements, as well as being active in our Chamber of Commerce. One of the first websites they built was for Stewardship Capital, which led to a growing number of other local websites in Independence, including our own Independence Chamber of Commerce.

For fun, Andrew relaxes by playing several musical instruments and singing. Kelly has developed a new line of jewelry, The Lightfoot Collection. Their daughter, Mae, is six years old and in First Grade. They are thrilled to be able to work and share their business together. Kelly said: "Rough day, we shoulder it together and the good days, we celebrate together". Every year, the Lightfoots do an end-of-year review of their professional life, as well as their personal one. Last year, they were awarded the Non-Profit Connect's Philly Award, Gold in the Website Category for Wonderscope Children's Museum.

The personal touch, taking care of your customers when their needs arise. Kelly and Andrew believe this is the key to their business success. Together, with her creativity and his technical skills, they have built a successful company...entrepreneurs and partners...who live out their belief of serving others!

LEARN MORE ABOUT ANDREW AND KELLY BY VISITING THEIR WEBSITE - Matchstick Websites - https://matchstickwebsites.com
The Lightfoot Collection - https://thelightfootcollection.com





The L.E.A.D. Class began the year with a retreat and team building development at the Tucker Leader ship Lab. The L.E.A.D. class were given team challenges and trust building exercises fostering team growth and personal development.



Missouri Chamber of Commerce Workforce 2030 Conference

The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry is hosting the Workforce2030 Conference Oct. 25-26. 2022 in Independence. The fourth annual conference will explore the many strategies and programs that Missouri's employers, educators and organizations can implement leading up to the year 2030 to make our state the home of a thriving, vibrant workforce. As a member of your local chamber, you are eligible for a registration discount! Use code MCF20 when registering to receive 20% off.

Visit mochamber.com/workforce2030-conference for more information and to register! If you have questions, contact Ashley Schwab, Director of Conference Development, at aschwab@mochamber.com.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

1-4 Years - October-December 2022

MVP Awards and Engraving Synago LLC Kim Connects KC Home Team Smoothie King- Bolger Rd. A.G. Spanos Companies St. Michael the Archangel Frisk Brothers Moving

Worlds of Fun Konica Minolta Business Solutions Crown Staffing

United Way of Greater Kansas City
Aldi Inc. - 11605 E 23rd St
City Theatre of Independence
Monopoly Acquisitions, LLC

Ochsner Hare + Hare the Olsson Studio Metro Ford

Krete Construction
Asphaltic Surfaces
Hownd, Inc.

Family Investment Center
Holy Rosary Credit Union
POAH Preservation of Affordable Housing

Lunar Bowl Royal Lawn Service

The Dugout Indoor Softball & Baseball Facility

Res-Q Services Heating and Cooling Scott Davidson Ins Agency INC

Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes

On The Square Nutrition Horn Law Firm

Spectrum Paint Stella's Clean Vines, Clean-Crafted Wine

Rhonda Dolan Englewood Arts First Bank

Site Worx Construction Inc

Community Access
Salvus TG
Red Equipment LLC

CCR Roofing
Regents Flooring
Phillips Paving
PCC

Fine Cut Concrete Drilling & Sawing LLC Affordable Home Foundation Inc.

DLR Architect Group

North Point Boiler & Combustion

Lippert Mechanical Total Body Fitness

Preferred Asphalt & Concrete 🤍

Auto Beauty Center Pollard Orf and Associates Elite Services & Repairs, LLC

Omega Door

JMH Pest Management LLC Control Printing Group, Inc Edward Jones, Andrea McMillin

Edward Jones, Andrea M Xact Tax Services LLC Design Mechanical Commercial Doors KC Floorworx Martin Underground

Mobility First Inc.
Hirst Vox- Voice Productions

Embrace the Grape Beverage Catering

Thrift World King's Small Engine SBD Housing Solutions Brett Capital Group LLC

The Law Office of Daniel S Hobart

Starbucks Coffee Co.
Habitat For Humanity ReStore
Focused Forensic Solutions, LLC

Tucker Appraisals
Peterson Home Team

Central Bank - Noland Rd Affordable Home Foundation Inc. St. Mark's <mark>Uni</mark>ted Methodist

DuPree Consulting & PR, LLC LG Striping

Central Bank - Noland Rd Affordable Home Foundation Inc. St. Mark's United Methodist

LandRock City Credit Union

I Noah Guy Home Improvements Eastland Face and Body

Local Investment Commission (LINC)

Triad Inc. Doug Goodwin

Austyn Anderson Summit Lending

Allen Garner
Onin Staffing
Chefs For Seniors
1st Class Real Estate KC
Marie A Hudson Farmers Insurance Agency

ance Agency
Edward Jones, John Roberson
Funny Bones Chiropractic
RG Capital Partners, LLC
Edward Jones, Michael Rowe

Summit Pizza Park University Allstate Insurance FedEx Ground Mum's Here

L R Case-Harmon & Co CPA, LLC Belle Nail Studio

Cardinal Points Construction, Inc. Nature Med

Nature Med ShowMe Pension Group, Inc.

15-24 Years - Oct-Dec 2022

Auto Color & Equipment Inc.

McDaniel Furnace & Sheet Metal Inc.
Recognition Plus
Red Carpet Service

Silverstein Eye Centers PC

V's Italiano Ristorante

Hilburn Trucking Inc.

Independence School District Foundation
State Farm Insurance, Stacey Schell Newland

Hereford House Restaurant

ISA

Rand Construction Co.

BerganKDV

Kansas City Public Library -Trails West Branch

BeHereNow Cafe Verona

Clinton's Soda Fountain Gilbert Whitney & Co Ophelia's Restaurant & Inn Square Pizza

AAA Disposal Service Children's Mercy Studio on Main

25-39 Years - Oct-Dec 2022

Bank of Grain Valley
Fort Osage R-I School District
Harry S. Truman Library and Museum

Downey Construction Inc.

Greg's Lock & Key Service Inc.

Cargo Largo

Columbia College

Glenn's Tire & Automotive Inc The Fountains at Greenbrian

Independence Womens Clinic

1st MidAmerica Credit Union
Balanced Body Chiropractic Center PC

Junior Service League of Independence Rotary Club of Independence

Smokehouse Barbecue

Gallagher Insurance & Risk Management Independence Housing Authority

Midwest Machine Co. Inc.

5-14 Years - October-December 2022

Mother's Refuge
Edward Jones, Chris Thiele
Edward Jones, Adam Kliethermes
Kansas City Mavericks Pro Hockey
State Farm Insurance, Chad Mitchell

Main Street Coffee House
Mauer Law Firm
Hope House

Phoenix Home Care & Hospice Hy-Vee Food & Drug Store 23rd St

Servpro of Lee's Summit, Raytown, East Kansas City Courthouse Exchange Restaurant & Lounge

El Pico Mexican Restaurant

Wild About Harry Men's Accessories & Furnishings Charlie's Car Wash

First Federal Bank of Kansas City Newmark Grubb Zimmer

New Diamond Bowl RE/MAX Elite, REALTORS - T. David Rogers Allis Chalmers Industrial Park
The Arc of the Ozarks

My Place Hotel Blair's Foster Socks Kansas City Comets

University Health Community Care Fairmount

Twin Peaks 1360 Insurance, LLC Kelly Freeland All Star Pictures

Highway 7 Chiropractic
Community Blood Center

Independence Family Eye Care Speaks Chapels LLC- Suburban Chapel

Speaks Chapels LLC- Buckner Chapel Jim Carter Truck Parts KJ Remodeling LLC

Hap Graff Lotus Key Homes LLC Austin Conley Agency

40-49 Years - Oct-Dec 2022

Blue Ridge Bank and Trust Co Cornell Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. L & C Meat Inc.

Ted's Trash Service Inc. Scott King, Attorney

Comcast
City of Independence

City of Independence Fig.

City of Independence Fire Dept. City of Independence Police Dept. City of Independence Power & Light

- Cheers for Success to all!

July-September 2022

ShowMe Pension Group, Inc. The Krystal Venue LLC Three Oaks Hospice **Nate Tate the Insurance Guy Blystone Insurance Agency** The Cleaning Crew of KC LLC **Enchanted CPR LLC Fort Nutrition**

Out &In Moving **Independence Manor Care Center** State Public Safety & Investigations The Luxe Event Space Athletico Nirvana Coffee Silver Heart Inn **Justin Garner Dentistry**

R MORE INFO ABOUT THESE BUS & ALL CHAMBER MEMBERS VISIT THE CHAMBER DIRECTORY NESS.ICHAMBER.BIZ/DI

SCAN OR CODE





OCTOBER LUNCHEON

Women in Business

To celebrate Women in Business month, this month's program will be featuring a panel of women in business from within our community.

PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND!

OCTOBER

Wednesday

19

11:30 AM-1:00 PM

2

Hiram Young School Homeownership Center 505 N. Dodgion Ave.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



NOVEMBER LUNCHEON



Join us as we celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week with our own version of Shark Tank as three budding entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas to a panel of "sharks." With help from our audience, the sharks will select the company that gets funded with the winning pitch receiving \$500 to help fund their concept.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday

16

11:30 AM-1:00 PM



Hilton Garden Inn 19677 E Jackson Dr Independence, MO 64057

PRESENTING SPONSOR

UMKC TalentLink

Ufficers:

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

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.

Drumm Farm Center for Children

Kenny Soule

Asphaltic Surfaces

Brad Speaks

Speaks Family Legacy Chapels

Evans & Steele Financial, LLC

Dr. Matthew Tinnel

University Health Lakewood Dental Services

Trevor Tilton

The Trevor Tilton Farmers Agency

Laurie Dean Wiley

Financial Advisor - Hoot Owl Financial

Jonathan Zerr

Kapke & Willerth, LLC

Chamber Team:

President & CEO tom@ichamber.biz

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

Mara Bradford Administrative Assistant

mara@ichamber.biz

Amy Knipp SantaCaliGon Festival Director amy@ichamber.biz

Mikealene Evans

Director of Marketing & Communications

mikealene@ichamber.biz

Paula McKinney Director of Membership paula@ichamber.biz

Vice President & Director of Finance

kris@ichamber.biz

Andréa Zorich Director of Events Coordination

andrea@ichamber.biz



210 W. Truman Rd. Phone: (816) 252-4745 www.ichamber.biz





"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

~ John Quincy Adams ~



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

SAVETHEDATE

Alumni Holiday Luncheon



Friday, December 2nd, 2022 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Carrabba's Italian Grill

