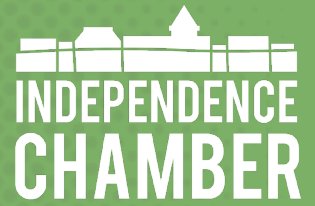


The Chamber

View



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
April/May/June 2025

VOTE!

✓ YES ✓ YES ✓ YES



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



CENTERPOINT
MEDICAL CENTER



From the Chair

Chamber Members –

I hope this finds your business or organization thriving as we approach the spring and summer months. The Chamber is where business and economic development live in the City of Independence, and we look at a variety of issues that positively impact those things. As you likely know, the Chamber has endorsed and is championing the City of Independence General Obligation Bond Issues, which appear before Independence voters on Tuesday, April 8. Voters are asked to weigh in on three questions related to public safety facilities, community animal shelter, streets, bridges, curbs and sidewalks, parks, and historic sites.

Business and economic development can not move forward in this community without public safety, infrastructure, and quality of life. We strongly encourage you to vote yes on all three issues. We ask that you take these steps between now and April 8:

- Early voting begins March 25, and we ask Independence voters to go ahead and cast their ballots immediately. Early voting is at the Jackson County Election Board office at the corner of Truman Road and Liberty Street on the Independence Square.
- Encourage your friends and family to vote yes immediately.
- Share campaign information (www.goindpendence.org) with your employees so they are ready to vote in the next two weeks.

With your help, we will make a generational investment in Independence, one that will strengthen the climate for business and economic development for decades to come!

Sincerely,
Doug Cowan
2025 Board Chair, Independence Chamber of Commerce



“—
| make a generational
investment in
Independence |
—”

Calendar of Events

APRIL

APRIL 3

TASTY THURSDAY
Networking from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Main Event Entertainment
4600 S Cochise Court



APRIL 8

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

APRIL 9

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

APRIL 16

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

Featured Speaker



David Prunte
Kansas City Chamber

Don't miss our upcoming Chamber Membership Luncheon, where we'll welcome David Prunte from the Kansas City Chamber to share exciting updates on the 2026 FIFA World Cup! Join us for an insightful discussion on what this global event means for our region, local businesses, and economic opportunities. Secure your spot today and be part of the conversation shaping Kansas City's role on the world stage!

PRESENTED BY

capa
Child Abuse Prevention Association

APRIL 18

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING and LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

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.

**LEGISLATIVE
BRIEFING**



AND

RIBBON CUTTING
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Refresh Beauty College
1604 S Noland Rd

APRIL 22

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



APRIL 23

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

APRIL 24

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



APRIL 25

RIBBON CUTTING
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
KC Auto Clinics - Independence
4011 S Bolger Rd

MAY

MAY 1

TASTY THURSDAY
Networking from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
A Little BBQ Joint
1101 W 24 Hwy



MAY 7

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

MAY 8

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Comprehensive Mental Health Services
Pierson D. Phillips Building
17611 East US Highway 24



MAY 9

MEMBERSHIP PERKS
8:30 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.

MAY 13

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

MAY 14

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

MAY 16

45TH ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF CLASSIC
7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
WinterStone Golf Course
17101 E Kentucky Rd.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE



MAY 21

**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 22

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Truman Library & Museum
500 W US 24 Hwy



MAY 28

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



JUNE

JUNE 4

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

JUNE 5

**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 10

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

JUNE 11

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

JUNE 12

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING**
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

JUNE 17

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
LUNCH & LEARN**
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Chamber of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd



Calling all Young Professionals! Join us for an engaging Lunch & Learn event about networking with Kelsie Toole! This session will focus on key aspects of personal and professional growth, including self-development, effective networking, and finding meaningful ways to get involved in the community.

JUNE 20

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce &
Online via Zoom

JUNE 26

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Nirvana Coffee
10707 E Winner Rd.



SPONSORED BY



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



Help us to plan accordingly by registering for these events online:
www.iChamber.biz

Ribbon Cuttings



January 31, 2025

Musketeer Home Care LLC
1206 W Truman Road
Independence, MO 64050



February 7, 2025

Key City Locksmith and Security
18801 E 39th St S - Unit 1048
Independence, MO 64057



February 26, 2025

Finnegan Tax & Accounting
10618 East 18th Street South
Independence, MO 64052



March 25, 2025

The UPS Store
16657 E 23rd St S
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.



Impact Awards are presented to businesses that have made a positive impact to the Independence economy.



Musketeer Home Care LLC
1206 W Truman Road
Independence, MO 64500



Finnegan Tax & Accounting
10618 East 18th Street South
Independence, MO 64052



The UPS Store
16657 E 23rd St S
Independence, MO 64055

THANK YOU to the IEDP Private Sector Partner Members



Get Engaged.....Join the Partnership

JOIN HERE 



April/May/June 2025



**SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE!**

*Prizes
Raffles
& Fun*

**SIGN UP BY MAY 2ND
FOR THE BEST PRICING!**

**FRIDAY
MAY 16, 2025**

**7:00 AM REGISTRATION &
BREAKFAST**

8:00 AM SHOTGUN START

WINTERSTONE GOLF COURSE

**17101 E KENTUCKY ROAD
INDEPENDENCE, MO 64058**

**BREAKFAST
& LUNCH
PROVIDED**

CHAMBER MEMBER:
\$550/Early Bird Team
\$600/Team after May 2nd
-or- \$150/Individual

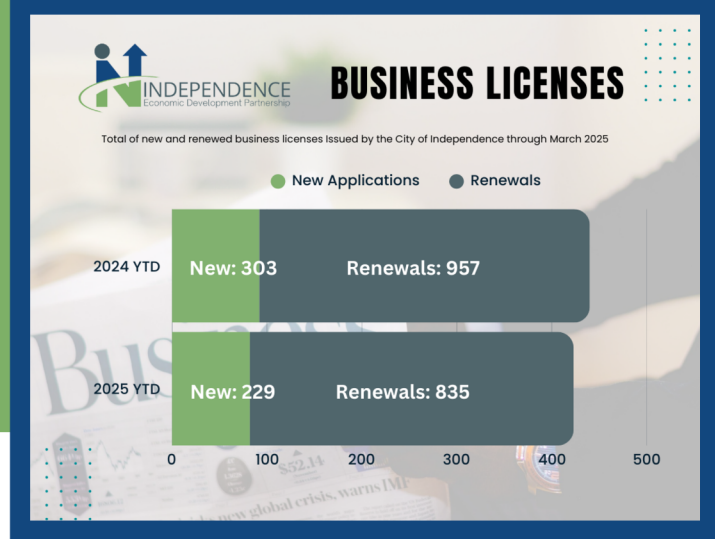
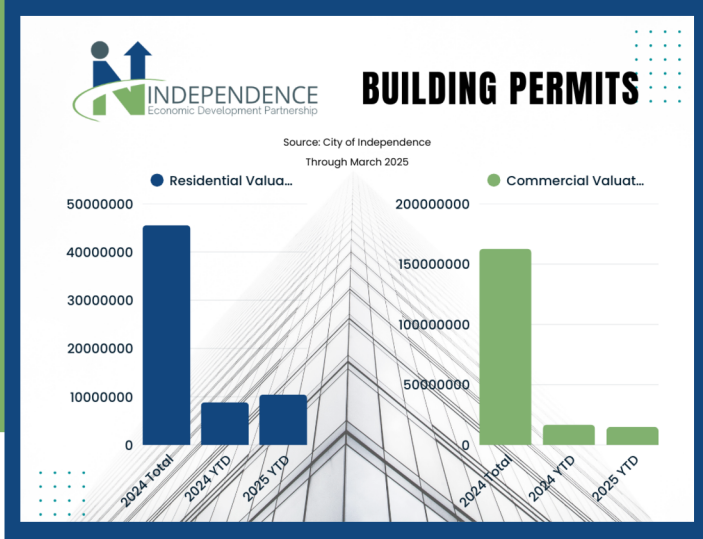
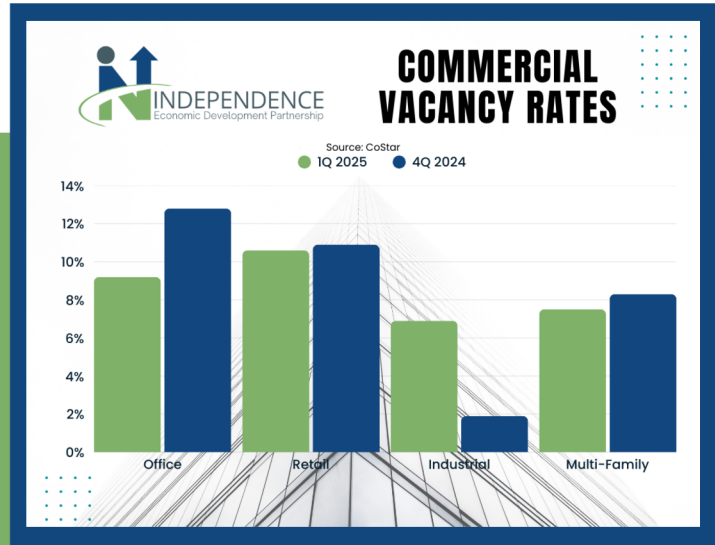
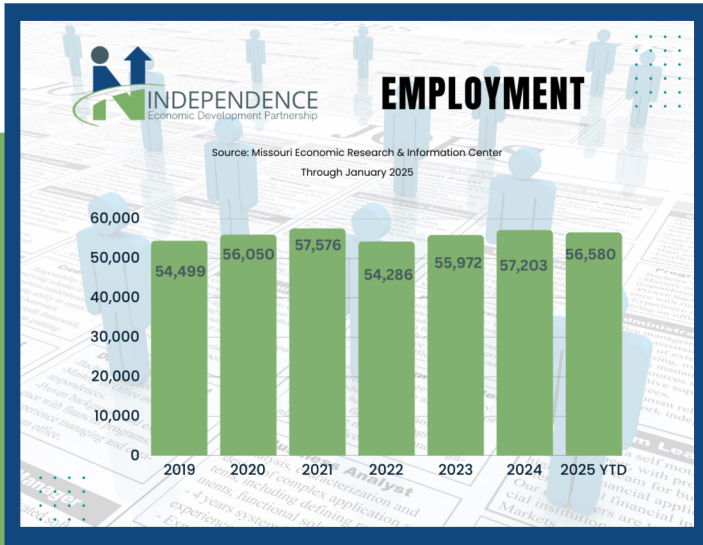
NON-MEMBER:
\$650/Early Bird Team
\$700/Team after May 2nd
-or- \$175/Individual

Team fees include - green fees, cart, game package,
breakfast, lunch, snacks, soft drinks, and beer.

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS
MAY 12TH!**

**SCAN THE CODE FOR
MORE INFO, TO REGISTER
YOUR TEAM, OR TO
SPONSOR THE EVENT**





**FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
INQUIRIES CONTACT**

Jarvis Sackman
Director of Business Retention & Expansion
Independence Economic Development Partnership
Email: jarvis@ichamber.biz
Phone: 816.463.3512

Member Spotlight

A Gift from England to Independence, Missouri...



Lynne Baker
Member Relations



Warm, witty, charm combined with a lovely British accent was my initial introduction to Mark Adams, the recently appointed Director of the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. Mark, appointed as Director in January 2025, brings a plethora of educational and work experiences to his new role.

Mark was born in Liverpool England to parents, Henry and Muriel. Henry worked in the building trades and then began teaching his trade to students. Muriel was a homemaker who managed the family of five children, four brothers and one sister, with Mark as the middle sibling. His parents, who were both born in 1929, learned many life lessons in difficult circumstances, having been evacuated during the bombings of England during World War II. Mark's parents, who survived great hardships in their early years, focused on creating a warm, close-knit family, while supporting each of them in the careers they chose.

With a BA in History and Geography, from the University of Wolverhampton, which was near Birmingham, England, as well as a Post graduate degree in History and Secondary Education at the University of Liverpool, Mark began teaching Secondary History in England. Mark was visiting relatives in Topeka, Kansas, when he met his wife and they had children. After the state of Kansas required Mark to return to college, to obtain additional degrees to teach in their state, Mark looked elsewhere to find employment. He was hired at the Kansas Museum of History, which governed fifteen historic sites in the state. In 1997, Mark became the Education Coordinator for The Truman Library and Museum and was the first trained and experienced Educator to be on the staff at the library, where he began implementing programs structured around the themes of the life of President Truman.

One significant and important fact I discovered was regarding the Independence School District and the Harry S Truman Library and Museum partnership created for the Second, Third and Fifth grades at all Independence Elementary Schools. The Second grade studies about Trumans character, his family, his jobs and his neighborhood. Going deeper into Trumans character qualities, sometimes using the letters Truman wrote to his wife, Bess, third graders discover more in-depth conclusions about his examples of communication and Leadership. Finally, in the Fifth grade, the students study the themes of war and conflict, focusing on World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, as well as information on spies and espionage matters. How exciting it is for our students to access authentic information about their country!

Mark also wanted to pull people together, to brainstorm, to get out of silo thinking, to obtain a wide variety of abilities, socioeconomic positions, diverse ethnicities and cultures to bring every point of view to the exhibits...allowing all to grasp the complexities comprising each scenario. Mark, in recognizing the attributes of President Truman, finds him to have great character, unwavering honesty, serving as a role model for other leaders.

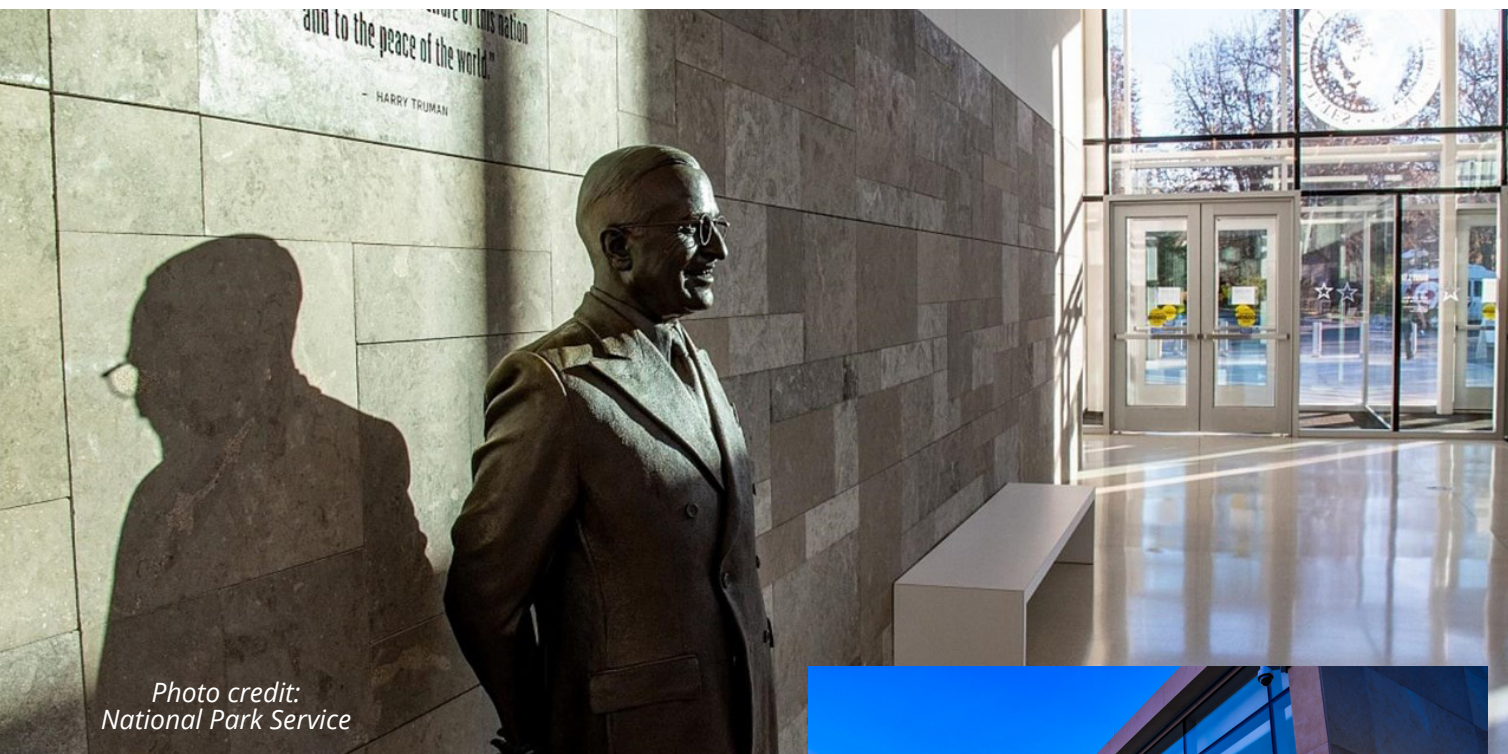


Photo credit:
National Park Service

Mark is married to Lucinda, who works in the Kansas museum system. Lucinda is the Executive Director of Freedoms Frontier National Heritage Area, based in Lawrence, KS. Mark has three daughters. He will be testing for his First Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do, in May. Mark's hopes, as Director, to see the Truman Library further elevated and connected to our city and the broader community of greater Kansas City. He also wants our area and visitors, to recognize the legacy of Truman's ideas, such as the Marshall Plan and the Truman Doctrine, still in place today. What a gift Mark, you are to our community!



UPCOMING DATES

Expand your network!



APRIL	MAY	MAY	JUNE
Thursday	Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
24	8	22	26
4:30-6:00 PM	4:30-6:00 PM	4:30-6:00 PM	4:30-6:00 PM
United Consumers Credit Union 1111 East 23rd St.	Pierson D. Phillips Building 17611 E US Hwy 24	Truman Library & Museum 500 W US Hwy 24	Nirvana Coffee 10707 E Winner Rd

**Be sure to RSVP on the
Chamber's website**

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating the membership anniversaries of longstanding Chamber supporters.

1-4 Years - January-March 2025

3.14 Catalyst
A Plus Janitorial Services LLC
Academy Bank
Ace Pipe Cleaning, Inc.
Adjuvant Physical Therapy LLC
Adobe Acrobat
Aleuro
Arrowhead Strategy Group
Authentic Life Clinical Counseling & Wellness
BA Botanicals
Baptist Homes of Independence
Bennie Eubanks
Blue Springs Youth Core Development Academy LLC
Buckner Chamber of Commerce
Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center
Centropolis Collaborative
Cheyenne Grimes at RE/MAX Heritage
Club Car Wash
Comprehensive Mental Health Services Behavioral
Crisis Center
Earth First Waste Solutions LLC
EEC Windows, Siding & Roofing
Elara Caring
Emmy's Nails
Empower Financial Group of USA LLC
FACE KC
Ferguson Computer Services, Inc.
Fit Learning KC
Fully Promoted Independence
FYZICAL Therapy & Balance Centers
Great Jobs KC
GVC Chiropractic of Independence
Heather Wiley - Candidate for City Council
Helzberg
Insight Plus Bookkeeping LLC
Katie Volz
KC Dental Implants & Oral Surgery
Key City Locksmith and Security
LR Taylor Agency LLC
Lucas Commercial Flooring Group, Inc.

Market 1900 Apartment Homes
Market Advisory Group
Mattress Mike
McBee's Coffee N' CarWash
Melissa Olivarez-Mary Kay
Meritas Health
Meyers Funeral Chapel Inc
Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce
Missouri Model Railroad Museum
Morton Man HVAC and Plumbing
Oak Street Health
Olsson Associates
PardeePix Photo Booth
Paws & Pals
Penner Property Management
Pickens Sweet Treats
REAL Moxie LLC
Riley's Hope
RW Bolger Square LLC
RYAN'S, LLC
Shack Shine
Segra
Spirit World
St. Croix Hospice
Sweep Dreams
Sunshine Art by Nancy
Turner Construction Company
United States Army Recruiting Station
Vegan Kingdom KC
The Vendor Divas LLC
Vision Source Noland Rd
Wake and Bacon KC
Walmart Neighborhood Market #6500
We Have Issues Independence
Well Within Collective
Whimsical Eats
Wonder Translation LLC

*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.

5-14 Years - January-March 2025

A Little Bar-B-Q-Joint
Alicia Scott - State Farm Insurance Agent
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.
Impress KC
Jackson County
JE Dunn Construction Co
Job One
John Kimak
Julie Moreno
Landmark National Bank
Laurie Dean Wiley, Financial Advisor - Hoot
Owl Financial
Midwest Neurology Physicians
Minsky's Pizza
Monterey Park Rehabilitation & Health Care
Center
Nancy C. Kimak
Pepperwood Apartments - Office
Planet Fitness- Noland Rd.

Pure Water Oasis
Sound Check
State Farm Agent, Lesley Siegfried
Town & Country Building Services
Treo Marketing
West ind Connection 501(c)3

15-24 Years - Jan-Mar 2025

American Sweeping Inc
Associated Services in Insurance Inc
Better Business Bureau of the Midwest Plains
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
Staybridge Suites
Winterstone Golf Course

25-39 Years - Jan-Mar 2025

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
State Farm Insurance, Kim Downey Noble
Widick Marketing

40-49 Years - Jan-Mar 2025

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

50 Years Plus - Jan-Mar 2025

CherryRoad Media Inc. (The Examiner)



January-March 2025

911 Restoration of Independence
ARC Construction Group
Cowell Insurance Services, Inc.
DNA Community Center
Finnegan Tax & Accounting
Fountain Enterprises LLC
Frisk Moving
GFiber (Google Fiber)
Greens Floors And More Inc
KC Auto Clinics - Independence
KCATA
LS Commercial Real Estate Services, Inc
MitWellness
On The Square Nutrition
Refresh Beauty College
Ryan Weaver Media
The Blue Collar Recruiter - Kansas City
Vyskitchen

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

SCAN QR CODE
FOR THE
DIRECTORY



April/May/June 2025 13

You're Invited!



**12th Annual
Member Appreciation
Chamber Picnic**

JUNE

11:30 AM

5

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



SAVE THE DATE



SMALL BUSINESS
BREAKFAST
CLUB

Join us for the Small Business Breakfast Club for an opportunity to enjoy a continental breakfast, brief educational and informative presentation on business trends and expert tips while networking with fellow Chamber members.

Upcoming Dates

APRIL

Tuesday

22

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

JENNIFER NEWBOLD
INDEPENDENCE
POWER & LIGHT

MAY

Wednesday

28

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

ASHLEY MUFFITT
SQUARE ONE

Independence Chamber
of Commerce
210 W Truman Rd.

Exclusive event for Chamber Members
offered at NO CHARGE - Seating limited!

**PLEASE KINDLY TAKE A MOMENT TO
REGISTER ONLINE, SO WE MAY
PLAN ACCORDINGLY**

Officers:

Doug Cowan
Chair
Community Services League

Mary House
Treasurer
Cruise Planners

Bret Kolman
Chair Elect
3.14 Catalyst

Yvonne Hall
Past Chair of the Board
Blue Ridge Bank & Trust

Ex Officio Members:

Kelly Anders, J.D., M.L.S.
Harry S Truman Library

Dr. Dale Herl
Independence School District

Dr. Robert Jerome
Blue Springs School District

Tammie May
MCC - Blue River

Dr. Jason Snodgrass
Fort Osage School District

Zach Walker
City of Independence

Board of Directors:

Jeff Benson
Meritas Health

Patrick Farrell
NorthWest Communities Develop.
Corporation/Fairmount Comm. Ctr.

Charline Gray
The Cleaning Crew KC

Angie Judy
McClain Brothers Real Estate

Eric Knipp
i360 Insurance, LLC

Christina Leakey
Truman Habitat for Humanity

Cindy McClain
McClain Companies

John McDonald
Centerpoint Medical Center

Jeff McLaughlin
Corporate Copy Print

Dan O'Neill
Reece & Nichols Realtors

Cindi Rogers
Independence Square Association

Alicia Scott
Alicia Scott State Farm Agency

Kenny Soule
Asphaltic Surfaces

Terri Steele
Evans & Steele Financial, L.L.C.

Susan Wray
Mid-Continent Public Library

Jonathan Zerr
Kapke & Willerth, L.L.C.

Chamber Team:

Tom Lesnak
President & CEO
tom@ichamber.biz

Lynne Baker
Member Relations
lynne@ichamber.biz

Mara Bradford
Administrative Assistant
mara@ichamber.biz

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

Amy Knipp
SantaCaligon Festival Director
amy@ichamber.biz

Paula McKinney
Director of Membership
paula@ichamber.biz

Jarvis Sackman
Director of Business Retention &
Expansion
jarvis@ichamber.biz

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



210 W. Truman Rd.
Independence, MO 64050
Phone: (816) 252-4745
www.ichamber.biz



L.E.A.D. CLASS 2025

**DON'T DELAY
REGISTER TODAY!
SPACE LIMITED!**



**CALL FOR MORE INFO
816.252.4745**

**APPLY NOW!
DEADLINE TO
REGISTER IS
SEPT. 1ST**

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

LEAD INDEPENDENCE 2025-2026 CLASS

The 2025-2026 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 2025 class will choose what they study and what businesses and sites they will visit.

**SCAN QR CODE FOR MORE
INFO OR TO APPLY**



Leadership

Quote of the Quarter

“In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better.”

~ Harry S. Truman ~



OUR BUSINESS IS BUSINESS

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

ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



COMING SOON!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
AUG. 29TH-SEPT. 1ST, 2025

SANTACALIGON.COM

