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July Events

Thursday, July 2
Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Archery Excellence
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Wednesday, July 15
Monthly Membership Luncheon
National Frontier Trails Museum
11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday, July 16
Business After Hours
Alissa’s Flowers & Interiors
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Friday, July 17
Federal Legislative Briefing
CJCFPD Training Center
4715 SW US Highway 40
8:00 am – 9:15 am

Friday, July 24
Small Business Bootcamp
Midwest Genealogy Center
8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Small Business Bootcamp
Friday, July 24, 8:30am - 12:00pm
Midwest Genealogy Center
3440 S. Lee’s Summit Rd, Independence, MO

The Independence Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Continent Public Library, Raytown Chamber of Commerce and the South Kansas City Alliance have partnered to present the Small Business Bootcamp on July 24th, 2015. The goal of this event is to connect people who are thinking about starting a business or helping with current business needs in regards to helpful information and resources.

Join us for this morning seminar featuring talks by local experts on evaluating business ideas, financing, and government requirements. Numerous organizations that assist small businesses will be present to share resource information.

Register at www.mymcpl.org.

This program is funded by a grant form the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.
Annual First Responders Recognition and Awards Breakfast

With over 200 people in the Truman Memorial Building on Friday morning, June 12th, this year’s Annual First Responders Recognition & Awards Breakfast was, yet again, a memorable moment honoring our police, paramedics and firefighters. Police Chief Tom Daily, Fire Chief John Greene, and AMR Operations Manager Paul Lininger each delivered touching speeches thanking the business community for the recognition of its employees that is often overlooked. Thank you to all who attended to show your support for our incredible first responder family.

City of Independence Mayor Eileen Weir presenting Officer Brian Flavin the Award for Heroism.

Independence Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Hap Graff presenting Officer Jonathan Hollingshead with the Dedication Award.

Wes Cowan, with Space Center Kansas City, presenting the Award for Bravery to Fire Captain Daniel Fulk.

Examiner Publisher, Julie Moreno, presenting Captain Aaron Laux, with the Award for Community Service.
After raining for 30 of the last 35 days, the skies opened up to sunshine at 8:15am for the 35th Annual Chamber Golf Classic. We had 33 teams participate in the event. It may have have been a bit muddy, but we couldn’t have asked for a more beautiful day!

Thank you, again, to all of our sponsors for your support for this event!

Thank you to our sponsors!

Gift Sponsor:

Awards Sponsor:

Snack Sponsor:

Prize Sponsor:

Food Sponsors:

Soft Drink Sponsor:

Hole-In-One Sponsors:

Cart Sponsors:

Adam’s Mark Hotel & Resort
Downey Construction
Kansas City Space Center
June, 2015, Monthly Membership Luncheon

We almost couldn’t fit the over 150 attendees for the Monthly Membership Luncheon on June 17th at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center. Lamar Hunt, Jr., owner of the Missouri Mavericks Pro Hockey team, shared heartwarming stories to the membership illustrating the value of adversity, core values and planning. Attendees left with a satisfied stomach and heart.

Volunteers needed!

When schools gleam, kids beam.

Saturday, July 11, 2015 – 7:00am

2015 Project Shine schools:
Ott Elementary • Randall Elementary • Independence Academy
Bingham Middle School • Truman High School

For more information visit www.OurSchoolsShine.org or call 816.521.5300

Federal Legislative Briefing with Emanuel Cleaver

On Friday, June 19th, the Independence Chamber hosted over 60 individuals for the collaborative Federal Legislative Briefing with the Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce. A second collaborative Federal Legislative Briefing, with the Blue Springs Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Friday, July 17th at the CJCFPD Training Center at 4715 SW US Highway 40 Blue Springs, MO.

Congressman Emanuel Cleaver speaking to the Independence and Blue Springs Chambers of Commerce on Friday, June 19, 2015.
“We have been embraced by the community, and I’ve made some great relationships with the Chamber Board and its affiliates. From those relationships, I have been introduced to a number of additional business owners, that has given me and my company the opportunity to expand our brand in the community.

I would highly recommend being affiliated with the Independence Chamber for the above reasons, but also, because of their commitment to make Independence, Missouri one of the most progressive cities in the state.”

Carl Drautz, Business Development Manager, Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center

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Our 2015 LEAD Independence Class graduated on Thursday, May 21st with a fun lunch and ceremony at Café Verona. That brings the total to 572 people that have graduated from LEAD Independence.

LEAD Independence meant this to the graduates: “I am new in town. It was a way to get to know the great people in this class and to get to know Independence from the inside.”

Another said: “I have lived here all my life and have never been to the National Frontier Trails Museum or inside some of our manufacturers. It opened my eyes to so much more, that Independence is.”

Virtually all said they loved the networking within the class, with the speakers, and with the facilitators.

The LEAD Class meets one day a month each month from September to May. It is a leadership, education, and development class. Bankers, assistant branch managers, CEOs of companies, insurance agents, Fire Chiefs, police detectives, lawyers, librarians, principals of schools, and office managers have all been through the class along with hundreds of others who wanted to know more about Independence.

Why not come join us for the class of 2016 class, starting in September of 2015?
We are limited to 25 quality individuals for each class.
Please contact Steve Patton at steve@ichamber.com to sign up now and to get more information.
Volunteer opportunities
The SantaCaliGon Days Festival, organized by the Independence Chamber of Commerce, is a signature event of Independence. We encourage Chamber members to experience SantaCaliGon as a volunteer to see the ins and outs of the festival. Contact Lois McDonald at lois@iChamber.biz or 816-252-4745 ext.2 to volunteer!

Be on the lookout for the newly designed SantaCaliGon website due to launch in July!

SCG 5K Run/Walk
Labor Day
Monday, September 7
7:00 am
Year two of the SCG 5k Run/Walk is sure to impress! It begins and ends at the Bingham Waggoner Estate with a route that circles the festival grounds (a portion of the proceeds will go to the Community Services League!). Registration begins on July 1st!

“The 2014 vendors were so successful they have already recruited over 30 brand new vendors this year. SantaCaliGon continues to be one of the country’s most rewarding for vendor sales.”

Lois McDonald, Vice President of Community Development

Vendor Space Available
If you have a product or service to promote, your audience is here. Please find vendor contracts online at santacaligon.com or contact Lois McDonald at lois@iChamber.biz or 816-252-4745 ext.2.

Lake City Business Center
LEASE SPACE AVAILABLE
Highway 7 and 78
Contact: Jack Figg, Director Commercial Development & Community Affairs
816-796-5220 or jack.figg@atl.com
www.LCAAP.com

Proud Operator of the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant
Big Frog is a garment decorating business. We use many decorating techniques and feature direct-to-garment (D-T-G) printing that is eco-friendly and allows us to take images from the computer screen to the finished garment within minutes. Once the item(s) to be decorated are in the store, we can have the garments ready for our customers within 24 hours (depending on the size of the order.) With D-T-G printing, we can do 1 shirt or hundreds with the same design. D-T-G also allows unlimited colors so designs can include photographs and rainbows. With Big Frog, there are no minimum orders, no set-up fees, and no artwork fees.

We are a family owned business. From Accounting to Small Business experience, Business Administration to Graphic Design, we have over 125 years of experience and education in the world of business and design.

In five words or less, what sets your business apart from competitors? Service, Quality, Colors & Smiles

In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge facing small business owners/managers? I think the biggest challenge for small business owners is to find the business model that works best for their business in the market place. Once the business model is established it becomes all about marketing. Name recognition is super critical.

In your opinion, what are the top three benefits of being an Independence-based business? Our location is on the I-70 corridor. This is beneficial because it provides easy access to our business from all directions. Eastern Jackson County is growing at a steady pace and it’s beneficial to have an Independence based business because of the city’s name recognition and central location. Also, Independence is supportive of new businesses and works to draw new business into the area.

What is your favorite Chamber event or program to attend? The luncheons are a great way to meet new people and talk about our business. It’s wonderful that most people can immediately see the marketing benefits of having their name and logo on shirts both inside and outside of their business hours.

In your opinion, what is the biggest benefit of being a Chamber member? Several benefits of being a Chamber member come to mind. For our first year in business the Chamber provides an opportunity to network with other businesses in the area. After our business is established we hope to participate in the Chamber activities that let us give back to the community.
Update Your Business Category

The Chamber staff is committed to adding value to your business through membership. Each month we will feature one “Membership Tip” to ensure you are receiving all your benefits.

This month’s tip is on updating your business category so that your organization can be easily and accurately found by potential customers via the online member directory. **Your business is seen by hundreds of people every year via your chamber membership and we want to help you to grow those numbers!**

**Below are instructions for you to choose/update two (2) business categories today!**

1. Go to www.iChamber.biz
2. Log in to your member profile (left side of the Chamber homepage). This will bring you to the “Home Page” of the Member Information Center (MIC). (If you do not remember your login information, email info@ichamber.biz to request a login).
3. You will see a “Welcome Message” - in that paragraph, click the “text” link.
4. On the left side of your screen you will see 11 drop down options from the “Company” tab - click on the “categories” drop down option.
5. Categories are listed in alphabetical order, select the categories under which you want your business to be listed.
6. When you are done selecting your categories, click “Save Changes.”
Calendar of Events

Monthly Membership Luncheon
Wednesday, July 15, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
National Frontier Trails Museum, 318 W Pacific Ave, Independence, MO
Join us for our monthly membership luncheon at the National Frontier Trails Museum. Speaker: Mike Downing, Missouri State, Director of Economic Development

Cost: $23.00 per person.
Reservations required and must be made by Monday, July 13th.
Cancellations after July 14th cannot be reimbursed due to the cost of the meal.

Business After Hours
Thursday, July 16, 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm,
Alissa’s Flowers & Interiors, 19321 E 40 Hwy, Independence MO
Celebrate with Alissa’s Flowers & Interiors for their 40th Birthday! This will also mark the beginning of their 40 day long special in-store special sales.

Cost: free. Register at www.iChamber.biz

Federal Legislative Briefing
Friday, July 17, 8:00 am - 9:15 am,
CJCFPD Training Center, 4715 SW US Highway 40, Blue Springs, MO
Our federal lawmakers from Washington DC are invited to speak. Thus, this month’s briefing will focus on the federal issues impacting Western Missouri. The July event will be jointly presented and attended by the memberships of the Blue Springs and Independence Chambers of Commerce.

Free for Chamber members. A continental breakfast will be served.

Small Business Bootcamp
Friday, July 24, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Midwest Genealogy Center, 3440 S Lee’s Summit Rd, Independence, MO
The Independence Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Continent Public Library, Raytown Chamber of Commerce and the South Kansas City Alliance have teamed up to present a morning seminar with talks by local experts on evaluating business ideas, financing, and government requirements. It will also include over a dozen business resource partners located around the metro.

Cost: Free. Register at www.mymcpl.org

3D mammography can make finding a tumor this easy.
Request an appointment online. HCAMidwest.com/Cancer
The Stone Arch Bridge, a landmark on Truman Road, was built in 1906-07 for $17,000.

The Independence School District is seeking businesses to host teachers as part of their Academies training on the dates listed below. We are looking for a one day, on-site experience for industrial technology and computer science teachers and freshman academy teachers who are seeking general workplace exposure. All business hosts will receive information on how to structure the experience. This is a wonderful opportunity to become connected with the ISD Career Academies.

June
7th
Industrial Technology Academy
Freshman Academy (general)

July
8th
Computer Science Academy
Freshman Academy (general)

Business hosts do not need to be active Chamber members. Interested businesses may email Rhonda Dolan at rhonda@iChamber.biz with:

- Company Name
- Contact Name
- Contact email
- Contact phone
- Academy
- How many teachers you can host
- Date to host

A leader takes people where they want to go. A great leader takes people where they don’t want to go, but ought to be.

Rosalynn Carter
On May 30, 2015 the Independence City Council declared its support for renewable electric energy, identified the Council’s goals regarding renewable energy and provided direction to the City Manager regarding city programs and policies in Resolution No. 5933, passed on July 24, 2014.

On May 30, 2015, Community Services League collected 10,000 food items during its annual Full The Truck event in conjunction with the Truman Heartland Foundation Youth Council.

The book “Purposed Based Library” written by Steve Potter, Library Director of the Mid-Continent Public Library, was published in June 10, 2015.

September 11 and 12, 2015 will mark the inaugural Independence Fire & Ice BBQ, hosted by Independence Events Center (19100 East Valley View Parkway, Independence, MO 64055.) The Amateur BBQ cook off will be a two-day event starting Friday, September 11th, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. for ticket holders and Saturday, September 12th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Chamber members receive $20 off registration fees! Call 816-442-6100 or send an email to BBQ@independenceeventscenter.com for additional info!

President and Chief Executive Officer Charlie Shields of Truman Medical Centers announced Steve DeGarmo as the Vice President of Facilities and Real Estate on Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

This page features member news each month. To have your news listed here, contact Alex at alex@ichamber.biz.
1-4 years
Baird Group Real Estate
Arvest Bank
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Kansas City
Courtyard by Marriott
Famous Dave’s BBQ
Massage Heights
Rotary Club of Eastern Independence Saint’s Pub and Patio
Susan Appleberry Widick, DDS, PC
Beth Franklin Real Estate Team
Cole Termite & Pest Control, Inc.
Grandview Estates
Missouri Organic Recycling, Inc.
Zerger & Mauer, LLP

5-14 Years
Ampersand
Drumm Farm Golf Club
Adams Pointe Conference Center
CPros Inc

15-24 years
Lew Printing
The Big Biscuit
AFS Insurance

25 or More Years
City of Independence
State Farm Insurance, Blake Roberson
Fun House Pizza & Pub
The Groves
Cable-Dahmer Buick GMC Cadillac
Sladek Do it Best Hardware

Advertise in The Chamber View!
Fill a space like this. Monthly, quarterly, and annual rates are available.
For more information, contact Alex Colley at alex@ichamber.biz.

Members are the greatest asset of the Chamber. Please support the businesses listed on this page because they support and believe in our community.

The mission of the Independence Chamber of Commerce is to provide leadership and service to promote the economic growth of Independence.

210 West Truman Road
Independence, MO 64050
Phone: 816-252-4745
Fax: 816.252.4917
ichamber.biz

Newsletter design provided by:
Kelly Lightfoot
660.441.4888
kelly@ampersandbranding.com