



The Chamber recently convened a cross-section of Chamber members and members of the 2022 Special Legislative Committee on Workforce Issues to discuss the labor force shortage and hear from industry leaders about how they are addressing the issue and areas where they need assistance. For more information about the roundtable, see page 6.

**Presenting the Chamber's premier event of the year!**

## 2022 Annual Meeting

**Friday, December 7** – 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

**Overland Park Convention Center**, 6000 College Boulevard

### ***Featuring Joel Goldberg***

*TV Broadcaster for the Kansas City Royals*

Drawing on more than 25 years developing relationships with professional athletes, coaches, and team management, Joel Goldberg now shares his experiences and strategies with companies and associations, helping leaders build a stronger culture with higher morale and better teamwork. He's hosted a weekly podcast and published the book, "Small Ball Big Results."

### **Sponsorships Available!**

For sponsorship opportunities:

Riley at [rodell@opchamber.org](mailto:rodell@opchamber.org)



PRESENTING SPONSOR

**Netsmart**



## Chamber Board

### Board Officers:

Tony Rupp, 2022 Chairman  
Foulston Siefkin LLP

Joan Wells, Chair-Elect  
Augeo

Cindy Rock, 1st Vice Chairman  
C2FO

Josh Beck, 2nd Vice Chairman  
MarksNelson LLC

Matt Sogard, Secretary  
Overland Park Regional Medical Center

Chris Wally, Treasurer  
Wally & Co.

Bill Ferguson, Past Chairman  
Central Bank of the Midwest

### Board Members:

Josh Bitterman, Goldfish Swim School

Ken Bowman, Shamrock Trading Corporation

Patrice Brown, Yellow

Sterling Cramer, Lambie Custom Homes Inc.

Dr. Nadine Franz, APEX Career Services

David Freisner, Fortune Financial Advisors

John Fuller, DLR Group

Tracy Garry, Empower Retirement

Matt Gunter, SelectQuote

Dr. Michelle Hubbard, Shawnee Mission  
School District

Courtney Kounkel, Monarch Build LLC

Neelima Parasker, SnapIT Solutions, LLC

Melody Rayl, Fisher Phillips LLP

Allan Samson, T-Mobile

Rick Schier, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

Dr. Alan Verrill, AdventHealth South Overland  
Park

Kim Winslow, Evergy

Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

### Ex-Officio Board:

Dr. Stuart Day, The University of Kansas  
Edwards Campus

Jim Holland, Fisher Phillips LLP

Lori Curtis Luther, City of Overland Park

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park

Matt Sheets, FNBO [2022 Chairman of Cham-  
ber Economic Development Council]

## Chamber staff

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, President & CEO

Alex Cook, Executive Assistant

David Dyer, Membership Director

Corey Cohn, Economic Development Project  
Coordinator

Frank Ebling, CFO

Katelyn Gravley, Member Services Coordinator

Tim Holverson, IOM, Director, Workforce &  
Business Growth

Stan Lawson, Communications Director

Riley O'Dell, Director of Events & Member  
Services

Kevin Walker, IOM, Senior Vice President of  
Public Policy

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE  
Chamber President & CEO  
[@traceylosborne](https://twitter.com/traceylosborne)



## Fall means thinking about the future

### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

**October means early sunsets, crisp fall nights, turning leaves, sweatshirts and football. It seems we've waited a long time for fall this year through an especially hot, dry summer.**

Fall turns our collective eye to the coming year as companies and governments

finalize budgets and strategic plans. The City of Overland Park has embarked on a long-awaited Comprehensive Plan process, aimed at providing a long-range vision for our land use, housing, environment, transportation and economic prosperity. It's a chance for everyone – residents and businesses – to share our ideas about what we value the most in the city and what we would like to change. A steering committee has been appointed and there will be opportunities for you to engage. One of our councilmembers summed up the process succinctly by stating, "Anyone who cares about Overland Park has a choice to participate." I encourage you to do so. We'll share often how you can do that.

The postcards in your mailbox and ads on tv remind you it's election season again. That means we will host candidate forums and interviews for you to attend or view on [votejoco.com](https://votejoco.com). You can also check this site for candidate surveys and voting information such as early voting sites and to view your ballot. The August primary had a historic turnout – let's do that again!

*(continued on page 4)*



Sheree Anne Kelly, President and CEO at Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, with Tracey Osborne Oltjen.



# Upcoming events

## Wednesday Wake-up

**Wednesday, October 12** – 8:00-9:00 a.m.

[Equity Bank](#), 7035 College Boulevard

At this monthly networking event, make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities while getting the opportunity to see Equity Bank's beautiful new offices at the crossroads of Metcalf Avenue and College Boulevard.

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



## Good Morning, Overland Park!

**Friday, October 28** – 7:30-9:00 a.m.

[Marriott Kansas City Overland Park](#), 10800 Metcalf Avenue

Our annual breakfast program where you learn about exciting developments happening around the city. Emcees Greg Musil, [Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes, P.C.](#); and Aaron Attebery, [Black & Veatch](#); will keep you entertained!

Promotional opportunities available! Provide a door prize (minimum value of \$25). To coordinate: Katelyn at [kgravley@opchamber.org](mailto:kgravley@opchamber.org).

To register, [click here](#).



SPONSOR

**Humana**

## Executive Leadership Series

Featuring Greg Musil, [Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes, P.C.](#)

**Thursday, November 10** – 7:30-9:00 a.m.

[Marriott Kansas City Overland Park](#), 10800 Metcalf Avenue

Community leader and Chamber Past Chairman Greg Musil presents "Putting Your Best Foot Forward: Imperfect Lessons from Imperfect Leadership."

Leadership is about being present, stepping forward, working hard, understanding limitations, and celebrating successes. Good leaders motivate imperfect humans to build relationships, learn from mistakes, sacrifice for a common goal, and exercise informed judgment.

Join us for this informative breakfast program!

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



## Candidate Forums

The Overland Park Chamber and the Johnson County Public Policy Council present the following candidate forums:

**October 3** – Kansas House of Rep. District 29 – 3:00-4:00 p.m.

**October 4** – Kansas House of Rep. District 48 – 3:00-4:00 p.m.

**October 4** – Kansas House of Rep. District 19 – 4:30-5:30 p.m.

**October 5** – Kansas House of Rep. District 20 – 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Forums are at the Overland Park Chamber, 9001 West 110th Street. Free, but registration requested.

To register, [click here](#).



## YPs Mix & Mingle

**Wednesday, October 19** – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

[SQUAD Medical Staffing](#), 8400 West 110th Street, Suite 180

Young Professionals are invited to this mixer to make new connections, catch up with colleagues, and learn about SQUAD Medical Staffing.

To register, [click here](#).



GOLD SPONSOR



## OP After Hours

**Tuesday, November 15** – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

[Strang Hall](#), 7313 West 80th Street

Enjoy food, drinks and conversation while experiencing the chef collective of Strang Hall in Downtown Overland Park. Don't miss this fun evening of networking, delicious appetizers and drinks!

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



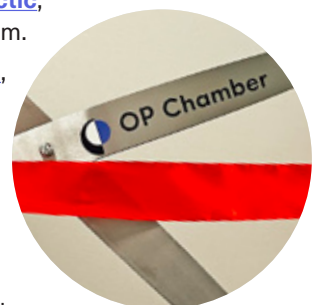
## Ribbon cuttings

**October 3** – [The Joint Chiropractic](#), 6980 West 135th Street – 4:30 p.m.

**October 7** – [Kore Lab Solutions](#), 6400 West 95th Street, Suite 102 – 12:00 p.m.

**October 12** – [Johnson County Rehabilitation Hospital](#), 11325 College Boulevard – 4:00 p.m.

**October 24** – [Primp and Blow, A Blow Dry Bar](#), 5621 West 135th Street #2640 – 3:30 p.m.



.....

## President's Message continued . . .

I'm writing this column from Washington, D.C., having just attended a two-day meeting at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for some of the top chamber executives from across the country. We got updates from pollsters, economists, strategists and elected officials, including Sen. Republican Leader Mitch McConnell. We learned from the experts and each other, all for the purpose of making sure the businesses in our communities have the best environment in which to prosper.

At one of the meetings we joined executives from other industry groups and we had some time to get to know each other. I sat next to the head of an association representing the video game industry. His take on what chambers do? We get things done.

In just a few minutes of conversation, he summed up our brand and our vision in four words. It was perfect timing because we're planning now for some big things. Later this month we'll announce a bold new economic and community development strategy to bring to life our core purpose of making Overland Park – and your business – prosper. Let's just say we're going to get things done. Stay tuned.

## Thanks for reinvesting!

### SEPTEMBER MEMBER RENEWALS

#### 50+ Years

Atmos Energy Corporation  
Rau Construction Company

#### 40-49 Years

DoubleTree by Hilton  
Kansas City-Overland Park

#### 20-39 Years

Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue  
Jalapenos Mexican Restaurant  
Martin, Pringle, Oliver, Wallace & Bauer, LLP  
Marriott Kansas City Overland Park  
Menorah Medical Center  
Ottawa University-Kansas City Campus  
State Farm Insurance-Penny Hardesty  
The Builders' Association  
True North Hotel Group

#### 10-19 Years

GoalGETTERS®  
Home Association Solutions LLC

Olsson  
Pete's Pest Control  
Primrose School of Overland Park  
The Goodard School  
Tri-Land Properties, Inc  
University of Saint Mary

#### 5-9 Years

APEX Career Services  
Arbor Development, LLC  
Core Bank  
Indian Creek Land & Investment Co., LP  
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers  
Rx Savings Solutions  
Stephens & Associates

#### 1-4 Years

ACA Business Club  
ADT Security Services  
Brian Quinn State Farm Agency  
Chiefs Fit  
Dairy Queen  
Fusion Bank  
Infinitas  
MBB  
Olathe Health Family Medicine - Antioch

## Vote on November 8!

### Be an Informed Voter!

Visit [www.VoteJoCo.com](http://www.VoteJoCo.com) for candidate profiles and videos of candidate forums hosted by the Johnson County Public Policy Council.



### General Election Calendar

October 18 - Last day to register to vote  
October 19 - Advance voting by mail begins  
October 22 - Advance voting in person begins  
November 1 - Advance ballot application deadline  
**November 8 - General Election – 7 a.m.-7 p.m.**

Click the advertisement below for more details.

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[www.HustleAndGround.com](http://www.HustleAndGround.com)

# Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome these new members since July:

- A Click Above Marketing
- AgencyOf
- Andy's Frozen Custard - BluHawk
- Architectural Craftsmen
- Aspens Restaurant and Lounge
- Bluefox Production
- Club Car Wash - 95th Street
- Colonial Village
- Community National Bank
- Concrete Craft
- Elite Martial Arts
- First Interstate Bank
- Five Star Painting
- Glitch Corps
- Gutter Cover Kansas City
- Homewatch CareGivers of Overland Park
- Jazzercise of Overland Park
- Kim Hower & Associates LLC
- Kore Lab Solutions
- Mantis Pest Solutions
- Mastermind Escape Games of KC LLC
- Maurine Lenahan: Day-of Wedding & Event Coordinator
- Paths Law Firm
- Pedego Overland Park
- Primp and Blow, A Blow Dry Bar
- Rockhurst University
- Scenthound Overland Park
- St. Croix Hospice
- The Goddard School
- The Insurance Market LLC
- The Joint Chiropractic-Overland Park
- Twisted Sugar
- VIVE Brand Co LLC
- Westlake Ace Hardware - College & Antioch

# Welcome to the Chamber!

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS\*

### Bluefox Production

Michael Collins  
11890 West 91st Street  
Overland Park KS 66214  
(913) 521-4201  
info@bluefoxproduction.com  
[www.bluefoxproduction.com](http://www.bluefoxproduction.com)  
*Audio-Visual Equipment & Supplies, Event Services*

### Community National Bank

Jennifer Craig  
11120 West 135th Street  
Overland Park KS 66221  
(913) 498-9797  
[www.communitynationalbank.net](http://www.communitynationalbank.net)  
*Banks*

### Elite Martial Arts

Scott Roth, Chief Instructor  
8910 West 95th Street  
Overland Park KS 66212  
(913) 766-6070  
info.op@ataelitemartialarts.com  
[www.elitemartialarts.net](http://www.elitemartialarts.net)  
*Martial Arts Instruction, Health & Wellness*

### Five Guys Burgers & Fries – Opening Soon!

Jody Goehring, Managing Partner  
7733 West 159th Street  
Overland Park KS 66223  
(913) 730-8101  
[www.fiveguys.com](http://www.fiveguys.com)  
*Restaurants*

### First Interstate Bank

Courtney Osborn, Retail Manager  
8001 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 100  
Overland Park KS 66204  
Courtney.Osborn@fib.com  
(913) 901-5105  
[www.fib.com](http://www.fib.com)  
*Banks*

### Glitch Corps

C Duron  
(913) 845-5530  
Duron@glitchcorps.com  
[www.glitchcorps.com](http://www.glitchcorps.com)  
*Clubs, Youth Organizations and Centers*

### Mantis Pest Solutions

Jim Calkins, Branch Manager  
7300 West 110th Street, Suite 768  
Overland Park KS 66210  
(913) 225-7060  
info@mantispestsolutions.com  
[www.mantispestsolutions.com](http://www.mantispestsolutions.com)  
*Pest Control Services, Home Care Services*

### Maurine Lenahan: Day-of Wedding & Event Coordinator

Maurine Lenahan, Proprietor  
(904) 556-1944  
maurine@maurinelenahan.com  
[www.maurinelenahan.com](http://www.maurinelenahan.com)  
*Event Services, Wedding Services*

### Paths Law Firm

Hilary Tichota, Marketing Manager  
5008 Northeast Lakewood Way  
Lee's Summit MO 64064  
(816) 640-8172  
info@pathslawfirm.com  
[www.pathslawfirm.com](http://www.pathslawfirm.com)  
*Attorneys, Legal Services*

### Primp and Blow, A Blow Dry Bar

Brent Scott  
5621 West 135th Street, #2640  
Overland Park KS 66224  
(913) 562-1234  
[www.primpandblow.com](http://www.primpandblow.com)  
*Beauty Services*

### St. Croix Hospice

Timothy Swenson, Mgr. of Integration  
7200 College Boulevard, Suite A  
Overland Park KS 66210  
(913) 354-5511  
info@stcroixhospice.com  
[www.stcroixhospice.com](http://www.stcroixhospice.com)  
*Hospice*

### Tacos 4 Life

Drew Vaden, Owner  
12180 Blue Valley Parkway  
Overland Park KS 66213  
(913) 731-0422  
anton.batts@tacos4life.com  
[www.tacos4life.com](http://www.tacos4life.com)  
*Restaurants*

### The American Theatre Guild

Bethany Nesbitt, VP of Mkg., Sales & Op.  
9001 State Line Road, Suite 110  
Kansas City MO 64114  
(816) 421-7500  
bethany.nesbitt@atguild.org  
[www.americantheatreguild.com](http://www.americantheatreguild.com)  
*Entertainment, Non-Profit Organizations*

### VIVE Brand Co LLC

Jonathan Pitallo, Owner  
1211 Minnesota Avenue  
Kansas City KS 66102  
(816) 516-8006  
jonathan@vivebrand.co  
[www.vivebrand.co](http://www.vivebrand.co)  
*Screen Printing, Graphic Designers*



## 2023 directory offers ad opportunities

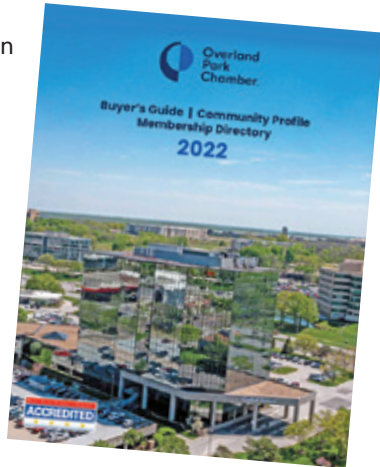
The Chamber's 2023 Membership Directory & Community Profile will offer an opportunity to promote your business all year long.

A magazine-style publication of about 120 pages showcasing Overland Park, the directory also serves as a buyer's guide for products and services offered by our members. It also contains a Who's Who listing of local business leaders.

You can view our 2022 directory at [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).

The directory is produced by longtime Chamber member **MetroMedia Inc.** Ad space is limited, so don't delay in reserving your spot.

For information about this advertising opportunity, contact MetroMedia's Kathy Moore at (913) 951-8441 or [kmoore@metromediapublishers.com](mailto:kmoore@metromediapublishers.com).



## Now Accepting Nominations for 2022

### Rick Worrel Community Legacy Award

The Overland Park Chamber seeks nominations for the 2022 Richard A. Worrel Community Legacy Award. The deadline for nominations is 5:00 p.m. on October 11 and the recipient will be recognized at the Chamber's Annual Meeting on December 3.

The award was established in 2019 to honor longtime community leader Rick Worrel and to recognize individuals who exemplify Worrel's legacy of lifetime service to the community.

Worrel, 2012 Chairman of the Chamber and a co-founder of **Affinis Corp**, was passionate about building infrastructure, our community, his profession's standards and public education. His eyes were focused on the future and how he could make someone's life or our community better.

After Worrel's widow Susan accepted the award that first year, the 2020 recipient was Sen. John Skubal. Last year's recipient was longtime City Manager Bill Ebel.

Details and a nomination form are available on the landing page at [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).



## Chamber hosts roundtable on workforce issues

### No matter the industry, it seems as if everyone is having a challenge hiring and retaining the talent they need.

Recent data shows that if the 6 million unemployed workers in the United States found work today, there would still be more than 5 million job vacancies. Employers are asking: Where have all the workers gone and what do they need to do to fill all their vacancies?

These are key questions, and the Overland Park Chamber is seeking the answers. The Chamber recently hosted a roundtable more than 20 business leaders from diverse industries to discuss their challenges and potential solutions.

"We're still processing what we learned, but one thing was clear from the start... it's an employee's market and employers are having to be creative to win the battle for talent, said Kevin Walker, SVP of Public Policy for the Chamber. "Many of our roundtable participants said the issue is not all about money although the current worker shortage has typically increased wages and benefits across the board." Workers are looking for flexible work environments and a work culture that supports the values many younger workers seek such as DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

Roundtable participants also talked about the importance of supporting robust educational opportunities including

traditional two and four-year post-graduate and career/technical certification programs. Additionally, they cited access to childcare and lack of access to foreign workers through legal immigration as hurdles that need to be addressed.

The roundtable, and similar sessions will provide valuable information that shape the Chamber's policy agendas and strategic plan. "Not every solution will be a government-based solution," said Walker, "but there's no doubt the state and federal governments can support changes to assist employers in finding the workers they need to keep our economy running."

Click on the advertisement below for more details.

# Through it all. Business big and small.

Meeting the moment and realizing  
your dream is easier with a business  
banking partner you can trust.



Member FDIC



The great big small bank

[fnbo.com/business](https://fnbo.com/business)



# Chamber building offers meeting space

Located in Corporate Woods, the Chamber Foundation Building offers a variety of meeting space rental options. Whether you are planning a large event, training session, small conference, one-on-one interviews or a staff retreat, our building has the perfect space for you.

Completely updated, our meeting spaces offer new technology including flat LCD smart TVs.

In addition to conference and meeting rooms, our outdoor garden terrace has a 100-person capacity and features a fire pit and is suitable for unique cocktail receptions.

Chamber members have limited complimentary use of the Affinis Room, but it must be reserved in advance and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Details about rooms and rates is available under on [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).

If you have questions about room rentals, contact Katelyn at [kgravley@opchamber.org](mailto:kgravley@opchamber.org) or (913) 491-3600.



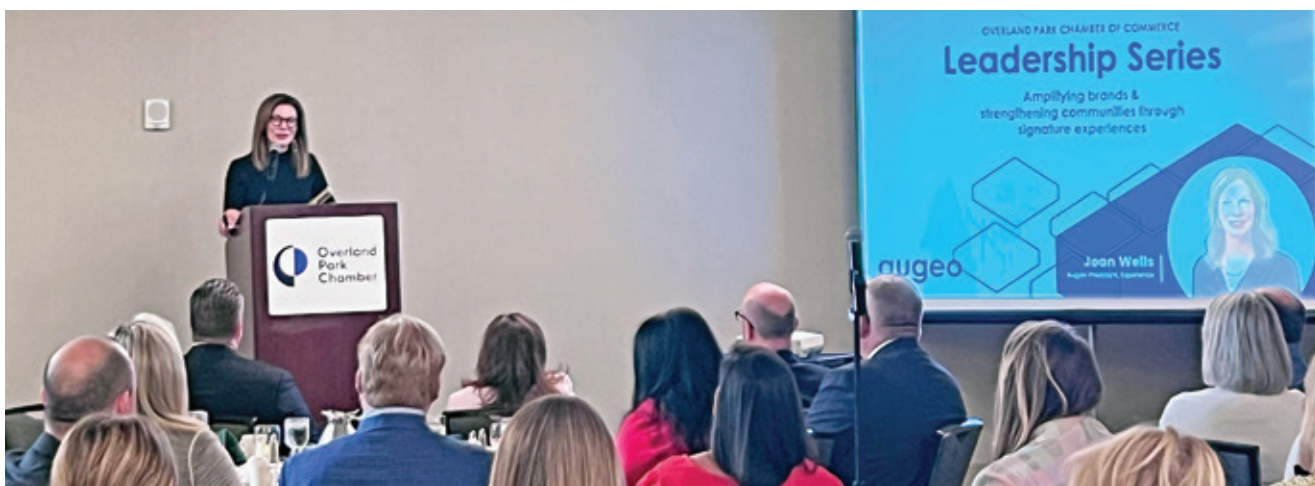
Chamber members had the opportunity to connect with each other at last month's Wednesday Wake-up hosted by [SpringHill Suites Overland Park Leawood](#).

Thanks to our **Series Sponsor:** [Fortune Financial Advisors](#)



Overland Park Young Professionals learned about "Building Your Brand" from Valerie Jennings, [Jennings Social Media and Martech](#), at a Chamber YPs Learning@Lunch program hosted last month by [BHC](#).

Thanks to our Young Professionals Gold Sponsor: [STAFF-VIRTUAL!](#)



Joan Wells, President of Experience, [Augeo](#), was the featured speaker at last month's Executive Leadership Series (ELS) breakfast program. Joan shared leadership insights from her career journey. She has spent more than 25 years developing strategies and event solutions for clients. She co-founded Wellington, which was acquired by Augeo in 2021. She is Chair-Elect of the Overland Park Chamber. If you missed this program, you can watch a recorded video – [click here](#).

Thank you to our **ELS Series Sponsor:** [FNBO](#).



# Chamber offers marketing opportunities

Do you know about these opportunities your Chamber membership makes available to you?

## Advertising

Place a banner ad in our monthly **Business Perspective** or weekly electronic **Member News** newsletters. Or, promote your company with an ad on the Chamber website.

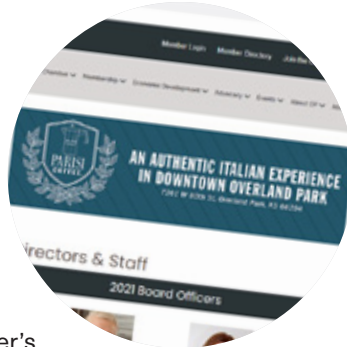
## Mailing List

Conduct a special mailing to approximately 1,000 business representatives by renting the Chamber's member mailing list.

## Leads Groups

Leads Groups meet twice a month and offer a focused opportunity to build personal and professional relationships with fellow members and develop strategies to grow and expand your business. More details can be found at [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).

See details about marketing options at [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).



# Committee drafting legislative agendas

The Chamber's Public Policy & Advocacy Committee (PPA) has been meeting to work on the Chamber's 2023 legislative agendas for federal, state and local platforms.

Current legislative agendas can be viewed on [www.opchamber.org](http://www.opchamber.org) – [click here](#).

The PPA Committee is comprised of Overland Park Chamber member representatives. This committee discusses governmental and legislative issues and recommends policy to the Chamber's Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

The PPA Committee is chaired by Michael Hockley, **Spencer Fane LLP**; and co-chaired by Reagan Cussimano, **The University of Kansas Health System**.

This committee typically meets on the second Friday of the month. To offer input into public policy discussions, contact Kevin Walker at [kwalker@opchamber.org](mailto:kwalker@opchamber.org).



## Moving Communities Forward

Affinis is celebrating 21 years of growth and success. As a civil engineering and surveying firm, they have a responsibility to advance the quality of life in the communities they serve. That's a privilege they enjoy and take very seriously. Their guiding purpose is to move communities forward by creating holistic infrastructure solutions through valued partnerships with coworkers, clients, and colleagues.

The word Affinis comes from the Latin for relationship, or strong bond, and long-lasting relationships are how they have built their business. A testament to their collaborative approach is their record of repeat business, which is 96 percent. They focus on serving public sector clients and enjoy the interaction that comes with working in neighborhoods and communities. They are passionate about designing awesome infrastructure that positively impacts a community and improves everyone's quality of life.

Since Affinis' founding, they've fostered a purpose-driven, relationship-based culture. This year, they were recognized by the Zweig Group as a "[Best Firm to Work For](#)" for the 13th time. Their selection is due in part to positive co-worker input through an anonymous survey describing work life at Affinis. 100 percent of their team believes they have the best interests of their projects end-users' (the general public, drivers, pedestrians, residents, etc.) at heart. [Discover what it's like to work at "Best Firm," where values and culture let you fulfill your purpose.](#)





# Sponsorship Opportunities

**GAIN VISIBILITY IN FRONT OF BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS AS A SPONSOR IN 2023!**

## Boost your brand and make an impression on Overland Park's business community!

### **Adding your company's name to the Chamber will:**

- Increase your brand awareness and visibility
- Highly target advertising placement across a variety of print and digital media
- Access new business relationships and potential customers
- Enhance credibility with new connections
- Align your business with the Chamber's core purpose: To make Overland Park prosper

### **Sponsorship Opportunities:**

#### **Annual Corporate Partners & Sponsors**

#### **Signature Annual Events:**

- Mayor's State of the City
- Golf Tournament
- Leadership Overland Park Graduation
- Good Morning, Overland Park!
- Annual Meeting
- Chairman's Reception

#### **Event & Program Series:**

- Executive Leadership Series
- Powerful Voices Series
- OP Fireside Chats Series

#### **Networking:**

- Wednesday Wake-up
- OP After Hours
- Member Orientation

#### **Advocacy:**

- Public Policy & Advocacy (PPA) Committee meetings
- Washington Update Series
- D.C. Fly-in
- This Week in Topeka report

#### **Economic Development:**

- Monthly programs
- Honors Luncheon

#### **Emerging Professionals and Leadership Development:**

- OP Young Professionals
- CEO Unplugged Series
- Leadership Overland Park

**For more information on how you can amplify your business message through sponsorships, contact Riley O'Dell at (913) 766-7603 or [rodell@opchamber.org](mailto:rodell@opchamber.org).**



## Driving Economic Success

# Kansas Gas Service: A sustainable vision forward

### CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

**Kansas Gas Service** has a vision of a better tomorrow – a future where it continues to deliver safe, affordable and reliable energy while reducing the environmental impact on our planet.

The company's 2022 [Environmental, Social and Governance \(ESG\) Report](#) outlines its progress toward this vision by highlighting its commitment to safe operations, responsible environmental stewardship, and support of employees and the communities it serves. The report focuses on efforts in the following areas:

**Environmental Stewardship** — Sustainability is at the core of the company's vision, and it embraces the opportunity to be part of a transition to a carbon-neutral energy future.

**Social Responsibility** — Kansas Gas is committed to making a difference for its employees, customers and communities.

**Corporate Governance & Oversight** — Strong, forward-thinking leadership is necessary to create a better tomorrow for people and our planet.

What Kansas Gas is doing in Kansas:

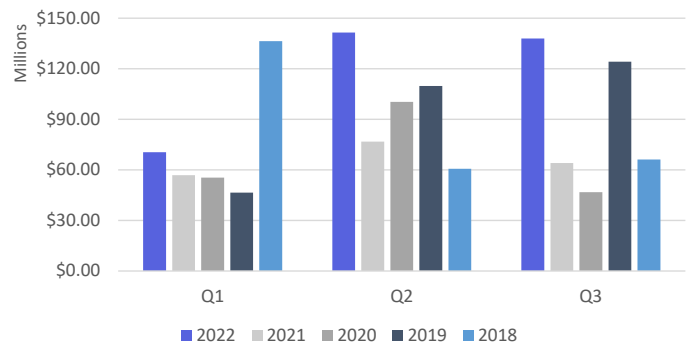
- Completed construction on new energy-efficient Hutchinson South building
  - Automated lighting system and brightness sensors
  - Automated thermostat control and more efficient HVACs
  - Stormwater capture to aerate low-impact landscaping
- Conducted workshops around the state to guide customers through the Low Income Energy Assistance Program application process
- The ONE Gas Foundation donated more than \$400,000 across the state of Kansas to support community enrichment and development.

### Unemployment

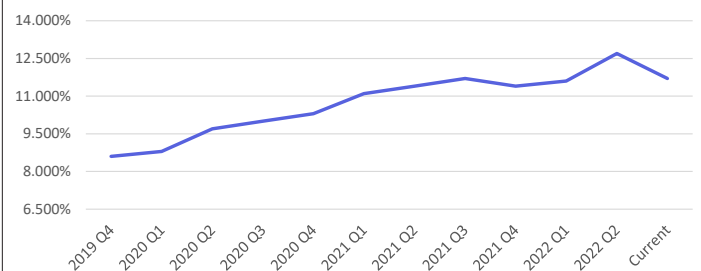
	Aug. 2022	July 2022	Aug. 2021
Overland Park	2.5%	3.0%	3.4%
Johnson County	2.6%	2.9%	3.4%
Kansas City Metro MSA	2.9%	3.2%	3.8%
State of Kansas	2.5%	2.4%	3.8%

(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)  
– Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)  
– U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

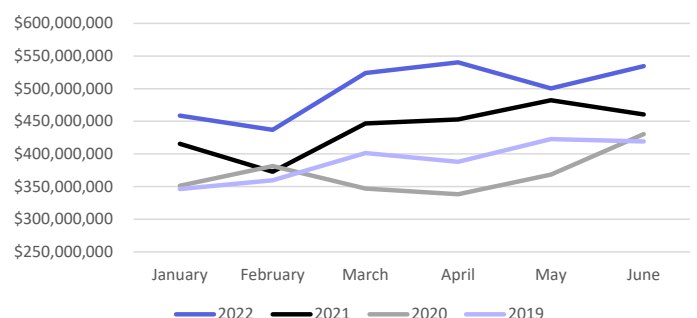
### Overland Park Commercial Permits Valuation Amounts



### Aggregate Office Vacancy Rates



### Retail Sales Comparisons 2019–2022



This newsletter is distributed monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, 9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210.

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contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen  
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[tosborne@opchamber.org](mailto:tosborne@opchamber.org).

## Recent Events

### CELEBRATING WITH OUR MEMBERS



City Councilmember Fred Spears joined the Chamber to help Chris and Holly Combest, owners; and Karine Hellwig, General Manager and Winemaker; celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Aubrey Vineyards](#), the first vineyard and winery in Overland Park. Aubrey offers wine tasting at its modern, Napa-style setting at 16350 Kenneth Road in South Overland Park.

The Vineyard Tasting Room also offers a charcuterie menu. Special events feature food vendors and live music.

For more info: (913) 909-2926 or [click here](#).



City Council President Paul Lyons joined the Chamber to help Blake Swetnam and Jeremy Brooks celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Kansas Float Spa](#), 11972 West 119th Street.

Float therapy reduces sensory input to your nervous system by limiting as many sensory signals as possible. Floating in sensory-neutral Epsom salt can reduce the pains and stressors of everyday life, giving your body the refresh it needs.

For more info: (913) 349-7378 or [click here](#).



Mayor Curt Skoog joined the Chamber to help Robert Curland, Community Manager; Chad Stafford, President of Occidental Management; and their team celebrate a ribbon cutting for Aspiria NOW on the [Aspiria Campus](#).

Aspiria Now workspaces offer bright, open collaboration hubs to engage with others and share creative ideas as well as private meeting rooms. It offers workstations, private meeting space, collaboration space and private offices.

Aspiria is an [Occidental Management, Inc.](#), property. For more info: (913) 285-7300 or [click here](#).