



Newly installed Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners Mike Kelly attended the January Chamber Board of Directors meeting. He provided an overview of the County's strengths and challenges and shared his objectives on ways to improve services to Johnson County residents. Chairman Kelly engaged the Board in a thoughtful discussion on how to grow the local economy through smart and carefully planned economic development initiatives.



On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day last month, Chamber staff volunteered at [Hillcrest Transitional Housing's](#) thrift store in Lenexa. To read more about this community service work, see Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen's newsletter column on page 2.

Chamber Board

Board Officers:

Joan Wells, Chair
Augeo

Cindy Rock, Chair-Elect
C2FO

Josh Beck, 1st Vice Chair
MarksNelson LLC

Matt Sogard, 2nd Vice Chair
Overland Park Regional Medical Center

Chris Wally, Treasurer
Wally & Co.

Matt Sheets, Secretary
FNBO

Tony Rupp, Past Chairman
Foulston Siefkin LLP

Board Members:

Rick Axthelm, Compass Minerals

Josh Bitterman, Goldfish Swim School

India Boulton, T-Mobile

Ken Bowman, Shamrock Trading Corporation

Sterling Cramer, Lambie Custom Homes Inc.

Dr. Stuart Day, The University of Kansas
Edwards Campus

Dr. Nadine Franz, APEX Career Services

David Freisner, Fortune Financial Advisors

Tracy Garry, Empower Retirement

Hyleme George, Black & Veatch

Matt Gunter, SelectQuote

Courtney Kounkel, Monarch Build LLC

Kristen Leathers-Gratton, Affinis Corp

Will Mann, Zurich North America

Rich Muller, VanTrust Real Estate

Neelima Parasker, SnapIT Solutions, LLC

Rick Schier, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

Dr. Alan Verrill, AdventHealth South Overland
Park

Christian Weld-Brown, MBB

Kim Winslow, Evergy

Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

Ex-Officio Board:

Jim Holland, Fisher Phillips LLP

Dr. Michelle Hubbard, Shawnee Mission
School District

Lori Curtis Luther, City of Overland Park

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park

Chamber staff

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, President & CEO

Alex Cook, Director of Events & Member
Services

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

Kevin Walker, IOM, Senior Vice President of
Public Policy

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE
Chamber President
[@traceylosborne](#)



What a month!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

How can it be one month of our new year already has flown by?

It seems just yesterday I was contemplating the crisp pages of my new January Daytimer pages (don't judge) to begin planning our year.

Like you, we hit the ground running. We welcomed newly-elected local officials like Johnson County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Mike Kelly, hosting him at our Board and our Public Policy & Advocacy Committee meetings to learn more about Overland Park's business and economic development priorities.

We expanded our presence in Topeka, ensuring that your voice is heard by elected officials as they consider and vote on legislation that impacts our business climate and quality of life in Kansas.

We welcomed a truly awesome Leadership Overland Park class! By awesome, I mean engaged! Look for big things from this group of leaders and doers. They ask great questions and have big ideas for our community. So far I've spent just an evening and a day with them but I can already

tell we're going to have a great time with #LOP2023! Mark your calendar for June 22. You should come to their Graduation Lunch – you're going to want to meet them!

Like many of you, our office observed the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday. Instead of sleeping in, our Chamber team volunteered at member [Hillcrest Transitional Housing's](#) thrift store in Lenexa. The Hillcrest team quickly put us to work with simple jobs like sorting donations, pricing, setting up displays and clearing racks of stale items. Our shift flew by, and we were told our time had contributed about \$1,000 worth of manpower. Our work on simple tasks meant their team could concentrate on other, more complex jobs during that time. Our team agreed we got far more out of volunteering than we put in, and we'll do this again. (Note: we have many Chamber member nonprofit organizations. If you're interested in connecting with them for volunteer opportunities, contact Katelyn at kgravley@opchamber.org.)

That night, three of us hosted a group of our members at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy and Scholarship Awards dinner sponsored by the NAACP of Overland Park,

(continued on page 4)

Upcoming events

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, February 8 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Academy Bank, 10000 College Boulevard

At this monthly networking event, make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities while learning about Academy Bank’s personal, business and commercial banking services. You might want to ask an Academy Bank rep about the bank’s high-interest Money Market and CD rates.

Free for Chamber members.

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



Member Orientation

Thursday, February 16 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Overland Park Chamber, 9001 West 110th Street

If your company is new to the Chamber or you are new to your organization, this quarterly event is for you.

During the informal orientation, you will meet Chamber staff, connect with others who are new to the Chamber and learn about valuable resources available to you and your business.

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



OP After Hours

Tuesday, February 21 – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Chicken N Pickle, 5901 West 135th Street

Enjoy food, drinks and conversation while experiencing the unique, indoor/outdoor family entertainment complex that features a casual, chef-driven restaurant and sports bar, pickleball courts with professional instructors, a variety of yard games and space to lounge outdoors.

During OP After Hours, Chicken N Pickle is providing appetizers, Boulevard beer and a chance to win free pickleball play time.

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



Ribbon cutting celebrations

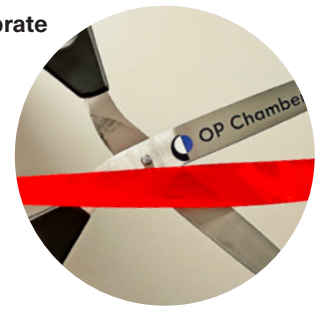
Join us to help our members celebrate this month!

February 1 – **Silver Lake Bank**, 7206 College Boulevard – 11 a.m.

February 13 – **Jason's Deli**, 9617 West 87th Street – 11 a.m.

February 15 – **Groundbreaking for 69Express** at Hilltop Conference Center, 7710 West 143rd Street – 10 a.m.

February 22 – **Lean Kitchen**, 12070 Blue Valley Parkway – 11 a.m.



Sponsorships available!



2023 Golf Tournament

August 14, 2023

We have many opportunities to promote your company to the nearly 150 business professionals who participate in the Chamber’s popular annual Golf Tournament.

Presenting Sponsor	\$12,000
Eagle Sponsor	\$5,000
Beverage Carts Sponsor	\$1,500 (1 available)
Birdie Sponsor	\$2,500
Par Sponsor	\$1,000
Awards Reception Sponsor	In-kind or \$3,000
Lunch Sponsor	In-kind or \$2,500
Golf Ball Flight Prize Sponsor24 boxes of branded golf balls or \$1,500
Soft Drinks Sponsor	In-kind or \$1,000
Foursome & Hole Sponsor Package	\$1,450
Hole Sponsor	\$500

Promote your company!

Numerous sponsorships are available to promote your company at some of the Chamber's most popular events:

- **Leadership Graduation Presenting Sponsor**
- **Leadership Overland Park** – various levels
- **Washington Update Series Presenting Sponsor**
- **Washington Fly-in Presenting Sponsor**
- **OP Young Professionals** – various levels
- **Chamber Annual Meeting** – various levels

For more information about sponsorships, contact Alex at acook@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7603.

President's message continued . . .

Leawood and Olathe. One highlight was our friend Carlos Gomez from the Hispanic Chamber receiving the Legacy Award.

Topping off the month, this week Mayor Skoog and I toured the new KCI terminal. Let's just say, WOW! From the moment you drive up to the beautiful garage

or curb and conveniently step into the bright, airy terminal, you'll know everything about this new airport is intentional and designed with your convenience and comfort in mind. Everywhere you look there are windows so you can see the planes and light. There is space – lots of it. There is art – so much art. There are so many food choices, you'll want to get

there early! There are seats! Outlets! So many bathrooms! I could go on and on. You don't have to wait long to see for yourself. The first flights out are February 28. The new KCI is a gamechanger for us for economic development, tourism and quality of life.

Again, I say, "What a month!"

Welcome to the Chamber!

INTRODUCING OUR JANUARY NEW MEMBERS

American Family Insurance- Dave Stanley

David Stanley, Licensed Representative
12501 Antioch Road, Suite A
Overland Park KS 66213
(913) 685-9600
DStanle1@amfam.com
www.amfam.com
Insurance

Andy's Frozen Custard-Nall

– Coming Soon!

Sara Laughlin, Local Marketing Manager
11220 Nall Avenue
Overland Park KS 66211
(913) 735-0959
www.eatandys.com
Ice Cream & Frozen Desserts

Andy's Frozen Custard- Prairiefire

Sara Laughlin, Local Marketing Manager
5821 West 135th Street
Overland Park KS 66223
(913) 392-3030
prairiefire.ks@eatandys.com
www.eatandys.com
Ice Cream & Frozen Desserts

Charles River Labs

Brian Roche, Executive Director
17745 Metcalf Avenue
Stilwell KS 66085
www.crl.com
Pharmaceutical Research

Class 101

Laura Mungia, Owner
6550 Sprint Parkway, Suite 200
Overland Park KS 66211
(913) 214-1113
lmungia@class101.com
www.class101.com/overlandpark
Educational Services

Clements Chiropractic

Jackson Clements, D.C.
12631 Antioch Road
Overland Park KS 66223
(913) 685-0022
Jackson@drcllementschiro.com
www.drcllementschiro.com
Chiropractic Physicians-D.C.

Kansas Children's Service League

Pam Boggs, Philanthropy Officer
6025 Metcalf Lane, Suite 300
Overland Park KS 66202
(785) 215-6403
pboggs@kcsll.org
www.kcsll.org
Non-Profit Organizations

Lean Kitchen

Heather Ehrhardt, Owner
12070 Blue Valley Parkway
Overland Park KS 66213
(913) 261-9302
kansascity@leankitchenco.com
www.leankitchenco.com
*Food Service, Health and Fitness Program
Consultants*

Scooter's Coffee

Hannah Howey, Marketing Coordinator
8973 West 135th Street
Overland Park KS 66221
(913) 766-3334
www.scooterscoffee.com
Coffee Houses

Sentinel Protective Strategies

Aubrey Omanson, Director of Marketing
(913) 596-8980
aubrey@sentinelprotectivestrategies.com
www.sentinelprotectivestrategies.com
Security Consultants, Self Defense Instruction

Solutions Digital Consulting LLC

Jeff Maloney, President
Overland Park KS 66282
(866) 377-5673
services@solutionsdigitalconsulting.com
www.solutionsdigitalconsulting.com
*Internet Marketing & Advertising, Marketing
Consultants*

Spradling Group

Aaron Foster, Director of Agent Success
7900 College Boulevard, Suite 119
Overland Park KS 66211
(913) 320-0906
www.spradlingrealttygroup.com
Real Estate, Real Estate-Residential

Stern & Mauck, LLC

Savannah Dowling, Office Manager /
Marketing Coordinator
9225 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 1170
Overland Park KS 66210
(913) 562-6949
www.smlawkc.com
Attorneys, Estate Planning

Strang Chef Collective and Strang Reserve

Carla Wheeler, Director of Sales,
Marketing & Events
8020 Marty Street
Overland Park KS 66204
hello@strang.cc
www.strangreserve.com
Event Space, Restaurants

Urban Egg

Jami Leahy, Marketing Director
4921 West 119th Street
Overland Park KS 66209
(913) 586-7500
overlandpark@urbaneggeatery.com
www.urbaneggeatery.com
Caterers, Restaurants

Refer a potential Chamber member to Dave at ddyer@opchamber.org and receive a credit when they join the Chamber!

Recent Events

CELEBRATING WITH OUR MEMBERS



Chamber President Tracey Lynn Osborne Oltjen joined City Council President Jim Kite in helping Shawn Craft, CEO of Strang Chef Collective, and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for [Strang Reserve](#), 8020 Marty Street in Downtown Overland Park.

Strang Reserve is a luxury event affiliated with Strang Hall. The 7,000-square-foot space can host up to 280 guests.

For more information, [click here](#).



We were pleased to help Drs. Eric Vargas and David McNeil and their team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the opening of [TrueFix Physical Therapy](#), 10561 Barkley Street, Suite 104.

The doctors at TrueFix help active individuals recover from injuries, move better, and stay healthy without relying on pain medications, injections or stopping activities they love.

For more info: (913) 391-7288 or [click here](#).

2023 state legislative session begins



Legislators have returned to Topeka and the decisions they make have real ramifications on how you operate your business.

As a Chamber member, you can be assured the Chamber team is paying very close attention to what is happening in Topeka so you can focus on what is critically important – operating and growing your business.

Our Chamber's **2023 State Legislative Platform** is [outlined here](#). New this year, we've created a brief that highlights our top priorities – Workforce and Education. You can view this document [here](#).

We have several ways you can engage with our policy team.

- Monthly [Public Policy and Advocacy Committee](#) meetings are a great way to interact directly with lawmakers and other policy leaders.
- [This Week in Topeka](#) – a weekly report that offers timely updates on important legislation and other actions in Topeka that impact your bottom line.
- Our legislative update meeting series provides opportunities to join with other chambers to ask questions of our area legislators and let them know what you think about the legislation being debated.

Our chamber advocacy team is also happy to work with you one-on-one to discuss industry-specific legislation, arrange meetings with lawmakers and help you navigate state and federal bureaucracies when their rules and regulations impact your business operations.



To get involved or learn more about how we advocate for you, contact Kevin Walker, our Senior Vice President of Public Policy. Email him at kwalker@opchamber.org or call him at (913) 766-7602.

Kevin Walker
Senior Vice
President of
Public Policy

Recent Events

MEMBERS CONNECTING WITH MEMBERS



Leadership class kicks off 2023 session

The 38 business professionals in our 2023 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class had its Opening Session last month.

During the opening session, the class got to know each other, participated in a leadership compass exercise facilitated by Suze Parker, [Parker Communications Group](#), learned Overland Park history from community leader Greg Musil, [Rouse Frets White Goss Gentile Rhodes, P.C.](#), contemplated their vision for Overland Park, had a bus tour of the city guided by city staff and completed a SWOT analysis and had a Chamber 101 session with Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen.

Sessions this month include Education Day and Economic Development Day.

Welcome Reception Sponsors



Thanks for reinvesting!

JANUARY MEMBER RENEWALS

50+ Years

Central Bank of the Midwest
 Security Bank of Kansas City
 Suburban Lawn & Garden
 Wallace Saunders
 WaterOne

40-49 Years

Crawford Sales Company
 University of Kansas Edwards Campus

20-39 Years

AC Printing Company, Inc.
 API Broadcast Advertising
 Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas
 Hepler & Associates
 Kaw Valley Engineering, Inc.
 Residence Inn by Marriott
 Saint Luke's Health System
 Sheraton Overland Park Hotel

10-19 Years

Blue Valley Insurance Agency, Inc.
 Crowley Furniture
 Foulston Siefkin LLP
 IP Pathways
 Leawood Family Dental, LLC
 MetroMedia, Inc.
 Netsmart Technologies
 Newmark Zimmer
 Proshred Security
 University of Saint Mary

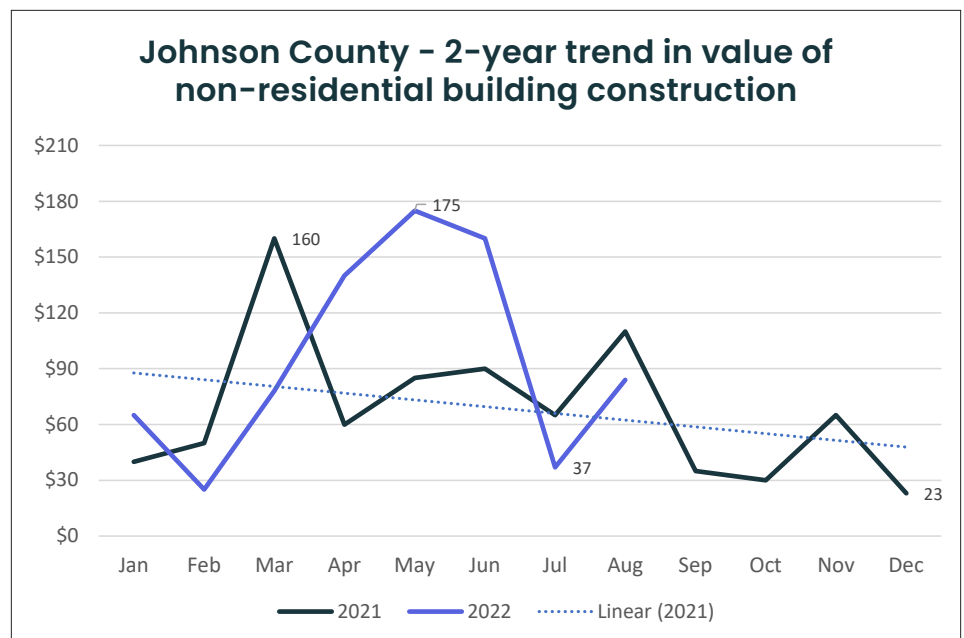
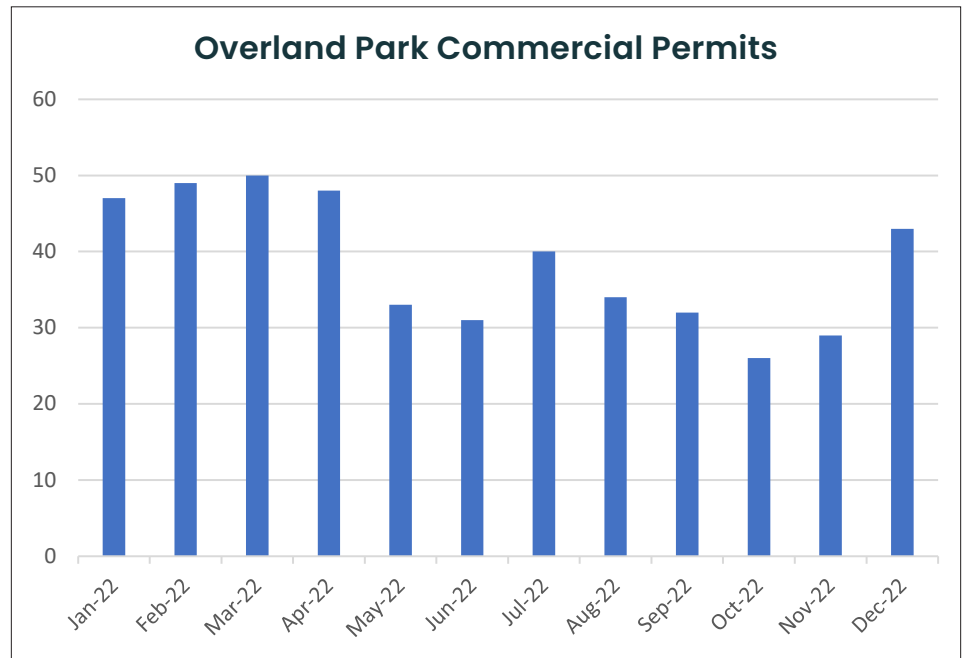
5-9 Years

Candlewood Suites - Overland Park
 Davidson Architecture & Engineering
 Hillcrest Transitional Housing of Kansas
 Kelly Construction Group, Inc.
 Maciel Wealth Management
 Monarch Build, LLC
 Museum at Prairiefire
 Pilgrim Coffee Company
 Residences at Prairiefire Apartments
 SelectQuote
 The Club at Indian Creek

1-4 Years

Allen, Gibbs, & Houlik, L.C.
 Johnson County K-State Research and Extension

Driving Economic Success



Source: F.W. Dodge, McGraw-Hill Information Service
 via Johnson County Economic Research Institute

Unemployment			
	Dec. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2021
Overland Park	2.5%	2.5%	1.7%
Johnson County	2.3%	2.2%	1.7%
Kansas City Metro MSA	N/A	2.5%	2.2%
State of Kansas	2.9%	2.9%	2.5%

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

This newsletter is distributed monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, 9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210.
 (913) 491-3600 | Fax: (913) 491-0393
opcc@opchamber.org | www.opchamber.org

Corporate Partners



Corporate Sponsors

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[FNBO](#)

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#)

[JE Dunn Construction Company](#)

[Johnson County Community College](#)

[Kansas Gas Service](#)

[McCownGordon Construction](#)

[The University of Kansas Edwards Campus](#)

To add your name to this list, contact Tracey Osborne Oltjen at (913) 491-3600 or tosborne@opchamber.org.

Member news

[Occidental Management](#) announced that [Hill's Pet Nutrition will relocate](#) its global and U.S. headquarters to the Aspiria campus in Overland Park.

[Copaken Brooks](#) has merged with CBC Real Estate Group to strategically align and pursue real estate development and owner's representative projects as one entity, [Copaken Brooks](#).

[HNTB](#) is relocating its Overland Park office to the [Aspiria campus](#).

Christopher Eckland, DO, is now performing [robotics-assisted joint replacement surgeries](#) that can offer better long-term outcomes for patients at [AdventHealth South Overland Park](#).

Trish Reedy has opened a [new mortgage brokerage](#), Planted Local Lending.

The [Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology program](#) at [Cleveland University-Kansas City](#) was awarded full accreditation by the Joint Review Committee for Education in Radiologic Technology.

[SCHEELS](#) recently purchased the entire Amazon [wish list of the Ronald McDonald Family Room](#) at Overland Park Regional Medical Center.

[Overland Park Convention Center](#) has been named 2023 [Best Small Convention Center in North America](#) by [EXHIBITOR Magazine](#).

The [Overland Park Regional Medical Center Trauma Center](#) has been verified as Johnson County's only [Level II Trauma Center](#) by the Verification Review Committee.

[The University of Kansas Hospital, Menorah Medical Center](#) and [Overland Park Regional Medical Center](#) were named among "America's 250 Best Hospitals for 2023" according to new research released by Healthgrades.

[Occidental Management](#) has hired Lee Schnyder as Senior Property Manager, Raecine Brent as an accounting specialist, and Dina Curtis as multimedia designer.

Scott Palecki has returned to [Foulston Siefkin](#) as a healthcare partner.

[McAuley & Crandall, PA](#), welcomed Dallas Stackhouse as a [new Partner](#).

[TPP Certified Public Accountants, LLC](#), has hired Maria Stauffer, CPA, as a senior tax manager in the CPA Services Division and Katherine Cook as a Daily Retirement Plan Administrator.

Registration for [summer camps with Johnson County Parks & Recreation District](#) is now available.

To submit member news, use your member login at the [Info Hub](#).

Chamber offers meeting space

Many organizations take advantage of the variety of meeting spaces available in the Chamber Foundation Building in Corporate Woods.

Whether you're planning an event, a training session, or a one-on-one interview, the Foundation Building has the perfect space for you.

Our individual office space is ideal for remote working or when you're wanting to work away from your regular office. Space accommodates from 2 to 100 people.

For more information, contact Katelyn at kgravley@opchamber.org or (913) 491-3600.

