Business Perspective



VOLUME 37, ISSUE 2 February 2024



The Chamber presented the work of Opportunity NOW to the Kansas House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development and to the Johnson County Delegation. Following up on the accomplishments around Opportunity NOW's Goal 1, which focuses on talent attraction, retention and alignment of resources, representatives were able to learn about the Chamber's strategic roadmap for helping businesses navigate the workforce ecosystem.



The Overland Park Chamber team is cheering on the Kansas City Chiefs to win Super Bowl LVIII!

Chamber Board

Board Officers:

Cindy Rock, Chair C2FO

Josh Beck, Chair-Elect MarksNelson LLC

Matt Sogard, 1st Vice Chair

Overland Park Regional Medical Center

Kim Winslow, 2nd Vice Chair

Evergy

Matt Sheets, Secretary

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Chris Wally, Treasurer

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Joan Wells, Past Chair

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Tom Davies, Security Bank of Kansas City

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Hyleme George, Black & Veatch

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Pat Kellerman, Shamrock Trading Corporation

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Will Mann, Zurich North America

Ryan Matthews, Kansas City National Security Campus

Dr. Tonya Merrigan, Blue Valley School District

Rich Muller, VanTrust Real Estate

Neelima Parasker, SnapIT Solutions, LLC Ben Prell, MTC Holding Corporation

Dr. Alan Verrill, AdventHealth South Overland Park

Christian Weld-Brown, MBB

Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

Ex-Officio Board:

Jim Holland, Fisher Phillips LLP Dr. Judy Korb, Johnson County Community College 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 Courtney Cavlovic, Workforce Development Coordinator

Alex Cook, Director of Events & Member Services

David Dyer, Membership Director

Paula Fields, Director of Finance & Administration Tim Holverson, IOM, Director, Workforce & Business Growth

Stan Lawson, Communications Director

Hannah Melton, Member Services Coordinator

Libbey Tucker, CEcD, Senior Vice President of Econmoic Development

Tanya Rife, Executive Assistant

Natalie Vesta, Economic Development Project Coordinator

Kevin Walker, IOM, Executive Vice President & Chief Policy Officer

Andrew Weisberg, Director of Talent

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE **Chamber President** @traceylosborne



The true art of winning

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It's a great time to be in Kansas City.

We're going to the Super Bowl! Again! Preparations are underway for the World Cup. The Current's new home on the riverfront is gorgeous. The state of business is strong. In our recent membership survey, 65% of respondents said business was better than last year, and nearly 62% indicated they're hiring more employees this year. And as I write this column, the sun is shining for the second day in a row after a super-cloudy January.

The world looks great through our Chiefs-colored sunglasses.

A friend at Rotary put this in perspective during our moment of inspiration. As we celebrate this win, our memories might be a little foggy. Remember earlier this season the doubts of whether our team still had the magic? The mistakes, the missed opportunities, the losses?

What we've consistently seen from this team and from its leadership - year after year - is a winning spirit, and not just the kind resulting from the game's final score. Coach Reid and Patrick Mahomes set the tone when they spread the credit for the wins and shoulder the losses themselves. Then, without excuses they shift their focus to the hard work ahead.

The American writer Albert Payson Terhume summed up this approach well: "Win broadly without boasting. Lose without excuse."

No matter our profession, not every day is a championship day. But each day has wins and losses that require acknowledgment. How we acknowledge them separates the true winners and leaders from the rest of the pack. Do we miss an opportunity to include others in the win, amplifying our team's potential? Or do we miss an opportunity to learn from a loss, or worse still, drag others down with it?

Whatever the outcome in Vegas, Kansas City is already a winner. But still, Go Chiefs!

Upcoming events

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, February 14

Delmar Gardens of Overland Park, 12100 West 109th Street

Make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities, all while enjoying coffee and breakfast items and learning more about the senior living options available at Delmar Gardens.

Free for Chamber members, but please register here.



SERIES SPONSOR



Member Orientation

Thursday, February 15 – 8:00-9:00 a.m. at the Overland Park Chamber, 9001 West 110th Street

During the informal orientation, new members or new employees at Chamber companies 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

Thursday, February 22 – 4:30-6:30 p.m. at LongHouse Visitors Center, Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, 9209 West 179th Street Join us at OP After Hours for a fun evening of networking, delicious appetizers and drinks in the beautiful surroundings of the new LongHouse Visitors Center.



SERIES SPONSOR

This is an exclusive benefit for members only. **To register**, <u>click here</u>.

EVERFAST FIBER NETWORKS

1 Million Cups

Wednesday, February 28 – 8:45-10:15 a.m. at the Overland Park Chamber, 9001 West 110th Street Join fellow entrepreneurs for Collisions, Connections and Collaborations – an opportunity to connect with an active and engaged community for conversations and viewing of the live 1 Million Cups pitch presentations.



Free to attend, but please register here.

Bridge project open house

The City of Overland Park is hosting an open house information meeting for the construction of a new bridge on College Boulevard between Mastin Street and Indian Creek Parkway/Grant Drive, which is scheduled to begin in spring 2025.

Attend anytime between 5:30-7:00 p.m. on **February 8** at Tomahawk Ridge Community Center, 11902 Lowell Avenue. For questions: (913) 895-6014.

2024 state legislature in session

State legislators are back in 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 import-

business.

Our Chamber's 2024 State Legislative Platform is outlined here.

We also have a brief that highlights

ant - operating and growing your

We also have a brief that highlights our top priority – Workforce. You can view this document here.

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

 Monthly <u>Public Policy and Advocacy Committee</u> 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 at kwalker@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7602.



Kevin Walker Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer

Welcome to the Chamber!

INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Alto Senior Living by Allegro Overland Park

Paula Morgan, Lead Senior Living Advisor 10300 Indian Creek Parkway Overland Park KS 66210 (913) 232-8232

PMorgan@allegroliving.com www.allegroliving.com

Senior Care & Living, Assisted Living Facility

Another Broken Egg Cafe

Troy Sorby, Marketing Manager 13386 Metcalf Avenue Overland Park KS 66213-2804 (913) 214-0145

1094-westchester@anotherbrokenegg.com

www.anotherbrokenegg.com Restaurants, Caterers

Capstone Insurance Agency

Jess Lohrey, Agent 12721 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 100

Overland Park KS 66213 (913) 825-2700 jess@capstoneagency.com

www.capstoneagency.com Insurance

Dunkin'

Tara Bock, Marketing Specialist 7446 Metcalf Avenue Overland Park KS 66204-1966 (913) 432-5660

https://rb.gy/xeqush Coffee Houses, Restaurants

Ellie Mental Health Stilwell-South Overland Park

Patrick Copley, Clinic Manager/Owner 7500 West 160th Street, Suite 100 Overland Park KS 66085 (913) 404-5232

www.elliementalhealth.com Health & Wellness, Health Care

pcopley@elliementalhealth.com

Flooring Systems Inc.

Amy Little, Branch Manager 9245 Flint Street Overland Park KS 66214 (913) 375-0352 alittle@flooringsystemsinc.net www.flooringsystemsinc.net Floor Covering, Contractors -Masonry

Indra Air Traffic, Inc.

- New EDC Investor!

Bill Colligan, General Manager 1130 West 89th Street Overland Park KS 66214 www.indracompany.com Technology

Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City

Erin Markowicz, Director, Strategic Marketing & Events 5801 West 115th Street Overland Park KS 66211 (913) 327-8123

www.jewishkansascity.org Charitable Organizations, Non-Profit Organizations

Kansas City Area Transportation Authority

Chuck Ferguson, Vice President Operations 1200 East 18th Street Kansas City MO 64108-1606 (913) 782-2210

www.ridekc.org
Transportation Providers

Kansas City Medical Society Foundation

Kristi Neff, Director of Health Access

6750 Antioch Road, Suite 305-J Merriam KS 66204 (816) 908-0524

www.kcmedicine.org

Associations Referred by Tricia Luedke

KC Spine and Sport

John McNeely, DC 8663 West 135th Street Overland Park KS 66223 (913) 766-0054 kcspineandsport@gmail.com www.kcspineandsport.com Chiropractic Physicians - D.C.

Randy Ross

Overland Park KS 66213 (913) 515-4409 rross@gowinred.com www.m2res.com Individuals

Shine of Overland Park

Devon Barry, Owner P.O. Box 3122 Lawrence KS 66046 (913) 963-9404 Devon.Barry@shineinfo.com www.shine-windowcleaning. com

Window Cleaning

Help us welcome these businesses investing in our community and please support them!

Thanks for reinvesting!

JANUARY MEMBER RENEWALS

50+ Years

Central Bank of the Midwest Overland Park Funeral Chapel Suburban Lawn & Garden Wallace Saunders WaterOne

40-49 Years

INTRUST Bank

Marriott Kansas City Overland

Ottawa University - Kansas City Campus

University of Kansas Edwards Campus

20-39 Years

AC Printing Company, Inc.
Better Homes and Gardens Real
Estate-Phil Summerson
Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue
Gary C. Richter, C.P.A., P.A.
Kaw Valley Engineering, Inc.
MarksNelson
Mutual of Omaha
Sheraton Overland Park Hotel
United Community Services of
Johnson County

10-19 Years

Blue Valley Insurance Agency, Inc. CBRE Group Inc.

Empower
Erickson Solutions Group
Museum at Prairiefire
Newmark Zimmer
Premier Volvo Cars Overland
Park
Savage & Browning LLC

5-9 Years

Active Family Chiropractic
Harvesters-The Community Food
Network

Maciel Wealth Management Monarch Build, LLC Pilgrim Coffee Company Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers Style Encore Sunflower Bank

1-4 Years

Allen, Gibbs, & Houlik, L.C.
ArchWell Health
Aspiria
BRR Architecture
Charles River Labs
Clements Chiropractic
First Option Bank
Game Show Battle Rooms
Geosyntec Consultants
GFI Digital, Inc.
Johnson County Post
Swartz + Associates, Inc.
The Aesthetic Place
The Golden Scoop
Urban Egg a daytime eatery

Chamber seeks input on workforce issues

The Chamber is hosting upcoming events with the opportunity to provide your input on workforce issues that have been affecting your business.

Your input is essential to helping us complete a comprehensive workforce study. On March 5-7, there will be a series of focus groups where businesses will be asked a series of questions about talent attraction and retention needs and challenges. Watch for your focus group invitation.

Also in March, the Chamber will begin a series of workforce events on specific topics to help businesses learn more about resources and best practices. This fall will see the first workforce summit, highlighted by the presentation of results from the workforce study.

For more information about these Opportunity NOW initiatives, contact Andrew Weisberg at aweisberg@opchamber.org.

New faces on Young Pros steering committee

Several new faces have joined our Young Professionals steering committee. Plans are underway for a full slate of engaging programming.

Chair: Molly Salisbury, Johnson County Community College Vice Chair: Jake Vance, Saint Luke's Health System Other committee members are:

- · Brett Bachelor, Kansas State University Olathe
- · Phil Bennett, Commerce Bank
- · Steven Brockschmidt, Kansas State University Olathe
- · Jared Burton, Evergy
- · Madeline Cook, WellSky Corporation
- · Taylor Dossett, First Option Bank
- Courtney Hudon, Planted Local Lending
- · Adam Juhn, Empower
- · Ashley Kalatusha, University of Kansas Edwards Campus
- · Lauren Koval, McCownGordon Construction
- Madison Parry, JE Dunn Construction Company
- Jonathan Pitallo, VIVE Brand Co LLC
- · Luritza Reichard, Central Bank of the Midwest
- · Morgan Reidmiller, Affinis Corp
- · Brandan Scheller, Affinis Corp
- · Trevor Splichal, BHC
- Ryan Stanley, WellSky Corporation
- Emma Swinney, United States Representative Sharice L. Davids
- Katie VanderVelde, Marriott Kansas City Overland Park
- · Brandon Von Dorpowski, AdventHealth Shawnee Mission
- · Nate Wagner, BHC
- Cheyenne Walden, Security Bank of Kansas City
- · Tara Wandtke, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

Chamber releases plans for organization's future work

The Chamber Board of Directors recently approved two updated plans to guide the work of the Chamber – the 2024 Business Plan and the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan.

Our 2024 Business Plan outlines four principle goals:

Goal 1: Boldly advocate for a business climate that drives prosperity at the local, state and federal levels.

Goal 2: Provide bold leadership for the future.

Goal 3: Make connections that create business success.

Goal 4: Achieve our bold mission through essential programming and financial strength.

To view our 2024 Business Plan, click here.

Our **2024-2026 Strategic Plan** outlines strategies the Chamber will pursue in order to achieve the following objectives:

- · Drive Economic Success
- Ensure the Next Generation of Leadership
- · Meet the Needs of Business

To view our 2024-2026 Strategic Plan, click here.





Local sales tax increasing

The OP Moves sales tax – approved in a mail-in ballot election in June 2023 – takes effect in April, replacing a dedicated one-eighth cent (0.125 percent) sales tax with a three-eighths cent (0.375 percent) dedicated sales tax.

The three-eighth cent sales tax will raise more than \$24 million to improve and maintain the City's streets and traffic management systems. Funding will be dedicated to sustaining and improving City infrastructure through repairs, rebuilding, rehabilitating, upgrading, constructing and improving public infrastructure. With OP Moves funding, the City expects to improve, rebuild or perform maintenance on city streets over the next ten years.

A resident committee recommended the City spend an additional \$28.5 million per year for infrastructure, funded partially with a three-eighth cent sales tax.

For more information, click here.

2024 Leadership class begins its session

The 34 members of our 2024 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class had their opening session last month.

At a welcome reception, they became acquainted and heard words of wisdom from Overland Park Chamber Foundation Chair Brad Stratton, Overland Park Wealth Management; Chamber Chair Cindy Rock, C2FO; Michael Margherio, UnitedHealthcare; Chrisine Splichal, Kansas State University Olathe; and Mark Sherfy, BHC.

During the opening retreat, the class got to know each other, had a bus tour of the city guided by city staff, participated in a leadership compass exercise, learned Overland Park history from Brad Moore, Overland Park Historical Society, contemplated their vision for Overland Park, completed a SWOT analysis and had a Chamber 101 session with Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen.

The next session is Education Day.





2024 Presenting Sponsor



Welcome Reception Sponsors





Recent Events

CELEBRATING WITH OUR MEMBERS



City Councilmember Holly Grummert joined the Chamber to help Dave Baumgartner, president at Bluemont Group; and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the reopening of Dunkin, 7446 Metcalf Avenue.

Recently updated as a Next Generation store, this Dunkin' location features modernized design and service for energy efficiencies, K-Cup

For more info: (913) 432-5660.

pods plus a tap system for cold drinks.



City Councilmember Inas Younis and Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen helped celebrate the Ceremonial Egg Crack and a ribbon cutting for the reopening of <u>Another Broken Egg Cafe</u>, 13386 Metcalf Avenue in Deer Creek Woods.

Stop by to enjoy a delicious Southern chef-inspired culinary breakfast, brunch or lunch.

For more info: (913) 214-0145 or click here.

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

opcc@opchamber.org | www.opchamber.org

KU Edwards prepares students for needs of business community

CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

The University of Kansas Edwards Campus (KUEC) prepares and educates students to meet the needs of Kansas City's business community.

KUEC offers high-quality, in-demand academic programs, research activities, and learning initiatives designed for transfer students and adult learners. Our online, in-person, and hybrid classes provide flexibility for full-time or part-time working professionals focused on advancing their careers. Along the way, students receive academic support, scholarship opportunities, expert advising, and professional connections.

With close ties to business leaders in the Kansas City area, KUEC focuses on the community's evolving workforce needs to provide companies with skilled, KU-educated employees. Edwards Campus students are workplace ready and can start or continue their careers immediately upon graduation.

KUEC continues to develop new bachelor's degree, graduate degree, and graduate certificate programs — such as the recently launched criminal justice and operations management bachelor's degrees — to meet businesses' talent needs and students' educational requirements.

Take advantage of all the Edwards Campus can offer your business and employees.

- Enroll in one of more than 70 graduate, undergraduate, and certificates programs.
- Host an event, seminar, or conference at KUEC's state-of-the-art facilities or online. KU's expert planning team makes it easy.
- Attend free educational webinars and seminars on important trending topics.
- Improve your organization's workforce with online and on-site training programs.
- Connect with current students and graduates to build your talent pipeline.

For more information, visit www.edwardscampus.ku.edu.

Driving Economic Success

Congratulations to these 2024 EDC Honors Lunch recipients:

NOVA Award

- · Flight Schedule Pro
- · Incisive Consultants
- · Playfair Data

Commercial Development Award

- · Fusion Bank
- Johnson County Community College
- · Kompass Kapital Management
- · LongHouse Visitor Center at the Arboretum
- · UMB Downtown Overland Park

Business Hall of Honor

- · EPC Real Estate Group
- · The University of Kansas Health System

Ben Craig Vision Award

· The Sunderland Foundation

Unemployment					
	Dec. 2023	Nov. 2023	Dec. 2022		
Overland Park	1.8%	2.1%	2.2%		
Johnson County	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%		
Kansas City Metro MSA	2.0%	2.2%	2.3%		
State of Kansas	2.0%	2.1%	2.4%		

(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)

– Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)

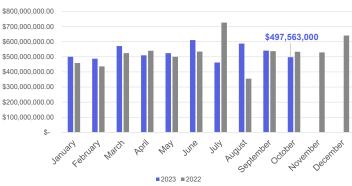
– U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Overland Park Building Permits					
	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools, etc.	Other Commercial	Totals	
2023	22	0	437	459	
Sq. Feet	710,869	0	702,008	1,412,877	
Value	\$102,065,525	N/A	\$248,251,866	\$350,317,391	

- City of Overland Park

TOTAL DELINCATES 1

Overland Park Retail Sales - October 2023



Corporate Partners







A Division of The Central Trust Bank.







Corporate Sponsors

Affinis Corp

Empower

Evergy

FNBO

Foulston Siefkin LLP

JE Dunn Construction
Company

Johnson County
Community College

Kansas Gas Service

McCownGordon Construction

Spencer Fane LLP

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.

Recent Events

MEMBERS CONNECTING WITH MEMBERS

Our members enjoyed networking over coffee and bagels at last month's Wednesday Wake-up hosted by First Option Bank.





Member News & Events

Overland Park will become home to the first permanent College Baseball Hall of Fame, scheduled to open in 2025 in the Museum at Prairiefire. The College Baseball Foundation and Visit Overland Park will amplify the local impact of the Hall of Fame including K-12 STEM programming, and creating an interactive, continually-evolving exhibit experience that encourages return visitors.

<u>Saint Luke's Health System</u> has joined BJC Health System for an <u>integrated system</u> but will retain its distinct brand in Kansas City region.

The University of Kansas Cancer Center has received a \$2.4 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to help grow the next generation of cancer researchers.

AdventHealth Shawnee Mission Breast

Center has successfully passed its third reaccreditation review from the National Accreditation
Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) survey.

Spectrum is accepting applications from multiculturally owned businesses in its Pay It Forward grant program. February 25 is the deadline to apply for your chance to receive a complimentary streaming and TV advertising campaign, a free commercial, educational resources and mentorship.

<u>Saint Paul School of Theology</u> is hiring an <u>executive director of development & alumni</u> <u>relations</u>. Applications are due by February 12.

Niche.com recently ranked nine Johnson County high schools in the top 10 in its <u>Best</u> <u>Public High Schools in the Kansas City area.</u>

<u>Leslie Duke</u> recently became the eighth CEO at <u>Burns & McDonnell Engineering</u>.

Dr. Judy Korb, PhD, has been appointed Interim President of Johnson County Community
College. Dr. Korb has a deep history with the College and has served the institution in various roles for the past 34 years.

Bobby Olm-Shipman has been named the 2024 <u>Chair of Kansas Hospital Association</u>
<u>Board of Directors</u>. Bobby is the current CEO of <u>Saint Luke's South</u> and East Region.

HopeKids Kansas City has named Abigail
Swafford executive director. Abigail has been a member of HopeKids since 2022, previously working as its program manager.

Matt Mentzer has joined Foulston Siefkin LLP's Overland Park office with 15 years of accounting and legal experience in trusts, estates, probate and tax matters.

Johnson County Government has named Adam Norris assistant county manager. He was Assistant City Manager at the City of Overland Park from 2007 to 2014.

AdventHealth South Overland Park has named Jimmy Bolanos its chief operating officer. Bolanos previously held the role of Regional Executive Director of Strategy and Operations for AdventHealth Mid-America.

Cindy Shelton, <u>Nifty Promotions</u>, has been recognized as one of the <u>Enterprising Women</u> <u>of the Year</u> by Enterprising Women Magazine.

To submit member news, log into your Member Info Hub at www.opchamber.org or contact Hannah at hmelton@opchamber.org.