

Business Perspective



OVERLAND PARK
K A N S A S
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

July 2017

Changes in income tax law may affect you

The 2017 Kansas Legislature passed a bill that makes major changes in the state's income tax law that may be important to you and necessitate additional or new tax planning.

Among the changes, the law repeals the non-wage pass through business income tax exemption, commonly referred to as the "LLC loophole" (impacting not only LLCs, but also S corporations, partnerships, and sole proprietorships), effective retroactively as of January 1, 2017.

The new law also replaces the current two bracket individual income tax schedule (with tax rates of 2.7% and 4.6%) with a three bracket schedule. Because the new brackets and rates take

effect retroactively as of January 1, 2017 for the 2017 tax year, employers will begin withholding at the full 2018 tax rates on July 1 to properly phase in the effective new rates over the second half of 2017.

The Chamber has outlined the effects of the new law and you can find a summary on the Public Policy page at our website, www.opchamber.org, or [click here](#).

However, you are encouraged to consult your tax attorney or CPA for specific advice as to how these changes impact you and/or your business and what steps you should take as a result of the new law.

BluHawk development bringing amenities to Blue Valley area in southern Overland Park



Price Commercial Realty continues to make progress on the BluHawk development, which is one of Kansas City's largest mixed-use projects by a single developer. It spans more than 300 acres at the intersection of I 59th Street and U.S. 69 Highway. Opening July 11, **Cosentino's Market** is a 60,000 square foot grocery store of the future, embracing farm-to-table with the highest quality and best variety of products available. Already serving the area are **Shawnee Mission Health-Overland Park**, **First National Bank BluHawk**, **Three Dog Bakery-BluHawk**, **BluHawk Dental Group** and **Primrose School of Blue Valley**. Still being planned are additional shopping, dining and entertainment venues, 400,000 square feet of Class A office spaces, and 127 single-family residences. For more information: www.bluhawkkc.com.

Our Mission:

To enhance the business environment and quality of life in our community.



Chamber Calendar

Ribbon cutting

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.

Cosentino's Market, 8051 West 160th Street

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 - 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Pinstripes, 13500 Nall Avenue

Free and open to Chamber members only

Ribbon cutting

Friday, July 21, 2017 - 4:30 p.m.

InterUrban ArtHouse, 8001 Newton Street

Young Professionals networking

Networking for young professionals from metro-wide chambers of commerce held in conjunction with the Digital Ally Open

Thursday, July 27, 2017 - 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate, 14225 Dearborn
\$20 per person before July 22; \$30 after July 22

Networking for metro-wide chambers

Networking for members of all metro chambers of commerce held in conjunction with the Digital Ally Open at the 18th Green Pavilion

Friday, July 28, 2017 - 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate, 14225 Dearborn
Free and open to Chamber members

OP After Hours

Thursday, August 3, 2017 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center,
8788 Metcalf Avenue

This networking event is for Chamber members only

To make reservations, [click here](#)
or call (913) 491-3600.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Chamber Board and Staff

BOARD OFFICERS:

Michael Tracy, *Chairman*
OMNI Human Resource Management
Brett Bogan, *Chair-Elect*
Lathrop & Gage LLP
Mike Hess, *1st Vice Chairman*
HNTB Corporation
Stacie Gram, *2nd Vice Chairman*
Swiss Re America Holding Corporation
Chris Wally, *Secretary*
CBRE Kansas City
Charles Laird, *Treasurer*
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Brad Stratton, *Past Chairman*
Overland Park Wealth Management

BOARD MEMBERS:

Marshaun Butler, **Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas**
Lance Collins, **YRC Worldwide**
Greg Crowley, **Crowley Furniture**
Jim Edwards, **Nothing Bundt Cakes**
Jarad Falk, **Charter Communications**
Craig Jeffries, **Empower Retirement**
Tim Kelley, **Security Bank of Kansas City**
Jodde Lanning, **Payne & Jones, Chartered**
Doug Lynn, **Sprint**
Don Pearce, **Pearce Construction Company**
Karsten Randolph, **Shawnee Mission Health**
Ryan Reeves, **UnitedLex Corporation**
Bob Regnier, **Bank of Blue Valley**
Clint Robinson, **Black & Veatch**
Stephen Rhorer, **SPX Cooling Technologies**
Tony Rupp, **Foulston Siefkin LLP**
Mark Thomas, **Copaken Brooks**
Steve Troester, **PGAV Architects, Inc.**
Dr. Todd White, **Blue Valley School District**
Lori Wright, **Kansas City Power & Light**

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:

Joe Andrick, **True North Hotel Group** [Convention & Visitors Bureau board representative]
Bill Ebel, **City of Overland Park**
Mayor Carl Gerlach, **City of Overland Park**
Dana Markel, **Visit Overland Park**
Greg Musil, **Douthitt Frets Rouse Gentile & Rhodes**
[2017 Chair of Overland Park Chamber Economic Development Council]
Tracey Osborne, CCE, Overland Park Chamber
Dr. Joe Sopcich, **Johnson County Community College**
Greg Wolf, **Dentons**

CHAMBER STAFF:

Tracey Osborne, CCE, *President*
Stacey Cowan, *Membership Director*
Frank Ebling, *Controller*
Celia Fritz-Watson, *Director of Events & Member Services*
Tim Holverson, IOM, *Recruitment & Retention Director, Economic Development*
Beth Johnson, CECd, *Senior Vice President of Economic Development*
Michael Kelley, *EDC Policy & Communications Coordinator*
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Erin Murray, *Assistant to the President*
Tom Robinett, *Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy*
Amy Stock, *Member Services Coordinator*

#blessed

June is a month of reflection at the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce. We take a moment to measure our mid-year progress on goals, review the work of the Kansas Legislature as we prepare our Voting Record, and we have the final sessions of the Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class. I truly enjoy that last day with the LOP class as we synthesize their experience. Did their perceptions of our community assets and challenges change over the past ten sessions and six months? What were the “aha” moments? And after this deep-dive, what is their vision for Overland Park?

This year I was particularly interested in the answers as we're heading into the visioning process with our partners, the City of Overland Park and **Visit OP**. This 34th class of LOP was a thoughtful, diverse, and inquisitive class. I share with you some of their vision:

- Continue the priority of being a community of choice to live, work and play
- Address workforce vs residence disparity in terms of the demographics served
- Promote good public policy at all levels of government
- Increase connectivity from East to West, and the flow from North to South. What role does public transit play as we add 50,000 more people to our population?
- Increase diversity in leadership across all sectors – elected offices, civic and business for representation in age, gender, and race
- Prioritize revitalization of neighborhoods and amenities in the North.

These were just a few of the ideas noted by the class. Look for them to not only be engaged, but leading efforts that will impact our region for decades to come. Aaron Attebery, **Black & Veatch**, was selected by his peers to be class speaker at their graduation last month. He noted they have a responsibility to seek to understand local issues and events, not just watch the 5 o'clock news. It was important to remember that each of the issues they discussed in class impacted someone.

He told the class, their guests and employers and alumni that the City needs leaders today as much as it did when it was founded. The difference is that back then, it was a blank slate and now it's a mature city with different issues. He encouraged everyone to give back our most valuable resource – time, by saying, “We are all connectors.”

This year we changed the book that is part of LOP's curriculum to the “Heart Led Leader” by Tommy Spaulding. The focus is on who we are and how we lead others through the 18 inches that connect our heart to our head. This class embraced the philosophies of the book throughout, and I've been impressed with the depth of their discussion regarding the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for our city, region and state. They epitomize Spaulding's message in his book which is “*when we lead from the heart – when we lead with love – we care deeply about serving others, about selflessness, about doing the right thing even when it's difficult, about developing empathy and demonstrating generosity, about all those ideals that may seem 'soft' but, in fact, allow us to live and lead more powerfully.*”

This is a class from whom we expect much. Aaron's concluding remarks at the graduation summarized it well. He said, “We live in an amazing community and we are #blessed to be part of it.”

Would you like to be part of LOP 2018 or know someone you'd like to nominate? Contact our office, or download a nomination form - [click here](#).



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

Business Perspective is published monthly by the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce.

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Be informed for fall election

The upcoming 2017 Election will include these races:

- Overland Park Mayor
- Overland Park Council members - Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and Ward 5 (2-year unexpired term)
- USD 229 Blue Valley Board of Education members - Positions 4, 5 and 6
- USD 233 Olathe Board of Education members - Positions 3, 5 and 6
- USD 512 Shawnee Mission Board of Education members - Positions 2, 4 and 6 at-large
- Johnson County Community College Trustees - 4 at-large positions
- Water District #1 - Positions 3, 4 and 5

- July 11 - Last day to register to vote in the primary election
- July 12 - Advance voting by mail begins for the primary
- July 24 - Advance voting in person begins for the primary
- July 31 - Advance voting in person closes at noon for the primary
- August 1 - Fall primary election

After the primary election, the Johnson County Public Policy Council will be hosting forums for candidates in the Fall General Election on November 7.

For more information about the election, visit www.jocoelection.org and www.votejoco.com.



GOLF TOURNAMENT
Friday, September 15, 2017
 12:30 p.m. shotgun start
 St. Andrew's Golf Club

Sponsored by



MENORAH MEDICAL CENTER
 OVERLAND PARK REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

The Chamber's annual golf tournament is a fun way to expand your business connections as a golfer or as an event sponsor.

Register as a golfer by July 28 for the early-bird discount.

[Register as a golfer here.](#)

Sponsor a hole or a specific tournament activity, donate a door prize or provide registration bag items (150 like items).

Contact Celia at (913) 766-7603 or cfritzwatson@opchamber.org.

Beverage Carts Sponsor Lunch Sponsor Reception Sponsor



Soft Drinks Sponsor



Signage Sponsor



Hole Sponsors

- Baron Contracting Corporation • Fortune Financial Advisors • INTRUST Bank
- Landmark National Bank • Kansas State University Olathe • Mid American Credit Union • McCownGordon Construction • Overland Park Modern Dentistry
- Security Bank of Kansas City

Join us at this networking event!

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

Wednesday, July 12

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Hosted by



13500 Nall Avenue



Join us for networking over coffee and breakfast at Pinstripes in Prairiefire. Pinstripes offers sophisticated fun with bowling, bocce and a bistro experience featuring chef's made-from-scratch creations. Its unique event spaces are perfect for social celebrations or corporate gatherings.

Free and open to Chamber members only.

To register, [click here](#) or call (913) 491-3600

Join us at this networking event!



Thursday, August 3

5:00-7:00 p.m.

[Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center](#)

8788 Metcalf Avenue

Join us for a fun evening of networking, delicious food and drinks at the stunning Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center, new home of the Johnson County Museum, KidScape, Theatre in the Park, and unique event space.



Free and open to Chamber members only.

To register, [click here](#) or call (913) 491-3600

CHAMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS



2017 Annual Meeting offers sponsorship opportunities

The Annual Meeting Luncheon for the Chamber's 50th anniversary will be 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on **December 6** at the **Overland Park Convention Center**.

For more information about opportunities for company recognition at the Chamber's largest event of the year, contact Celia Fritz-Watson at cfritzwatson@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7603.

These sponsorship opportunities are available:

- **Gold Sponsor:** \$5,000 (2 available)
- **Silver Sponsor:** \$3,000 (3 available)
- **Corporate Table Sponsor:** \$1,000 (10 available)
- **Awards Sponsors:** \$500 (4 available)

Click advertisement below for event details.

2017 Leadership class graduates



David Westbrook (above), **Children's Mercy Hospital**, inspired attendees at the 2017 Leadership Overland Park Graduation Luncheon as the keynote speaker.



Aaron Attebery (at left), **Black & Veatch**, represented the 2017 LOP class by relating their experiences and the leadership training they received during this year's session.



Receiving new member plaques last month from Chamber President Tracey Osborne were Diane Schmidt, **The Freelance Exchange of Kansas City**; Suzie Gilbert, **JNA Advertising**; Farah Saada Marvil, **Seeds of Hope**; Dylan Quinn, **Quinn Real Estate Company**; Amanda Chappelow, **Stagecoach Tavern** and **Burg & Barrel**. Also in photo is Tim Kelley, **Security Bank of Kansas City**.



Greg Wolf, **Dentons**, shared his experiences of becoming a leader early in his career at a Young Professionals Learning@Lunch program.



Tracey Osborne, Overland Park Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Rory Dopps, **Dopps Chiropractic**.

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

hosted on June 14 by



Patrick Wertzberger, **Farmers Insurance-Wertzberger Agency**; Xan Spiecker, **Kansas City Audio Visual Inc.**



Cami Travis-Groves and Diane Schmidt, **The Freelance Exchange of Kansas City**; Sara Buffington, **Principal Financial Group**.



Diana Chaloux-LaCerte and Micah LaCerte, **Hitch Fit Gym**; Brian Hofen, **1861 Wealth Advisors**; Peter Roszel, **Security Bank of Kansas City**.



hosted on May 25 by



Dr. Mike Dempewolf talked to attendees about **Mid-America Orthopedics Kansas City**.

Event Sponsor:



NEW MEMBERS / REINVESTED MEMBERS

Welcome new members!

We are pleased to introduce these new Chamber members:

Advantage Tech, Inc.
Andrew Marquardt, CEO & Founder
14651 West 95th Street
Overland Park, KS 66215
(913) 888-5050
www.advantagetech.net
Employment Agencies & Services,
Business Consultants

AJ Fashion & Lifestyle Magazine
Mahjabeen Zaidi, Chief Editor
Overland Park, KS 66207
(913) 701-4214
jabeenzaidi@hotmail.com
www.akhbarejabeen.com
Magazines, Media
Membership Referred by Dr. Faris Farassati, City Council Member, Ward 5

Aldi, Inc. - 135th Street
Mark Bersted, Vice President - Olathe Division
8640 West 135th Street
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 768-1119
www.aldi.us
Grocers, Retail

Aldi, Inc. - 95th Street
Mark Bersted, Vice President - Olathe Division
8333 West 95th Street
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 768-1119
www.aldi.us
Grocers, Retail

Beef Jerky Outlet Experience
Shelly Merriam, Co-owner
6301 West 135th Street, Suite B
Overland Park, KS 66223
(816) 522-6068
690.overlandpark@beefjerkyoutlet.com
www.kckjerky.com
Grocers, Retail

Billy Sims Barbecue
David Dunn, Franchisee
9222 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 831-8855
overlandpark@billysimsbbq.com
www.billysimsbbq.com
Restaurants, Caterers

Crossland Construction Company
David Anderson, Director of Pre-construction
3252 Roanoke Road
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 960-4553
www.crosslandconstruction.com
Contractors - General, Construction Management

Everyday Home Care Kansas City
Evah Riungu, Executive Director
9393 West 110th Street, Suite 500
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 323-4990
info@everydayhomecarekc.com
www.everydayhomecarekc.com
Home Care Services

The Freelance Exchange of Kansas City
Ted Tronnes, Treasurer
P.O. Box 412442
Kansas City, MO 64141-2442
(816) 200-0411
info@FXofKC.com
<http://kcfreelanceexchange.com/>
Non-Profit Organizations, Marketing Services

Quinn Real Estate Company
Kelly Wurth, Realtor & Marketing Manager
15111 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 681-1230
info@quinnkc.com
www.quinnkc.com
Real Estate - Residential

.....
Earn credits when your referrals become a Chamber member.
Send referrals to Stacey Cowan at scowan@opchamber.org.

Support these Chamber members who have made investments to enhance the prosperity of our community!

Member Renewals

We thank these companies for their membership reinvestments in May 2017:

40-50 Years
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
Spectrum Business

20-39 Years
ASE Group, Inc.
Ashok B. Bavishi, C.P.A.
Blue Valley School District
DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park
Family Dental Pros
First National Bank
Johnson County Government
Menorah Medical Center
Morgan Hunter
National Crop Insurance Services

Overland Park Racquet Club
Straub Construction Company
Paul Henson Family YMCA

10-19 Years
A.L. Huber General Contractor
Andre's Confiserie Suisse-Andre's Rivaz
ArtsKC - Regional Arts Council
BHC RHODES
Capital City Bank
CBIZ Cottonwood
Community Blood Center of Greater Kansas City
Craig Sole Designs
Minuteman Press on Metcalf
NBKC
Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate
Overland Chauffeured Services
Overland Park Convention Center/Global Spectrum

Park Meadows Senior Living
Sherwin Williams Company
Tallgrass Creek-Erickson Living
VeriShip, Inc.

5-9 Years
Batteries Plus Bulbs #282
Blue Valley Goodyear
Business Data Services LLC
Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant
Kansas Asphalt, Inc.
Kansas State University Olathe
Pizza Shoppe-151st Street
Savoy Apartments
Staples, Inc.
Sunny Day Pediatric Dentistry PA

1-4 Years
Avila University
Clarus Group
Corbin Crossing Apartments
EmbroidMe
Foodsby
The Hayhow Group
JAN-PRO Cleaning Systems
Maurices
McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.
Overland Park Modern Dentistry
Prime Sleep - 91st & Metcalf
Reece Nichols - The Rob Ellerman Team
RF Benchmark Construction, LLC
Rock & Brews, Overland Park
Scheels
Titan Built, LLC
Which Wich? Superior Sandwiches

Take advantage of your exclusive member benefits!

Chamber members have numerous exclusive benefits including these:

- Frequent networking events
- Rental of mailing list to promote your services
- Advertise in Chamber communications

For details: Stan Lawson at slawson@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7601.



City Council President John Thompson, Chamber President Tracey Osborne and Chamber Diplomats helped Peter Crane, Executive Director; and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for **The Sheridan at Overland Park**, 10300 Indian Creek Parkway. Residents at The Sheridan enjoy chef-prepared meals, play games in the living rooms, get creative in the art studio, and exercise in the fitness center and physical therapy spaces. For more information: (913) 263-4499 or www.seniorlifestyle.com/property/sheridan-overland-park.



Chamber and City officials celebrated a ribbon cutting for the **Johnson County Arts and Heritage Center**, 8788 Metcalf Avenue. The center is home to the Johnson County Park and Recreation District Fine and Performing Arts Department, Johnson County Museum and Shawnee Mission Theatre in the Park. Many spaces inside the new center also are available for rental. For more information: (913) 826-2787 or www.jcoahc.com.



City Council President John Thompson, City Council members Curt Skoog and Dave White; Chamber President Tracey Osborne and Chamber Diplomats helped Hal Shapiro, **REAL Property Group**, and his partners celebrate the opening of InterUrban Lofts, 7900 Conser in Downtown Overland Park. For more information: (816) 918-8517 or www.realpropertygrp.com.



City Council Member Paul Lyons; Chamber EDC Director of Recruitment & Retention Tim Holverson; and Chamber Diplomats helped Carol Culklin, owner; and Lauryn Baron, manager; celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Mainstream Boutique**, 9540 Nall Avenue. Mainstream Boutique is a multi-generational boutique offering a fun and unique variety of fashion apparel and accessories. For more information: (913) 257-5180 or www.mainstreamboutique.com.



City Councilmember Rick Collins; Chamber EDC Director of Recruitment & Retention Tim Holverson; and Chamber Diplomats helped Rogers Strickland, partner; and Stacey Ruona, manager; and their team celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Metcalf Self Storage**, 15415 Metcalf Avenue. The state-of-the-art storage facility is climate controlled and has 690 units. For more information: (913) 402-6950 or www.attic-storage.com.



City Council President John Thompson and Beth Johnson, Chamber Senior Vice President of Economic Development, helped Dr. Rory and Danielle Dopps celebrate the new location of **Dopp's Chiropractic**, 7811 West 151st Street. Dr. Rory specializes in a wide range of clients from newborn babies, children, adults, elderly, expectant mothers and athletes. For more information: (913) 608-5441 or www.doppschiropracticop.com.

2017 LEADERSHIP OVERLAND PARK

Class completes service project to benefit Early Education Center

by Taylor Pruitt
Bravadas Wigs & Extensions

Like all previous classes, the 2017 Leadership Overland Park class faced the challenge of identifying a community

service project from the many choices and needs in our community. After much class discussion, we chose to help **Growing Futures Early Education Center**, a not-for-profit organization

providing quality early education opportunities and family support services for children in Johnson County.

Class members met with Terrie VanZandt-Travis, Executive Director, and Megan Campbell, Development Director, to discuss the organization's needs. We became aware of an area in the play yard where brush and vines would get so overgrown in the summer kids could hide from staff. Large, in-ground planter boxes needed to be converted to sand boxes with lids, other large planter boxes cleaned out and rebuilt, a storage shed that needed trim replaced and painted and 26 concrete planters that needed rocks cleared out and plants added to soften their appearance and the fence around the play areas.

Our class went to work planning and organizing and raising funds for supplies and to make a cash donation to Growing Futures. More than \$3,800 in monetary donations came from class members, their organizations and other donors. Goods and materials were donated by several

individuals and organizations. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we were able to obtain all the materials needed and make a donation of more than \$3,000 to Growing Futures.

Twenty-plus members of our class plus their friends and spouses gathered at Growing Futures on a hot, humid day. A class of leaders worked as three teams clearing the brush, fixing the planter boxes and the sheds. The team discovered a rock pathway in the overgrown area and several hidden hostas. We reset the pathway and split and replanted the hostas. The overgrown hiding spot became a beautiful area the kids can run through. The sandboxes became a reality, the concrete planters now full of greenery and the shed in new condition.

There were lots of sore muscles and tired bodies, but we left a happy and satisfied group seeing all we had accomplished. The only thanks we needed came Monday when we received a picture of a group of smiling young faces playing in their new sandbox.



Nominations for 2018 Class

Nominations for the 2018 Leadership Overland Park program, which will begin in January 2018, are due by noon on September 8, 2017. Completed applications from nominees will be due on October 13, 2017. The nomination form can be found at www.opchamber.org or call (913) 491-3600.

Monetary Donors:

Aaron Attebery
Janet Barrow
Amber Beverlin
Harvey Bodker
David Brill
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
Shawn Cross
Jennifer Divito
First National Bank
Celia Fritz-Watson
Jill & Carl Gerlach
David Green
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INTRUST Bank
Cameron McGown
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Ezzard Nash
Overland Park Convention Center
Taylor Pruitt
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Jennifer Stickney
Kristin Stoneman
The Other Place – Downtown
Overland Park
Laura Tyson

Thank you to these donors:

In-Kind Donors (Material & Supplies):

Audrie Seeley & Co. Landscaping
Janet Barrow *
Julie Brewer *
Jason Davis
Family Tree Nursery
Jacob Merriman
Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
Shelli Palacio *
Greg Pfau – landscape design services
Taylor Pruitt *
Julie Ross *
Ann Stevenson *
* donated snacks and beverages for class work day



Member News & Events

With the opening of the Zamierowski Simulation Center and Rodgers Conference Center, **Shawnee Mission Health** is now better equipped to support the ongoing educational needs of its physicians, nurses and associates, resulting in a higher standard of patient care. It is one of the final components of the hospital's \$22 million renovation of the first floor of the original hospital tower.

Terracon has acquired Earth Exploration Inc., which significantly enhances the firm's presence in the Upper Midwest by establishing offices in the states of Indiana and Michigan.

Diagnostic Imaging Centers has opened its new medical imaging clinic at 6650 West 110th Street.

The **Kansas City Mavericks** is the new name of Kansas City's professional hockey team formerly known as the Missouri Mavericks.

Harmon Construction has begun construction on the Meadowbrook Park Improvements and Activity Building. The project is scheduled for completion in April 2018.

The Foundation for **Shawnee Mission Medical Center** has received a \$1 million gift from the Hall Family Foundation to build the B.E. Smith Family Center on the SMMC campus. The B.E. Smith Family Center will house the Lee Ann Britain Infant Development Center that provides services for children with special needs, and the Early Learning Center, which provides a Christian educa-

tion for children of employees and physicians.

ArtsKC - Regional Arts Council has been recommended for \$20,000 in funding from the National Endowment for the Arts for ArtsKCGo.com, a new arts and cultural events website that launched.

Sunflower Financial and Strategic Growth Bancorp Inc., recently completed their merger, bringing together holding companies and respective banking entities including **Sunflower Bank N.A.**, which has locations at 7400 West 135th Street and 15100 Rosewood Street.

Autumn Leaves of Overland Park, 12701 Pflumm Road, now offers adult day stay and overnight respite care.

St. Joseph Medical Center has received the Mission: Lifeline Silver Receiving Quality Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

The **Johnson County Community College** Board of Trustees voted to keep the current rate for tuition and fees for students enrolling in Fall 2017.

First National Bank is accepting applications for its upcoming community development grant cycle, focused on programs related to educated workforce initiatives.

Kansas State University's Master of Public Health

(continued on page 12)

Sponsor Spotlight: Saint Luke's HEALTH SYSTEM

Saint Luke's South Hospital serves the health care needs of Overland Park and its surrounding communities. It's consistently a top performer in the metro area for patient safety and satisfaction.

Each day, Saint Luke's strives for the highest levels of excellence in providing health care services in a caring environment. It is dedicated to enhancing the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the diverse communities it serves and is honored to be recognized as a Human Right's Campaign Leader for LGBTQ Healthcare Equality. To help ensure all people receive access to health care, Saint Luke's provided more than \$2.9 million in charity care in 2016. Outreach efforts include more than 6,000 hours of health education to area high school students.

Saint Luke's also is making it easier to get high-quality health care right in your neighborhood. Saint Luke's Multispecialty Clinic—Mission Farms features primary care and lab, imaging, pharmacy, and specialist services. For fast care for minor acute issues or a quick school or sports physical, stop by your nearest Hy-Vee, where skilled advanced practice nurses see patients at Saint Luke's Convenient Care. No appointment necessary, and you don't have to be a Saint Luke's patient to get great Saint Luke's care.

Need a higher level of care? Saint Luke's South Hospital features 24-hour emergency services, advanced diagnostic testing, rehabilitation services, and physician offices. The spacious Birth and Women's Center features a Level IIIa NICU. Heart attack and stroke patients benefit from lifesaving protocols developed at Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute and Saint Luke's Marion Bloch Neuroscience Institute. Goppert Breast Center offers 3-D mammography, high-risk screening, and hereditary cancer counseling and is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers.

From birth to the golden years, Saint Luke's Health System is committed to caring for you.

For more information, visit www.saintlukeskc.org.



Chamber promotes Overland Park as corporate community

The business leaders who established the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce fifty years ago wanted Overland Park to not be just a bedroom community of commuters. They worked to transform Overland Park into a corporate center with plenty of employment opportunities. They supported facilities providing greater access to health care, and encouraged development that generated increased sales and tourism taxes paid by corporate and leisure visitors, which helped reduce the amount of taxes paid by local residents.

A Corporate Center

Within a year of the Chamber's founding in 1967, it partnered with the City of Overland Park to produce a brochure to recruit companies. Excellent schools and distinctive residential developments were increasing Overland Park's population and many of the executives who called it home liked the idea of locating their companies here, too. With ample parking, highway access, and a family-oriented lifestyle, Overland Park soon became a



thriving corporate center that also spurred retail growth.

1967 – The opening of Metcalf South Shopping Center made Overland Park a retail leader, drawing shoppers from a large region. The developer envisioned a “full-range of stores, restaurants, playgrounds, and parks,” where “people shop, work, relax, meet, and have fun . . . attend meetings, inspect scientific or cultural exhibits, and maybe even dance.”

1974 – When **Oak Park Mall** opened, it became the largest mall in the Kansas City metropolitan area and the entire state of Kansas.

1975 – Buildings 20-24 opened in **Corporate Woods**, which had been conceived by partners Tom Congleton, Russ Jones, Whitney Kerr, Sr., and Richard “Dick” Wagstaff. As it developed, the office park

grew to offer some of the most prestigious office space in the Kansas City metro.

1976 – With **Black & Veatch** doubling in size between 1971 and 1976, the company completed a six-story headquarters that was the largest office building in Kansas. By 2009, as one of Overland Park's largest employers, the company affirmed its commitment to the community by purchasing its headquarters building and embarking on a \$60 million renovation and expansion that culminated with the dedication of the Rodman Innovation Pavilion in 2014.

1989 – The Overland Park Chamber Economic Development Council was established as a partnership of private investors, the City of Overland Park and the Chamber of Commerce to attract new businesses as well as expand and retain existing businesses.

1999 – The largest development in Overland Park's history was celebrated with the dedication of **Sprint** World Headquarters, a campus of 18 office buildings that initially consolidated more than 14,500 employees at one location. In addition to saving the company the cost of leasing more than 60 office buildings across the metro area, a goal of the consolidation was to enhance productivity by facilitating more frequent face-to-face interaction, less travel time and greater synergy among departments.

2008 – After years of resisting granting development subsidies, the City of Overland Park approved its first tax



The DoubleTree Hotel came to Overland Park in 1982.

increment financing (TIF) for redevelopment of the nearly 50-year-old **Cherokee South Plaza** at 95th Street and Antioch Road. After completion of the project, it was estimated sales tax collections at the property would increase 400%.

2008 – The development of **Corbin Park** on 135th Street coincided with the devastating economic downturn of 2008. Two original tenants, JCPenney and Von Maur, withstood the recession and eventually were joined by dozens of other retail and professional services tenants including Scheels in 2015.

2014 - Prairiefire faced the same challenge as its neighbor on 135th Street, Corbin Park, when the recession stalled the mixed-used development. But **Merrill Companies** persevered and opened with a number of first-to-market retail and entertainment offerings and the unique Museum at Prairiefire.

2014 – The groundbreaking for CityPlace jumpstarted development of one of the last large tracts of farmland along College Boulevard. The 90-acre mixed-used develop-

(continued on the next page)



The opening of Metcalf South Shopping Center in 1967 helped make Overland Park the king of retail in the Kansas City area.

50 years cont. . . .

ment by **Block Real Estate Services** will feature office buildings, 1,382 multi-family units, retail space on six acres and 140 senior living units.

2017 – For the first time in Overland Park’s history, a building was imploded, bringing down the ten-story former CenturyLink building. The demolition clears the way for a new office development scheduled to open in 2018.

Health Care

When the Chamber was established in 1967, the only hospital serving Overland Park was **Shawnee Mission Medical Center**, founded five years earlier. Among the directives determined during a series of “Day of Decision” membership meetings held in the first year was that “Medical facilities must be expanded.”

1978 – After breaking ground in 1976, Humana opened Suburban Medical Center as the first hospital in Overland Park. Today we know it as **Overland Park Regional Medical Center**.

1996 – **Menorah Medical Center** moved to its present Overland Park campus 65 years after opening its first hospital in Kansas City, Mo., in 1931.

1997 – **Children’s Mercy Hospital** opens Children’s Mercy South in Overland Park.

1998 – **Saint Luke’s Health System** continued its metropolitan expansion with the opening of Saint Luke’s South Hospital in Overland Park.

Tourism

Chamber leaders took to heart one of the directives from their series of “Day of Decision” meetings in early

1967 – “Meetings and conventions must be encouraged.” By July they had formed a committee for conventions, meetings and tourism and the next month announced a promotional brochure was in the works to stimulate convention and meeting interest in Overland Park.

1982 – The opening of the **DoubleTree Hotel** took the hospitality industry in Overland Park to a new level and approval of a transient guest tax enabled the Chamber and the City to focus on tourism as an economic development catalyst.

1983 – The Chamber establishes a Convention & Visitors Bureau division.

1984 – The **Marriott Overland Park Hotel** adds nearly 400 more hotel rooms.

1987 – The Overland Park Convention & Visitors Bureau (now **Visit OP**) becomes a separate entity.

2002 – After more than 15 years of efforts by the Chamber, City and Convention & Visitors Bureau, the **Overland Park Convention Center** and the **Sheraton Overland Park Hotel** open, giving Overland Park the ability to host regional, state and national events.

2009 – The opening of the Scheels Overland Park Soccer Complex – the only one of its kind in the country – helped cement Overland Park’s status as a top destination for youth sports, which bring considerable tax revenue to the community.

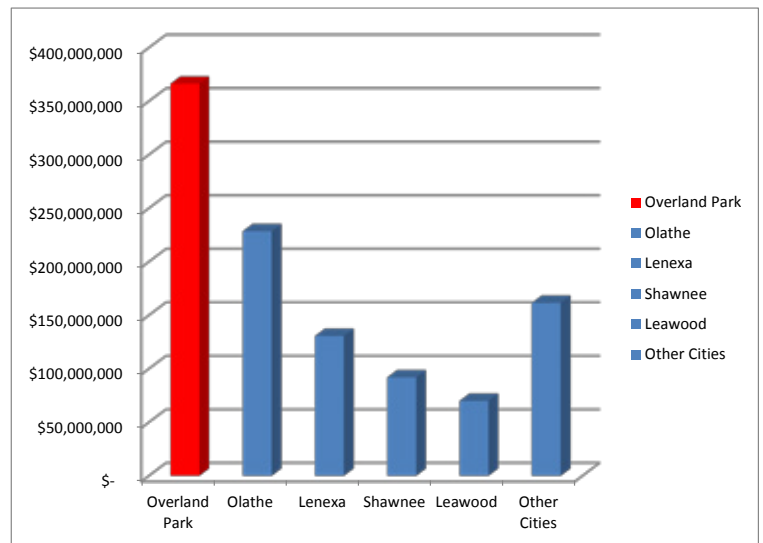
If you have historic photos related to the Overland Park business community, we’d like to make copies. Please contact Stan at slawson@opchamber.org.



At last month’s Economic Development Council Investors Lunch, County Manager Hannes Zacharias provided an update on Johnson County operations.

Overland Park Retail Sales

March 2017



Unemployment

	April 2017	April 2016
Overland Park	3.0%	3.2%
Johnson County	2.9%	3.1%
Kansas City Metro MSA	3.6%	4.0%
State of Kansas	3.7%	4.1%

*(These percentages are not seasonally adjusted)
– Kansas Labor Information Center (KLIC)*

Building Permits in Overland Park

	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools	Other Commercial	Totals
May/April 2017	8	2	211	221
Square Feet	357,022	30,943	128,044	502,855
Value	\$4,489,031	\$6,327,580	\$33,357,017	\$83,773,628

– City of Overland Park

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



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Member News & Events

degree program, which emphasizes food safety and infectious diseases, is now available at **Kansas State University Olathe**.

Shawnee Mission Health recently deployed specialized software to quickly determine best treatment methods for stroke patients.

BHC RHODES landed on the Zweig Group Hot Firm list that recognizes rapid company growth. It also received the Zweig Marketing Excellence Award, recognizing outstanding and effective marketing.

ArtsKC has appointed Dana Knapp as its new President & CEO after serving in an interim position since January 1.

Twenty-nine years after founding **Parris Communications Inc.**, Roshann Parris is splitting her CEO and president role and promoted Laurie Roberts to the role of president.

Aaron Bishop is now Manager, Public Affairs, at **Atmos Energy Corporation**. He will succeed Jim Bartling who is retiring later this summer.

Harmon Construction has hired Jeremy Bennett as a project manager.

Jamie Parrett is the new executive director at the **Paul Henson YMCA**.

Joe McManus, **Harmon Construction**, was a finalist for the Kansas City American Subcontractors Association's Industry Awards Superintendent of the Year.

Nadine Franz, **APEX Career Services**, was featured recently by KMBZ Radio in a new segment, "Landing the Big Gig."

MarksNelson LLC hired three new team members: Eduardo Heringer as staff accountant; Hayle Martin as staff accountant; and Haley Thomann as business development specialist.

Submit company news to Stan Lawson at slawson@opchamber.org.