

Business Perspective



January 2017

Chamber celebrating 50 years of leadership



The Overland Park Chamber is eager to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year! The board and staff are planning ways to mark the milestone as we reflect on the leaders and organizations whose vision and dedication paved the way for the nationally-ranked community we know and appreciate today.

Although we observe 1967 as the Chamber's official birth year, the

foundation was laid years earlier by a group of businessmen meeting on Saturdays for breakfast to talk about what they wanted their community to be. They wanted good neighborhoods, schools and public services. To accomplish that, they knew they needed to build the city's tax base.

(continued on page 11)

Mindy Corporon receives OP Award

For her dedication to promoting tolerance and understanding through the Make a Ripple Change the World and the Faith Always Wins Foundation, Mindy Corporon received the OP Award at the Chamber's 2016 Annual Meeting last month.

The lunch program also featured a keynote address by author Joel Kotkin and presentations by 2016 Chairman Brad Stratton, **Overland Park Wealth Management**; and 2017 Chairman Michael Tracy, **OMNI Human Resources Management**.

For additional photos from our 2016 Annual Meeting, see page 9.



Mindy Corporon received the Chamber's OP Award from 2016 Chairman Brad Stratton and Chamber President Tracey Osborne.



Our Mission:

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



Connect with us at opchamber:



Chamber Calendar

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 - 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Specialists in Sports & Orthopedic Rehabilitation,
7381 West 133rd Street, Suite 302

Free and open to Chamber members only

Legislative Breakfast #1

Saturday, January 21, 2017 - 7:30-9:00 a.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park, 10100 College Boulevard

Receive discounted price of \$69 per person for all 3 breakfasts in series when registering by January 19.

OP After Hours

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Overland Park Racquet Club,
6800 West 91st Street

Free and open to Chamber members only

Ribbon Cutting

Wednesday, January 25, 2017 - 4:00 p.m.

Shawnee Mission Health-Overland Park,
7820 West 165th Street in BluHawk

Economic Development Council Honors Lunch

Thursday, February 2, 2017 - 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Johnson County Community College,
12345 College Boulevard

\$30 for EDC Investors; \$40 for Chamber members

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

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*
Menorah Medical Center
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**
Kartsten 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, *CEd, Senior Vice President of Economic Development*
Michael Kelley, *EDC Policy & Communications Coordinator*
Stan Lawson, *Communications Director*
Erin Murray, *Assistant to the President*
Tom Robinett, *Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy*
Amy Stock, *Member Services Coordinator*

A milestone and an opportunity

Fifty years. It's either a long time, or not, depending on what side of this milestone you happen to be. As organizations go, we're not particularly long in the tooth, but neither is the community we serve. The City of Overland Park predates our official rebirth as a professional organization with its own incorporation by just seven years. The importance of a milestone is not the marking of the passage of time, but the significance of the accomplishments and how we look ahead to our future.

January 2017 begins the Chamber's year-long celebration of our 50th Anniversary. Depending on where you begin the look-back, we're really much older, but traditionally we have marked our modern beginning as a city-wide business association managed by a professional staff in 1967. That's when a group of dedicated volunteer business owners like Ben Craig, Stan Meyer, Leonard McKinzie and others you'll hear more about this year undertook a major effort of fundraising and strategic planning to transform what had been a downtown merchants group into the economic and pro-business policy advocate organization we have today. Their work provided stability for the next five decades, building public and private partnerships throughout the region to ensure a foundational emphasis on quality pre-K through secondary education, transportation infrastructure, health care, social services, recreation, and culture. They dreamed big, when most of what we know today was just green fields and dirt roads. They knew quality of life would be the driver of the attraction and retention of both quality jobs and quality workers.

Indeed, at last month's Chamber Annual Meeting, noted futurist and demographer Joel Kotkin said that the spirit of community is the "secret sauce" to our success. He noted that Overland Park is "post suburban" in that we are economically self-sufficient and attract key demographic groups, notably millennials and young families. That's not to say we don't enjoy the benefits of our proximity to and relationship with Kansas City and other parts of the metro, because we certainly do, but we differ from traditional suburbs who have served as a bedroom for jobs located elsewhere. Additionally, for OP and others in our region, our affordability in the cost of housing is the differentiator in our success against other parts of the country.

While there are few dirt roads and fewer green fields than there were 50 years ago, like Ben, Stan, Leonard and our other predecessors, we must be visionary about what our next 10-50 years will bring. The Mid-America Regional Council projects Johnson County will provide 44.6% of the region's growth 2010-2040, with employment projections for the same period estimated at 48.8% of the eight-county metro's total growth. This indicates tremendous opportunity and challenges for Overland Park and Johnson County leadership as we plan and allocate resources for the necessary business and quality of life framework for such expansion. Your Chamber Board, City leadership and Visit OP have already begun discussions about community visioning that will lead us into this future. We will look forward to both your reflections about our past and your dreams about our future as we move through 2017.

"Vision is the art of seeing things invisible."
— Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)



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

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

9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210

Phone: (913) 491-3600 • Fax: (913) 491-0393 • opcc@opchamber.org • www.opchamber.org

Join us at this networking event!

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

Wednesday, January 11

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Hosted by



Join us for networking with coffee and breakfast and learn more about [Specialists in Sports and Orthopedic Rehabilitation](#) at 7381 West 133rd Street, Suite 302. Serving Overland Park, Prairie Village and the Kansas City area, Dr. Dan Lorenz and the highly-qualified



physical therapy staff and state-of-the-art facilities at SSOR will get you results quickly in an enjoyable atmosphere.

Free and open to members only

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



Legislative Breakfast Series

The Johnson County Public Policy Council presents these upcoming breakfasts in which Johnson County legislators provide updates on legislative action at the Statehouse:

Saturday, January 21

Saturday, February 18

Saturday, March 25

Breakfasts are 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the [DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park](#), 10100 College Boulevard.

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

EDC Honors Lunch

Thursday, February 2

Regnier Center at Johnson County Community Center

Networking at 11:30 a.m. / Program at noon

NOVA Award

- LockPath
- NeuAnalytics

Business Hall of Honor

- Central Bank of the Midwest
- Rau Construction

Ben Craig Vision Award

- Larry Winn III

Commercial Development Award

- Capitol Federal Savings Bank
- Tower Properties
- Occidental Management

EDC Investors receive one complimentary ticket.

Prices for additional tickets:

EDC Investor companies: \$30 per person

Table of 8 for EDC Investor companies: \$240

Chamber members (non-Investors): \$40 per person

Table of 8 for Chamber members (non-Investors): \$320

Non-Chamber members: \$50 per person

For tickets: Michael Kelley at (913) 766-7605 or mkelley@opchamber.org.

OP After Hours

Hosted by

Overland Park Racquet Club

6800 West 91st Street

Tuesday, January 24

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun evening of networking, delicious food and fun drinks at [Overland Park Racquet Club](#)!

This event will be your opportunity to see the club's extensive renovations that included adding the latest innovations in tennis technology. Overland Park Racquet Club (OPRC) is the area's largest tennis facility with 22 tennis courts, full-service restaurant and bar, pro shop, fitness studio, and locker rooms. It was voted one of the top 50 tennis clubs in the U.S. by *Tennis* magazine. OPRC boasts the largest and most experienced group of tennis teaching professionals in Kansas City.

This event is free and open to Chamber members only.

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



Mayor's State of the City Address & Luncheon

Featuring Mayor Carl Gerlach

Sponsored by



Wednesday, February 22

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Overland Park Convention Center

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

Chamber's 1970 Chairman passes

The Chamber mourns the loss of one of its early leaders, Marvin Rainey, who passed away last month. He served in 1970 as the Chairman's third chairman.

Marvin served as the City of Overland Park's second mayor in 1963-1967. During his tenure as mayor, Overland Park annexed land south of the original Mission Township border, grew to more than 45,000 residents, and hired its first city manager, Don Pipes. Marvin also was on the City Council. While he was a council member and mayor, the City began plans for its first pool, a new city hall, a



24-hour police station and worked with developers on Metcalf South Mall.

Marvin was a county commissioner and also was city attorney for the City of Shawnee for 40 years.

Chamber prepared for 2017 legislative session

The **2017 Kansas Legislative Session** begins January 9 and your Chamber is ready to be there to represent your business. Tom Robinett, the Chamber's Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy, is at the Statehouse every day monitoring committee and floor action and talking with legislators about the legislative priorities established by our Public Policy & Advocacy Committee that impact the business environment of Johnson County and our state.

Sign up for Weekly Legislative Updates

Stay up to date on legislative action at the State Capitol during the next legislative session with our *This Week in Topeka* weekly reports from Tom Robinett, Chamber Vice President of Government Affairs. To sign up to receive Tom's weekly e-mail reports, contact Erin Murray at emurray@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7606.

Legislative Breakfast Series

The Johnson County Public Policy Council is hosting a legislative breakfast series to be held Saturday mornings beginning on January 21 at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Kansas City-Overland Park**. For details, see page 3.

Chamber approves Business Plan and 3-Year Strategic Plan

The Chamber Board of Directors recently approved the Chamber's 2017 Business Plan and a three-year strategic plan for 2017-2019. The 2017 Business Plan includes these key goal areas:

Member Success

Goal: Provide superior value for our members' investment to enhance their growth and success.

Job Creation & Economic Development

Goal: Expand the revenue base and economic opportunities in Overland Park through job creation and capital investment.

Public Policy & Advocacy

Goal: Promote a positive business climate through government affairs programs and activities, advocacy, public awareness, voter engagement and policy development to enhance our local, regional and state's competitive advantage.

Communication and Branding

Goal: Present a leadership voice for the Chamber's advocacy of economic development, public policy and business services, and serve as a key information resource for business.

Regional Leadership

Goal: Provide leadership to influence metropolitan and

state-wide decision-making and public policy.

Overland Park Chamber Foundation

Goal: Be a leader in providing business education, leadership development and vision for Overland Park.

To read the complete 2017 Business plan, [click here](#).

The key objectives of the 2017-2019 Strategic Plan

are to ensure member growth and success and to build and impact a "quality of place and experience." These will be accomplished by:

1. Advocating for policies and regulations that support a growing, pro-business climate
2. Supporting the preparation, attraction, and retention of a ready, able, and well trained workforce
3. Ensure member companies access to education, services, experts and support that improves their success
4. Demonstrating regional leadership, advocating for excellence in all areas of the community in which we work and live, and play
5. Developing leaders who impact our community's success.

To read the complete Strategic Plan for 2017-2019, [click here](#).

Chamber's Legislative Agendas Online

To view our 2017 State and Federal legislative agendas, [click here](#).

Congrats, Stacey and Andy!

Congratulations to Chamber Membership Director Stacey Cowan and her husband Andy on the recent birth of their son, Orrin Andrew Cowan!



Seven leaders join Chamber board of directors

The following community leaders have joined the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce board of directors:

Jim Edwards is franchise owner of **Nothing Bundt Cakes** stores in Overland Park and Mission, which he manages with his family members. Before opening his stores, Jim taught entrepreneurship at Olathe Northwest High School.



Jim Edwards

Jodde Lanning is a shareholder and managing officer at **Payne & Jones, Chartered**, where she has practiced since graduating with honors from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1980. Jodde has been active in the animal welfare community.



Jodde Lanning

Karsten Randolph is Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for **Shawnee Mission Health**. Previously he served as Vice President of Finance / CFO for the Adventist Health System's Appalachia Region and Park Ridge Health. Karsten earned a Master's of Business Administration in healthcare management from Benedictine University and an undergraduate degree in accounting from Andrews University.



Karsten Randolph

Greg Musil is a partner with **Douthitt Frets Rouse Gentile & Rhodes**. After earning degrees at Kansas State University and the University of Virginia School of Law, he worked on Capitol Hill for Senator Nancy Kassebaum before returning to Kansas and beginning his law practice with Shughart Thomson & Kilroy, P.C. in 1987. His practice focuses on business and commercial disputes,



Greg Musil

including litigation, and real estate matters, including land use, zoning and incentives. Greg was Chamber Chairman in 2008 and is 2017 Chairman of the Chamber Economic Development Council.



Tony Rupp

named him the third recipient of the Honorable Earl E. O'Connor Civility Award recognizing professionalism, honor, integrity, preparation, and advocacy.

Tony Rupp is a Partner with **Foulston Siefkin LLP**. He has had an active trial practice since 1985 and practices in state and federal courts in Kansas and Missouri. The Johnson County Bar Association

Steve Troester, a Principal at **PGAV Architects, Inc.**, has been practicing architecture for 27 years. As president of the firm's Board of Directors, he participates in executive management and review of the firm's wide array of projects. PGAV has practice areas in architecture, destination consulting and urban planning. Among its projects is the new College of Business Administration at Kansas State University, the corporate headquarters for Garmin International and the Johnson County Criminalistics Laboratory.



Steve Troester



Craig Jeffries

had worked and held several leadership positions since 2003. Previously, he worked at Accenture (formerly Andersen Consulting), where he held positions focused on telecommunications. Jeffries earned a bachelor's degree in insurance and risk management at Missouri State University and a graduate degree in management from Baker University.

Craig Jeffries was appointed Vice President of Operations of **Empower Retirement** in 2014 when the company was acquired by J.P. Morgan Retirement Plan Services, where he



2016 Chamber Chairman Brad Stratton, **Overland Park Wealth Management**, was named Citizen of the Year by **United Community Services of Johnson County**. Presenting the award were Julie Brewer, Executive Director; and Tom Robinett, UCS board member.

Thank you!

Thank you to these members of the Chamber Board of Directors whose terms ended in December:

- Tom Fitzsimmons
Central Bank of the Midwest
- Andrew Fogt
Commerce Bank
- Laird Goldsborough
Valbridge Property Advisors Kansas City
- Russ Johnson
Hy-Vee Food & Drug Store #1

NEW MEMBERS / CHAMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome new members!

We are pleased to introduce these new Chamber members:

CCP Strategies

Bret Rhodus, Managing Partner
9393 West 110th Street, Suite 500
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 451-6730
bret.rhodus@ccpstrategies.com
www.ccpstrategies.com
Business Consultants, Management Consultants

CycleBar® Leawood

Chris McIntyre, Owner
5053 West 117th Street
Town Center Plaza
Leawood, KS 66211
(816) 808-1633
leawood@cyclebar.com
www.Leawood.Cyclebar.com
Fitness

Device Pitstop

Matt Paperi, Owner
7113 West 135th Street
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 703-5515
overlandparkks@devicepitstop.com
www.devicepitstop.com/store/overland-park-ks
Computer Service & Repair, Retail

Finance of America

Julie Harber, Mortgage Originator
14231 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 200
Overland Park, KS 66223
(913) 565-2600
jharber@financeofamerica.com
www.financeofamerica.com
Mortgages

Hunt Midwest

Jon Birkel, Director of Development
8300 NE Underground Drive, Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64161
(816) 455-2500
connect@huntmidwest.com
www.huntmidwest.com
Real Estate - Developers

Integrity Home Care + Hospice

Dylan Walker, Communications Manager
8826 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 209
Overland Park, KS 66212-3626
(855) 442-4968
contact.us@integrityhc.com
www.integrityhc.com
Home Care Services, Hospice

Little Sunshine's Playhouse & Preschool

Rebekah Fosbinder, Area Manager-KC
9090 West 135th Street
Overland Park, KS 66221
(913) 735-0807
rebekahf@littlesunshine.com
www.littlesunshine.com
Schools - Preschool & Kindergarten, Child Care

.....
Refer potential new Chamber members and earn credits toward event registrations or advertising when they become a member. Send referrals to scowan@opchamber.org.

LEADERSHIP OVERLAND PARK

2017 Leadership class announced

The Overland Park Chamber Foundation is pleased to announce the 2017 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class. During ten full-day sessions that begin this month, participants focus on challenges and opportunities facing local government and public safety, education, health care and social services, regionalism, the State of Kansas, arts, and economic development.

Members of the 2017 class are:

- Afam Akamelu, **INTRUST Bank**
- Aaron Attebery, **Black & Veatch**
- Janet Barrow, **WaterOne**
- Amber Beverlin, **DLR Group**
- Julie Brewer, **United Community Services of Johnson County**
- Lyndsay Burden, **Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics**
- Ben Canther, **Shawnee Mission Health**
- Eric Clemenson, **Sunflower Bank**
- Chris Cole, **JE Dunn Construction Company**
- Shawn Cross, **McCownGordon Construction**
- Jason Davis, **Affinis Corp**
- David Erlbacher, **First National Bank**
- Kathleen Faulk, **Humana, Inc.**
- Rollie Fors, **Colliers International**
- Jennifer Gerlach, **McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.**
- David Green, **Foulston Siefkin LLP**
- Jill Grotzinger, **Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park**
- Ellie Haire, **Downtown Overland Park Partnership, Inc.**
- Greg Highbarger, **Shawnee Mission Health**
- Audrey Hill, **Saint Luke's Health System**
- Tony Hofmann, **City of Overland Park**
- Todd Lawler, **Terracon**
- Cameron McGown, **HNTB Corporation**
- Jacob Merriman, **Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.**
- Phillip Murphy, **Law Offices of Phillip M. Murphy, III**
- Shelli Palacio, **Blue Valley School District**
- Joshua Powers, **Johnson County Government**
- Taylor Pruitt, **Bravadas Wigs and Extensions**
- Bethany Rambo, **Bank of Blue Valley**
- Julie Ross, **Empower Retirement**
- Jessica Salazar, **Overland Park Regional Medical Center**
- Barb Silin, **Overland Park Convention Center**
- Ann Stevenson, **Swiss Re America Holding Corporation**
- Jennifer Stickney, **UnitedLex Corporation**
- Laura Tyson, **Shafer, Kline & Warren**
- Randy Weber, **Johnson County Community College**



Chamber President Tracey Osborne presented new member plaques at the Wednesday Wake-up networking event last month.

2017 Membership Directory is now available

The Chamber's 2017 Membership Directory is being distributed this month. This year's edition includes a special section highlighting the Chamber's 50th anniversary in addition to its annual community profile, alphabetical and categorical listings of Chamber members, a Who's Who section of business leaders and information about Chamber programs and services.



The directory is mailed to all Chamber members and also is available at the Chamber office. If you would like additional copies of the directory, call (913) 491-3600 or send a request to opcc@opchamber.org.

The Chamber thanks the following members for their advertising support in our 2017 membership directory:

- Advice & Aid Pregnancy Centers
- Ash Grove Cement Company
- Atmos Energy
- Avid Communications
- Bambou Salon
- Barsto Construction
- Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas City
- Blue Valley Insurance Agency
- Blue Valley School District
- Blue Valley Tire & Auto
- Chick-Fil-A-Oak Park Plaza
- Consolidated Communications
- Corner Bakery-Corbin Park
- Dana F. Cole & Company
- Delmar Gardens of Overland Park
- Downtown Overland Park Partnership
- Empire Today
- Equity Bank
- Fidelity Bank
- First National Bank
- Gary C. Richter, CPA, PA
- Greater Kansas City Realty
- Heavy Constructors Association
- HighPointe Financial Group
- Intellectual Property Center
- JE Dunn Construction Company
- Johnson County Museum
- Kansas Gas Service
- Leading People Partners
- McCownGordon Construction
- Memorial Events of Kansas City
- MidAmerica Rehabilitation Hospital
- NBKC Bank
- Oak Park Mall
- Olathe School District
- Olsson & Associates
- Overland Park Convention Center
- Parisi Artisan Coffee
- Pittsburg State University
- PNC Real Estate-Midland Loan Services
- Point Commercial
- Price Brothers
- Queen's Price Chopper
- Rehabilitation Hospital of OP
- Rosana Square
- Shawnee Mission Health
- Santa Fe Tow Service
- Scott Rice Office Works
- Seasonal Concepts
- Southcreek Office Park
- Spencer Fane LLP
- Stoltz Management
- Stroud's Overland Park
- Sunflower Bank-Leawood
- Tasteful Olive, The
- Ted's Cafe Escondido
- Teva Pharmaceuticals
- Tick Tock Escape Games
- Truss Advantage
- UMB Bank
- United Community Services
- Wallace Saunders



City Council President Rick Collins and Chamber representatives helped owners Brad, Dennis & Renee Dahler celebrate a groundbreaking for [Little Sunshine's Playhouse & Preschool](#), 9090 West 135th Street. Little Sunshine's is enrolling now for its new Overland Park school, which provides quality early childhood programs for infants (6 weeks) through pre-kindergarten. For more information: (913) 735-0807 or [click here](#).



City Council President Rick Collins plus Chamber and Downtown Overland Park Partnership representatives helped owner Sean Barnard and his team celebrate the launch of [Bambou Salon & Spa](#), 7301 West 80th Street. Bambou offers hair and beauty services including skin care, facials, threading, waxing and nails. For more information: (913) 341-1717 or [click here](#).



City Council President Rick Collins, Chamber President Tracey Osborne plus Chamber and Downtown Overland Park representatives helped Mathew Forastiere and his team celebrate a ribbon cutting for the reopening of [Memorial Events of Johnson County's](#) newly restored Overland Park Chapel at 8201 Metcalf Avenue. Restoration work on the iconic 1960s chapel is highlighting many features of its original design. For more information: (913) 648-6224 or [click here](#).

Member News & Events

In a comparison of 150 large U.S. cities by the WalletHub personal finance website, Overland Park ranked as sixth best for “wallet fitness.”

Shawnee Mission School District is holding dedication ceremonies for two newly rebuilt elementary schools next month. Trailwood Elementary will hold a dedication ceremony and tour beginning at 5 p.m. on **January 10**. Briarwood Elementary will offer a tour at 5 p.m., followed by a dedica-

tion ceremony at 6:30 p.m. on **January 19**. Both buildings were a part of a bond issue approved by voters in 2015 and have been designed to include collaborative spaces, flexible furniture, and allow for greater integration of technology.

Autumn Leaves of Overland Park, a 50-bed assisted living-style memory care community, opens this month at 12701 Pflumm Road. A grand opening event is planned for spring.

Shawnee Mission School District recently celebrated the opening of the Shawnee Mission North Learning Commons.

Kansas State University Olathe is now offering a graduate program in school counseling.

First National Bank awarded \$60,000 in community development grants to four organizations in Kansas.

UnitedHealthcare has expanded Solutions for Caregivers, a program for employers to help caregivers save money and more effectively provide assistance to the people they support.

The 35th Annual Tiny Tim Holiday Fantasy raised a

record-breaking \$1,014,000 to build the B.E. Smith Children's Center at **Shawnee Mission Medical Center**.

Shawnee Mission Medical Center received a Gold Level Employer Support for Nursing Mothers Award from the Mother & Child Health Coalition and the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition.

HDR Engineering and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., were part of the Kansas City Downtown Streetcar Project Team receiving the *Engineering News-Record's* Transit Project of the Year award this week.

(continued on page 12)

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

hosted on December 14 by



Member Renewals

We thank these companies for their membership reinvestments in November 2016:

20+ Years

Alaskan Fur
JE Dunn Construction Company
O'Donnell & Sons Construction Company, Inc.
Payne & Jones, Chartered
Shawnee Mission Health
The Siscos Group Realtors
University of Kansas Edwards Campus

10-19 Years

Axcet HR Solutions
Crowley Furniture
Georgetown Apartments L.L.C.
H & R Block
OMNI Human Resource Management

5-9 Years

Affinity Asset Management
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.

LaMar's Donuts & Coffee
Milburn Country Club
Online Trading Academy
Rodrock Homes, LLC

I-4 Years

Accrisoft
Bukaty Companies Financial Services
Coco Bolos Woodfired Grill & Cantina
Farm Bureau Financial Services
Firestone Complete Auto Care
Foulston Siefkin LLP
Grantham University
Great Southern Bank
Hereford House - Leawood
Kutak Rock LLP
NOAH'S Event Venue
QPS Employment Group
Rotary Club of Overland Park
Zen Massage Overland Park

These businesses have invested in our community to keep it vibrant.
We encourage you to use them first when purchasing goods and services.

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Overland Park Convention Center



Mindy Corporon was recognized with an OP Award for her work in developing the Faith Always Wins Foundation and the Seven Days: Make a Ripple, Change the World.

Presenting Sponsor:



Author Joel Kotkin, a leading expert on economic, political and vital issues facing regions, major cities and countries, delivered our Annual Meeting keynote address.



2016 Chairman Brad Stratton, **Overland Park Wealth Management**; received a plaque of recognition from 2017 Chairman Michael Tracy, **OMNI Human Resource Management**.



2016 Chairman Brad Stratton, **Overland Park Wealth Management**; reviewed the Chamber's successes this past year.



2017 Chairman Michael Tracy, **OMNI Human Resource Management**, shared plans for Chamber initiatives in the year ahead including the Chamber's 50th anniversary.



Standing: Chairman Ed Eilert, **Johnson County**; Greg Wolf, **Dentons**; Michael Tracy, **OMNI Human Resource Management**; Chris Wally, **CBRE Group**; Chamber President Tracey Osborne; Mark McKinzie, **Wallace Saunders**; Joel Kotkin.

Seated: Stacie Gram, **Swiss Re**; Kim Stratton and Brad Stratton, **Overland Park Wealth Management**.

Corporate Table Sponsors:

GBA
architects
engineers

HNTB

LATHROP & GAGE LLP

PEARCE
CONSTRUCTION

VISIT
OVERLAND PARK
KANSAS

Print Sponsor:

alphagraphics
OVERLAND PARK

Ground Transportation Sponsor:

agenda:USA
A Destination Management Company™



Employees of **Valley View Bank**, the **Presenting Sponsor**, enjoyed attending the Annual Meeting.

RECENT EVENTS / SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



Holiday Party

hosted by

ROCK & BREWS

At their annual holiday party, the Young Professionals supported **SAFEHOME, Inc.**, by collecting \$200 in cash, more than \$100 in gift cards to popular local retailers and donations of more than 400 much-needed items for clients including paper towels, toilet paper, boxes of Kleenex, medications, personal hygiene products and bath towels.

Thank you to these door prize donors:

- Curtis Property Company
- Corner Bakery Café-Corbin Park
- Crowne Plaza Kansas City-Overland Park
- Deer Creek Golf Club
- Downtown Overland Park Partnership, Inc.
- ecafe
- Fortune Financial Advisors
- Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Overland Park-West
- Johnson County Community College
- McAuley & Crandall, PA
- Missouri Mavericks
- Overland Park Ballroom
- Price Chopper-Queen's
- Rock & Brews Overland Park
- Ted's Café Escondido-Corbin Park
- Tick Tock Escape Games
- WaterOne



Janeé Hanzlick, **SAFEHOME, Inc.**, and winners of the ugly sweater contest: Alex Oberlander (2nd place); Baylee DeLaurier, **Stop Hunger Now** (3rd place); and Jackie Reynolds, **McAuley & Crandall, PA** (1st place).



Sponsor Spotlight:

When Corporate Woods® began to take shape in 1974, College Boulevard was a simple dirt road in the country. Ahead of their time, the founders of Corporate Woods had a vision to build an office park where natural beauty was the defining characteristic. Now one of the premier office parks in the Midwest, Corporate Woods® features 294 acres of forest, trails, green space, and approximately 2,100,000 square feet of commercial real estate for lease in some of the most modern and visually appealing buildings in the Kansas City Metro area. With sleek office spaces and impressive landscapes, the buildings house leading Overland Park businesses including some *Fortune 500* companies.

Stoltz Management Company

acquired Corporate Woods® in 2006 and continues to fulfill the vision of Tom Congleton, Russell Jones, Whitney Kerr, Sr., and Richard Wagstaff, the park's

STOLTZ

four founders. By investing in the park's natural features and architecture, and through an on-site team of designers, building managers and leasing agents, Stoltz maintains the beauty that has attracted businesses small and large to Corporate Woods® for forty years.

Located at the intersection of U.S. 69, I-435 and College Boulevard, Corporate Woods® offers easy access to cross-

country highways and regional thoroughfares. Downtown Kansas City is a short drive away.

Stoltz is a vertically integrated owner/operator real estate investment and services company. The company has owned and managed retail, office and industrial properties and land assets throughout the United States.

For more information about Stoltz, visit www.stoltzusa.com. For more information about Corporate Woods, visit www.corporatewoods.com.





Stan Meyer, then with Winn Rau; and Ben Craig, Metcalf State Bank; were the Chamber's first two chairmen of the board.

50th Anniversary continued . . .

After focusing on projects such as a fall festival, holiday decorations and street cleaning, the businessmen got serious in 1966, launching a membership drive with the objective of hiring a full-time staff. With Stan Meyer, president of **Rau Construction**; and Leonard McKinzie, owner of United Super Market; chairing the membership committee, about 30 business leaders actively participated in the drive, which increased membership to 266 and dues income quadrupled.

Richard L. "Dick" Molamphy was hired as the Chamber's first executive director and he started March 1, 1967, working from an office in the Glenwood Manor Motor Hotel at 92nd & Metcalf. His first project was to develop a program of work based on suggestions from members. The first plan of work included these objectives:

2. Encourage and assist in the improvement of transportation infrastructure to include city, county, state and federal thoroughfares, Johnson County airport expansion, an expressway to MCI airport, and better mass transit;
3. Help make Overland Park a better place in which to live by working for development of a public recreation program and additional facilities;
4. Enhance the image and identification of the city as a distinguished place to live and work and buy goods and services. Develop a dynamic voice of business. Continue support for our superior school system and establishment of a comprehensive Community Junior College and technical school. Medical facilities must be expanded. Meetings and conventions must be encouraged.

We look forward to exploring more Chamber history during our 50th anniversary in 2017 and invite you to share historical tidbits about your company's connections to the Chamber over the past 50 years!

1. Broaden the tax base by actively assisting in the promotion of available industrial sites and seeking the establishment of one or more industrial park areas;



A joint meeting of the Overland Park and Greater Kansas City chambers of commerce last month featured a panel discussion on "The 2017 Political Landscape" with Mary Birch, **Lathrop & Gage LLP**; Dave Helling, **The Kansas City Star**; and Sam Zeff, **KCUR**.

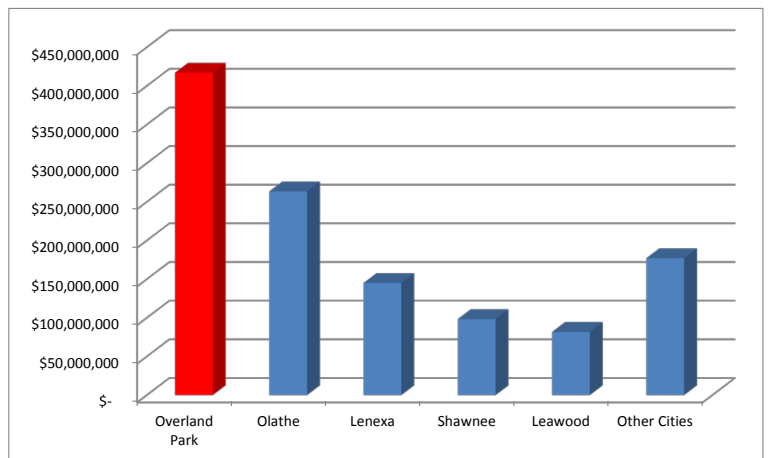
Unemployment

	Oct. 2016	Oct. 2015
Overland Park	3.2%	3.5%
Johnson County	3.0%	3.3%
Kansas City Metro MSA	4.0%	4.1%
State of Kansas	3.7%	4.0%

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

Overland Park Retail Sales

August 2016



Building Permits in Overland Park

	New Commercial	Institutional, Schools	Other Commercial	Totals
Nov. 2016	3	0	46	49
Square Feet	27,666	NA	NA	27,666
Value	\$10,028,481	\$0	\$10,524,301	\$20,552,782

– City of Overland Park

**Thank you 2017
Corporate Partners
and Sponsors
for your continued support!**

Corporate Partners



Corporate Sponsors*

[Affinis Corp](#)

[First National Bank](#)

[JE Dunn Construction Company](#)

[Kansas City Power & Light](#)

[Kansas Gas Service](#)

[Saint Luke's Health System](#)

[Stoltz Management](#)

[The University of Kansas
Edwards Campus](#)

**As of December 22, 2016*

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



9001 West 110th Street, Suite 150
Overland Park, Kansas 66210
(913) 491-3600 • www.opchamber.org

Member News & Events

United Way of Greater Kansas City announced a campaign total of \$33 million pledged by nearly 60,000 donors and more than 700 businesses and foundation partners.

Blue Valley Schools will implement an unprecedented World Language program – Chinese language immersion.

Shawnee Mission School District's Education Foundation is the only K-12 foundation in the metro area or in Kansas ranked in a national study of K-12 education foundations.

Olathe Public Schools has named John Allison its new Superintendent of Schools. He begins his duties on July 1.

Menorah Medical Center has appointed Jeff Taylor as Chief Operating Officer.

Tom Oltjen has joined **Equity Bank** as Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer based at Roe and I-435 in Overland Park.

BHC RHODES has hired M. Thad Burditt, MBA, as General Accounting Supervisor.

Lauren Vaughan has joined **Kansas State University Olathe** as admissions representative/recruiter.

Integrity Home Care + Hospice has promoted Erin Sullivan to Vice President of Operations for hourly divisions.

Hearts at Home, which provides private duty, non-medical home care, has hired Beth Trimmer as Director of Marketing.

United Community Services (UCS) of Johnson County announced new board officers: Rick Worrel, **Affinis**; Cheryl Harrison-Lee and Roxann Kerr Lindsey; and 2017 board officers: President Michael Hockley, **Spencer Fane LLP**; Vice President Justin Nichols, **Lathrop & Gage LLP**; Secretary Kate Allen, **Johnson County Community College**; and Treasurer Maury Thompson, **Johnson County Government**.

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