

Thank you, OP voters, for approving sales tax!

Overland Park residents approved a dedicated three-eighth cent sales tax to fund maintenance and improvements to city streets and traffic management systems.

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. The three-eighth cent sales tax will raise more than \$24 million to improve and maintain the city's streets and traffic management systems.

The current one-eighth cent sales tax is set to expire in March 2024 and it will be replaced by the approved three-eighth cent sales tax beginning in April 2024.

VOTE PROGRESS
YES 4 OP

For more information about the sales tax, [click here](#).



2023 Leadership Overland Park class members posed during their class project fundraiser to benefit improvements at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead for vision-impaired visitors. For details, see page 7.

Chamber Board

Board Officers:

Joan Wells, Chair
Augeo

Cindy Rock, Chair-Elect
C2FO

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MarksNelson LLC

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

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FNBO

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India Boulton, T-Mobile

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Dr. Stuart Day, The University of Kansas
Edwards Campus

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Tracy Garry, Empower

Hyleme George, Black & Veatch

Matt Gunter, SelectQuote

Courtney Kounkel, Monarch Build LLC

Kristen Leathers-Gratton, Affinis Corp

Will Mann, Zurich North America

Rich Muller, VanTrust Real Estate

Neelima Parasker, SnapIT Solutions, LLC

Rick Schier, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

Dr. Alan Verrill, AdventHealth South Overland
Park

Christian Weld-Brown, MBB

Kim Winslow, Evergy

Jason Wright, JE Dunn Construction Company

Ex-Officio Board:

Jim Holland, Fisher Phillips LLP

Dr. Michelle Hubbard, Shawnee Mission
School District

Lori Curtis Luther, City of Overland Park

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, Chamber

Mayor Curt Skoog, City of Overland Park

Chamber staff

Tracey Osborne Oltjen, CCE, President & CEO

Alex Cook, Director of Events & Member
Services

David Dyer, Membership Director

Corey Cohn, Economic Development Project
Coordinator

Frank Ebling, CFO

Tim Holverson, IOM, Director, Workforce &
Business Growth

Stan Lawson, Communications Director

Hannah Melton, Member Services Coordinator

Tanya Rife, Executive Assistant

Kevin Walker, IOM, Senior Vice President of
Public Policy

Andrew Weisberg, Director of Talent

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



Fired up for OP's future

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

40 years. 40 classes. Hundreds of speakers. Over 1,000 graduates.

That's how long Leadership Overland Park (LOP) has been committed to developing passionate and informed leaders about the future of our city and region. At the end of a whirlwind six-month, ten-course series, the Chamber Foundation welcomed the new alums who've been challenged to meet the needs of our community.

We just celebrated the graduation of our 2023 class. Thirty-eight high-energy, engaged leaders are even more so now. At their final session recently, we talked about how their perceptions of Overland Park changed over the past six months. While the positives about our quality of life and business climate are lengthy, they identified divides of concern: between newer residents and longer-established ones, homeowners and renters, northern Overland Park and southern Overland Park.

In many ways, these are the growing pains of a maturing city. Big city problems – those of a city with a population of over 200,000, with different characteristics from our young suburban days of the past.

So what do these newly-minted LOP alums envision for Overland Park? Big aspirations, for sure. Here are the key elements of their vision statements:

- Connecting our past and future by welcoming all
- Leveraging our strong foundations set by our predecessors to continue to thrive
- Sustaining a tradition of intentional forward-thinking
- Empowering a diverse, inviting community
- Creating a vibrant, sustainable future
- Led by innovative and collaborative leaders who partner with citizens and neighboring communities

This is just a flavor of the potential of this group. They already were leaders when they began this process; now they're ready to take on more. So, ask them to join you in your civic and philanthropic endeavors. We hope to see them throughout the region in boards, commissions and elected office in the future.

It's time now to nominate someone for the 2024 class. You'll find details on page 6. Our future is incredibly bright, and I look forward to what these new graduates will contribute.

Upcoming events

Wednesday Wake-up

Wednesday, July 12 – 8:00-9:00 a.m.

[MidAmerica Rehabilitation Hospital](#), 5701 West 110th Street

At this monthly networking event, make connections, develop lasting business relationships and create new opportunities, all while enjoying coffee and breakfast items.

Learn more about MidAmerica Rehabilitation Hospital, which is recognized by The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Care Certification in Stroke, Brain Injury, Amputee, Parkinson's Disease and Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation.

Free for Chamber members.

To register, [click here](#).



SERIES SPONSOR



Ribbon cuttings

July 10 – [Zoom Room](#), 7011 11670 West 135th Street – 3:00 p.m.

July 14 – [Interpersonal Psychiatry](#), 7011 West 121st Street, Suite 105 – 3:30 p.m.



Educate to Elevate: Your Financial Future

Thursday, July 27 – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

[GRID Collaborative Workspaces](#), 12022 Blue Valley Parkway

At this program for young professionals, Alessandra Graber, [Edward Jones](#), will talk about how to maximize employee benefits including 401k and health care, and investing in your financial future.

Free to Chamber members..

To register, [click here](#).



2023 Golf Tournament

August 14, 2023



Join us for a fun afternoon of golf and networking at [Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate](#) – one of the Midwest's most spectacular and premier private golf clubs. For details, [click here](#).

Awards Reception



Dinner Sponsor



Lunch Sponsor



Beverage Carts Sponsors



Birdie Sponsor



Signage Sponsor



Par Sponsor



Golf Ball Flight Sponsor



Other sponsorships available!

Promote your company with these opportunities:

- Activity sponsor
- Donate door prizes (minimum value of \$25 each) - due to the Chamber office by noon on August 5.

For details, contact Hannah at hmelton@opchamber.org.

Primary election – August 1

Election Calendar

July 11 – Deadline to register to vote

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

July 12 – Advance voting by mail begins

July 22 – Advance voting in person begins

July 25 – Last day to request a ballot by mail

July 31 – Advance voting closes

August 1 – Primary election



Primary Election Races

Overland Park City Council – Ward 1

Olathe USD #233 – Member 7 At-Large

Welcome to the Chamber!

INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Ardent Family Chiropractic

Dr. Khai Huynh, Chiropractor
12631 Antioch Road
Overland Park KS 66213
(913) 208-2911
ardent.family.chiropractic@outlook.com
www.ardentfamilychiropractic.com
Chiropractic Physicians - D.C.

AR's Breakfast & Brunch

Oscar Romero, Operations Manager
8021 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park KS 66204
(913) 258-5703
arbrunch@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/ARSBRUNCH
Restaurants

Arthritis Foundation

Sheila Cline, Associate Director
Kansas
900 Southwest Blazing Star Drive
Lee's Summit MO 64081
(816) 648-0386
scline@arthritis.org
www.arthritis.org/home
Non-Profit Organizations

Bath Wizard

Barbara Machado, Public Relations
11149 West 95th Street
Overland Park KS 66214
(816) 608-0574
www.bath-wizard.com
*Home Improvements, Remodeling &
Repairing-Building Contractors*

Better Fed Foods

Ron Allen, Chief Sustainability Officer
4801 West 110th Street, Suite 110
Overland Park KS 66211
(833) 708-8880
Info@BetterFedFoods.com
www.betterfedfoods.com
Animal Health, Industrial Distribution

Bourgmont Winery

Wendy Hladky, Director of Vineyard
Accounting
20299 Quivira Road
Bucyrus KS 66013
(913) 708-8505
tastingroom@bourgmont.com
www.bourgmont.com
Event Space, Wine-Direct/Retail

Carbon Health

Maria Gonzalez, Clinic Manager
4821 West 119th Street
Overland Park KS 66209
(913) 298-2743
maria.gonzalez2@carbonhealth.com
www.carbonhealth.com
Health Care

Club SciKidz Kansas City

Deepshikha Neog, Owner
deepshikha@clubscikidz.com
(913) 475-3121
www.kansascity.clubscikidz.com
Educational Services

Dogtopia of North Overland Park

Sunil Kumar, Franchise Owner
10556 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park KS 66212
(913) 871-8858
happylifellc2022@gmail.com
www.dogtopia.com/kansas-north-overlandpark
*Pet Daycare/Boarding, Pet Grooming
Service & Supplies*

EDCare

Sarah Vitztum, Regional Outreach
Representative
8300 College Boulevard, Suite 300
Overland Park KS 66210
(913) 945-1277
infokc@eatingdisorder.care
www.eatingdisorder.care
Health & Wellness, Health Care

Goodwill Western Missouri & Eastern Kansas

Kristen Wood, Director of Grants and
Advocacy
800 East 18th Street
Kansas City MO 64108-1514
(816) 842-7425
kwood@mokangoodwill.org
www.mokangoodwill.org
*Thrift Shops, Employment Agencies &
Services*

Goodwill Western Missouri & Eastern Kansas

Brandy Page, General Manager
7241 West 135th Street
Overland Park KS 66223
(913) 402-7226
www.mokangoodwill.org
*Thrift Shops, Employment Agencies &
Services*

Impact Dynamics

Dorothy Elder, CEO
(913) 944-9566
info@dorothymurrayelder.com
www.dorothymurrayelder.com
Training and Development

Insperty

Jennifer Libby, District Manager
7300 College Boulevard, Suite 165
Overland Park KS 66210
(913) 339-2290
www.insperty.com
Human Resource Consultants

Interpersonal Psychiatry

Dr. Irfan Handoo, Psychiatrist
7011 West 121st Street, Suite 105
Overland Park KS 66209
(913) 357-1290
contact@ip-psych.com
www.ip-psych.com
Health Care

Lenius Orthodontics

Jeffrey Lenius, Orthodontist
8764 West 151st Street
Overland Park KS 66221
(913) 357-1212
Office@LeniusOrtho.com
www.LeniusOrtho.com
Orthodontists

TAG Enterprises, LLC.

Timothy Smith, Partner
9201 West 106th Street
Overland Park KS 66212
(913) 605-3589
tsmith>tagenterprises.org
Landscaping & Lawn Services

The Learning Experience- Blue Valley

Amber Limkemann, Owner
7021 West 121st Street
Overland Park KS 66209
(913) 283-7580
bluevalley@tlechildcare.com
[www.thelearningexperience.com/
center/blue-valley](http://www.thelearningexperience.com/center/blue-valley)
Child Care, Educational Services

US69 Express Constructors

Rob Gullikson, Project Manager
7400 West 129th Street, Suite 100
Overland Park KS 66213
www.69express.ksdot.gov
Contractors-General, Contractors-Paving

Thanks for reinvesting!

JUNE MEMBER RENEWALS

50+ Years

Bear & Bear Associates, LP
Rau Construction Company
UMB Bank n.a.

40-49 Years

Ashok B. Bavishi, C.P.A.
Marriott Kansas City Overland Park
Oak Park Mall
Overland Park Racquet Club
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
Polsinelli

20-39 Years

Commerce Bank
Fidelity Bank
Menorah Medical Center
Santa Fe Body, Inc.
Spencer Fane LLP
Visit Overland Park
Zurich North America Commercial

10-19 Years

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas
Creative Planning
Sykes/Lady Overland Park Golf Club
Talk of the Town Grill & Bar-Overland Park
Tekniq Data Corporation

5-9 Years

Avenue 81 Senior Living
Candlewood Suites - Lenexa & Overland Park
Goldfish Swim School
Kansas Policy Institute
New Frontier Technologies
True Peace Financial Solutions, LLC
World Class Unlimited, Inc.

1-4 Years

Ascentist Plastic Surgery
Boy Scouts of America-Heart of America Council
CityPlace Corporate Centre
Element Medical Imaging
EPC Real Estate Group
Health Partnership Clinic
iFocus Marketing
Lambie Custom Homes Inc.
Mercer-Zimmerman Inc.
Onspring Technologies LLC
Osman Consultants, LLC
Style Encore
Union Broadcasting

Talent Council working to address workforce challenges

As challenges continue to persist around workforce development, I am pleased to see the Overland Park Chamber prioritize talent solutions as part of its new strategic initiative. Many businesses and industries in Overland Park and the region are finding talent needs quickly outpacing skilled talent availability. In addition to a supply challenge, workforce expectations and candidate priorities continue to evolve alongside shifting economic factors, requiring an intentional focus on multi-generational demands.

These shifting trends and tight labor market conditions emphasize the importance of the Opportunity NOW initiative. The first goal of this initiative focuses on workforce attraction and retention and the alignment of talent resources to provide a solid foundation for the larger business community and address workforce challenges in a collaborative way.

An initial outcome of this goal is the formation of the Talent Council, which will work in partnership with various stakeholders from across our community to identify and develop both short and long-term opportunities that are purposeful and attainable in addressing priority talent challenges. I am honored to serve as Talent Council Chair.

In order to accomplish its objectives, the Talent Council will examine solutions to coordinate efforts around programs that include:

- studies to identify and address barriers to hiring;
- enhancing partnerships with both K-12 and higher education on programs such as apprenticeships and internships;
- educating the business community on available talent resources; and
- creating a trailing partner program.

Our hope is that, through this initiative, the larger business community in Overland Park will be at the forefront in addressing workforce development challenges and barriers. As we work to implement solutions in a dynamic workforce setting, it is important the Chamber continues to bridge connections for all businesses to continue to grow and prosper. This new endeavor represents a wealth of opportunity in talent development and I look forward to leading collaborative workforce efforts going forward.



Chair, Talent Council
Dana Streck
[WellSky Corporation](#)

If you would like to participate in the Talent Council's work, please contact Andrew Weisberg, Director of Talent, at (913) 766-7608 or aweisberg@opchamber.org.



City Council President Jim Kite joined the Chamber to help owner Brad Haag and his family and other company reps celebrate a ribbon cutting for [A Place At Home-Kansas City South](#), 12022 Blue Valley Parkway.

A Place at Home provides non-medical in-home care that allows seniors to live safe and independent lives in the comfort of their own homes.

For more info: (913) 707-2933 or [click here](#).



The Chamber helped Russ Branden, Principal, and his team at [Built Interior Construction](#) celebrate a ribbon cutting for their beautiful new showroom at 8995 Bond Street.

Built designs and builds pre-manufactured interiors that provide flexibility and growth, predictability for costs, schedule and supply chain using the Doing It Right for Today and Tomorrow (DIRTT) environmental solution.

Built partners with Overland Park lighting manufacturer Mercer Zimmerman. For more info: (913) 568-7090 or [click here](#).



Overland Park Young Professionals enjoyed a Mix & Mingle networking event hosted by [Torchy's Tacos](#), 6815 West 135th Street

2023 Leadership class studies quality of life

As one of its last sessions, the Leadership Overland Park class members learned about quality of life issues.

During the quality of life session, class members heard from Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen and toured the Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens. Other presenters covered topics including City Parks and Recreational Services, the Overland Park Farmers' Market, the Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park and the City's arts and events programs.



Accepting nominations for 2024 LOP class

The Overland Park Chamber Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2024 Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class. Nominations are due at the Chamber by September 15.

LOP educates participants about critical issues facing our community and provides opportunities to engage in organizations that resolve these issues. It focuses on information, education and discussion of local and regional assets, challenges and opportunities. It is a six-month program, with 10 full-day sessions beginning in January.

Candidates are selected on criteria that includes leadership ability or potential and a strong commitment to the community. The selection committee will seek a class representing diverse backgrounds, affiliations and goals.

Founded in 1983 as a program of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce, LOP is now part of the Chamber's educational foundation. It has graduated more than 1,000 alumni.

For a nomination form, [click here](#).

2023 Leadership class raises \$20,170 for Arboretum improvements for vision-impaired visitors

At the beginning of this year, professionals from prominent sectors of the Overland Park community assembled to form this year's Leadership Overland Park (LOP) class.

Together they focused on the common goal to learn more about the community in which they live and become effective and dedicated leaders to serve the city and region. As part of this mission, the class was tasked with completing a service project to benefit the community. The 2023 LOP class, partnering with the [Overland Park Host Lions Club](#), chose the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead as the beneficiary for its class project.

The history of the Farmstead dates to 1971, when the City of Overland Park purchased land that would later become the Farmstead; originally known as Community Park. Over the next seven years, the land was converted from a park until 1978 when the Farmstead offi-

cially opened. It served 11,000 visitors in its first year. On May 27, 1985, the Farmstead officially changed its name to Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, in memory of an Overland Park police officer killed in the line of duty. Since its inception, Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead has been a staple of the Overland Park community.

The [Overland Park Host Lions Club](#), a non-profit group with a mission that includes supporting the vision-impaired community, identified a need at Deanna Rose to replace and improve the signage and audio dome features across the facility. Quoted at more than \$6,500, the sign repairs included new lettering for visual readers, and also improved braille texturing. The upgrades to the audio domes that provide playback features for vision-impaired patrons contributed even more to the expected costs. While the Farmstead receives support from Friends of the Farmstead, a membership group oper-



Vicki Lilley, [The Arts and Recreation Foundation of Overland Park](#), received the check from class member Nathan Hladky, [HG Consult](#).

ating as a part of [The Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park](#), these repairs were going to likely take the Lions many years to complete the project.

To support this cause and accelerate the project, the LOP Class of 2023 brainstormed a fundraising gala event hosted at [Bourgmont Winery](#) in nearby Bucyrus, Kansas. The event

included a silent auction, appetizers catered by [Fiorella's Jack Stack](#), a wine tasting and a tour of the winery. With over 200 guests, the event was a smashing success with \$12,505.23 raised from ticket sales alone. Additionally, LOP class participants took it upon themselves to work with their respective businesses, friends, and family to raise funds to support this cause. During its graduation ceremony on June 22, the LOP class of 2023 and Lions Club of Overland Park presented a check for \$20,170 to the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, well over the intended target.

The Leadership Overland Park Class of 2023 is incredibly proud of this accomplishment, which could have only been achieved through the collaboration of its members. The relationships, knowledge and experience gained by the members through the class will undoubtedly better themselves, but also their communities.



More than 100 people attended Wine for Signs at [Bourgmont Winery](#), the 2023 LOP class project to benefit Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead.



At the Leadership Graduation Luncheon, Paschaline Victory Uti was announced as the 2023 recipient of the LOP Educate & Elevate Scholarship, a project of the 2020 LOP class. Unable to attend the luncheon, Paschaline was represented by her advisor, Amea Chandler, in receiving the scholarship from Sandra Warner and Mary Dykmann, members of the 2020 LOP class.



The Chamber helped owners Chris and Cassie Youngdale celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Anytime Fitness Overland Park**, 8809 West 95th Street. Amenities include 24 hour secure access, cardio, free weights, functional training, and specialized coaching and training services like small group and personal as well as specialized classes. For more info: (913) 871-7461 or [click here](#).



Overland Park Mayor Curt Skoog and Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen visit with Oberbürgermeister Jurgen Kessing, the mayor of Overland Park's Sister City, Bietigheim-Bissigen, Germany, during his recent visit to Overland Park.



The Chamber helped Payton O'Donnell and Carlye Campbell celebrate a ribbon cutting for **Tiger-Rock of North Overland Park**, 8819 West 95th Street. Tiger-Rock has been delivering life-changing martial arts programs since 1983. Its programs focus on components that increase fitness, artistic precision, and self-empowerment. For more info: (605) 595-5284 or [click here](#).



Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen and Overland Park Mayor Curt Skoog joined Johnson County Chairman Mike Kelly and other county officials to celebrate a ribbon cutting for Johnson County Department of Health and Environment's new **Household Hazardous Waste Facility** at 11231 Mastin Street.

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

Welcome!

Welcome to these new members since April*:

- Ardent Family Chiropractic
- ARS BREAKFAST & BRUNCH
- Arthritis Foundation
- Basecamp Fitness Overland Park
- Bath Wizard
- Beef-A-Roo - Coming Soon
- BetterFedFoods
- Bloomin' Blinds
- Bourgmont Winery
- Built Interior Construction
- Carbon Health
- Chick-fil-A 95th & Metcalf
- Club SciKidz Kansas City
- Crown Dumpster
- Demand Stack
- Dogtopia of North Overland Park
- EDCare
- Ellie Mental Health - Overland Park
- Foundation King
- Goodwill Western Missouri & Eastern Kansas
- Gragg Advertising
- Impact Dynamics
- In prosperity
- Interpersonal Psychiatry
- JBL Enterprises Inc.
- Johnson County Management, LLC
- JSunPV LLC
- KC Floorworx
- Lenius Orthodontics
- Marco's Pizza
- OWN, Inc.
- Planted Local Lending
- Ronco Construction
- SLCKET
- Studio FIVE VR
- TAG Enterprises, LLC.
- The Learning Experience - Blue Valley
- Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of North Overland Park
- United States Army Recruiting
- U.S. 69 Express Constructors
- Western Waterproofing Company, Inc. dba Great Plains Roofing & Sheet Metal
- Whataburger - 95th Street
- Zoom Room

Housing: Five Ls control supply

It is difficult to imagine anything more consequential to the overall economic health of a community or of the health of its residents than housing.

Every community in the metro is taking on the topic, albeit in differing ways and on different terms. Building enough homes to meet the need is an enormous challenge to tackle.

Recognizing that the costs of housing have continuously increased at a higher rate than the average would-be buyer's wage growth, it is more important than ever that our region's governing bodies actively partner with housing providers of all types if we are to mitigate the effects of an extreme housing shortage.

The [Home Builders Association of Greater Kansas City](#) (KCHBA) utilizes the five Ls to illustrate the construct of the housing market. The five Ls are:

Lots – The land utilized for housing and the costs associated with developing it into buildable ground.

Labor – The volume of people doing the work to bring housing to market and the wages they command.

Lumber – An all-encompassing term meant to include all of the physical materials used to build a home.

Loans – The terms and overall availability of credit and capital that finance the construction and purchase of homes.

Laws – The regulatory environment consisting of federal, state, and local parameters pertaining to land development and new home construction.

If you think of these five Ls as individual circles that come together in the form of a Venn diagram, where they overlap functions as the market in which new housing can come online. The introduction of new supply constraints like rising interest rates, volatile costs for building materials, or new regulatory barriers pulls those respective circles away from the center thereby shrinking the prospects of new housing supply.

This model of understanding the housing market is simple to grasp yet difficult to interpret. However, where local housing markets are concerned, we should focus primarily on controlling what can be controlled. A city council or county commission cannot affect interest rates or solve an international supply chain bottleneck. A local governing body can, however, ensure that the local regulatory conditions have the best possible opportunity to yield a diverse inventory of housing options at a broader range of prices. Housing has always been primarily governed at the local level.

In order for that to happen, local governments like Overland Park, must make and ultimately keep new housing as a top priority. Additionally, we would recommend that every policy change that comes before a local jurisdiction be subjected to a test: Does this new policy make home ownership more or less likely? Until the answer to that question shifts from today's predominant "less likely" to an increased frequency of "more likely," housing options will continue to narrow. We cannot speak new housing options into existence. It takes planning and collaboration. The KCHBA is an active voice in the housing industry, but we are not the only perspective. Together, the broader business community and our local housing providers can initiate a housing renaissance in communities like Overland Park.



Will Ruder
EVP, Home
Builders
Association
of Greater
Kansas City

Recent Events

MEMBERS CONNECTING WITH MEMBERS



Chamber members enjoyed networking and a performance by students of [School of Rock Blue Valley](#) at June's Wednesday Wake-up event.



Overland Park Young Professionals had the opportunity to socialize with their counterparts from the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce at a networking event at [Chicken N Pickle Overland Park](#).

'Giving Back' culture at JE Dunn instilled in rising leadership

CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Approaching its 100th year in Kansas City, [JE Dunn Construction](#) prioritizes leadership development and network growth opportunities for employees within the community.

JE Dunn has had employees participate in the Leadership Overland Park (LOP) program for many years, gaining individual experience and skills in leadership.

"At JE Dunn, we're passionate about providing our 'Inspired People' with opportunities to learn, serve, and grow. That's why we're proud to participate in programs like LOP," said Nancy Phelps, Community Impact Director. "Thanks to LOP, many of our rising star employees have been able to do a deep dive into their home community, grow their professional network, and find new ways to give back."

National Quality Director Jason Wright graduated from LOP in 2016 and still appreciates that he was taught about nonprofits in the community and the different aspects of city, county, state and federal government. Wright has been a dedicated

Chamber board member for four years and expects to continue for the next three. Through his involvement with the Chamber and LOP, he has kept in contact with connections he made close to five years ago.

Through his involvement, he was introduced to Friends of JCDS, which focuses on providing housing and other assistance for adults with disabilities in the Johnson County area. At JE Dunn, Wright has helped organize and schedule Friends of JCDS's 21st home construction – making it the first house completely new from the ground up.

Along with working closely with Friends of JCDS, Wright is Board Vice Chair for [KidsTLC](#), which aims to help children who suffer from mental illness, behavioral challenges, trauma and autism.

As a company, JE Dunn Construction invests time, talent, and resources to organizations that impact community development, education, health and well-being and social impact. More than 1,000 nonprofits were impacted in 2022 and over 50,000 volunteer hours are annually documented.



AdventHealth first in Johnson County to use aquablation therapy for BPH treatment

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

One problem almost every man will have to face as he gets older is an enlarged prostate, also known as benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

The prostate gland is part of the reproductive system and is small when men are young. But as they get older, it grows and can begin to squeeze or pinch the urethra often making it more difficult for men with an enlarged prostate to urinate. Although medication can help, it does not always provide adequate relief.

A few years back, the FDA approved a procedure called aquablation which uses the power of water delivered with robotic precision to provide long-lasting BPH relief. Aquablation combines a camera called a cystoscope with ultrasound imaging, giving the surgeon the ability to see the entire prostate in real time and offering long-lasting BPH relief no matter how large the prostate is.

Located at 165th and U.S. 69 Highway in the Bluhawk

development, [AdventHealth South Overland Park](#) is proud to be the first in Johnson County to offer this advanced, minimally invasive surgical treatment to help men in the community get back to feeling whole.

Aquablation therapy works by removing prostate tissue that is causing BPH symptoms through the urethra with no abdominal incision. This robotic technology ensures the prostate tissue is removed precisely, consistently and predictably. The therapy typically takes less than an hour and is performed under anesthesia at AdventHealth South Overland Park, followed by an overnight stay.

Oftentimes, men delay surgery for BPH because they are concerned about side effects such as incontinence and impact on sexual function. However, recent clinical studies shows that aquablation therapy has a very low rate of irreversible complications.

For more information or to learn about Urology Care at South Overland Park, visit www.AdventHealthSouthOverlandPark.com.



Now Accepting Nominations!

Rick Worrel Community Legacy Award

The Overland Park Chamber seeks nominations for the 2023 recipient(s) of the Rick Worrel Community Legacy Award.

The deadline for nominations is 5:00 p.m. on September 1 and the recipient will be recognized at the Chamber's Annual Meeting on December 6, 2023.

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

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

Previous recipients have been:

- Sen. John Skubal
- Retiring City Manager Bill Ebel
- Retiring County Chairman Ed Eilert

For a nomination form, [click here](#).



Accelerate your growth through GAME program

The Chamber is partnering with the Kansas Small Business Development Center at [Johnson County Community College](#) to offer scholarships for the Growth through Action, Measurement, and Engagement (GAME) program.

GAME provides growing companies the framework and tools to gain focus, set a growth agenda, make decisions and take action. Each session is led by subject matter experts providing content and continuity throughout all sessions.

The program is intended for companies with 2+ years in business and \$250,000+ in sales. Participants learn best practices from Kansas City's industry experts, take part in peer-to-peer roundtables focused on opportunities and challenges and create action plans for 30, 60 or 90 days.

The 2023-2024 program starts August 16. Sessions are 8:00-10:00 a.m. one Wednesday a month at the college.

For details and eligibility requirements, [click here](#).

Corporate Partners



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



At a recent Public Policy & Advocacy (PPA) Committee meeting, LTG. Milford Beagle, Commanding General Fort Leavenworth and Combined Arms Center, shared his thoughts on leadership and discussed the role Fort Leavenworth plays within in the U.S. Army and the Kansas City Metro. Posing with LTG. Beagle are PPA Chair Mike Hockley, [Spencer Fane LLP](#); and Richard "Rick" Kaiser, [Black & Veatch](#).



At a recent Executive Leadership Series breakfast program, former Kansas Secretary of Transportation Julie Lorenz, [1898 & Co.](#), shared her top 10 thoughts and experiences on "Solving Tough Problems Through Deep Collaboration" including why having a bias for action and understanding deep collaboration as a superpower are so important. The ELS breakfast series is sponsored by [FNBO](#).

Member News

[The University of Kansas Cancer Center](#) announced \$143 million in funding to build a state-of-the-art facility that brings together cancer research, treatment and patient care teams, transforming cancer care in our region.

The Chambers USA 2023 Guide recognized 29 [Foulston Siefkin LLP](#) attorneys in Kansas, including six Kansas City attorneys. Foulston received the most Band 1 firm rankings in Kansas and the firm received the highest ranking for six practice areas.

Chamber member hospitals received A and B grades in the Spring 2023 Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit upholding the standard of patient safety in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers.

[AdventHealth](#) opened a Psychiatry and Wellbeing practice on the AdventHealth Shawnee Mission campus as part of an expansion of AdventHealth's behavioral health offerings that include an inpatient unit and intensive outpatient services.

The American Public Works Association named Tim Ross, former CEO and President of [GBA](#), as a 2023 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year.

Mark Hulet will serve as the next president and CEO of the [YMCA of Greater Kansas City](#). He is the 11th chief executive officer to lead the local Y association since it was founded in 1860.

[Foulston Siefkin LLP](#), welcomes Cameron Edens, Andrew Foreman, Nicholas Kaechele, Jordan Miller, Molly Morgan, Quan Nguyen, and Grace Vogel as 2023 summer associates.

July 24 is the deadline to sign up for weekly subscriptions for vegetables or flower bouquets that support refugee farming families through New Roots for Refugees, a program of [Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas](#).

The [Overland Park Historical Society](#) is hosting a fundraiser, the [Depot Dash 5K](#) on the [Aspiria](#) Campus beginning at 7:30 a.m. on **August 12**.

[AdventHealth](#) named Dayton Botts as Chief Financial Officer of AdventHealth South Overland Park.

[Agenda: USA](#) promoted D'Wayne Leatherland to Chief Operating Officer.

[AdventHealth Shawnee Mission](#) welcomed Dr. Elizabeth Butler who specializes in breast disease and treats both benign and malignant conditions.

[Johnson County](#) Chairman Mike Kelly appointed Julie Lorenz, [1898 & Co.](#), to represent Johnson County on the Kansas City Area Transit Authority Board of Commissioners.

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To submit member news and events, log into your Member Info Hub – [click here](#).