Seeking endorsements for Forward OP

Forward OP’s vision for Overland Park is complete! Now is your opportunity to review and endorse the plan as our community moves into implementation. The Overland Park Chamber’s Board of Directors has already endorsed the Vision, and we encourage your business or organization to join us! Endorsement of the plan doesn’t necessarily mean you agree with every single action, or that you’re committing to something. It simply means you believe in the overarching vision and goals. To review a summary of the vision, goals and actions, click here. Please consider joining the growing list of endorsing community organizations to be presented to the City Council as the final endorser. For an easy-to-complete endorsement form, click here. Please return your signed endorsement form by January 25, 2019.

Overland Park leaders testify on U.S. 69

Chamber President Tracey Osborne Oltjen joined Mayor Carl Gerlach, Councilmember Curt Skoog, City Manager Bill Ebel and developer Jon Stewart in testifying about the economic importance of the U.S. 69 Highway corridor before the Kansas 2018 Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force hearing last month. The task force is charged with developing strategies and projects for solving the state’s transportation challenges – click here.

The Overland Park leaders asked for help in finding a state strategy for expanding U.S. 69 to six lanes between I-435 and 159th Street, while fixing safety and congestion issues. U.S. 69 through Overland Park faces serious challenges that must be addressed. “Over and over we hear from developers, business leaders and residents that mobility and the quality of our transportation system are why they choose Overland Park,” explained Osborne Oltjen. “More than 225,000 residents live within five miles of U.S. 69, relying on it as their primary connection to education, shopping and, above all, jobs. Our ability to move people and goods at low cost and within a reasonable commute time is a major reason more than 10,000 businesses operate within this corridor’s trade area, allowing our (continued on page 7)
Thank you for a fulfilling year in 2018!

Thank you. As an attorney, I often have heard the joke that attorneys get paid by the number of words in a contract. But as I look back on my past year as Chairman, I could just stop with just those two words.

I am truly thankful for this opportunity. Don’t tell anyone, but I really will miss it. You are all part of this wonderful community. You have heard the stats and seen the awards year after year telling you what a wonderful community Overland Park is, but I had a front row seat to experience it at a whole new level.

I am thankful I took over this office at last year’s annual meeting, where we celebrated the Chamber turning 50. What a fantastic look back at the unbelievable things our leaders and businesses have accomplished in a relatively short time frame.

I am thankful to have started my first meeting with a champagne toast to our wonderful president in celebration of her wedding. I am thankful for Tracey and her team who made my job so much easier (they really do all the work) and make our Chamber a force in the community. And now that I look back at the exceptional work of our volunteer board members, I should have toasted their accomplishments on a regular basis as well.

I am thankful for the hundreds of people volunteering thousands of hours on the Forward OP visioning process that started at the beginning of the year. The Forward OP committee met frequently and looked at all areas that make our community special. They completed their process and crafted a vision with five goals to guide Overland Park for the next 25 years and beyond.

Our board was proud to be the first organization to endorse this plan and I’m personally excited to see it move forward.

I am thankful we graduated 37 more alumni in the Leadership Overland Park program, and we have a record number of applicants for 2019. Encouraging leadership in our community is a vital role your Chamber continues to fulfill. This is further evident in our Executive Leadership Series. Wow, am I thankful I got to hear those incredible speakers!

I am thankful for our community’s fantastic educational opportunities. From pre-K to post-graduate programs, our education system assists the business community with its number one issue – workforce development. We certainly would not have the ability to attract and grow successful businesses without our fine educational institutions.

I am thankful for the support of each Chamber member – big and small, companies that have been around for decades as well as younger entrepreneurs willing to take a chance. Each adds to our community and makes this a special place, with an unbelievable quality of life.

I am thankful and blessed for my family’s health and well-being. Finally, I am thankful that my firm, and my family have been supportive over the last year. Without their support, I wouldn’t have had this opportunity.

God Bless. And thank you.
2019 Chamber Board Officers

The Chamber Board of Directors announces the following board officers for 2019:

Chairman: Mike Hess, HNTB Corporation
Chair-Elect: Bobby Olm-Shipman, Saint Luke’s South Hospital
1st Vice-Chairman: Bill Ferguson, Central Bank of the Midwest
2nd Vice-Chairman: Steve Troester, PGAV Architects, Inc.
Secretary: Doug Lynn, Sprint
Treasurer: Chris Wally, Wally & Co.
Past Chair: Brett Bogan, Spencer Fane LLP

We welcome these new Board of Directors in 2019:
• Tim Danker, SelectQuote
• John Fuller, DLR Group
• Tom Herzog, Netsmart Technologies
• Jim Hemenway, Chicago Title
• Cindy Rock, DexYP
• Stacy Rose, AdamsGabbert
• Matt Sheets, First National Bank
• Joan Wells, Wellington
• Lori Wright, Kansas City Power & Light [2019 Chair of the Chamber Economic Development Council]

UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Mix ‘n Mingle

Tuesday, December 11
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Overland Park young professionals are invited to our annual holiday party for appetizers, happy hour specials and prizes!

Free to Chamber members; $10 for non-members
Registrations are due by December 8
To register, click here or call (913) 491-3600

Chamber Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 5
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Overland Park Convention Center

Keynote Speaker: Tommy Spaulding

Presenting Sponsor
SECURITY BANK
OF KANSAS CITY™

Silver Sponsor
Google Fiber

Bronze Sponsor
First National Bank

Leadership Patron
OVERLAND PARK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION

Awards Sponsors
Metcalf 435 Corporate Centre

Corporate Table Sponsors

Print Sponsor
Ground Transportation Sponsor
Hotel Accommodations

UPCOMING EVENTS

Build your business network!

Wednesday Wake-up
A Business Before Hours

Wednesday, December 12
8:00-9:00 a.m.

Hosted by
THE ATRIUMS
7300 West 107th Street

Join us for networking and breakfast and see how Tutera Family Communities is changing the look of retirement living. With luxury apartments for both independent and assisted living, a full schedule of activities and a catered dining experience, The Atriums make residents feel like they’re on a landlocked cruise every day.

Free and open to Chamber members only.
To register, click here or call (913) 491-3600
Diplomat Q&A

Trish Reedy, PrimeLending

Q: What is your company and describe your position?
A: I’m a loan officer for PrimeLending. We are the #1 purchase lender in the Kansas City area, four years running! If you are looking to buy a home or refinance your current mortgage, I’m your point person!

Q: Who do you find is a best connection / partner for you in business?
A: Anyone looking to move! Realtors are a great source of business as well.

Q: Why are you a Chamber Diplomat?
A: I want to give back to this community and stay in touch with what is happening. Dips is a great way to do both!

Q: Where are you from / what brought you to Overland Park?
A: I grew up in Wichita, went to K-State and have been in OP ever since!

Q: What is your hidden talent or ability?
A: I have a huge jukebox in my head… all the songs for which I know the lyrics!

Q: What do you consider your greatest achievement so far?
A: Completing for Ironman Wisconsin 2009. And my kids!

Q: What is your company and description / partner for you in business?
A: I’m a loan officer for PrimeLending. We are the #1 purchase lender in the Kansas City area, four years running! If you are looking to buy a home or refinance your current mortgage, I’m your point person!

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Q: What do you consider your greatest achievement so far?
A: Completing for Ironman Wisconsin 2009. And my kids!

Q: Who is somebody you look up to and why?
A: Ben Craig! He made such an impact on Overland Park and truly cared about his family and community.


Member Renewals

We thank these companies for reinvesting in the Overland Park Chamber in October 2018:

50+ Years
Mize Houser & Company

40-49 Years
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Kansas City Homes
JE Dunn Construction Company Sprint
Varnum/Armstrong/Deeter, LLC

20-39 Years
Baker University
Bank of Blue Valley
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate-Phil Summerson Crawford Sales Company Forterra Pipe & Precast Georgetown Apartments L.L.C. Ottawa University - Kansas City Campus PC Partners, Inc. RideKC
Southcreek Office Park SpringHill Suites by Marriott

10-19 Years
Allied National, Inc. Crawford Furniture H & R Block Hawthorne Suites by Wyndham Overland Park Mitchelson, Lynn OMNI Human Resource Management Online Trading Academy

5-9 Years
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. Charlie’s Car Wash Foulston Siefkin LLP Parisi Café Union Station Rodrock Homes, LLC

1-4 Years

To find out more about becoming a Chamber Diplomat, contact Stacey Cowan at scowan@opchamber.org or (913) 766-7604.
Welcome new members!

We are pleased to introduce these new Chamber members:

**The Dark Horse Group, LLC**
Thomas Holland, President
8649 Lowell Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66212
(785) 760-0064
thomas@darkhorsegroup.co
www.darkhorsegroup.co
Marketing Consultants, Marketing Services

**House of Real Estate, LLC**
Karen Gilliland, Realtor, Broker & Owner
9728 West 115th Street
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 909-5880
klg625@yahoo.com
www.houseofrealestatekc.com
Real Estate - Residential, Real Estate

**KC Hemp Co.**
Kyle Steppe, Co-Owner
8124 Floyd Street
Overland Park, KS 66204
(913) 242-7380
kyle@kchempco.com
www.kchempco.com
Health & Wellness, Retail

**Krispy Kreme Doughnuts**
Dennis Hynes, General Manager
10390 Metcalf Avenue
Overland Park, KS 66212
(913) 341-4643
Fax: (913) 341-3480
kk195@krispykreme.com
www.krispykreme.com
Bakery, Coffee Houses

**NorthCode Solutions, LLC**
Bryce McDonald, Owner
1018 South 7th Street
Kansas City, KS 66105
(573) 825-5810
bryce@northcodesolutions.com
www.northcodesolutions.com
Information Systems, Computer Consultants

**Panera Bread**
Kristen Oliver, Regional Catering Sales Manager
11319 West 95th Street
Overland Park, KS 66214
(913) 541-1948
www.panerabread.com
Restaurants

**People First Productivity Solutions**
Deb Calvert, President
PO. Box 458
Peculiar, MO
(408) 612-5918
deb.calvert@peoplefirsttps.com
www.peoplefirsttps.com
Training and Development, Sales Training

**Safely Delicious, LLC**
Lisa Ragan, Owner & CEO
PO. Box 26446
Overland Park, KS 66225
(913) 963-5140
Lisa@safelydelicious.com
www.safelydelicious.com
Manufacturers, Food Service

**School of Rock Overland Park**
Avery Myers, General Manager
11401 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 327-5418
www.overlandpark.schoolofrock.com
Music Instruction

**Snyder Law Firm LLC**
Paul Snyder, Partner
13401 Mission Road, Suite 207
Leawood, KS 66209
(913) 685-3900
Fax: (913) 440-0724
psnyder@snyderrlawfirmllc.com
www.snyderrlawfirmllc.com
Legal Services, Attorneys

**Sparkling Fountain Adult Care Homes**
Priscilla Gitombo, RN/Operator
8525 Switzer Road
Overland Park, KS 66214
(913) 766-8526
info@sparklingfountainhomes.com
www.sparklingfountainhomes.com
Assisted Living Facility, Senior Care & Living
Longtime GMOP emcee Greg Musil, Rouse Frets White Goss Gentle Rhodes, P.C., was joined by a co-emcee, Aaron Attebery, Black & Veatch.

Mayor Carl Gerlach was presented with his own 3D miniature from doob KC.

Thank you to these contributors:
- The Arts and Recreation Foundation of Overland Park
- Bambou Salons LLC
- Brancato’s Catering
- Brass Onion
- Bury the Hatchet KC LLC
- Charlie’s Car Wash
- Chick-fil-A 135th & 69 Hwy
- Corner Bakery-Corbin Park
- Cosentino’s Market - Blue Valley
- Dewey’s Pizza
- doob KC
- Downtown Overland Park Partnership, Inc.
- Fortune Financial Advisors, LLC
- Goldfish Swim School
- iFLY Indoor Skydiving
- Jason’s Deli
- Johnson County Community College
- Kincaid Coach Lines, Inc.
- Kneaders Bakery and Cafe
- Lowe’s Home Improvement
- Mastin Discount Liquor LLC
- Nifty Promotions
- ONEHOPE Wine with Kelly
- Parisi Café Union Station
- Pinstripes, Inc.
- PrimeLending
- Q39 LLC
- Safely Delicious, LLC
- Santee Floral Designs, Inc.
- Scheels
- Shack Breakfast & Lunch
- SLCKET
- Villa Medici
- Zaxby’s

Testimony continued . . .

region to be competitive regionally and nationally.”
A U.S. 69 Preliminary Concept Study, funded by the city, found that the corridor carries more traffic than any other four-lane highway in Kansas. Traffic volumes are projected to double by 2040, with travel times tripling from eight minutes to nearly 30 minutes.

“We have a strong, working relationship with KDOT that has led us to contribute $61 million for design and construction on U.S. 69-related transportation projects over the past few years,” said Mayor Gerlach. Overland Park leaders also recently met with U.S. Secretary Elaine L. Chao and Congressman Kevin Yoder to address the need for Federal funding for local transportation projects.

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

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<tr>
<td>New Non-Commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
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Square Feet:
- N/A
- 20,921

Value:
- N/A
- $25,138,262
- $25,138,262

– City of Overland Park

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<th>Overland Park Retail Sales</th>
<th>August 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overland Park</td>
<td>$408,693,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olathe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lenexa</td>
<td>$141,276,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shawnee</td>
<td>$103,968,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leawood</td>
<td>$78,989,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Cities</td>
<td>$199,093,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

– City of Overland Park
RECENT EVENTS / DIPLOMAT SPOTLIGHT

Diplomat Q&A

Derek Sommerer, Academy Bank

Q: What is your company and describe your position.
A: Academy Bank offers a futuristic banking model, out to challenge conventional banking. Our bankers are mobile, coming to your home, your office, or to the local coffee shop nearest to you. I personally focus on business development through home equity lines of credit, business and consumer money market accounts, and small business equipment loans and lines of credit.

Q: Who do you find is a best connection/partner for you in business?
A: I enjoy finding ways to help any new potential business partner with their business, but frequently see my partnerships with mortgage loan originators, financial advisers, and contractors providing maximum benefit to all involved.

Q: What has been your favorite benefit or moment as a member of the Overland Park Chamber?
A: One of my first events as an active member of the Chamber was with the Young Professionals group, hosting a barbecue for a local women’s shelter. Coming together that night and solely focusing on serving those women and children in need was incredible.

Q: What is the best advice you’ve ever received?
A: There is a distinct difference between a male and a man, strive to be the type of man you want your daughter to marry.

Q: What is your hidden talent or ability?
A: Country music karaoke . . . shhhhh!

Q: What is your motto?
A: Treat others better than how you want to be treated!

To find out more about becoming a Chamber Diplomat, contact Stacey Cowan at (913) 766-7604 or scowan@opchamber.org.

Member Orientation on November 8

Derek Sommerer talks about his company, Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of Overland Park.

Erin Ronan, Enterprise Bank & Trust; Jim Edwards, Nothing Bundt Cakes; Lisa Ragan, Safely Delicious, LLC.

Erin Seager talks about her business, Office Evolution.

Katie Cornwell talks about her business, Kinesphere Physical Therapy & Pilates.

Wednesday Wake-up

A Business Before Hours

hosted on November 14 by

Erin Seager, Office Evolution.

Justin Hubbard talks about his company, Tiger-Rock Martial Arts of Overland Park.

Katie Cornwell talks about her business, Kinesphere Physical Therapy & Pilates.

Erin Ronan, Enterprise Bank & Trust; Jim Edwards, Nothing Bundt Cakes; Lisa Ragan, Safely Delicious, LLC.


Mariem Ruiz Martinez, Morgan Young and Camille Kaldahl, Shawnee Mission Health.

Karen Gilliland and Nathan McKinney, House of Real Estate; Morgan Young, Shawnee Mission Health; Kelly Belk, Baker University.

To find out more about becoming a Chamber Diplomat, contact Stacey Cowan at (913) 766-7604 or scowan@opchamber.org.
Thank you to our 2018 Sponsors!

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- Corporate Woods
- Edward Jones
- First National Bank
- JE Dunn Construction Company
- Johnson County Community College
- Kansas City Power & Light
- Kansas Gas Service
- Saint Luke’s Health System
- The University of Kansas Edwards Campus

Leadership Circle Sponsors

- AdamsGabbert
- Fortune Financial Advisors, LLC
- OMNI Human Resource Management

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

Corporate Sponsors

- BLACK & VEATCH
- Central Bank of the Midwest
- EMPOWER RETIREMENT
- ICA Health
- Shawnee Mission Health
- Sprint

Corporate Partners

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

The 19th annual Holiday Luminary Walk at the Overland Park Arboretum & Botanical Gardens continues on December 7-8.

The Overland Park Convention Center is accepting donations for Toys for Tots, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Sunday through December 14.

Mike Lewis was appointed by the Blue Valley School District Board of Education as a new commissioner representing the northeast district with the Blue Valley Recreation Commission.

Gary Anderson, D.V.M., Ph.D., has joined the faculty at Kansas State University Olathe as director of the International Animal Health and Food Safety Institute.

The City of Overland Park is looking for Overland Park’s most-spirited holiday home. For details, click here.

To submit company events, click here.
To submit company news, click here.

Member News & Events