

# CHAMBER CONNECTIONS



#VisitRaytown



Serving the Raytown Community and its members for 95 years!

[RAYTOWNCHAMBER.COM](http://RAYTOWNCHAMBER.COM)

MARCH 2024

## 2024 CHAMBER CORPORATE SPONSORS



Click on logos & links for more information

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### Message from the Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism/Building Foundation Board of Directors March 1, 2024



The Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Board of Directors announces the hiring of Jeff Hirst as the new President. An experienced leader, Jeff will succeed longtime President, Vicki Turnbow and will assume responsibilities on March 15, 2024. Vicki is retiring after over 33 years with the Raytown Chamber; 17 of those years as President. Vicki made sure to volunteer when she could, and was the Membership Manager in the early 2000's.

Jeff has been a member of the Raytown Chamber since 2013 with various companies and has been on the Board of Directors for several years. Jeff was awarded Chamber Person of the Year in 2013. He comes with over 4+ years of tourism marketing experience and 10+ years of sales experience.

Chair of the Search Committee, ElizaBeth Clayton said, "Based on his marketing and sales experience and understanding of the Raytown Chamber, the Search Committee felt Jeff was the best candidate to lead the Chamber into the future". Chair of the Raytown Chamber Board, Robert Atkins said, "The Board is excited about Jeff's ability to step right into the role of President and continue to move it forward". At this time, Jeff will retain the email address, [president@raytownchamber.com](mailto:president@raytownchamber.com).

Vicki Turnbow will move into a part-time position with the Raytown Chamber on March 15, 2024, to help with a smooth transition.



The Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism is celebrating 95 years of service to the community and its members in 2024. The office is located at 5909 Raytown Trafficway in Raytown and can be reached by calling 816-353-8500 or emailing [staff@raytownchamber.com](mailto:staff@raytownchamber.com).

welcome

Jeff

**Board of Directors**

Robert Atkins, Chair  
Farmers Insurance Agency

ElizaBeth Clayton, Chair Elect  
Wilshire at Lakewood Rehab Center

Jordan Price, Secretary/Treasurer  
Personal Care Dental Group

Patrick Nelson, Past Chair  
Red Tail Academy

**At Large Members**

Chiki Thompson  
Raytown Water

**Board Members**

**Me'Shelle Bishop**  
Cornerstone Home Improvements

Kory Brinton  
Brinton Electric

Jeff Hirst (through 03/14/2024)  
Associate Member

Carmen Kraus  
Connection Point Church

Mackenzie Magwire  
Mack Curio Creations

Brian Ross  
Edward Jones

Jason Sneddon  
Greater Kc Homes

Zac Sweets  
Energ

April Harrington, Liaison  
Raytown Main Street Assoc.

Chief Matt Mace, Liaison  
Raytown Fire Protection Dist.

Dr. Penelope Martin-Knox, Liaison  
Raytown Quality Schools

Dr. Kathrine Swanson, Liaison  
Metropolitan Community College -  
Longview

Missy Wilson, Liaison  
City of Raytown

**Staff**

Vicki Turnbow, President  
[president@raytownchamber.com](mailto:president@raytownchamber.com)

Michelle Williams, Part time Staff  
[staff@raytownchamber.com](mailto:staff@raytownchamber.com)

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

To the Membership,

I put together my first newsletter to the membership in May 2007 and today you are receiving my last. It is crazy to think my time as your President will be coming to an end on March 14. For 6,245 days, I have been the President and have loved my job with the Raytown Chamber. Work does not feel like work when you love what you do every day.

William James once said, "The greatest use of a life is to spend it on something that we feel will outlast us. I feel we have done excellent work over the years, and I'm proud of what we have accomplished together. Thank you for letting me be a part of the team". At the end of each year, I try to reflect on the lessons I have learned especially from the Board of Directors. Over the years, I have worked with some of the most wonderful people. At the State of the City luncheon last month, I told those attending that every one of you have been a part of my journey.

I will cherish all the memories I have had with the Raytown Chamber. I think back to when I first started volunteering in 1991 and it makes me smile. Clean up days, Round-Up Days Festival and parade, stuffing envelopes with the employees of Southeast Enterprises, BBQ, SummerFest, regional transportation, Raytown Night at the Royals, Mavericks and now Comets, the Rock Island Trail, the building remodel and now thinking of the potential Raytown has to make a name for itself in 2026 with the visitors of the World Cup are here.

But most of all, I think about you being there for me and my family during some of our most heartbreaking times in our life's. I will never be able to express how much I appreciated it.

I truly believe now is the time for Raytown, to step into the limelight. We really don't want to be the best kept secret any more. We want everyone to know just how great our "little" town is.

I am retiring, but not going away. I will be around and hope to participate in some events. Remember in 2029, we will be opening two time capsules.

I personally am very excited about the hiring of Jeff Hirst to take my place as President. I have known Jeff for a long time, in fact since 2010. He brings to the table experience in areas that will help to continue moving the Chamber forward. I appreciate Michelle Williams agreeing to move to a volunteer status so I could stay on and help Jeff transition to his new role. During the transition, Jeff will learn the day to day operations of not only the Chamber but also the Building Foundation. Jeff is not a stranger to Raytown, in fact he has a passion for the community even though he did not grow up here. I think he will fit right in. Please allow him the time to learn and make the President's position his own, especially with your help!

Hugs to you all,

**Vicki Turnbow, President**





# MEMBER MARKET



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**NEED A RENTAL HALL?**  
 PARTIES - DANCES - RECEPTIONS - MEETINGS

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Saturday 9 - 11 a.m.  
 Email: PlusHolding@outlook.com  
 PartyPop@partypop.com/vendor\_id4047872

5101 BLUE RIDGE CUTOFF 816-356-4962



**GFL Environmental Inc**  
 7801 E Truman Road  
 Kansas City, MO 64126

**Norbert Love**  
 Account Executive Sales Representative

Email: norbert.love@gflenv.com  
 C: (816) 341-7680

Interested in marketing in this monthly Newsletter - contact the Chamber today.

Business Card Size

- 3 months \$55.00
- Full year \$160



*Locally Owned & Operated  
 Business with a  
 Customer First Priority*

**ELECTRONIC SECURITY 24-7 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL**  
**CUSTOMERS IN KC METROPOLITAN AREA**

816-560-7307 www.wardtechnologykc.com



## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS



### EXCLUSIVE CHAMBER MEMBER INSURANCE PROGRAM

*Save on group medical coverage and more with this exclusive program.*

**Why pay more for coverage when there are better options available to you as a Chamber member? You and your employees deserve the best insurance benefits at the best possible price. We can improve your program now – don't wait any longer. Call today!**

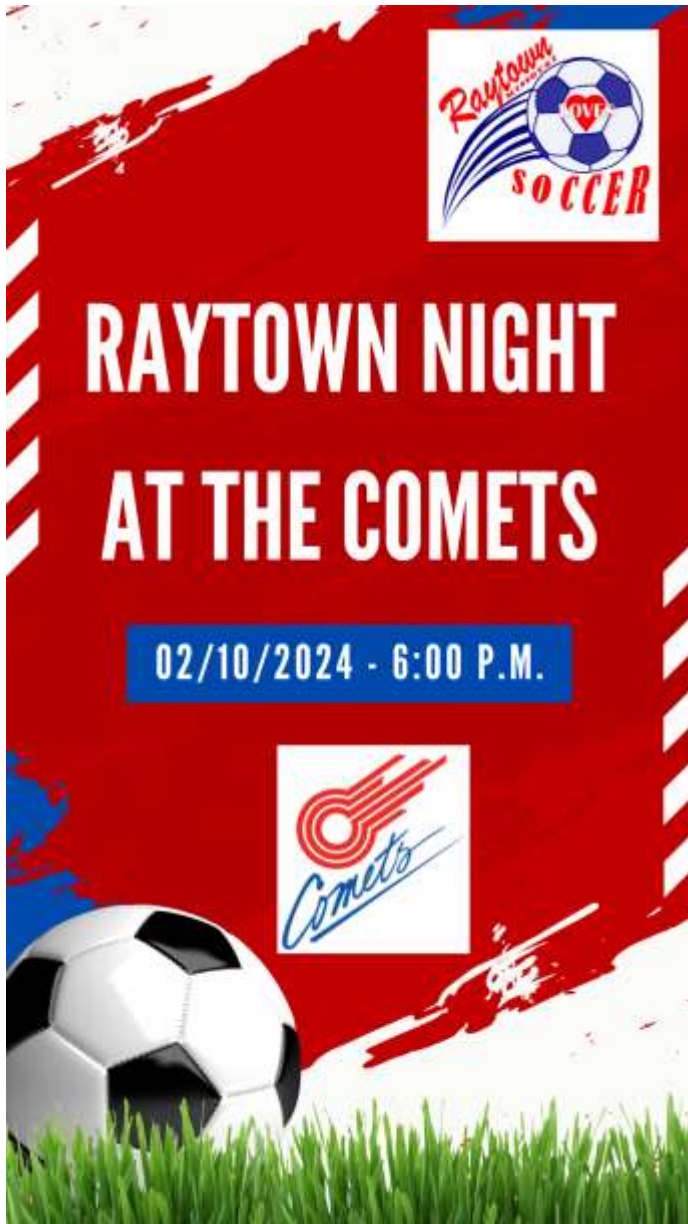
- Savings for groups of 5 to 5,000 enrolled
- Exclusive group medical insurance programs
- In addition to medical, discounts available on dental, vision, disability, life, critical illness, accident, and pet
- Fully insured, level funded, and self-insured composite rates
- HSA / FSA/ COBRA Administration
- Ongoing support from your dedicated account team, access to our HR Help Desk, and compliance support
- Online reporting and enrollment services
- Onsite open enrollment



**Kent Friend**  
 Employee Benefits and Property & Casualty Consultant  
 kfriend@bukaty.com  
 P: 913.777.7535  
 C: 816.803.7406  
 F: 913.345.2608



# Raytown Night at the Comets - 02/ 10/ 2024





# State of the City Luncheon - 02/ 22/ 2024



**MONTHLY  
MEMBERSHIP  
LUNCHEON  
02/22/2024**

**STATE OF THE CITY**

LUNCHEON SPONSOR



# State of the City Address - 02/ 22/ 2024



Chair of the Board, Robert Atkins welcoming the group.



Quartet from Connection Point Church singing the National Anthem.

Pastor Brian Stone leading the group in the invocation and pledge.



A big thank you to Zac Sweets with Evergy for their continued support of the Chamber and being this month's luncheon sponsor.



Mayor Mike McDonough presenting Vicki Turnbow a Proclamation from the City. It was a total surprise!

Mayor Mike McDonough State of the City Address





# Chamber Day at the Capitol - 02/27/2024



# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DAY

in Jefferson City, Missouri  
 Tuesday, February 27th, 2024  
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Co-Hosted by:



# Out and About in the Community



Marth Cockerell presents Rene Purtee (Arvest Bank) with a Pillar of Service Award at the annual Raytown Educational Foundation Share the Love Breakfast.



Zac Sweets (Every) and a member of the Raytown Chamber Board, along with Damon Hodges, City Administrator "Talk Raytown".  
[Click here to listen](#)



Vicki signing her last checks as President of the Raytown Chamber. There will be a lot of last the next few weeks.



Vicki handing over the Raytown Live minutes and paperwork to Toni Alexander.





Still plenty of dates to sponsor - Coffee, After Hours, Educational Series or Podcast?

Monthly A.M. Connections - \$50; 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. (invoiced the month before) (

if your business or organization does not have a physical location in Raytown, you may be able to host it at the Chamber office)

Company name/logo will be included in the marketing materials including newsletter, website, etc.

16 color invitations will be sent to you to use to invite your neighbors, customers or to potential Chamber members.

Only requirement is coffee.

Contact the Chamber for available months (usually the third Tuesday of the month)

1630 Networking (After Hours) - \$50; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (invoiced the month before)

(if your business or organization does not have a physical location in Raytown, you may be able to host it at the Chamber office)

Company name/logo will be included on the marketing materials including newsletter, website, etc.

16 color invitations will be sent to you to use to invite your neighbors, customers, or potential Chamber members.

Only requirement is refreshments of some sort.

Contact the Chamber for available months (usually the first Thursday of the month)

What's on the Menu? Educational Series - \$50 sponsorship for a one-hour presentation

(invoiced the month before)

Interested in educating the Membership about your product or service, contact the Chamber today.

Held over breakfast or lunch; Staff secures location and coordinates food.

Attendees must make a reservation and the cost per person will be determined by the caterer we use.

Podcast - Talk Raytown - \$50 and invoiced the month of the sponsorship

Company will be sent a form to fill out about their company and we will provide several shoutouts during the podcast about the business. Business logo will be listed on the Chamber's event calendar for that specific date. Months open are: May, July, August, October and November.



## CHAMBER RENEWALS

☺ We would like to thank our members who gave 110%

☺ Associate Member Charlotte Belger 2000  
 Associate Member Clarice Titus 2003  
 ☺ Associate Member Dave Thurman, 2016  
 ☺ Associate Member Michelle Williams 2018  
 Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Adrian Rothrock 2009  
 ☺ Big Brothers Big Sisters, Anna Bazan-Munguia 2021  
 Business Benefit Solutions, LLC, Lester Morris 2023  
 ☺ Cole Pest Control Keri Savage 2014  
 Guenther Studio, LLC, Stephen Guenther 2001

Morgansites.com, Joe Morgan 2020  
 Network Computing Solutions, LLC, Bryce Garner, Keith Selk  
 1994/2019  
 Spire Energy, Theresa Garza 1991  
 SQ/ FT. Construction, Zane Hall 2018  
 St. Regis Academy, Darby O'Neill, Robin Fisher 2014  
 The Recovery Village Kansas City, Lisa St. Aubyn,  
 Gloria Nepote 2023

THANK YOU!

**Have you utilized your member benefits lately?**

**Thank you to those businesses who paid 110% and are now members of the**

**110% CLUB**

I asked Jeff to tell me in his own words, why should a business join the Chamber and here is his response:

Joining the Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism offers businesses numerous advantages that can significantly impact their growth and success. Firstly, the Chamber provides a comfortable platform for networking, allowing companies to connect with other local businesses, potential customers, and industry leaders. These networking opportunities often lead to valuable partnerships, collaborations, and referrals, which can ultimately boost revenue and expand market reach. I know this first-hand. Additionally, the resources and support offered to help businesses navigate challenges, whether it's through advocacy efforts, educational luncheons/workshops, or access to valuable business insights and market trends. Being a member of the Raytown Chamber also lends credibility to a business, signaling to customers and stakeholders a commitment to community involvement and ethical business practices.

I also asked him; If a business is not a Chamber member and says they don't have time to participate, how would you get them to think about joining anyway.

Joining a Chamber is a great way to give back to your community of businesses. The Raytown Chamber not only promotes *their members but also promotes the community*. A business could look at it as "Civic responsibility" which means active participation in the public life of a community in an informed, committed, and constructive manner, with a focus on the common good.

If you know a business that is not a member or if you are reading this newsletter and would like to join, click on the link below to look over the application and a list of possible benefits.

If you have any questions, call the Chamber office at 816-353-8500.



[Click here to review the benefits and online application.](#)



# Raytown Chamber/ Rotary Golf Tournament 05/ 13/ 2024

*Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism & Raytown Rotary Club*

## GOLF TOURNAMENT



MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024



### THE GOLF CLUB AT CREEKMOOR

1112 E. 163RD STREET, RAYMORE, MO 64083

#### TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

- 8:00 a.m. Registration, breakfast, putting contest, silent auction
- 10:00 a.m. Shot-gun start -- 4 person scramble  
**(no metal spikes, no denim attire, collared shirts required)**
- Entry fee includes green fees, cart, breakfast, lunch & donated Product!
- Silent auction ends 15 minutes after last team finishes
- Awards ceremony & reception immediately following tournament
- Prizes awarded to 1st and 2nd in two flights



#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(All sponsorships include marketing in the Chamber Connections Newsletter, Facebook & Twitter posts, Chamber's Website, Golf Program plus what is listed below)

**Title Sponsor: (\$1,850)** Includes business mentioned as Title Sponsor, logo on marketing material, company banner (if supplied by company), a foursome in the tournament, Title Sponsor signage at the event, an opportunity to set up the day of the tournament to promote your business, provide tee package items, say a few words to the golfers before the start of the tournament. Limit of 1

**Breakfast Sponsor (1): (\$1,250)** Includes a foursome and signage during breakfast.

**Box Lunch Sponsor (1): (\$1,000)** Includes signage during lunch.

**Registration Sponsor (1): (\$500)** Includes signage at Registration, provide an item for use during registration (pen, tablets, etc.)

**Beverage Cart Sponsor (2): (\$400)** Signage on a beverage cart. *(Only 1 remaining)*  
Opportunity to help distribute beverages to players to promote your business, if desired.

**Awards Reception Sponsor (2): (\$300)** Signage at awards reception and help with the reception if desired.

**Putting Contest Sponsor (1): (\$225)** Signage at putting contest and help  
With the contest to promote your business if desired.

**Refresh & Refuel Sponsor: (SOLD)** Provide up to 120 Gatorade, Energy Bars and Nuts, for example (these items will be put in a bag with your company logo printed on it and placed in the golf carts prior to the start of the tournament along with your company brochure - items needed one week prior to tournament)

**Hole Sponsor: (\$100)** Signage prominently displayed at the tee box with opportunity to welcome golfers, if desired.

**Golf Cart Sponsor: (\$35)** Signage on an individual golf cart



## GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIPS & PRICING

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CONTEST PACKAGE**  
**\$ 60.00**  
**per team**  
**(pre-order only)**  
 > Vegas Hole  
 > Chamber Hopper  
 > Wildcard Hole  
 > Closest to the Pin \*\*  
 (win 3 - \$50 gift cards)  
 > 4 Putting Contest  
 Coupons  
 > 8 Mulligans  
 > 8 Raffle Tickets  
 \*\*\*\*\*

✓ CHECK THE ONES YOU WOULD LIKE:

- \_\_\_ Title Sponsor (Limit of 1) \$1,850.00
- \_\_\_ Breakfast Sponsor \$ 1,250.00
- \_\_\_ Hole Sponsor & Foursome \$ 575.00
- \_\_\_ Registration Sponsor \$ 500.00
- \_\_\_ Foursome Only \$ 520.00
- \_\_\_ Beverage Cart Sponsor (1 remaining) \$ 400.00
- \_\_\_ Awards Reception Sponsor \$ 300.00
- \_\_\_ Putting Contest Sponsor \$ 225.00
- \_\_\_ Refresh & Refuel Sponsor \$ SOLD
- \_\_\_ Hole Sponsor \$ 100.00
- \_\_\_ Individual Players \$ 130.00
- \_\_\_ Contest Package (Pre-Order ONLY) \$ 60.00
- \_\_\_ Golf Cart Sponsor \$ 35.00
- \_\_\_ Silent Auction Cash Donation \$ 30.00
- \_\_\_ Putting Contest - 3 for \$5.00 per player \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Additional Breakfast Reservations (\$10.00 each)\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Cash Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

# City Connections - Winter 2024



## 2023 RECAP

BY DAMON HODGES, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

As we settle into 2024, I would like to take a moment and reflect on all that we accomplished together in 2023. Some notable accomplishments include: Our Public Works Department completed more than \$4 million in road, storm and sanitary sewer improvements. We were awarded nearly \$9 million in grants for Parks, Public Works and our Police departments. These vital investments have stimulated our economic development, and its impact has added several national and local businesses throughout Raytown this past year.

Speaking of projects, the grants we were awarded last year will allow the City to move forward with two large projects this year. The first grant of \$4M will allow Parks to improve the 53rd Street property. That land sat vacant for six years and with the creative thinking of Raytown Parks Director Dave Turner, and feedback from our residents, we were able to create what we hope will be a destination for our community. And the \$4.3 million grant awarded to our Public Works Department will allow the City to complete a project that has been on our books since the late 1990s.

In 2023, we also learned that one of the City's biggest partners and supporters is retiring next month: Vicki Turnbow, President of the Raytown Area Chamber and Tourism. Thank you for your support - your legacy will live on.

We also continued several traditions: the Raytown Live concert series, the Mayor's Christmas tree lighting ceremony, the Festival of the Trails and more.

When you look around our community, it's energizing to see progress and it's encouraging to know that the work we do now will sustain Raytown for years to come.

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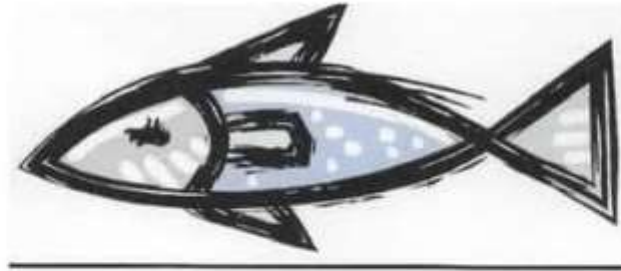
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[CLICK HERE TO READ THE REST OF THE NEW SLETTER](#)



## Knights of Columbus - Fish Fries



### Knights of Columbus Fish Fries

Our fish fries are back Fridays during Lent.  
Feb 16th, 23rd, March 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Come and enjoy a great meal with fried and baked fish, fried shrimp, vegetables, potatoes, salads, and bread. The menu changes every week so come and see what we are serving.

Where: 5101 Blue Ridge Cutoff, KCMO

When: 4:30 to 7:00

Cost: for eat in or To/Go

Adults-\$14.00

Children 6 to 12- \$6.00

5 and Under-Free

As always clergy, police, firefighters, and all first responders in uniform are free as a thank you for their service to us.

I want to thank all of you for supporting us in the past and hope you continue to do so.

# March Events

Hope to see you there!



**AM CONNECTIONS**  
7:30 A.M.

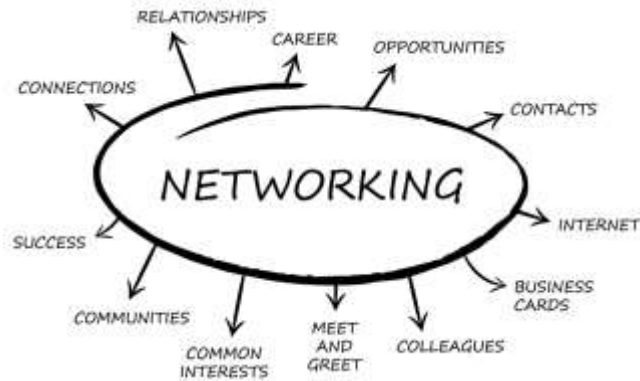
March 19, 2024  
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.



SIDING  
WINDOWS  
DOORS  
**Cornerstone**  
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

5056 Blue Ridge Blvd.  
Raytown, MO 64133

[Click here for more information](#)



## MARCH MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY, 03/27/2024

\$20 PER PERSON

(CATERING BY

**COSENTINO'S CATERING)**

Raytown Wellness Center

11:00 - 11:30 Networking/Check In

11:30 - Noon Buffet Lunch

Noon - 1:00 Program

Topic: Mental Health/Addiction

[Click here to register](#)




# MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

## 03/27/2024

LUNCHEON SPONSOR






## Members in the News



**RAYTOWN  
QUALITY  
SCHOOLS**  
Expect the Exceptional

[Click here to visit the school district's website to see all the updates.](#)



**Tidal Wave Auto Spa (10001 E ...  
State Route 350, Raytown,  
MO)**

1d · 🌐

Our interior cleaning cloths are not only highly effective but also versatile, making them perfect for cleaning everything from dashboards and consoles to leather seats and touchscreen displays ✨ Visit Tidal Wave Auto Spa in Raytown, MO today!



Congratulations to Matt Cushman for being named the 2023 CIT Perseverance Achievement Award Award for the Mid-America CIT Council.



## Members in the News



### FOOD DISTRIBUTION DATES 2024

- January - 20
- February - 17
- March - 16
- April - 20
- May - 18
- June - 15
- July - 20
- August - 17
- September - 21
- \*\*October- 26\*\***
- November- 16
- December - 21

Sisters in Christ is thrilled to announce their 2024 monthly food distribution events.

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Raytown School Education & Conference Center  
(10750 E. 350 Highway, Raytown, MO 64138)

Interested in helping them come together to provide essential support to those in need.  
Spread the word and let's make a positive impact in our community.

[Click on the image above for their website](#)



## Missouri Department of Transportation

Traffic Alert: MoDOT permit work will close a lane on eastbound and westbound 350 Hwy between Westridge Rd. & E. 87th Street.

This will be a 24-hour lane closure beginning on Monday, Jan. 29 through the end of May 2024.

During the work, No left turn movements allowed, in all directions, at the intersection of 350 Hwy & Noland Rd. Motorists are reminded to slow down and proceed with caution while driving in work zones.












# MARCH 2024

5909 RAYTOWN TRAFFICWAY  
RAYTOWN, MO 64133-3860

816-353-8500 FAX 816-353-8525  
RaytownChamber.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Tourism Committee Meeting	2
3	4	5	6 Membership Services Committee Meeting Noon Chamber Office	7	8 Office closes at noon	9
10	11	12	13	14 Raytown Chamber/BF Board Meeting Zoom & In Person 8:00 a.m.	15 Government Relations Committee Meeting 8:00 a.m. Zoom Only  Welcome, Jeff!	16 
17 	18	19 	20 Looking Towards 2026 10:00 a.m. Chamber Office 	21 	22	23
24	25 Deadline to make a Reservation for lunch	26	27 March Membership Luncheon	28	29	30
31 