



Chamber Connections

2025 August Newsletter



12th Annual Senior Celebration "Christmas in July"



Steve Williams Photography

2025 Corporate Sponsors



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City of Raytown

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AUGUST MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

Milca Aguirre

Senior Brand Ambassador

Big Brothers Big Sisters KC



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
KANSAS CITY



Aug 27, 2025 - V's Italiano Ristorante
Registration Required

Sponsored by Mack Curio Creations

NEW LOOK

Free app
that provides
instant access
to your chamber
or association

Available for iOS & Android devices;
simply search "memberplus".
Easily log in with your current
member credentials

memberplus



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!



Kent Friend

*Employee Benefits and Property &
Casualty Consultant*

kfriend@bukaty.com

P: 913.777.7535

C: 816.803.7406

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- Savings for groups of 5 to 5,000 enrolled
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- Fully insured, level funded, and self-insured composite rates
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- Ongoing support from your dedicated account team, access to our HR Help Desk, and compliance support
- Online reporting and enrollment services
- Onsite open enrollment





2026 Community Profile & Chamber Directory

Dear Chamber Member,

The Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism has partnered once again with Town Square Publications to produce our **2026 Community Profile & Chamber Directory**. This publication will help you market your business directly to area business owners, neighborhood residents and visitors.

The **Community Profile & Chamber Directory** is a remarkable advertising tool, highly visible and a publication that businesses and residents keep on hand for easy reference.

In addition, the **2026 Community Profile & Chamber Directory** will be replicated online via the Chamber's website and Town Square's National Profile Network, further extending the exposure of your advertising message and increasing your search engine optimization.

Don't miss the opportunity to promote your business to residents and business owners!

Town Square Publishing will be reaching out to members soon.

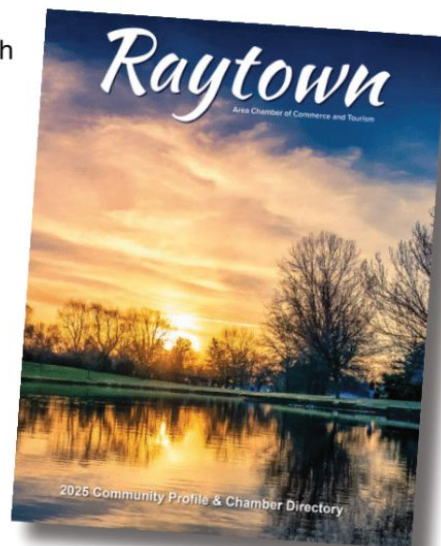
To secure a prime location, please email marketing@tspubs.com or call 816-791-7006.

Bringing you tools for your success,

Jeff Hirst

President

Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism



**YES! I am interested in advertising in
the 2026 Community Profile &
Chamber Directory.**

**Fill out the form below and
email to marketing@tspubs.com**

Business Name _____ **Contact Name** _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

You may also call 816-791-7006 or email marketing@tspubs.com

Raytown Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
5909 Raytown Trafficway, Raytown, MO 64133-3860 • Office: 816-353-8500 • Fax: 816-353-8525



**CHARLOTTE
BELGER**

TALK RAYTOWN



ZAC SWEETS



YouTube



Spotify



**Knights of
Columbus®**

NEED A RENTAL HALL?

PARTIES ~ DANCES ~ RECEPTIONS ~ MEETINGS

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - SATURDAY 9 - 11 A.M.

EMAIL: PIUSHOLDING@OUTLOOK.COM

HTTP://WWW.PARTYPOP.COM/VENDOR/4047872

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YOUR AD HERE

Interested in marketing in the monthly
Newsletter? Contact the Chamber today.

Business Card Size

· 3 months \$55.00

· Full year \$160



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

Cybersecurity Lunch & Learn



RAYTOWN 2026 SOCCER SCARF



Members - \$30

Non-members - \$35



July Membership Luncheon



Ribbon Cuttings!



RAYTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM
& RAYTOWN ROTARY CLUB

GOLF TOURNAMENT 2025



AUGUST 15

Friday | 2025

Topgolf

10611 Nall Ave
Overland Park, KS 66207

PRESENTED BY

Raytown-Lee's Summit Credit Union



Register Online @ RaytownChamber.com/Golf
eMail: staff@raytownchamber.com
Phone: 816-353-8500



RAYTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM & RAYTOWN ROTARY CLUB

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All sponsorships include marketing in the Chamber Connections Newsletter, Social Media Posts, Chamber Website, & Golf Program

TITLE SPONSOR - \$2,000 **SOLD**

- Name/Logo prominently appearing on marketing materials. A Six-person team in the Tournament. Digital signage in the bays and in the banquet room.

BREAKFAST SPONSOR - \$1,350

- Includes a six-person team in the Tournament. Digital signage in banquet room during breakfast.

REGISTRATION SPONSOR - \$500

- Includes signage at Registration.

BAR SPONSOR - \$500

- Includes signage at the cash bar during the tournament.

AWARDS RECEPTION SPONSOR - \$500 **SOLD**

- Includes digital signage at the Awards Reception.

CONTEST BAY SPONSOR - \$500

- Includes signage in the contest bay during the tournament.

HOLE SPONSOR - \$125

- Includes digital signage rotating in the bays. Sponsors are encouraged to visit each bay with swag.

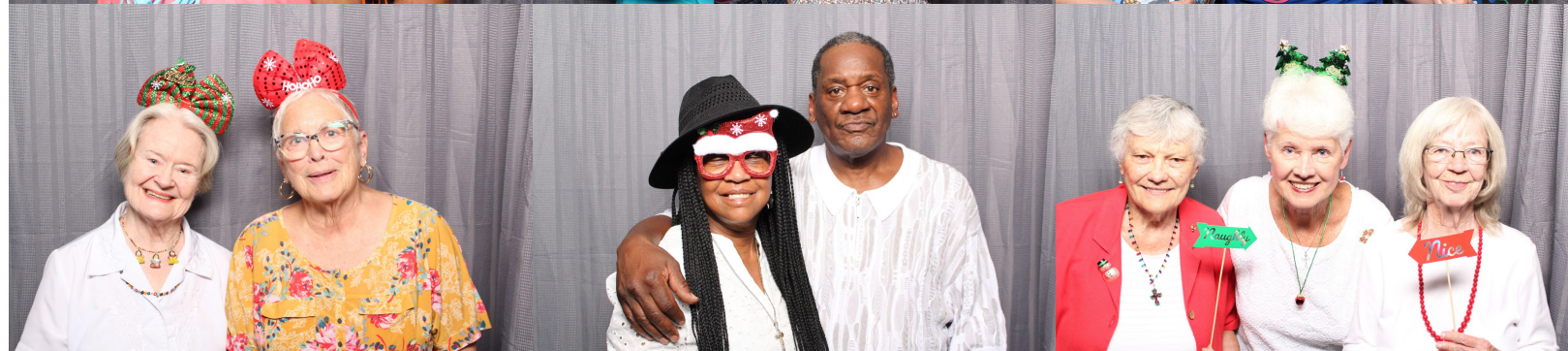


CONTACT

816-353-8500

RaytownChamber.com/Golf
staff@raytownchamber.com

12th Annual
SENIOR CELEBRATION
Christmas in July!
JULY 26, 2025





12th Annual
SENIOR CELEBRATION
Christmas in July!
JULY 26, 2025



More photos on Facebook!

Let's Visit Raytown

By Michelle Williams

In this first installment of our new series, **Let's Visit Raytown**, we move beyond the traditional sites Raytown is known for, e.g., Cave Spring and Rice-Tremonti, and look at lesser known but just as vibrant destinations. First off, we're going back in time to explore some vintage neon signs!

Neon signs, once called "liquid fire," began their journey in 1922 when Earle Anthony purchased two *Packard* signs from the French creator of neon, Georges Claude, and displayed them at his Los Angeles car dealership. Fast forward to the 1940s, when advancements in neon sign technology brought a wider spectrum of colors, refined craftsmanship, and increased durability, allowing for more commercial use viability.

Francis T. Fox, or FT to almost all who knew him, saw the value and prestige of neon signs for commercial buildings. In 1953, the owner of Fox's Drug Store (10004 East 63rd Street) ordered what would become three of the most iconic signs in Raytown: *Fox's Drugs*, *Fountain Grill*, and *Prescriptions*. Fox coordinated with the United Sign Company, located on Troost in Kansas City, Missouri, to design and fabricate the three signs (United Sign Company was sold in the 2000's). For years, United Sign provided the maintenance neon signs demand—replacing broken letters, repairing neon gas leaks, and much more.



Photo Credit: John @ Flickr

Gary Fox, son and current owner of the Fox's Drug Store building and neon signs, shares his late father's love of neon signage. Fox, who travels often, says the importance of the Fox's Drugs neon signage hit home for him when, "people in the Raytown Community and out of the Kansas City area know the sign and the corner (where the building is located)." While Fox did not always feel such an affinity for the now vintage neon signs, the passing of time has led him to view them as "iconic. Especially now that I am retired, I better understand the importance—I see the importance to my family, the Raytown community, and people in general much clearer."



Quentin Clark, late owner of Clark's Appliances (9715 East 63rd Street), saw the importance of commercial neon signs as they evolved in the 1960s. According to Pam Clark, daughter and current owner, Quentin Clark installed the well-known landmark *Clark's Appliances* neon sign in 1963. The sign was designed by Quentin and Jerry Clark, and fabrication was completed by United Sign Company. The *Clark's Appliances* sign evokes the styling of neon signage found on historic Route 66.



Photo Credit: Clark's Appliances

In December 2016, the unthinkable happened; there was a major fire at Clark's Appliances. The City of Raytown approved for the neon sign to be taken down by SignWay, located in Blue Springs, Missouri. With help from Gama Neon, the glass and neon sign was fully restored. It was a day of celebration when the sign returned to its place above the store. Pam Clark knows the sign is about much more than just her brand, "it is iconic. No other businesses have anything like it (the distinctive styling) in the area."

Raytown is blessed to still have vintage neon signs. A resurgence in the popularity of neon signs has taken hold, with art installations and museums popping up across the country.

These signs are more than advertising; they are beacons of cultural significance. Missouri Main Street Connection encourages communities to preserve neon signage due not only to their ability to define a sense of place but also to "preserve a tangible link to the community's past." These signs shine brightly, still garnering attention and leaving an impression not only on consumers but on those who remember their heyday, those who appreciate their relevance in modern advertising, and those who seek more than the digital media age offers.

Let us know if you visit Raytown's vintage neon signs. Tag your posts and pictures with **#VisitRaytown**.



RAYTOWN
Live

2025

Summer Family Concert Series

ON THE GREENSPACE

Town Center, Downtown Raytown

7-9 PM

**Food Trucks & Vendors
at every show!**

May 10

The Vincents

June 14

Supermatics

July 12

Leveetown Band

August 9

Flashback

September 13

Hard at Play



www.raytown.live

Welcome New Members!

**KB Home Repairs &
Improvements, LLC**

Raytown Rotary Club

**Washington Professional
Security Service**

Peak25 Roofing



Looking Ahead @ Lunch

**Aug
27**

[Big Brothers Big Sisters KC](#)

IIA @ V's Italiano Ristorante

**Sep
24**

[Bryan Busby - KMBC 9 News](#)

IIA @ Raytown Wellness Center

**Oct
24**

[State of the Schools Address](#)

IIA @ Raytown Schools Education &
Conference Center

**Nov
19**

[Thanksgiving Luncheon](#)

IIA @ Raytown Wellness Center



Chamber Renewals

Knights of Columbus #4962 - Warren Olson, Gerald Sharkey, Joe Wolfgeher, 2012

☺ First Federal Bank of Kansas City - Bill Cooper, Jacob Lewis, 1984

Greater KC Homes - Jason Sneddon, 2022

Community KC Church, Jason Sneddon, Jules Sneddon, 2022

☺ Rycom Instruments - Douglas Reitz, 2008

☺ Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, JJ Kuntz, Katya, Ponomarenko, 2017

☺ Maywood Printing Company, Colleen Pruetting, Brad Courtney, 1998

The Golf Doctor - David Skitek, 1998

Mack Curio Creations - MacKenzie Peters, 2023

☺ Hy-Vee #1542, Dave Meier, Fred Frazier, 1994

110% CLUB

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



August 2025

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 CMTE Mtg - 12p @ Chamber Office Food Truck Friday! 	2
3	4	5	6 Membership Services Mtg - 12p	7	8 Food Truck Friday! 	9 Ribbon-cutting @ Serenity Esthetix - 1p 
10	11	12 A.M. Connections @ City Hall - 7:30a 	13	14 Board of Director's Mtg - 8a 	15 2025 Chamber / Rotary Golf Tournament - 10A Food Truck Friday! 	16  816 Day Raytown: Raytown Rundown Scavenger Hunt
17	18	19  Chamber Launchpad - 1p	20 Looking Towards 2026 Committee "Safety & Security" @ Chamber Office & Zoom - 10a 	21	22 Food Truck Friday! 	23
24	25	26	27 August Membership Luncheon @ V's Italiano Ristorante - 11a "Big Brothers Big Sisters KC"	28	29 Food Truck Friday! 	30
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Upcoming Community Event?

Don't forget the Chamber's online FREE [Community Calendar!](#)