



APRIL 2024

CHAMBER TRACKS

Official Newsletter of O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEBBIE ARELL-MARTINEZ

Spring brings a flurry of activity to our Chamber! Mark your calendars for our upcoming **8th Grade Career Fair on April 25th** and the **Salute to Business Awards Luncheon on May 10th**. And that's just the beginning! From **Restaurant Roulette on April 11th** to **ChamberNet at the Gateway Grizzlies on April 18th**, along with Business Over Breakfast, Business After Hours, and seven ribbon cuttings slated for April and May – we're keeping busy! But remember, busy is a good thing. With such a diverse array of events, there's something for everyone. Discover what suits your preferences and schedule best.

For those who are new to our Chamber community, let me introduce you to **ChamberNet**—an event you won't want to miss! Hosted by the Gateway Grizzlies, ChamberNet offers more than just a delicious meal; it's an opportunity to enjoy some baseball while connecting with fellow Chamber members from across the Metro East region. It's a fantastic networking opportunity that combines the best of business and leisure. Join us for an unforgettable experience!

It's incredibly exciting to witness the influx of new businesses and the celebration of their grand openings with ribbon cuttings! These events offer a fantastic opportunity for you to discover and welcome new additions to our community. Although brief, ribbon cuttings create invaluable connections. If your schedule allows, we encourage you to join us at these events and be a part of the welcoming committee for our newest members.

Join us for an unforgettable experience at our upcoming Salute to Business Awards Luncheon! Indulge in a mouthwatering array of Spanish cuisine prepared by Chef Art, including a delightful dessert. It's an opportunity to celebrate and recognize our exceptional Business Award recipients while enjoying a fun time together. I can't wait to see you there!

-Debbie



Lead In Class 2024 Kick-Off | March



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CHAMBERNET

NETWORKING EVENT

Join us at Grizzlies Ballpark, as we host a regional networking event. All local chambers of commerce are welcome to attend!

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH 5:30PM

 **GRIZZLIES BALLPARK**

PLEASE RSVP FOR THIS FREE EVENT

FEATURING

-  **FOOD PROVIDED (BUFFET STYLE)**
-  **SODA, BEER, AND WATER PROVIDED**
-  **ATTENDANCE PRIZES!**
-  **FREE & PLENTIFUL PARKING**
-  **BRING PLENTY OF BUSINESS CARDS!**

 **2301 GRIZZLIE BEAR, BLVD.
SAUGET, IL 62206**



SCAN TO REGISTER



618.337.3000



NOWENS@GATEWAYGRIZZLIES.COM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

MARCH NEW MEMBERS

Fiber & Threads Needlecrafts, LLC

Deborah Kozak
1207 Frank Scott Parkway
Shiloh, IL 62269
618-726-7991
dkozak851@aol.com
(Retail)

Laura Smith- Keller Williams Marquee

Laura Smith
1254 University Dr. Ste 200
Edwardsville, IL 62025
618-698-1368
lauratherealtor.ls@gmail.com
<https://smithlaura.kw.com/>
(Real Estate)

MassageLuxe

Keely Eller
6540 N. Illinois St. Suite 103
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
618-530-1054
keller@massageluxe.com
<http://www.massageluxe.com>
(Spa & Massage)

Mathis, Marifian & Richter, Ltd.

Debra Bollinger
23 Public Square, Suite 300
Belleville, IL 62220
618-234-9800
dbollinger@mmrltd.com
<http://www.mmrltd.com>
(Legal)

Noon + Moon Bloom Co.

Ammari Bourgeois
305 N. 45th St.
Greenville, IL 62246
618-670-9061
noonmoonbloomco@gmail.com
www.noonmoonbloom.com
(Florist)

Seasons of Spice

Whitney Wisnasky-Bettorf
121 East State St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269
618-779-1380
Movewithwhitney@gmail.com
<http://Seasons-Of-Spice.com>
(Shopping and Specialty Retail)



Newsletter Sponsor \$100
Featured Business Ad \$75
Full Page Ad \$50
1/2 Page Ad \$35
1/4 Page Ad \$25

LEARN MORE



MEMBER RENEWALS

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

- HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital

STAR INVESTORS

- Heartland Bank and Trust Company
- Hilton Garden Inn
- HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

- Barcom Securities
- Benedictine Living Community at the Shrine
- CBL & Associates
- Cristone Enterprises, Inc.*
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- CMIT Solutions of Metro East St. Louis
- Discount Storage
- Drake's Restaurant
- Elafros Financial Group
- Envisioning Green
- Esse Health
- Etc. Event Planning and Marketing
- Fezziwig's Marketplace*

- First United Methodist Church
- Furchild, LLC*
- Gonzalez Companies, LLC
- Hi Pointe Drive In
- Home Instead Senior Care
- Ironhorse Resources, Inc.
- Jennifer Mueller Memorial Foundation
- Joshua's Landscape LLC
- K.W Marquee -Barry Schulhofer
- L.V. Health and Wellness Pharmacy
- Mark Kern, St. Clair County Bd Chairman
- Market Basket of O'Fallon
- Master Lim's Martial Arts
- Peel Wood Fired Pizza *
- Quality Testing and Engineering, Inc.
- R & R Group at RE/MAX Results Realty
- Rickhoff Business in Balance
- Roy-El Catering
- Shiloh Church
- Simplifying Beauty
- St. Clair Square
- The Happy Bakery
- The Storage Center
- Trinity Services, Inc.

**Downtown District Members*



FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO
SUPPORT THE CHAMBER AND OUR COMMUNITY!

MEET YOUR CHAMBER STAFF



Debbie Arnall-Martinez
President/CEO



Doris Obernuefemann
Operations Manager



Jonathan Simmons
Marketing &
Communications Manager



Jessica Lotz
Leadership &
Development Coordinator



Johnnie Hodges
Membership Coordinator



Pardon our Progress

We are still open during our outpatient radiology project.



HSHS
St. Elizabeth's
Convenient Care



Common cold, seasonal allergies or the flu?

We are conveniently here for you.

1512 N. Green Mount Rd., O'Fallon | Open 7 days a week, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. No appointments necessary.



MATHIS
MARIFIAN
& RICHTER LTD
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2024 BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT LAW WEBINAR

*Updates on the Paid Leave for All Workers Act,
Corporate Transparency Act, Employee Retention Credit, and More*

April 10, 2024 | 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. | Zoom Webinar | Cost to Attend: FREE

*RSVP by emailing membrich@mmrltd.com or by calling (618) 234-9800, ext. 266.
Please RSVP by 4/9/2024*



2024 SALUTE TO BUSINESS AWARDS

We can hardly wait to celebrate the remarkable achievements of businesses that have made significant contributions over the past year. The **2024 Salute to Business Awards** is just around the corner, and we are thrilled to announce that sponsorships and registration are now officially open!

This year, we're adding an extra layer of excitement with a Bottle Pull featuring a premium selection of liquors and wines. This fun addition is not just for entertainment; it's a chance for us to give back, with all profits of the Bottle Pull supporting the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) program at O'Fallon Township High School.

We invite you to explore the various sponsorship opportunities available, many of which include complimentary attendance to the luncheon. Don't miss your chance to be part of this prestigious event. Register today and secure your spot at the awards luncheon, where we will celebrate the best in business and announce this year's award winners.

[SPONSORSHIPS](#)

[REGISTRATION](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024
11:30am

Event Sponsors



HSHS
St. Elizabeth's
Hospital



Table Sponsors



Award Sponsors



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S AWARD RECIPIENTS!



HERITAGE AWARD

Schildknecht Funeral Home



The Heritage Recognition Award is presented during milestone or anniversary years to any Chamber member business or industry that that has been in business for 50+ consecutive years.

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
IN BUSINESS



TRANSFORMATION AWARD

Auffenberg Auto Mall



The Transformation Award is for a member who has made innovations and/or enhancements in the past year to the exterior/interior/and or landscaping through the remodel of an existing building or new construction.

NEW SHILOH LOCATION



ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD

Beltone Alliance



Our Economic Impact Award is for a business who created or retained jobs in our communities, provided a unique service, invested considerable capital for new construction or remodel, and stimulated community development.

CORPORATE OFFICE & CALL CENTER



TRANSFORMATION AWARD

Boarding House Bistro



The Transformation Award is for a member who has made innovations and/or enhancements in the past year to the exterior/interior/and or landscaping through the remodel of an existing building or new construction.

EXPANSION EFFORTS



ROTARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

O'Fallon Woman's Club



The 3 Rotary Clubs in O'Fallon select a business or organization who demonstrates their commitment to helping others in the community by volunteering their time and talents. Community partnerships and businesses that exemplify service before self are a key part of the award.

EMPTY BOWL LUNCHEON



AMBASSADOR IMPACT AWARD



Come to the awards to find out who this year's Ambassador Impact Award Recipient is!

ADVERTISE WITH US!

DIGITAL LED BILLBOARD ADS

How Does It Work?

The Chamber of Commerce purchases a billboard ad which we split into 30 ad spots. Our members can purchase one (or more!) of those spots, allowing you to have a digital billboard ad at a **FRACTION** of the cost!

Digital LED | 14x49' | Over 130,000 vehicles daily

52 WEEKS
\$1,375

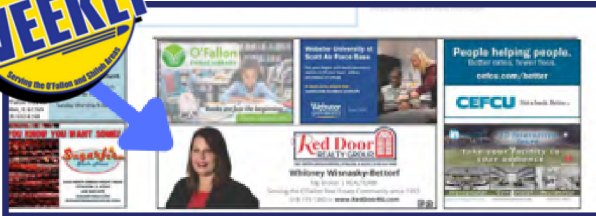
32 WEEKS
\$925

20 WEEKS
\$625



Have more questions?
Reach out to the Chamber!

CLAIM YOUR SPOT



O'FALLON WEEKLY ADS

Get your ad on the Chamber's EXCLUSIVE O'Fallon Weekly page! Every first Wednesday of the month, the O'Fallon Weekly highlights what's happening around town. Your ad supports the Chamber and this local publication!

CLAIM YOUR SPOT



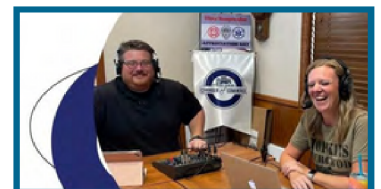
\$29/MO
\$350/YEAR

RESERVE
NOW!

SPOTS ARE
LIMITED!

PODCAST SPONSORSHIP

The 618 Podcast is a weekly production of the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce and the O'Fallon Weekly that highlights what's happening in the area! With a total of over **30,000 listeners and growing**, this is THE place you'll want to advertise.



\$200/TWO
WEEKS

20-SECOND
SPOT

LET US TALK
ABOUT YOUR
BUSINESS!

CLAIM YOUR SPOT



PRESENTED BY THE GOOD FOLKS OF SHILOH, IL -
A FREEDOM SINGS USA EVENT

VETERANS SONGWRITING RETREAT

WORKSHOPS & PERFORMANCES WITH
TOP NASHVILLE HIT-MAKERS

2-DAYS OF VETERAN-FOCUSED
MUSIC & HEALING

AUG. 9-10

SHILOH
ILLINOIS

SATURDAY AUG. 10
6:00 PM
KLUCKER HALL
14 PARK DRIVE

SCHEDULED EVENTS FOR FRI. 8/9 & SAT. 8/10

PRIVATE VETERAN-ONLY ACTIVITIES
FRI. EVENING (8/9) & SAT. MORNING 8/10

FREE CONCERT FEATURING VETERAN SONGS
SAT. NIGHT 8/10 (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)



FREEDOM SINGS USA
MUSIC ARTS THERAPY FOR VETERANS - SINCE 2014

Freedom Sings USA is a VA-certified nonprofit providing music arts therapy for Vets and their families.

For more info,
Call 618-632-1022 x 119



Your Best MedicineSM is Right Here.

Memorial Hospital Shiloh is committed to meeting the needs of our community with everything you need available on the Shiloh campus:

- Inpatient, outpatient, emergency care, and diagnostic services
- Family Care Birthing Center
- Children's at Memorial
- Primary care and specialty services from BJC Medical Group
- Specialty care from Washington University Physicians in Illinois, Inc.
- Siteman Cancer Center—the only satellite facility in Illinois

And as part of BJC HealthCare, we are connected to Barnes-Jewish Hospital. It's the world's best medicine right where you live.



memhosp.org



VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
POST 805 | O'FALLON, IL



11th Annual 0.1K

O'Fallon's original .1K fun run!
That's right – point one! A run that anybody can finish.

Sgt. Charles A. Fricke VFW Post 805 in O'Fallon, IL is sponsoring a short run to go a long way towards helping veteran and military families through VFW Post 805 and the VFW National Home for Children.



SATURDAY, April 20th
Race starts at 10:00 AM

find us on facebook
vfw805point1k

REGISTER ONLINE at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/O'Fallon/VFWPost8051KFunRun> or make check payable for \$30 per entry to VFW Post 805 and mail or bring with the registration form below to:

Early Registration is open until March 15th. Register early to guarantee that you get a T-shirt and the coveted 0.1 race sticker!

VFW Post 805
Attn: .1K
221 West First Street
O'Fallon, IL 62269

Race Packets can be picked up at VFW Post 805 from 5-9 PM on Friday, April 19th, or from 8-9:45 AM on Saturday, April 20th.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

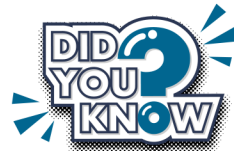
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

T-SHIRT SIZE: (circle one) S M L XL *2XL *3XL Child Size: S M L
*add \$2 for 2XL or 3XL

By signing below, I agree to not hold VFW Post 805 responsible for any injury occurring as a result of my participation in the .1K fundraiser run.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)



The O'Fallon Police Department puts out a monthly newsletter with great community information.

Click below to view the March and April newsletters:





Cocktails at Camp

Thursday, May 2, 2024 | 5:30-7:30 PM
Camp Torqua | Edwardsville, IL

girl scouts
of southern illinois

Join us for our 2nd Annual Cocktails at Camp Event!



Please join us at Camp Torqua, Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois' hidden gem, for a special Business After Hours event. Enjoy complimentary food, drinks and s'mores as we celebrate what Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is doing in our community and beyond - and learn how you can partner with us to further make a difference in the lives of our girls.

Space is limited!

Register today by scanning the QR Code or by visiting gsofsi.org/campcocktails.



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois
4 Ginger Creek Parkway Glen
Carbon, IL 62034

MARCH RIBBON CUTTINGS



ROAM Design
502 W State St, O'Fallon, IL 62269

Healing House
635 W Hwy 50, O'Fallon, IL 62269



*Come out and support a fellow chamber member
at our next Ribbon Cutting!
Enjoy light refreshments and networking.
You never know who you may meet!*

[CHECK OUT MORE](#)



Stay in the know by subscribing to The 618 Now on your favorite podcast app
New Episodes Every Friday!

The618now.podbean.com



WE ARE HIRING!



OPEN POSITION:
Part-Time Firefighter



Minimum Qualifications & Education

Fire Fighter II/Basic Operations Firefighter certification (OSFM, ProBoard, IFSAC).

**Must possess a State of Illinois non-CDL Class B driver's license.
Successful completion of initial and annual NFPA 1582 medical
and physical agility screenings**

O'Fallon-Chamber of Commerce

8th Grade

CAREER FAIR

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Event Sponsors



AIR & SPACE
STEM Outreach
Scott Air Force Base



Lunch Sponsor



Golden Apple Sponsors



Red Apple Sponsors



Green Apple Sponsors





meet the board!

We're taking time each month to introduce you to our board members!
We hope you enjoy getting to know these community leaders who keep the chamber going.



NICK STEWART

Patrol Lieutenant, O'Fallon PD

Hometown: Brighton, IL

Favorite Part About the Area:

The people. O'Fallon is full of amazing diverse people from all walks of life.

If you could offer one piece of advice to a local business owner, what would it be?

From the Police perspective, make sure you contact the O'Fallon Police Department at 618-624-4545 and provide your business name as well as any emergency contact information. This helps us, especially with new businesses, when we have after hours calls to that business.

From a personal perspective, embrace the "culture" of O'Fallon. This community is proud of it's schools, Scott Air Force Base, and the small town feel it maintains for a city of it's size. Look to partner with other businesses in an effort to make us all better!



DONNA RICHTER

CEO, Southern Illinois Builders Association

Hometown: Freeburg, IL

Favorite Part About the Area:

Great local communities with variety of restaurants, things to do, parks, bike paths, and sports venues,.

If you could offer one piece of advice to a local business owner, what would it be?

Get involved and don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone. The O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce offer many benefits and services that can help promote your business and also make new connections.



meet the board!

We're taking time each month to introduce you to our board members!
We hope you enjoy getting to know these community leaders who keep the chamber going.



CHRIS A. CLAY

President & CEO, HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Hometown: Chetek, Wisconsin

Favorite Part About the Area:

The many benefits of more rural living, access to excellent schools, engaged community leaders/businesses, and access to the metropolitan benefits of St. Louis, Missouri.

If you could offer one piece of advice to a local business owner, what would it be?

As stated by John Kotter, "Management is about coping with complexity. Leadership, by contrast, is about coping with change."



SUSAN SCHULTZ

*HR Partner and Recruiter,
Holland Construction*

Hometown: Swansea, IL

Favorite Part About the Area:

There are so many things that make this area a wonderful place to live. It offers the charm of a small-town living while being surrounded by great amenities. Most importantly, this area is special because of the people who live here. It is evident that our citizens care about their community and put forth the effort to make it a safe and enjoyable place for family and friends to live. We have access to high-quality restaurants, various entertainment options, green outdoor space, affordable housing, and top-notch medical facilities all while being within proximity to major league sporting events. I am proud to be rooted in this community and to call it my HOME!

If you could offer one piece of advice to a local business owner, what would it be?

My advice for business owners is to stay people focused. When customers have great experiences, they come back, and they tell their friends. Also, treat your employees well as they convey your brand message to the customers.



Don't miss this opportunity to help! We are looking for individuals who want to promote their business by sponsoring the golf tournament. 100% of the proceeds go directly to the fire department. We offer several options to help advertise. First option is a hole sponsor. We offer 3 levels: Chief \$500, Deputy Chief \$250 or Asst Chief \$100.

Each sponsor will have a sign on one of the holes at the tee box. Second option is donating a gift basket or prize for our raffle the day of the tournament. Last option is donating items for our goodie bags that each golfer gets at the start of the tournament. We will have 144 golfers, so we would need 1 for each golfer.

Suggestions below for types of items needed for goodie bags.

O'FALLON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY'S 25TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

MAY 31, 2024

**Tamarack Golf Course
Shiloh IL**

Call 618-624-4515 or email

kwhite@ofallon.org



GOODIE BAG ITEMS SUGGESTIONS

**SLEEVE OF 3 GOLF BALLS
GOLF TEES (3-5 PER GOLFER)
GOLF TOWEL
BALL MARKER
DIVOT REPAIR TOOLS
VISORS OR HATS
SUNSCREEN/LIP BALM
WATER BOTTLES
COUPONS/CARDS FOR A FREE ITEM OR
DISCOUNT
FOOD/SNACKS/GUM/MINTS
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

MEMBER NEWS

COUNSELORS ASSOCIATES
LTD NOW ACCEPTING NEW
CLIENTS & UNITED HEALTHCARE.



Counselors Associates Ltd. is an organization consisting of an exemplary group of licensed, experienced counseling professionals offering mental health services to children ages four & up, adolescents, and adults in individual, couple, family and group settings.

"Having a professional to guide you through challenges can enable you to resolve stressful situations quicker and more efficiently. You don't have to wait for a crisis to take care of your mental health."-Kristin Kneedler, Founder & CEO, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, Nationally Certified Counselor.

We treat anxiety & depression, grief & loss, trauma & PTSD, relationship concerns, maternal mental health, sports performance, behavior, communication, school concerns, social skills & more.

"Counseling can help you learn more about yourself, improve relationships, and make dealing with stressful situations easier."

Our Shiloh office is conveniently located on the corner of Frank Scott Parkway East & Fortune Blvd for those who would like to attend in-person, and convenient tele-health sessions are also available.

If you would like to learn more, contact us at 618.972.1568 or info@counselorsassociates.com.

RECOVERY THROUGH MOVEMENT IS HOSTS NEW WORKSHOPS

Join Recovery Through Movement as they start a new workshop series exploring the biomechanics and motor coordination of the breathing apparatus with a combination of anatomical demonstration and active movement education. We will learn to recognize the movements of the ribs, diaphragm, and abdomen that make up your breathing and leave you with a form of breathing that you can easily use to improve your general ability.

Friday, March 8 6-8 pm OR Saturday, March 9 1-3 pm | \$30/workshop

The same material will be covered in both classes. recoverythroughmovement.com

Do you have member news you'd like to share? Send it our way!

[SUBMIT PRESS RELEASE](#)

[VIEW ALL NEWS](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOSPICE OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Highland In-person CE You Presentation:

Highland Area Senior Center

The Art of Empathy: Dementia through the lens of people living with the disease and their loved ones. IL Nurses and Social Workers can earn 1 CE Credit

Wednesday, April 17th from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

\$5 | lunch provided | Sign up:

www.hospice.org/events

Red Bud In-person CE You Presentation:

Red Bud Regional Hospital

Dementia and Medications: The Good, Bad, & Ugly IL Nurses and Social Workers can earn 1 CE Credit

Wednesday, April 17th from 4:30 PM-6:30 PM

\$5 | dinner provided | Sign up:

www.hospice.org/events

Need Presenters?

Hospice of Southern Illinois can provide no-cost education and presentations for healthcare professionals, civic groups, and organizations regarding end-of-life care, advance care planning, grief support, and more. Contact Lisa Phillipson at 618-222-5905 or go to our website www.hospice.org/community/educational-programs/

Looking to give back?

Wishlist by Amazon makes it easy to give back to Hospice of Southern Illinois with the click of a "Add to Cart" button. Head [here](#) to donate essential items to our patients today.

Dementia Live

Bring Dementia Live® to your staff or local group! Dementia Live is a unique opportunity to gain empathy for the loved ones in our life dealing with dementia. If your group is interested in participating give us a call at 618-222-5905!

DO YOU HAVE AN UPDATED SET OF THE MANDATORY STATE AND FEDERAL LAW POSTERS?

You can get them here for \$67 from the IL Chamber.

[Mandatory State and Federal Law Poster Set | IL Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Mandatory State and Federal Law Poster Set \(Spanish\) | IL Chamber of Commerce](#)

The updated portions on the posters are:

- UPDATED Your Rights under Illinois Employment Laws (Illinois minimum wage, One Day Rest in 7 Act, Child Labor, and Bereavement and Sick Leave Act)
- UPDATED Illinois Service member Employment
- UPDATED Know Your Rights Workplace Discrimination is Illegal
- UPDATED Your Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act
- UPDATED Employee Rights Under the Fair Labor Standards Act

UPDATED IDHR Sexual Harassment and Job Discrimination

- UPDATED Illinois Employee Classification Act
- UPDATED Illinois Job Safety and Health
- UPDATED Illinois VESSA posting
- NEW Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act

TAX TIPS FOR 2024

TAX MYTH #1

A REFUND IS LIKE FREE MONEY.

A refund is just money that YOU gave to the IRS to hold onto until you filed your taxes. This is like giving Uncle Sam a interest free loan for several months and then he pays you back once you prove to him that you didn't have to give him as much as you did.

TAX MYTH #2: IF I EARN MORE MONEY, MY TAX BRACKET WILL GO UP

Don't be afraid to earn more money. Did you know the U.S. Tax system is a marginal system? What does that mean? That means that your income is taxed in chunks. For example a couple married filing jointly in 2024 the first \$22,000 is tax at 10%, from \$22,001 to \$89,450 it is taxed at 12%, for \$89,451 to \$190,750 it is taxed at 22% and so on until your reach the 37% tax bracket. So earning more doesn't mean you are going to get taxed more on all of your money, just the amount that is in the next bracket.

TAX MYTH# 3: KEEP THE MORTGAGE SO YOU CAN WRITE IT OFF AS A DEDUCTION.

This is like saying I am going to keep paying the bank interest so I don't have to pay the government. Do use the standard deduction or itemize your deductions? In 2024 the Standard deduction for a couple married filing Jointly is \$29,200. That means you would have to have spent more.

Do you want to learn more ways to maximize your money? Contact

JEREMY FLYNN
FYNNFINANCIALCOACHING@
GMAIL.COM
781-728-5604

BUSINESS TRACK INSIGHTS

7 Things You Should Know About the New Federal Reporting Requirement

by Gene Marks | *The Hartford*

If you own a business, get ready. There's a new federal reporting requirement for business owners, and you don't want to ignore it. If you do, the penalties are high. Here are seven key things to know.

What is the new requirement?

Effective Jan. 1, more than 32 million business owners need to complete a special form called the Beneficial Ownership Information Report. You'll need to file it with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), an arm of the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

The form is required as part of the 2021 Corporate Transparency Act. This act aims to reduce money laundering and the concealment of illicit funds by targeting shell companies and many other entities.

Who needs to file the Beneficial Ownership Information Report?

Entities including corporations, pass-throughs, partnerships, estate and benefit plans, and foreign companies registered to do business in any U.S. state or Indian tribe will have to share information about their beneficial owners. Sole proprietorships are not included.

Beneficial owners are generally shareholders who own at least 25% of an entity, which may include:

- Profit interests
- Options
- Warrants
- Other instruments like convertible notes

Besides shareholders, beneficial owners also include people that exercise substantial control over an entity. This means senior officers, including:

- President
- Chief financial officer
- General counsel
- Chief executive officer
- Chief operating officer

Any other officer who performs a similar function to those listed above may be required to file a report. This includes anyone with the authority to appoint or remove officers or a majority of directors of the reporting company. It could also include an important decision-maker for the reporting company, or any other individual with substantial control.

It's important to note that there may be more than one beneficial owner of a company. Filings also need to be updated when a beneficial owner has a change of address or marital status or obtains a new driver's license. There's no fee to file this report.

There are 23 types of businesses that are exempted from this rule. They include:

- Banks
- Credit unions
- Tax exempt entities
- Large operating companies (generally companies with more than 20 U.S.-based employees and revenues over \$5 million)



Many of these entities are exempt because they're providing similar information via other means. Review the full list in the FinCEN's [Small Entity Compliance Guide](#).

What information is required?

The information you need should be easy to obtain. It includes your company's legal and trade names, or your "doing business as" name, and street address (post office boxes are not allowed). You'll also need to include the state where your company was formed along with relevant tax and employer identification numbers.

In addition, you'll need to provide an image of your articles of incorporation. If you can't find this, you can likely obtain it from your state.

Each beneficial owner will need to provide their full legal name, birthdate, and home address (again, post office boxes are not allowed). They'll also need to provide an image of either an unexpired passport, driver's license, or document issued by a state, local government, or Indian tribe.

What's the due date and where do I report?

Filings for existing companies must be completed by Jan. 1, 2025. For new entities created after Jan. 1, 2024, reports are required within 90 days. You can file your reports electronically on [FinCEN's website](#), where you will get an electronic receipt.

How secure is my information?

Under the Corporate Transparency Act, FinCEN is allowed to permit federal, state, local, and tribal officials, as well as certain foreign officials who submit a request through a U.S. federal government agency, to obtain beneficial ownership information for authorized activities related to national security, intelligence, and law enforcement.

Financial institutions will also have access to beneficial ownership information in certain circumstances, with the consent of the reporting company.

Otherwise, FinCEN will store information in a secure, non-public database. FinCEN uses the same information security methods and controls that are typically used in the Federal government to protect non-classified but sensitive information systems.

What happens if I don't comply?

The [penalties are steep](#). You could incur fees up to \$500 a day, up to \$10,000, and up to two years in jail (per occurrence) if you intentionally provide incorrect information.

Where can I find more information?

I strongly recommend working with an experienced certified public accountant, attorney or business advisor to complete this report. It's also important to ignore the inevitable solicitations you'll receive from firms that claim to be experts in this area. Seek out a professional you know, or ask for a referral.

Check out these essential resources on this new reporting requirement:

- Read the full list of requirements and find out if your entity is exempt in [FinCEN's Small Entity Compliance Guide](#).
- Head to [FinCEN's website](#) to file your report.
- Read [FinCEN's Beneficial Ownership Information FAQs](#).

Next steps: Want more small business tips? [Sign up for the Small Biz Ahead newsletter today.](#)



DIGITAL BILLBOARD ADS

55/64 AT COLLINSVILLE AVE. & MARTIN LUTHER KING DR.
(EASTBOUND INTO IL)

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Chamber of Commerce purchases a billboard ad which we split into 30 ad spots. Our members can purchase one (or more!) of those spots, allowing you to have a digital billboard ad at a FRACTION of the cost!

52 weeks
\$1,375

32 weeks
\$925

20 weeks
\$625

TYPE OF BILLBOARD: Digital LED
SIZE OF BILLBOARD: 14X49 ft
TRAFFIC COUNT: 133,110 vehicles daily
AD DIMENSIONS: 400 pixels high by 1400 pixels wide
AD FORMAT: JPG, PDF OR PNG

HAVE MORE QUESTIONS OR NEED MORE INFO?
Call the Chamber office: 618-632-3377



SIGN ME UP!

NAME: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE #:** _____

CHOOSE YOUR AD OPTIONS (SPOT IS NOT RESERVED UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED)

- 52 WEEKS | \$1,375 32 WEEKS | \$925 20 WEEKS | \$625
- I WOULD LIKE MORE THAN ONE AD _____ I WOULD LIKE THE CHAMBER TO DESIGN MY AD | \$100

Please indicate how many ad spots you would like

FAQ:

All ads must be approved by the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber reserves the right to refuse/reject any ad copy.

1. How often will my ad show up? Each ad spot will appear 40 times per day, for 10 seconds at a time.
2. Can I purchase more than one ad spot? Yes! you can purchase as many as you want.
3. How often can I change out my ad copy? Ad copy can be changed out every quarter.
4. Can someone help me design my ad? We would be happy to design your ad for \$100.
5. Are there other advertisers on the billboard? Yes, there will be advertisers paying full price as well as chamber member advertisers.
6. How do I know my ad is running? You can request a "proof of play" report from us at any time which will show the dates your ad has been running.

MONTHLY CALENDAR



- 3.....● [Health & Wellness Committee Meeting](#)
8:15 a.m. | The Rehabilitation Institute of Southern Illinois
- 3.....● [Ambassador Meeting](#)
11:30 a.m. | Southern Illinois Builders Association
- 3.....● [Ribbon Cutting - Restoration Ranch](#)
11:30 a.m. | 1644 Hartman Lane, Shiloh
- 4.....● [Ribbon Cutting - Outback Steakhouse](#)
10:30 a.m. | 1102 Central Park Drive, O'Fallon
- 9.....● [Military Affairs Committee Meeting](#)
3:30 p.m. | VFW Post 805
- 10.....● [Downtown District Meeting](#)
8:45 a.m. | City Hall Council Chambers
- 11.....● [Restaurant Roulette](#)
11:30 a.m. | TBD
- 18.....● [Chambernet](#)
5:30 p.m. | Grizzlies Ballpark
- 22.....● [Executive Board Meeting](#)
1:15 p.m. | Chamber Depot
- 23.....● [Education Committee Meeting](#)
10:00 a.m. | O'Fallon District 90 Offices
- 25.....● [8th Grade Career Fair](#)
All Day | Regency Conference Center
- 26.....● [Business Over Breakfast \(BOB\)](#)
8:00 a.m. | Public Safety Building
- 29.....● [Member Engagement Committee \(MEC\)](#)
1:15 p.m. | Chamber Depot
- 30.....● [MAXimize Your Benefits](#)
8:30 a.m. | 1st National Bank of Waterloo



upcoming events

APRIL

4.11 | Restaurant Roulette

Sign up to join us for lunch on the appointed date/time. We'll use our virtual roulette wheel to determine where you eat and who you eat with!

You'll find out who your lunch partners are (3-5 other chamber members) when you show up to eat.

This is a way to support local restaurants and get a chance to network!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

4.26 | Business Over Breakfast (BOB)

Business Over Breakfast is a great way to start the day. Members mix and mingle while enjoying a free, casual breakfast. Typically breakfast is pastries, bagels, juice, and coffee. The event starts at 8:00 a.m. and is typically held at the O'Fallon Public Safety Building.

If you would like to schedule a "Business Intro" presentation, contact the Chamber by email or by calling 618-632-3377.

Visitors are welcome to come and check us out. Please call the Chamber to let us know you plan to attend.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

4.30 | Maximize Your Benefits

Are you a new Chamber member? Been with us for awhile and are interested in a benefit refresher? Thinking about joining our Chamber? All of you are invited to Join Us for a MAXimize Your Benefits session! We'll spend an hour finding out about you and giving you the details of a membership with the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

MAY

5.10 | Salute to Business Award Luncheon

Every year, the O'Fallon-Shiloh Chamber of Commerce recognizes businesses that have contributed the community in several categories: Economic Impact, Beautification and Heritage. The Awards are presented at our Annual Salute to Business Award Luncheon, typically held at The Regency Conference Center.

This luncheon is a premier event in our community – we'll have 250+ come out and celebrate with us!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

5.21 | Business After Hours (BAH)



Business After Hours (BAH) is a social time from 5-6:30 p.m. held six times each year. It is hosted by various Chamber members. There are no speakers or programs and food and beverages are offered. Come for 15 minutes or come for the full 1.5 hours.

May's event will be held at the **Hilton Garden Inn St. Louis O'Fallon-Shiloh!**

It's a great way to meet new business contacts – we average 75+ in attendance each BAH. Bring plenty of business cards! chance to network!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

THREE SPRINGS BULLETIN

The Village of Shiloh is now offering newsletters published quarterly (March, June, September, & December) to inform residents about everything happening in Shiloh.

[VIEW MARCH NEWSLETTER](#)

STAY CONNECTED WITH US THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MORE DETAILS ON ALL EVENTS! BE SURE TO CHECK THE EVENTS CALENDAR OFTEN AND REGISTER FOR EVENTS YOU'RE INTERESTED IN.

OfallonChamber.com

Facebook.com/OfallonShilohChamber

SALUTE TO OUR PREMIUM MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

O'FALLON-SHILOH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



CHAMBER CHAMPION

O'FALLON-SHILOH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



STAR INVESTORS

O'FALLON-SHILOH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1st National Bank of Waterloo
 i3 Broadband
 Aaron Holdge Allstate
 Ameren
 American Family Insurance Buchtel & Assoc.
 Associated Bank
 Auffenberg Dealer Group
 Bank of Belleville
 Bank of O'Fallon
 Baysinger Architects
 BOS Metro East Banking Center
 Busey Bank
 Care Access
 C&C Sports
 CEFCU
 Cambridge House O'Fallon
 Cambridge Capital Management, LLC
 Carrollton Bank
 Catholic Community Credit Union
 Central Bank of St. Louis
 Clete's, Inc.
 Clinton Manor Living Center
 Commerce Bank
 Country Estate Kennel
 CSL Plasma
 Drury Inn & Suites

Farmers & Merchants National Bank
 FCB O'Fallon Bank
 First Bank
 First Bankers Trust Company N.A.
 First Mid Bank and Trust
 First Community Credit Union
 Gateway Metro Federal Credit Union
 Gateway Solutions
 Guaranteed Rate
 Heartland Bank
 HSHS Medical Group
 Hilton Garden Inn
 HD Painting and Stain Co.
 Holland Construction Services
 Home Heating and Cooling
 Jack Schmitt Auto World
 Jack Schmitt Chevrolet of O'Fallon
 Kerber, Eck & Braeckel, LLP
 Keystone Place at Richland Creek
 Klein's Brand Source
 La Casa Mexicana of O'Fallon
 Lashley Animal Hospital
 Lincoln Surgical Associates, Ltd.
 Mathis, Marifian & Richter Ltd.
 Merrill Lynch | Woody Gray
 Mid America Oral Surgery Center

Morrison Plumbing, Heating and Air
 Navy Federal Credit Union
 O'Fallon Shiloh Towing
 OST Container
 Premier Remodeling
 Regency Manor
 Regions Bank
 Revela at O'Fallon
 Revity Credit Union
 Sandberg Phoenix
 Serra Honda of O'Fallon
 Schaefer Auto Body Centers
 Scott Credit Union
 Scott Family Housing
 Sigman Heating and Air Conditioning
 Spectra Graphics
 Taylor Roofing
 The Record Madison/St. Clair
 The Regency Conference Center
 The Rehabilitation Institute of
 Southern Illinois
 Together Credit Union
 TownePlace Suites by Marriott
 United Healthcare
 Washington University Physicians |
 Pediatric Specialty Care

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jeff Dossett, Board Chair
Memorial Hospital Belleville | Shiloh

Nathan Klitzing, Vice Chair
Cambridge Capital Management

Dan Jackson, Treasurer
Carrollton Bank

2023-2024 BOARD MEMBERS

John Eichenlaub
BARBERMURPHY Group

Donna Richter
Southern Illinois Builders Assoc.

Ex-Officio

Melissa Fanning
United Way of Greater St. Louis

Kurt Schroeder
Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C.

Mayor Herb Roach
City of O'Fallon

Jon Greenstreet
Bike Surgeon

Susan Schultz
Holland Construction

Mayor Robert Weilmuenster
Village of Shiloh

Cassidy Hoelscher
The Rehabilitation Institute of
Southern Illinois

Kevin Welch
1st National Bank of Waterloo

Lt. Nick Stewart | Lead In
O'Fallon Police Department

Chris Klay
SHHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Mike Williams
Serra Honda

CHAMBER AMBASSADORS

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Ken Hutchens
Shiloh United Methodist Church

Delisa Richardson
Z. D. Richardson Notary Services

Debbie Brauer

Amy Kempfer
Associated Bank

Dave Snyder
Rotary Club of O'Fallon /Emeritus

Alissa Fuhrmann
McKendree University

Reneé La Bruyere
Horner & Shiffrin

Raven Trebilcock
Legacy Planning, LLC

John Grissom
Berkshire Hathaway

Nathan Parchman
Farmers & Merchants National
Bank

Lisa Vorce
Thrivent Financial - Lisa Vorce

Jaclyn Gross
TownePlace Suites by Marriott

Ke'Ira Lewis
Etc. Event Planning & Marketing

Justin Ward
1st National Bank of Waterloo

Cindy Hill
Home Instead

Lindsay Porzeinski
Home Heating & Cooling

Sheri Welch

Erik Huber
Bank of Springfield

January - June 2024
SAVE THE DATES

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS (BAH)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ATTENDANCE PRIZE DRAWINGS ARE AT 6 P.M.



Fairfield Inn & Suites O'Fallon
 1180 Central Park Drive, O'Fallon
 Tuesday, January 30 • 5-6:30 p.m.



Family Eye Care of O'Fallon
 735 Insight Ave, O'Fallon
 Tuesday, March 19 • 5-6:30 p.m.



Hilton Garden Inn
 St. Louis O'Fallon-Shiloh
 360 Regency Park Drive, O'Fallon
 Tuesday, May 21 • 5-6:30 p.m.



Addington Place of Shiloh
 429 S. Main, Shiloh
 Tuesday, June 18 • 5-6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to 618-632-3377 or chamber@ofallonchamber.com

RESTAURANT ROULETTE

Thursday, January 11 11:30 a.m.
 Thursday, April 11 11:30 a.m.
 Thursday, June 13 11:30 a.m.

Have an exceptional networking lunch with 3 to 7 other chamber members!

Location at various member restaurants

You RSVP; we tell you the day before where you're going for lunch; you find out who you're having lunch with when you arrive at your table!



BUSINESS OVER BREAKFAST (BOB)

Friday, February 23 8:00 a.m.
 Friday, April 26 8:00 a.m.
 Friday, June 28 8:00 a.m.



all BOB events located at

Public Safety Building • 285 N. Seven Hills Road, O'Fallon

This month's newsletter sponsors is:

Gateway Grizzlies

Would you like to be the first page of our next newsletter?
 Let us know! chamber@ofallonchamber.com | 618-632-3377



www.OFallonChamber.com P.O. Box 371, O'Fallon, IL 62269

Additional events you might be interested in attending

SAVE THE DATES

CHAMBERNET – GATEWAY GRIZZLIES
 Thursday, April 18

8th GRADE CAREER FAIR
 Thursday, April 25

SALUTE TO BUSINESS AWARDS LUNCHEON
 Friday, May 10

MAXIMIZE YOUR BENEFITS
 Tuesday, February 27 • 8:30 a.m.
 Tuesday, April 30 • 8:30 a.m.
 Chamber Depot
 116 East First Street, O'Fallon

Prepaid Standard
 US Postage Paid
 Permit NO. 46
 O'Fallon, IL 62269

ADDRESS SERVICES CORRECTED

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