

By The Way, a newsletter for long-time friends of United Way

Spring 2017

Meet the 2017 United Way Campaign Chair

United Way will begin its second century of improving lives through the caring power of community with the leadership of the 2017 Campaign Chair, Ron Auxier.

Ron is a Principal Architect at Ellison-Auxier Architects and has been with the firm since 1981. His 40+ years of architectural and project management experience will be beneficial in building a strong team of volunteers and in planning this year's campaign.

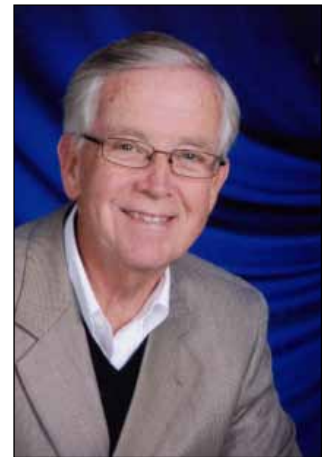
"I love that United Way of Greater St. Joseph is local," said Ron. "The volunteers are local. The donors are local. And we're all working together to make a positive difference where we live."

The 2017 United Way Campaign will officially begin Sept. 7, but Ron is already busy working with volunteers and staff, laying the groundwork for the fall kickoff.

As this year's campaign has been built, Ron has said that, even now, at the beginning of a second century of United Way work, he sees that every gift really will matter. "None of us can correctly assume that everyone else will give and make my gift unimportant or that someone else's larger gift can do more than my gift can." He reminds donors of the power created when each person gives what he/she can. "A building is erected as each beam, joist, and screw is pieced together; similarly, gifts can build up in ways that result in thousands of improved area lives if we're each adding our piece of the giving," said Ron.

He has a history of serving our community through United Way, not only as a current member of the Board of Directors, but also as a current and past participant in the allocations process, as a BEST (Business and Education Succeed Together) presenter, as a member of the Community Investment Council, and as a member of numerous other committees.

Ron thanks everyone who has long-supported United Way. He encourages you to share your passion for the good United Way does for our community with others who might not be familiar with United Way work. ♦



Ron Auxier, 2017 Campaign Chair, encourages long-time United Way supporters to tell others in the community about the importance of United Way.

Mark Your Calendar

May-July-United Way Reading Adventure. Volunteers read to school-age children enrolled in summer childcare.

June 7-Eat. Drink. LIVE UNITED. at 54th Street Bar & Grill. A portion of the day's sales support United Way.

June 14-Taste of United Way featuring The Salvation Army, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

June-July-Fridays, Saturdays and July 3 and 4. Rally's Dunk Tank at Phil Welch Stadium providing cool fun while supporting United Way during Mustangs' games.

July 4-Mustangs' Jersey auction at Phil Welch Stadium benefitting United Way.

July 12-Taste of United Way featuring United Way Volunteer Center, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

Aug. 4-5-United Way STUFF THE BUS! at both St. Joseph Walmart locations.

Aug. 9-Taste of United Way featuring Family Guidance Center for Behavioral Healthcare, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

Sept. 7-United Way Campaign Kickoff at Missouri Western Fulkerson Center, 7:15-8:15 a.m. Fee for breakfast. RSVP.

Sept. 13-Taste of United Way featuring YWCA, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

Sept. 28-United Way Campaign Report Breakfast. Location and time to be

announced. RSVP.

Sept. 30-Junior League of St. Joseph's 6th Annual Pony Express Run to benefit United Way of Greater St. Joseph. 5K walk/run, half marathon, and Kids' Fun Run.

Oct. 11-Taste of United Way featuring Specialty Industries of St. Joseph, Inc., 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. No cost, but RSVP.

Oct. 19-United Way Campaign Report Lunch. Location and time to be announced. RSVP.

Nov. 2-United Way Campaign Celebration Dinner at Missouri Western Fulkerson Center, 6-8:15 p.m. Fee for dinner. RSVP.

Watch for more events at stjosephunitedway.org

All RSVPs can be made to 364-2381 during office hours.

Community Leaders are Growing Through Local Leadership Class

Twenty-eight adults who share the desire to develop skills and knowledge to be effective leaders in our community have come together as the United Way Leadership St. Joseph Class of 2017.

After the two-day opening retreat in January, the class has met one day a month to learn about current opportunities and challenges in St. Joseph. The February class day included an overview of United Way and seven of the 17 United Way Partner Agencies in addition to leadership development training.

The March time began with attributes of a healthy community and featured practical strategies to use when dealing with difficult people plus conflict resolution strategies. The day concluded with the class learning about our City government. April time focused on local business and industry as the group learned about St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce and toured two manufacturing facilities in the morning. The class grew leadership skills through project management and collaboration in the afternoon. Their May day included leadership training related to elected political positions, learning about downtown St. Joseph and working in groups to create community project proposals. They will continue meeting monthly until graduation in December.

United Way Leadership St. Joseph Class of 2017 and their sponsors are: Todd Allen, *CliftonLarsonAllen*; Ryan Baker, *Cintas*; Samuel Beard, *Missouri American Water Co.*; Kelsey Beck, *Nestle Purina*; Heather Beer, *Vecchi Group International*; Lori Boyer, *Commerce Trust Co.*; Brendon Clark, *Commerce Bank*; David Cripe, *St. Joseph PTA Council*; Courtney Cruz, *Progressive Community Services*; Abigail Dennis, *Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.*; Mathew Fleishans, *Altec Industries, Inc.*; Amy Goddard, *St. Joseph Board of Realtors*; Brent Hill, *KCP&L*; John Hoverson, *Johnson Controls, Inc.*; Krystina Huff, *Tyson Foods*; Siobhan Jackson, *YWCA*; Brett Knappe, *Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art*; Jay Martin, *United Way of Greater St. Joseph*; Katie McCullough, *Junior League of St. Joseph*; Kelly Morris, *Rolling Hills Consolidated Library*; Courtney Nixon, *US Bank*; Jamie Noble, *Big Brothers Big Sisters*; Erin Ousley, *Mosaic Life Care*; Daniel Pfister, *Hillyard Companies*; Wayne Schroeder, *US Bank*; Denise Sims, *Mosaic Life Care*; Sara Wilson, *St. Joseph Museums, Inc.*; and Whitney Zoghby, *Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.* ♦



United Way Leadership St. Joseph Alumni Socials for this year's class (pictured above) and the previous 34 classes are being held quarterly this year thanks to the sponsorship of Johnson Controls. Email ann.weston@stjosephunitedway.org for details.



Because parents are children's first teachers, programs teach parents and children together.

Two Summer Opportunities Will Help Young Children

Two United Way Success By 6® summer programs are aimed to foster parents' roles as their children's first teachers.

One of them, United Way Kindergarten Jumpstart, consists of four weekly classes during the summer.

It helps children identified as needing additional skills and confidence before the school year begins.

As in the past, classes will again be led by early educators at some St. Joseph libraries for St. Joseph School District students and will focus on helping parents teach their children critical kindergarten preparation skills in the weeks leading up to the first day of school.

Family Fun Time, a second United Way Success By 6 program available this summer, is a monthly series of free events featuring a variety of fun themes for families with children under the age of 6. The events give adults and their young children time to play together and help the adults learn how to encourage their child's early development through play. Summer events are:

June 10-Father's Day Party at Keatley Center, 10-11:30 a.m.

July 22-Morning at the Library at Downtown St. Joseph Public Library, 10-11:30 a.m.

Aug. 1-Early Literacy Hotdog Party at Washington Park Library. More details to come.

United Way Success By 6 fosters and participates in community-wide partnerships to prepare young children for future success. ♦

KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN GROWING AS A LOCAL LEADER?

The application for participation in the United Way Leadership St. Joseph Class of 2018 will be available at stjosephunitedway.org this fall. Until then, interested candidates can learn more by emailing ann.weston@stjosephunitedway.org or by calling 364-2381.

VOLUNTEER WITH UNITED WAY THIS SUMMER

Assist with Parent/Child Events

Volunteers are sought to hand out snacks and free books or to be stationed at play areas during United Way Success By 6® Family Fun Time events: June 10, July 22, and/or Aug. 1. Time commitment: 2-6 hours. Contact Jay at 364-2381.



Read to Children

United Way Reading Adventure needs volunteers to read to elementary-age children May through July. Time commitment: 1-10 hours. Contact Jodi at 364-2381.



Collect School Supplies

Volunteer to collect school supplies for area children through United Way STUFF THE BUS! on Aug. 4 or 5 at either St. Joseph Walmart location. Call Jay at 364-2381.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

Thank you to all who GIVE to United Way.
You help improve thousands of lives.

The following Tribute Gifts have been gratefully received by United Way of Greater St. Joseph:

In Memory of Larry Hausman-

Dick and Mignon DeShon
Sherry Hausman

In Memory of Denny Hurd-

Stephen and Nita Archer
Bill and Jean Brown
Commerce Bank
Imogene Hudson
Linda Hurd, Dave Hurd II and Carri Gilmour
Nancy Lear
Ron and Kathy Martin
Morton, Reed, Counts, Briggs & Robb LLC
Nestle Purina PTC
Craig and Judy Petro
Karen Phillips
Kendall Randolph, Sunshine
Electronic Display Corporation
Pat and Amy Ryan
Bruce and Carolyn Schindler
Rex and Lisa Wisdom-Strayer
Jim and Linda Summers
Robert and Debra Verbeck
Julie Walker
Brad and Lisa Weil
Diana Wisner

In Memory of Kenny Jameson-

Hillyard Companies

In Memory of Richard Lewin-

Dick and Mignon DeShon
Melissa Kashlan
Gary McIntosh

In Honor of Elizabeth Robinson (high school graduation)-

Jess Rappé



YES, I'd like to give a Tribute Gift

*If you would like to celebrate the life of a family member or special friend through a memorial gift/honorarium to the United Way Endowment Fund, please complete this form and send it to Attn: Kylee Strough, United Way of Greater St. Joseph, P.O. Box 188, St. Joseph, MO 64502.
Your gift will improve lives in our community.*

Enclosed is my tribute gift of \$ _____

Given by _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Commemorating _____
(please indicate the birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion)

Please send acknowledgement to _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

The person you are honoring, or the family of the person you are remembering, will be promptly notified of your gift without mentioning the amount. Your gift may also be listed in a United Way publication unless you indicate here that you wish to remain anonymous.
☐ Please do not list my name.

**Please make your check payable to United Way of Greater St. Joseph.
Contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you!**



**United Way
of Greater St. Joseph**

P.O. Box 188, 118 South 5th Street
St. Joseph, MO 64502
(816) 364-2381

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United Way: improving lives through
the caring power of community

Give. Advocate. Volunteer.
LIVE UNITED.®

Business Speakers Connect With Hundreds of Students

Over the past school year, dozens of speakers have met with hundreds of students through United Way Speakers' Bureau.

The program came about two years ago in response to teachers' desires to connect with people from the community who work in a variety of careers to help students as they consider their own future career paths. The program is part of United Way Profit In Education® that aims to improve the education level of the potential and current workforce.

Through United Way Speakers' Bureau, volunteers representing different trades and professions share with students about their employers, different careers available with their businesses, training and education required for jobs at their workplaces, and employer expectations. Presenters emphasize the importance of a high school diploma and discuss such topics as reliability, attitude, honesty, appearance, proper technology usage, volunteering, and drug testing.

In line with its goal, the program has been exposing students to diverse careers in our community and helping them learn what it takes to secure particular positions.

If you are interested in being a part of United Way Speakers' Bureau, sharing with students about your business and career, email jodi.bloemker@stjosephunitedway.org or call 364-2381. ♦



All three high schools in the St. Joseph School District and most of the middle schools have used United Way Speakers' Bureau to help students consider what classes and experiences could help put them on the path to a future job or career.

Volunteer this summer.-page 3