



Newsbrief

Promoting the Abilities of Individuals Seeking Employment and Greater Participation in Community Life

Success Story

Anyone who calls the Columbia Chamber of Commerce is greeted by Lakeela Mings. She always brings a smile to her work at the Chamber's front desk. "Hands down she was the person that we needed, with the personality, and the attitude and the spirit that we needed up front," said Matt McCormick, Chamber President. If you watch her work, her confidence shines through. "I really enjoy helping people," said Lakeela. Which is why it's a little surprising to hear a few years ago she was very unsure of her ability to do this job. Starla Starke, of Vocational Rehabilitation said, "When I first met her she was very nervous." Lakeela explained, "It was more like a mental type disability, like a learning disability for comprehension, so trying to go through school there were a lot of barriers." To help build her confidence she volunteered at Job Point's front desk for a few months and then enrolled in the Office Technology program. "I learned a lot! I learned how to do data entry, how to answer phones, and receipt people. I learned about external and internal customers." Once she finished the training, she got up the courage to walk into the Chamber and ask for a job. McCormick said, "We can teach you the Chamber. We can teach you the organization, but she brought the soft skills that are sometimes the harder part to teach, and so they prepared her really, really well for that." Since then she's moved from part time to full time, and she says employment has brought her so much more than a pay check and benefits. "I see myself as amazing now. It's a real confidence and self-esteem boost to know that I can do this. I can actually go through and do the jobs and the tasks that are given to me. To know that I can make a difference for my staff and my team, as well as everybody who comes into the Chamber. It's very rewarding and fulfilling to know that that barrier isn't something that's holding me back."

Story by Brittany Pieper, KOMU



John and Anita Hubert

We welcome our newest team members: John Cokendolpher, Construction Instructor; Christina Mejia-Torres, Employment Consultant; Karen Laughter, Employment Consultant; Deb Wilson, Contract CNA Examiner.

We congratulate Robert Keith for his promotion to Transformation Specialist for the YouthBuild program.

We acknowledge John Hubert, Business Consultant, was recently elected President of Cosmopolitan International. A member of the local Luncheon Club for ten years, he has been instrumental in their tremendous accomplishments, which founded Job Point 51 years ago. John intends to work his magic at the international level over the next year.

We graciously thank MFA Foundation for their very generous unrestricted contribution.

Save the date for our Winter Graduation, December 14th at 4:00pm, Wilkes Boulevard

United Methodist Church, 702 Wilkes Boulevard, Columbia, MO.

Job Point's



Presented by

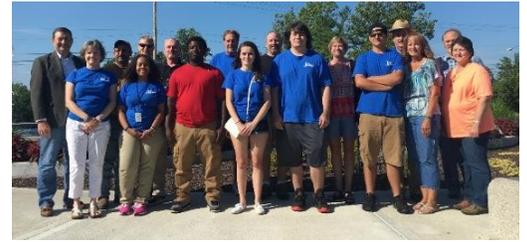
 MACHENS.COM

"Survey Says"

Mark your calendar for the Company Feud event Wednesday, October 18th at Stoney Creek Hotel, presented by Joe Machens Dealerships. In a play on the long-running TV show "Family Feud", Tom Bradley will play the role of Steve Harvey. Local companies will compete against each other for bragging rights and a traveling trophy. Which team will you bet on: Easy PC, Emery Sapp & Sons LLC, Isle of Capri, Jacobs Property Management, Joe Machens Dealerships, Manor Roofing & Restoration Services, Monarch Title Company, Providence Bank, Shelter Insurance Companies, The Trust Company, or Veterans United Home Loans? [Buy Tickets.](#)

Summer Work Experience with Shelter Insurance

Shelter Insurance Companies hosted high school students for the third consecutive summer in partnership with Job Point, Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and area high schools. Five students performed a variety of work, including basic maintenance, washing and detailing corporate vehicles, landscaping in the beautiful Shelter Gardens, filing in the records department, sorting and packaging in the printing department, and stocking vending machines. Students and their family members were invited to attend a celebration at program conclusion in honor of their achievements.



\$10,000 Donation Example

MO State Tax Credit	\$5,000
Federal tax savings	+3,500
<u>MO tax savings</u>	<u>+ 600</u>
Total tax savings	\$9,100
Donation	\$10,000
<u>Tax Savings</u>	<u>- 9,100</u>
Net cost to you	\$ 900

Plan NOW to Pay Less in Taxes for 2017

Fifty percent tax credits are available from the Missouri Department of Economic Development. A \$10,000 donation would provide scholarships for nine students in the Certified Nursing Assistant program. In addition, that same gift would result in \$5,000 off the bottom line of your Missouri tax return. In all, your \$10,000 donation may only have a net cost to you of \$1,600 or possibly just \$900, depending on your tax bracket. Please consult your tax advisor for details and become part of the solution for our community. Call 573/777-1506 for more information.

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945. "Americans of all abilities must have access to good, safe jobs," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta. "Smart employers know that including different perspectives in problem-solving situations leads to better solutions. Hiring employees with diverse abilities strengthens their business, increases competition and drives innovation." Locally, the Mid-Missouri Business Leadership Network is hosting a Launch Party October 17th at Country Club of Missouri, 8:00 – 10:00am: "Beyond the Blah of Employment Law", 2017 Disability Champions, ribbon cutting and networking. RSVP by October 6th to rsvp@mmbln.org for this free seminar!

Job Point fulfills its mission through the support of Missouri businesses. We acknowledge our new or renewed employer partnerships in our service areas: **CENTRAL:** Allied Security, Artisan Builders, Atkins Building Maintenance, Capital Paving, Fisher Properties (Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken), Midway Travel Plaza, Phoenix Home Care, RagTag Cinema, Rago Concrete, Secretarial Office Services, ServiceMax, Shelter Insurance Companies, Tradesman International, University of Missouri and Volt Workforce Solutions. **NORTH:** Lamplighter Motel, Services for Independent Living and Speed Commerce. **WEST:** AT&T (Boonville), Boonville Public Schools, CJ's Cleaning, Riverdell Care Center and Super 8 (Boonville).

We Thank the Following for Giving Generously

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 Mark and Tina Workman
 Youth Empowerment Zone

Job Point is mid-Missouri's premier employment center. Since 1965, we have been linking people and jobs by providing career planning and job placement assistance. We specialize in preparing individuals to enter the workforce while meeting a critical need of the business community.

Headquarters - 400 Wilkes Boulevard, Columbia, MO 65201 573/474-8560
 Moberly 573/823-2885 • Marshall/Sedalia 660/815-0889

Accredited by CARF, the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission, and an equal opportunity organization committed to a diverse workplace, Job Point is a member organization of Missouri Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (MARF). Auxiliary aides and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

www.jobpoint.org

