



Gary
Chamber
of
Commerce

Lifeline

Volume 10, Issue 14

February 2023

“CONNECTING BUSINESSES TO THEIR CUSTOMERS”

Please visit us @www.garychamber.com and catch a lifeline...



GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Gary...The Gary Chamber of Commerce will hold its Monthly General Membership Meeting Luncheon on Monday, February 13, 2023, 12:00 Noon, at The Chateau Banquets, 530 W. 61st Avenue, Merrillville, IN. Join the Chamber as we honor **Special Gary History Makers** during our Black History Month celebration.

Let's welcome our luncheon keynote speaker Mr. Girard Jenkins, V.P. of Operations for McKissack & McKissack of Chicago, Illinois. McKissack & McKissack, is one of the nation's leading Black-and woman-owned architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) companies.

They are known for projects such as the Obama Presidential Library, the University of Chicago, O'Hare International Airport, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, Washington DC, just to name a few.

Mr. Jenkins has 35 years of experience leading public and private program and construction management (PMCM). Also, construction, engineering and inspection (CEI) projects. His focus is on operations, profit and loss and business development in the Midwest and Western regions.

You are invited out to hear how McKissack & McKissack became the leading minority construction firm in the nation and how hard work & dedication can benefit your business as well.

The cost of the luncheon is **\$25 per person**. Call the Chamber office (219) 885-7407 to **reserve your seat(s) today**. Payment required in advance.



LUNCHEON SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE •

Bring your business cards, networking starts at 11:30 a.m.

We now accept American Express, Master Card and Visa Credit and Debit cards.



Mayor Jerome A. Prince

If you didn't attend the Chamber's first General Membership Meeting/Luncheon on January 9, 2023 you missed a great one. Mayor Jerome Prince was our keynote speaker and shared his vision for 2023 for the city of Gary. Chamber members and guests in attendance were the first to hear Mayor Prince announce his intention to seek a second term as Mayor of the City of Gary.

Pictured below luncheon sponsors: (l-r) Sylvester Williams of DWEST Association, Justin Mount, Indiana American Water; not pictured John Wilkening, Notre Dame Federal Credit Union.



Mayor Prince welcomes the month of January new members of the Chamber. (l-r) Jim Taylor, Fidelity National Title, Dwayne Carter, American Amazing Foods, Katrina Terry and Jeremy Miller, Lionfish CyberSecurity.



NETWORKING NETWORKING NETWORKING

Is what Chamber meetings are all about. No one is a stranger at a Chamber membership meeting/luncheon or event, ask anyone.

Call the Chamber office 219.885.7407 and reserve your seat to the next Chamber luncheon. You will leave invigorated, informed, and refreshed.





CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The Gary Chamber of Commerce proudly celebrates Black History Month and we also celebrate the many contributions made by all of our members, businesses, organizations and supporters who have contributed to our success this year and throughout the years. Let's salute our Black History and let all of us share in the celebration. Be well....

SAVE-THE-DATE



Community Civility Counts will host World Civility Day on April 6, 2023. Join us for the largest Civility event of its kind in the country. It will feature a full day of Civility themed activities beginning with Civility themed workshops at the Dean and Barbara White Center covering a variety of topics. The evening event at the Avalon Manor will feature prominent speakers, dignitaries and a host of others, including an awards celebration. Sponsorships available. Call for info: 219.885.7407.

4.6.23

ATTENTION!

This is a call out to your business, organization, school, or a citizen, if you know someone who has demonstrated a random act of Civility or even an intentional act to contact the office of the Gary Chamber of Commerce 219.885.7407 and possibly be the recipient of one of the prestigious World Civility Day Awards. The 6th annual World Civility Day and awards presentation takes place on April 6, 2023. All are invited we encourage you to be a part of this history unfolding right here in Northwest Indiana. Remember "Community Civility Counts."

Condolences to the Oliver Family, and congregation of Embassies of Christ, in the passing of its co-pastor Dr. Cedric Oliver. Embassies of Christ is an active member of the Chamber and representative Scott G.T. Sloan serves on our education & economic/business development committees.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------|
| February 13, 2023 | General Membership Meeting/Luncheon | 11:30 a.m. |
| February 15, 2023 | Economic/Business Development Committee Meeting | 9:00 a.m. |
| February 23, 2023 | Board of Directors | 9:00 a.m. |
| February 24, 2023 | Education Committee Meeting | 11:00 a.m. |

Member News:

- ▶ New member **Fidelity National Title** office opens new Gary office at 363 S. Lake Street. To schedule a real estate closing call: Becca Kern 219.252.3554, email: becca.kern@fnf.com or Jim Taylor 219.663.5160, email: fnfgaryescrow@fnf.com.
- ▶ The "2023 Women on the Rise" list includes leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs who are making an impact across Northwest Indiana. These are women who achieved success in 2022 and will continue that momentum in 2023. Three Gary Chamber members were included on the listing, they are: Gisele Jones, Director of Community Partnerships for **Big Shoulders Fund**, Chelsea Whittington, Communications Director for **Gary Community School Corporation**, and Kelly Anoe, Pres/CEO for **Legacy Foundation**. Let's congratulate our **Women on the Rise!**
- ▶ Congratulations to **Dino Ramirez**, who played on Team USA's wheelchair softball team in 2017 and 2018, was inducted into the USA Wheelchair Softball Hall of Fame. Dino is a employer consultant for **Ivy Tech Community College** and is also a member of the Gary Chamber's education committee.
- ▶ **United Way Northwest Indiana** is kicking off a giving campaign to address challenges for residents in the region following the launch of its 2023-2025 Strategic Plan. United Way serves residents in Jasper, Lake, Newton, Porter and Starke counties and works to address urgent community needs. Visit unitedwaynwi.org/strategic-plan to learn more.
- ▶ **Fulcrum BioEnergy** announced it has successfully produced the first ever low-carbon fuel from landfill waste at its Sierra plant in Reno, Nevada. This is a significant accomplishment for Fulcrum and the aviation industry. Fulcrum will replicate this successful process for the Fulcrum Centerpoint plant in Gary. Call Dana Wesolek for additional info at 219.208.6682.
- ▶ **The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)** under the U.S. Department of Commerce announced a \$100 million funding opportunity known as the MBDA Capital Readiness Program. The mission of this program is to empower under-served entrepreneurs to grow their business (non-profits, private sector, institutions of higher education). For more information visit MBDA webpage: <https://www.mbda.gov/mbda-capital-readiness-program-grant-competition>. Deadline 2/28/23.
- ▶ **Horizon Bank** and Valparaiso University are partnering for a Spring Analytics Internship Program. A 16-week internship program for university analytics students that gives them the opportunity to work on a real-world analytics project for the bank. Contact Amy Phares, Public Relations Manager 219.874.9208 for additional information.
- ▶ **February 16, 2023**—Networking, Connecting and Conversation, a **Business-After-Hours with Returning Youth Initiative**, 5:30-7:30pm, at The Beach Café, 903 N. Shelby Street, Gary. Register at Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/business-after-hours-tickets-515214870547> or call Cheryl 219.805.4226 or Gary Chamber office 219.885.7407 (see attached flyer).
- ▶ See other member announcements and flyers on attachments.



Fidelity National Title

WELCOME TO GARY



As of February 1, 2023, Fidelity National Title
will be open to accommodate your
real estate closings at our new Gary location,

363 S. Lake Street, Gary, IN 46403

Inside the law offices of Meyer & Wyatt, P.C.

To schedule your closing
call **219.663.5160** or email fngaryescrow@fnf.com



BECCA KERN
P: 219.252.3554
E: Becca.Kern@fnf.com



363 S. Lake Street
Gary, IN 46403

PATH 2 PARENTING NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023 EDITION

PATH APPRECIATION

During this "month of love" PATH is focused on showing support to those that support us. In this newsletter you will read about our advocacy in DC, our appreciation for our board members, and our thankfulness to our long time donors. If you would like to support PATH, we are hosting a fundraiser at Panera Bread on 2/23. There are more details below. Thank you for your support!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's February and 'the holidays' are behind us. It can be a long stretch from now until the days get longer and the sun shines a little brighter. As I thought about the focus for this month and what I wanted to write, I check out the monthly calendar for holidays and here's just a few of the dates I found:

- Feb. 6 - Give Someone a Compliment Day; when was the last time you paid someone a compliment?
- Feb. 7 - Give Kids a Smile Day; that won't cost anything and doesn't take much effort.
- Feb. 8 - Read in the Bathtub Day; here's a great self-care opportunity!
- Feb. 11 - Make a Friend Day; take a chance and say 'hi' to someone new.
- Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day - the day for love; make sure those you love know it.
- Feb. 16 - Do a Grouch a Favor Day; even a grouch needs a friend.
- Feb. 20 - Love your Pet Day; for those who prefer animals over people.

There are a lot of days to celebrate; some make you happy or maybe more importantly, there are a lot of days to make someone else happy. As you can see there are reasons and opportunities in our lives every day to be positive, to be kind, and to smile. You don't have to wait for a holiday; just be kind! Smile! It's really a choice that we make. It can be easy to blame the weather, other people, circumstances or even politics for how we behave, but when it comes right down to it, our attitude is a choice we make every day. I challenge you this month to do one positive and kind gesture for your significant other, your child, your parent, your neighbor, someone - anyone, every day. In doing so much for others, we can often forget about ourselves; make sure that some days that someone you are kind to is you!

Happy February!

Donna Golob

Executive Director

Thank you for your support. To help us continue our mission, consider [donating](#) to the cause.

AN MLK VISUAL EXPERIENCE



&
**MARK
SPENCER**
PRESENTS

| DATES | TIMES |
|-------------|-------|
| JAN 30TH | 10AM |
| JAN 31ST | 10AM |
| FEB 1ST | 11AM |
| FEB 2ND | 6PM |
| FEB 3RD | 6PM |
| FEB 4TH | 3PM |
| FEB 9TH | 6PM |
| 2023 | |

EXPERIENCE A VISUAL JOURNEY INTO THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CIVIL RIGHTS ICON MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. THE WORK WILL INCLUDE SPOKEN WORD, SONG, DANCE AND LIGHT EFFECTS.

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220 W 5th Ave, Gary, IN 46402



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REV. DR. RAMEEN M. JACKSON, SR.
PASTOR



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS WITH THE GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NETWORKING, CONNECTING AND CONVERSATION

Thursday: February 16th, 2022

Time: 5:30 p.m to 7:30 p.m

Location: The Beach Cafe / 903 N Shelby St Gary, IN 46403, USA

Event host: Returning Youth Initiative

NEW DATES, NEW LOCATION

Register Now

If you have any questions call Cheryl at 219-805-4226 or Jan 219-885-7407



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