



Lifeline

Volume 15, Issue 5

May 2024

“CONNECTING BUSINESSES TO CUSTOMERS”

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

GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Spotlight Luncheon



This is your chance to be selected to make a 5-minute presentation telling the audience about you and your business at the ever-popular Gary Chamber Monthly luncheon, Monday, May 13, 2024, 12:00 Noon at The Chateau Banquets, 530 W. 61st Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana.

The Gary Chamber of Commerce will soon be relaunching its popular “Spotlight on Business” monthly interview program that will be viewed on social media and local cable television, hosted by Chuck Hughes featuring Chamber members and their business.

Be sure to call the Gary Chamber of Commerce office and make your reservations today!

Remember, this is like the lottery. If you don’t **attend**, then you can’t **win!**

• LUNCHEON SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE •

The cost of the luncheon is \$25 per person, reserve your seat today. Call the Chamber office (219) 885-7407 today. Payment required in advance • \$25 per person • Networking Begins at 11:30am

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

World Civility Day Celebration a Huge Success in Northwest Indiana

The annual World Civility Day celebration gets better every year and the 8th year was no different, just bigger! Students, businesses and organizations from all walks of life took part in the day long festivities, the Civility Workshops at the Dean and Barbara White Community Center and Community Civility Counts Awards Dinner at Avalon Manor in Merrillville.

Sunny Lu Williams, President of Techserv Corporation opened the day workshops, followed by: Dennis Walton, Sr. Pastor of Faith Works Network: “The Value of Kind Acts of Service” (pictured top right). The workshops continued with Dr. Michael McGee of POP, Inc./ PATH, Inc., “A Discussion About Youth Violence Prevention”: Cynthia Spencer of Methodist Hospitals, “How Kindness Can Change the World”: Carlos Ayala, NIPSCO, “Civility in Leadership”: Lorraine Guillen, Indiana Civil Rights Commission, “Civility: The Foundation for Creative Altruism”: Devon Jones, HealthLinc, “Whole-Person Health & Recovery”: ending with Alison Nathan, MetaImpact, “Feed Gary Dashboard”.



The evening awards dinner featured our dynamic keynote speaker, (top center) Ms. Daryl McKissack, Founder & CEO McKissack & McKissack, a national architecture, engineering construction firm, offices in Chicago, Dallas, Baltimore and Washington DC. Community Civility Counts Awards were given to many outstanding citizens: Lilliana Gentile, Joshua Cotton, Shada Johnson-Warren, Kimberly Randolph-Brown, Dr. Cedric Ridle, Sr & (bottom center) Renee Connelly.



4.11.24

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS OF WORLD CIVILITY DAY! SEE YOU!

APRIL 10, 2025

WHAT'S UP CHUCK?



If you are a member of the Gary Chamber of Commerce, then this message is for you. So far, we have been able to achieve uncommon success. Because of your support and participation in all our endeavors, we owe our good fortune to you. Know how much we appreciate you and look forward to many more years of partnership and friendship. Be well..... Blessings, Chuck

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BUSINESS-AFTER-HOURS D & K SOUL FOOD & SALADS



Debra & Kendall McMiller of D&K Soul Food, 3669 Broadway, Gary, were the perfect hosts to the March Business-After-Hours (BAH). Great Networking, Great Food and lots of business information shared. Stop in today!

Have your BAH next—call Jan 219-885-7407 to arrange a date for you!



WCD had an outstanding line up of speakers, the students were engaged & plenty of vendors.

GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - UP COMING ACTIVITIES - Mark Your Calendar!

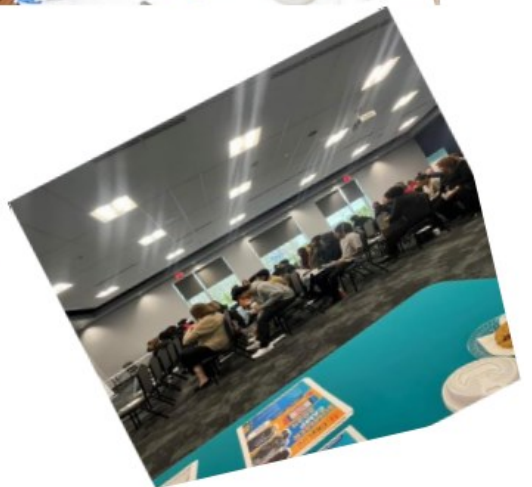
Gary Chamber of Commerce Activities

May 7	PRIMARY ELECTION DAY—EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT AND VOTE!	
May 13	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/LUNCHEON	12:00 Noon
May 15	Economic/Business Development Committee Meeting	9:00 a.m.
May 24	Education Committee Meeting	11:30 a.m.
May 27	MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED—CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED	



Member Activities—Additional Announcements & Flyers Attached

- ▶ **Congrats: A VIP reception to honor Roosevelt Haywood III, President/CEO, Haywood and Fleming Associates as the inaugural recipient of the “Circle of Excellence” award during Edgewater Health’s 50th Anniversary Gala, June 1, 2024 at Duneland Falls Banquet Center in Chesterton, Indiana.**
- ▶ **The City of Gary is offering \$30,000 to qualified homebuyers to build your new home. Contact **Broadway Area CDC**, 219-427-0465 for additional information. Office hours by appointment only 10am–3pm.**
- ▶ **Goodwill’s The Excel Center, 4610 W. Ridge Road, Gary, is a free high school for adults. Offering Core 40 Diplomas and more. For information call 219-980-6381 or Gary@excelcenterhs.org or www.goodwill-ni.org/excel-center/.**
- ▶ **Check out: Cory Armand, AIG Business Center, 3700 Broadway, Gary, in Port of Harlem Magazine. Cory is one of three young Garyites belonging to a networking group, Northwest Indiana Creative Investors Association, rebuilding the city of Gary one house at a time. Check him out at: www.portofharlem.net and www.nicia.org/.**
- ▶ **Check out: Good Day NWI, every Sunday 7pm. Info: Becky Mateja-Lombardi at teamimpress@phprintingetc.com.**
- ▶ **Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce announces new President & CEO, Kim Olesker, who took the reign April 1st. Kim is dedicated to service and philanthropy, both personally and professionally in leading the Lakeshore Chamber. Congratulations Kim!**
- ▶ **May 4, 2024—Brown Skin Coffee “Derby Day”, 1-6pm. Brown Skin Coffee-Tea-Wine, 1921 W. 25th Ave., Gary. Join Brown Skin Coffee, Que's Lounge, D & K Soul Food, Fresh County Market, and Andy’s Smoke Shop! Enjoy Majestic Horses for that authentic Derby experience. Come dressed in Full Derby Attire. Tickets \$25. Info 219-281-2155.**
- ▶ **May 6, 2024—City Life Center NWI celebrates “I Wish” Spring Dinner, 5pm, City Life Center, 225 W. 5th Avenue, Gary. The spring fundraiser to raise \$50,000 for summer camp cost and \$10,000 for scholarships. For info contact: Rhonda Miller, 219-614-0599.**
- ▶ **May 18 2024—B.E.S.T. Inc. “Don’t Stare-Just Care” Exceptional Ability 2 Mile Walk, a day of fun and inclusion. Hidden Lake Park, 6355 Broadway, Merrillville. For inquiries, call 219-525-1021 or email: info@bestsupport.org. Alexis Nelson of BEST, Inc. has wrote a new book; “Zooey Mama Just Bloom”. Purchase it on Amazon for \$10.**
- ▶ **May 18-19, 2024—Girls on the Run Spring 5K Celebration. Join to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy & confident. 18th at Highland High School, 19th at Valparaiso Family YMCA. Learn more: www.gotrofwni.org.**





[View this email in your browser](#)



Greetings from Ron and Jason at [Datamine](#),

If you've been keeping up with the news, you've undoubtedly heard that websites can be hacked -- and that's not a joke (April Fool or not) you want played on your business.

A hacked website can create all types of mayhem in a business. It's a serious problem and trying to recover hacked data and rebuild a site can cost thousands of dollars.

We are here to help you prevent that. **Don't wait until something happens.** Let's review your site!

Warm regards,

Ron and Jason

Datamine Internet Marketing

info@datamine.net

www.datamine.net

219-939-9987

P.S. Don't forget you can get a FREE website analysis. Just contact us!



Brown Skin
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04
May
1p-6p

MIDTOWN, GARY, IN

Brown Skin

DERBY DAY

TICKETS \$25 per person

LIVE BANDS | STEPPERS SET | CHARITY BOX
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Vape • Cigarettes • Delta 8THC • Lottery

QUE'S
LOUNGE


D&K

Fresh
County
Market

OUTDOOR Venue @brownskincoffee
1921 West 25th Ave. Gary, IN



SPRING DINNER

&

10th Year Celebration

MONDAY MAY 6, 2024 - 5PM



www.citylifenwi.org

*For more info Contact:
Rhonda Miller - 219-614-0599*

*225 W. 5th Ave
Gary, IN. 46402*

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Zoey Mama Just Bloom

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New from \$10.00

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0CY1PQZVZ?nodl=1...>



Tune in, Lake Shore and beyond.

Right now we are seen on 10 platforms , with over 100,000 views since January. Anyone who is interested in being on the Show should book now as the year is almost full!!! I would be happy to meet to finalize or please feel free to come to our Show! 219 921 4584.

The Excel Center



A FREE HIGH SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

The Excel Center provides an Indiana Core 40 diploma with:

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- A Life Coach: one-on-one support
- Transportation assistance
- AND MORE!



WE CAN HELP!

The mission of the Excel Center is to provide adults the coursework and support needed to earn an Indiana high school diploma to help in pursuing career and college pathways.

Personalized Attention

Our courses are designed to meet students at their level, regardless of how long they've been out of the classroom.

College Credit / Certification:

Our pre-college programs offer college credit and industry certifications, ACT and SAT prep, and financial aid counseling.

Goodwill Support:

Students can work one-on-one with a Life Coach or a team of their peers to talk about the challenges of balancing school and life, as well as to celebrate their achievements.

ENROLL TODAY!



4610 W. Ridge Rd
Gary, IN 46408

(219) 980-6381

Gary@excelcenterhs.org

<https://www.goodwill-ni.org/excel-center/>

KIDS EXCEL

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NEXT GENERATION
FOR SUCCESS!



Kids Excel is a FREE education program for
our student's children from infant to preschool.

Our staff is trained in the HighScope Curriculum that features active learning at its core. We focus on children's strengths... guiding them to explore, interact and exercise their creative imaginations. Teachers work in partnership with parents and share ideas to extend classroom learning at home.

The HighScope Curriculum includes social and emotional development, language, literacy and communication, cognitive development, creative arts, mathematics, physical development, health, science, technology and more!





Flexible Funds for a Rainy Day

Apply for a Business Line of Credit at a4cb.org

Do you have a rainy-day fund for your business? Cover your short-term financial needs with a flexible line of credit that works like a credit card, but with a much lower rate. An Allies for Community Business line of credit allows an entrepreneur to draw, repay, and redraw from available funds. Our lines of credit range from \$500 to \$100,000.

Personal collateral is not required for a line of credit, and payments are interest only for the first year on only the money borrowed.

[Apply](#)



Toast to Community Business

4:30 pm - 7 pm
Thursday, September 19, 2024

The Hatchery
135 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, IL 60612



Join Allies for Community Business (A4CB) at our annual Toast to Community Business where we will celebrate the small business owners that strengthen our communities. A4CB's Toast event will gather small business owners, community leaders, and organizational partners who support our mission. This event will feature music, door prizes, and delicious food and beverages provided by A4CB clients. We will also toast to A4CB's 30 years of service to neighborhood entrepreneurs!

A4CB's Toast to Community Business is on Thursday, September 19 at The Hatchery.

Purchase your ticket today! Early bird pricing ends on Sunday, June 30. Early bird tickets are \$150 for general admission and \$75 for nonprofit employees and A4CB clients. Starting on July 1, prices will increase to \$175 for general admission and \$100 for nonprofit employees and A4CB clients.

[Register](#)

If you are interested in sponsoring Toast to Community Business or have questions about the event, please contact Lauren Davis at ldavis@a4cb.org.



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