



LIFELINE

Volume 17, Issue 8
August 2025

"Connecting Businesses to Customers"

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



SPOTLIGHT YOUR BUSINESS "LUNCHEON LOTTERY" GARY CHAMBER AUGUST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

The Gary Chamber of Commerce will hold its Monthly General Membership Meeting/Luncheon on Monday, August 11, 2025, 12:00 Noon at The Chateau Banquets, 530 W. 61st Avenue, Merrillville, IN. This month, we are hosting "Luncheon Lotto."

Once a year, we like to give our members a Luncheon Sponsorship Freebie. Here is your chance to take the microphone and have 5 minutes to share details about you and or your business. Six lucky winners chosen at the luncheon will be afforded the opportunity normally reserved for our luncheon sponsors.

However large or small your marketing budget is, this is a great opportunity for you to showcase your business/organization and learn a bit more about your fellow providers. Your number can only be called if you are in attendance, so come prepared...

You could be one of the LUCKY SIX.....**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. Bring your business cards, networking starts at 11:30 a.m.**

(American Express, Master Card and Visa Credit and Debit cards.)

GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GENERAL MEETING/ LUNCHEON WELCOMED FORMER U.S. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR JOE DONNELLY

Donnelly, served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2007 to 2013, and U.S. Senator from 2013 to 2019. Appointed as Ambassador to the Holy See from 2022 to 2024 was the guest speaker.

"The future is bright for the city" was Donnelly's message to the attendees. In his talk, he highlighted the deal between U.S. Steel and Nippon Steel and President Trump's megabill that targets Medicaid, food stamps, and others.

Gary Community School Corporation Superintendent Yvonne Stokes gave an informative presentation on the 2025-2026 school year and the need for teachers.

New members in attendance: (r) Marsha Boone of NWI Bid-Whist Club pictured with Chuck Hughes, Gary Chamber President and Leah Lewis, Lewis Construction Co. pictured (1-r) Chuck, Gary Council woman Linda Barnes-Caldwell, and Ambassador Connelly.



NORTHWEST INDIANA CHAMBER NIGHT AT GARY SOUTHSORE RAILCATS STADIUM

Congratulations to all of NWI Chamber of Commerce. A night of Networking with Colleagues and an exciting RailCats baseball game.

This yearly networking event is always a huge success.



What's Up Chuck?



*We have all heard the refrain
"It's about the kids."
Well, it's about the kids.*

*The Gary Chamber of
Commerce, after a summer
hiatus, will be firing up its
Education Committee.*

*Look for a big
announcement
in the future.*

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Renew your Chamber Membership today to
promote and protect business
interests in Gary and all of Northwest Indiana.

You want to be a part?

Membership applications available at
www.garychamber.com or call
Jan (219) 885-7407 to join!

RIBBON CUTTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Quite The Experience
celebrated its 1st
Anniversary, Memorable
Moments of Private
Rides and Car Service
with a ribbon-cutting
and open House at 8412
Maple Avenue, Gary.

Contact PaQuita Moore (I) for all your mobile needs and
get that Black Car Experience at 219.307.6504 or
booking@quitetheexperience.com



**ELKA Child Educational
Center**, a non-profit 501
(c)(3) early learning
center, hosted a "Family
Fun Day" to celebrate
over 56 years of serving
the community. Event
highlights included
games & activities, food,
crafts & much more.

Pictured with Chuck are (I) Gina & Ashley, owners. ELKA
is located at 1953 Georgia St., Gary. Contact ELKA at
(219) 882-3552 (ELKA) for exceptional quality childcare.

GARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS & UP COMING ACTIVITIES BACK TO SCHOOL FESTS & MORE. SEE ATTACHED FLYERS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **"Now Hiring"** Gary Community School Corporation wants qualified teachers. A contract with Proximity Learning will fill some vacancies with online instructors for licensed teachers in elementary, middle, and high school this school year. Teachers are needed in the classroom. Information: Gary Community School Corporation (219) 886-6400 or info@garycsc.k12.in.us.
- **Free LED Lighting Upgrades**, funded by Indiana Electric Utilities. Contact OEO Energy Solutions for your Lighting Upgrade— FREE 4' LED Tubes, LED Outdoor Fixtures, LED High Bay Fixtures. Order : <https://oeoezled.oeo.com/gary/> or (800) 847-3997 | matt@oeo.com.
- **Ivy Tech Community College** is offering a Certified Production Technician (CPT) course. Gain the skills and credentials needed for a high-demand, high-wage career in modern manufacturing. Register now! Classes start 9/9/25. For info: www.lakecountyg-careerlink@ivytech.edu.
- **August 7, 2025 - Better Health?** Join HealthVisions Midwest Diabetes Education Empowerment Program (DEEP). 8 weekly guided sessions, 8/7/25 - 9/25/25, 12 pm to 2 pm, 5233 Hohman Avenue, Ste. 113, Hammond, IN. Register with Natali Alvarez (219) 844-2698, ext. 116 or nalvarez@hvusa.org.
- **August 7, 2025 - NorthShore Health Centers** celebrating 30 years of building a healthy community celebrating Nation Health Centers Week. Backpack give-away, health screenings, Women Health Services, information on Medicaid & Medicare. 10 am - 12 pm, 2200 Grant Street, Gary. For information: (219) 788-2984.
- **August 9, 2025-Marram Health Center "Back-To-School Health Fest"**, 12pm-3pm, IU Northwest, 3330 Broadway, Lot 9, Gary. Celebrate health and wellness with your family and friends of all ages. Free school supplies, games, prizes, bike drawing & more. Info at (219) 806-3000.
- **August 9, 2025—South Shore Health & Rehabilitation Back To School End of Summer Bash.** 10 am - 2 pm, 353 Tyler Street, Gary. School supply giveaway, Game Stations, Face Painting & much more.
- **August 9, 2025 - Downtown Gary Marketplace**, 12 pm - 4 pm, 5th and 6th & Broadway. Free produce Giveaway, Music, Games, Vendors, Food Trucks, Family Fun.
- **August 9-10, 2025—City of Gary Air Show weekend**, 11 am-2 pm, Marquette Park Beach, Gary. Food, vendors, and beachfront activities. Available parking and shuttles directly to the lakefront park. Info call: (219) 881-1300.
- **August 10, 2025—Men's Empowerment Enterprise Chicago & Grown Men Growing Men** "Back To School Bash, 2 pm-5 pm, Memorial Park, 14500 Homan Avenue, Midlothian, IL. For more information, contact Vince (309) 750-6204 (see attached flyer).
- **August 10, 2025-The Ray Lewis Foundation Back-To-School Festival**, 2 pm - 5 pm, 5416 Broadway, Merrillville. Free school supplies, haircuts & basic braids. Car Show, Food Trucks, Health Screenings and more! Follow on Facebook & Instagram @TheRayLewisFoundationInc.
- **August 21, 2025—Urban League of Northwest Indiana's Oak Jubilee Celebration.** Commemorating 80 yrs of the Urban League's impact and 15 years of dedicated leadership by Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud as President/CEO. IU Northwest, 3400 Broadway, Gary.
- **August 21, 2025 - Lewis Estates & Townhomes Groundbreaking Ceremony**, 10 am - 12 pm. 4925 Tennessee St., Gary. Celebrate the launch of Lewis Estates & Townhomes. Light refreshments & networking. Free ground-breaking tickets on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lewis-estates-townhomes-groundbreaking-ceremony-tickets-1468063761229?aff=oddttdcreator>

DIABETES EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

"Ready to start your journey to better health? Join us for a life-changing experience with DEEP!"

**JOIN
NOW!**

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR YOU

8 Weekly Guided Sessions ✓

Engaging Activities ✓

Healthy Meals ✓

Free Health Tools & Raffles ✓

LOCATION

5233 HOHMAN AVE STE. 113, HAMMOND IN 46320

Dates: August 7 to September 25

Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm



To register scan QR code or Contact:

Natali Alvarez

nalvarez@hvusa.org

219-844-2698 ext. 116

This program and flyer is produced with support from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health (OASH) Office of Minority Health (OMH) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award, CLIIHO. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by SAMHSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.



YOU'RE INVITED!

Our annual **FUN & FREE Back-to-School Health Fest** supports your family's healthy start to a new school year!

Come celebrate health and wellness with your family and friends of all ages. Visit vendor booths for screenings, health information, and appointment scheduling.

Food • Games • Music • Prizes • Bike Drawing
School Supplies *while they last!* • **& More!**

Questions? Call 219.806.3000

Health Fest Brought to You in Partnership by



SPONSORED BY THE RAY LEWIS FOUNDATION INC

BACK TO SCHOOL FESTIVAL



SOUNDS BY
DJ SUPER



Lewis Construction & Development

FOOD TRUCKS & FUN!



COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

NURSES AVAILABLE FOR HEALTH SCREENINGS

PRE-REGISTRATION IS OFFERED

VENDORS WELCOME • DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED



FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

@TheRayLewisFoundationInc

CAR SHOW INCLUDED

5416 BROADWAY, MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410





SOUTH SHORE HEALTH & REHABILITATION

BACK TO SCHOOL

End of Summer Bash!

COME JOIN US!

**Sat, Aug 9th
10 AM - 2 PM**

**School supply giveaway
Food & entertainment**

**Game stations
Snow Cones
Face Painting
& MUCH MORE!**



SOUTH SHORE

HEALTH & REHABILITATION

A Sterling Healthcare Community

353 TYLER ST.

GARY, IN 46402

PHONE: 219-886-7070

WWW.SOUTHSHOREGARY.COM

"Quality Care. Sterling Excellence"



Mens Empowerment Enterprise Chicago & Grown Men Growing Men

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Sunday August 10, 2025
From 2pm to 5pm

Memorial Park
14500 Homan Ave
Midlothian, IL 60445

For more information contact
Vince 3097506204
www.meec1.org

Features

- Free School Supplies ●
- Food and Refreshments ●
- Live Performances ●
- Fun Games and Prizes ●



DR. VANESSA ALLEN-McCLOUD



OAK JUBILEE CELEBRATION

AUGUST 21, 2025

 Urban League
of Northwest Indiana, Inc.



80 YEARS

RECEPTION & CONCERT GALA

INDIANA UNIVERSITY NW 3400 Broadway Gary, IN* 6pm*

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

WHITE OAK SPONSOR \$20,000

FULL PAGE COVER Ad in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION & PREMIER
CONCERT SEATING for 20

MAPLE SPONSOR \$8,000

FULL PAGE Ad in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION & PREMIER
CONCERT SEATING for 10

WALNUT SPONSOR \$2,500

1/4 PAGE Ad in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION &
PREMIER CONCERT SEATING for 5

RED OAK SPONSOR \$10,000

1/2 PAGE COVER Ad in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION & PREMIER
CONCERT SEATING for 15

BIRCH SPONSOR \$5,000

1/2 PAGE Ad in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION &
PREMIER CONCERT SEATING for 8

PINE SPONSOR \$1,500

LOGO in Gala Program
CELEBRITY RECEPTION &
PREMIER CONCERT SEATING for 3

GALA TICKET DONATIONS

GENERAL ADMISSION \$100
COUPLES \$150



SCAN HERE

Registration Open Now

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/oak-jubilee-celebration-reception-and-concert-gala>



DHB & ASSOCIATES

THE RAY LEWIS FOUNDATION
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE BREAKING NEW GROUND

LEWIS ESTATES & TOWNHOMES GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

AUGUST 21

TIME : 10 AM to 12 PM

★ EVENT HIGHLIGHTS ★

Celebrate the launch of Lewis Estates & Townhomes.
Remarks from city leaders, developers & special guests.

Light refreshments & networking.

Community celebration of growth & progress.



HELP US BUILD THE FUTURE OF GARY!

ROOTED IN THE COMMUNITY
GROWING TOGETHER



Lewis Construction & Development

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK : LEWIS CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT
FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM @TheRayLewisFoundationInc

4925 TENNESSEE ST., GARY, IN.



Ground breaking ceremony Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lewis-estates-townhomes-groundbreaking-ceremony-tickets-1468063761229?aff=oddtcreator>

DOWNTOWN GARY

MARKETPLACE

SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH 12-4PM

On The Lawn Between 5th and 6th & Broadway



Free Produce Giveaway!
Music, Games, Family Fun!
Vendors and Food Trucks!



Diocese of Gary
dgary.org



Thank You To Our
Sponsors:



METHODIST
HOSPITALS

Service
Sanitation
www.servic sanitation.com

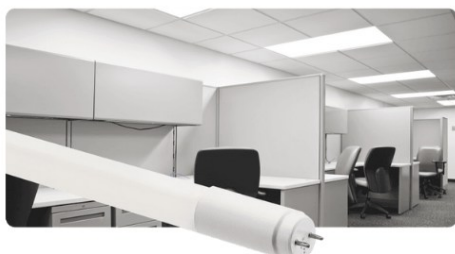
J.P. Morgan

CHASE



FREE LED LIGHTING UPGRADES

Funded by Indiana Electric Utilities



4' LED Tubes

Replace existing 4' T8, T12 & T5 fluorescent tubes used in offices, classrooms warehouses, retail, parking garages, and more.

Total cost: \$12 \$0



LED Outdoor fixtures

To replace existing 400-1000W parking lot/outdoor fixtures.

Total cost: \$250 \$0



LED High Bay Fixtures

Replace 400-1000w metal halide & high pressure sodium bulbs for high bay applications in warehouses, factories, industrial, garages, retail & gymnasiums.

Total cost: \$250 \$0

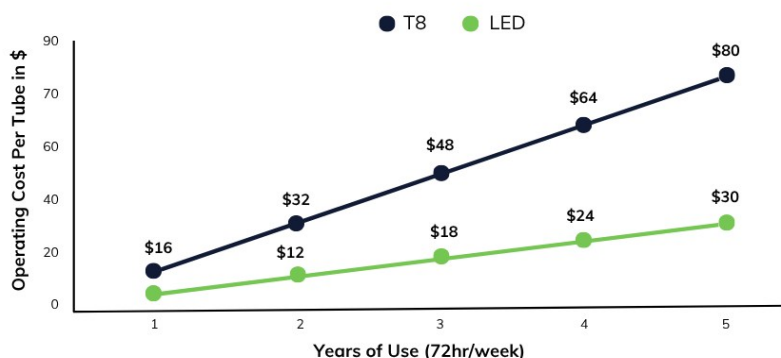
To order your lights: **CLICK HERE**

LED Benefits & ROI:

- Save 60%+ on energy costs
- Improve lighting instantly.
- Warranty: 5 Years or 50,000 hours.

Lasts 2.5x longer than fluorescents with superior LED lumen quality.

OPERATING COST OF FLUORESCENT VS OEO LED TUBES



LED LIGHTS = 2.5X LIFETIME OF FLUORESCENTS + 62.5% ENERGY SAVINGS

OEO Energy Solutions is Already Lighting Up:



Order your LED lights today!

+1 800-553-2112 | info@o eo.com

OEO.com



MAYOR EDDIE MELTON PRESENTS

2300 JACKSON STREET BLOCK PARTY

HONORED GUESTS: **JACKIE & MARLON JACKSON**

LOCATION: ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL, 730 W 25TH AVE

JACKSON BLOCK PARTY

When: August 29, 2025 - August 30, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM



Celebrating 30 years of building a healthy community one patient at a time



National Health Centers Week

Join us at the following locations

August 4th

Chesterton 10am - 12pm
Portage 2pm - 4pm

August 5th

Merrillville 10am - 12pm
Lake Station 2pm - 4pm

August 6th

DeMotte 10am - 12pm
Crown Point 2pm - 4pm

August 7th

Gary 10am - 12pm
Hammond 2pm - 4pm

August 8th

LaPorte 10am - 12pm



Backpacks

Available for the first 50 kids.



Car Seat Checks



Blood Pressure Screenings



Learn about Centering and Women Health Services

Questions about insurance? Our Patient Navigators will be available to provide information regarding SHIP, Medicaid, Medicare, Marketplace, upcoming open enrollment, etc.

WE ARE HIRING

Join Our Team



GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER!



OPEN POSITIONS

- Teachers
- Classroom Facilitators
- Special Education Teachers
- Physics (and other sciences) Teachers
- Secondary Content Teachers
- Various Support Staff

“Strong Roots. Bright Future!”

Gary Community School Corporation

(219) 985-3046
www.garyschools.org

APPLY NOW