

## LIFELINE

Volume 18, Issue 9
September 2025

"Connecting Businesses to Customers"

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



### THE AUGUST "LUNCHEON LOTTO" TURNED OUT TO BE A WINNER!

The August "LUNCHEON LOTTO" turned out to be a winner for 6 Chamber members who were the lucky ones who's winning numbers were drawn to showcase their business/organization. A chance for free advertisement and to enjoy a delicious lunch, you couldn't go wrong. "You have gotta do this again," said one luncheon attendee. Pictured are those lucky winners:



Torian Barnett
OEO Financials



Cheryl Anderson FUEL Media



Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud Urban League Northwest Indiana



Brittany Sanetta Geminus



Stephanie Hulett Gary Public Transportation Corp.



Palmer Myers Meridian Title Company



This is the smile we get from the winners of our door raffle grand prize, a \$100 gift card. Pictured I-r: Chuck Hughes, Dorothy Hulett, GPTC, and Nate Shaw, Notre Dame FCU, sponsor of the gift card.







### What's Up Chuck?



In the business, this is called "A Teaser":
Stay tuned for an important announcement regarding
The Gary Chamber of Commerce and our President/CEO, Chuck Hughes.



Jersey Mike's Subs in Crown Point turned sandwiches into support during their annual Day of Giving to United Way NWI, donating 50% of all sales to United Way Northwest Indiana. A \$2,800 check was presented to support programs that help local families achieve stability and success.

#### **RIBBON CUTTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



The Ray Lewis Foundation, a local nonprofit dedicated to creating a safer community, hosted a groundbreaking event for the Lewis Estates and Townhomes at 49th and Tennessee Street in Gary.

Pictured: Chris Lewis, Lewis Construction, and Aniah Lewis, Lewis Estates' Realtor



The Ray Lewis Foundation is breaking ground for the Lewis Estates and Townhomes at 49th and Tennessee Street in Gary.

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

- Allies or Community Business (A4cb) offer term loans and lines of credit to emerging and established businesses. For information, contact A4cb at 312-929-1952
- Ivy Tech Community College is offering Certified Production Technician (CPT) training. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9/9/25 12/16/25, 3 pm 8 pm. Contact lakecounty-careerlink@ivytech.edu.
- Check out the attached advertisement for **The DNA Man**, DNA & Drug Testing Collections, 219-232-688 or www.thednaman.com, and also **OEO Energy Solutions** offering Free LED and ROI Lighting Upgrades, 800-553-2112 or info@oeo.com.
- **September 9, 2025 Belvedere Senior Housing** celebrates National Assisted Living Week with a Classic Car Show & Fundraiser for the Merrillville Police Department. 11 am 2 pm, 343 E. 90th Drive, Merrillville. All food purchase proceeds will be donated to the Merrillville Police Department for their Therapy Dog. For additional information, please get in touch with Andrea at 219-769-2145 or visit www.belvederesniorhousing.com.
- September 11, 2025 The Salvation Army Northwest Indiana "Chip In Fore Hope" Golf Outing. White Hawk Country Club, Crown Point, Indiana. Money raised at The Salvation Army's Golf Outing has dedicated the last 11 years to providing support and opportunities for families at our community centers. Sponsorships Available. Register today. Contact Denise.Vanek@usc.salvationarmy.org.
- September 13, 2025 Broadway Area Community Development Corporation presents its Diamond Gala Fundraiser, 5:30 pm, Marquette Park Pavilion, One North Grand Blvd., Gary, IN. Tickets \$150 per person. Entertainment by Altovise Ferguson & F.A.M. For more information, contact Broadwayareacdc.com/gala.
- September 14, 2025 Urban League of Northwest Indiana, Inc. presents: Gospel Extravaganza. Special guests: Chicago Mass Choir and Comedian Ron Baker. 4:00 pm, St. Timothy Community Church, 1600 W. 25th Avenue, Gary. Tickets on sale at Eventbrite. Contact 219-887-9621 for additional information.
- September 17, 2025 HealthLinc Health Center hosts a Recovery Health & Wellness Seminar, "Recovery is For Everyone". September 26, 2025 HealthLinc Health Center Healthy Cooking Class for Kids! Both are from 3:30 pm 5:30 pm, 2301 Broadway, East Chicago Harbor, in the Community Room. Vendors, Giveaways, Health Resources, and more. Contact www.healthlincchc.org or 888-580-1060.
- September 26-27, 2025 Faith Works Network invites you to the 5th Annual Business Summit, "Vision 2025: A Summit for Resilient Leaders". 10 am 3 pm, 1351 W. 11th Ave., Gary. A collaboration among local community leaders, with a focus on new and existing business growth. For additional information, contact Brooklyn Russell at 219-742-8123 or faithworksnetwork@gmail.com.



# CLASSIC CAR SHOW & FUNDRAISER FOR MERRILLVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT







Join us for an afternoon of vintage style and fundraising for the Merrillville Police Therapy Dog!

Food sales will be donated to MPD

9	343 East 90 <sup>th</sup> Drive, Merrillville	SEP
(1)	www.belvedereeniorhousing.com	09
6	219-769-2145 <b>Example 1</b> Pet <b>Pet</b> Friendly	11AM - 2 PM

MANAGED BY GARDANT MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS



White Hawk Country Club | Crown Point, Indiana

### Thursday, September 11, 2025

Money raised at The Salvation Army's Golf Outing has dedicated the last 11 years to providing support and opportunities for families to experience art, music, sports, character building and worship at our community centers.

### REGISTRATION

Entry fee includes sack lunch, dinner, cart, 2 drink tickets/golfer

### Prices before July 9, 2025

\$180 single golfer before July 9, 2025 \$335 per twosome before July 9, 2025 \$685 per foursome before July 9, 2025 \$50 dinner only.

### Prices after July 9, 2025

\$195 single golfer after July 9, 2025 \$350 per twosome after July 9, 2025 \$700 per foursome after July 9, 2025

### **SPONSORSHIPS**

Event Sponsor - \$3,000

Banquet Sponsor - \$1,250

Hole Sponsor - \$200(1) | \$300(2)

Honoring Heroes with 10% off all golf registrations for First Responders Please contact Denise Vanek for assistance

Visit salarmy.us/chipinforehope to register online or scan QR code



The names of golfers in my twosome/foursome(s	are as follows:		
1	1		
2	2		
3	3		
4	4		
☐ Request Invoice			
Paying by check, please make check payable to: "The Salvation Army"			
Paying by credit card, please provide the following information:			
Name as it appears on credit card:			
Company name as it appears on card (if applicable):			
Billing address:			
City:			
Credit Card Number:			

### THE CITY OF GARY PRESENTS: SMALL BUSINESS NETWORKING

# FROMSTEEL TO START-UPS

Join us for a dynamic Social Networking Event designed to connect Gary's entrepreneurs and small business owners.

### SEPT. 11TH

6PM - 8:30PM

RAILCATS STADIUM 1 STADIUM PLAZA, GARY, IN 46402

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CITY OF GARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT: (219) 881-1300

www.gary.gov







# GALA FUNDRAISER

TO BENEFIT THE BROADWAY AREA CDC

# SEPTEMBER 13, 2025 MARQUETTE PARK PAVILION ONE NORTH GRAND BLVD. | GARY, IN DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM

- **© COCKTAIL RECEPTION**
- **FORMAL ATTIRE**
- TO DIAMOND RAFFLE
- **TIVE PERFORMANCES**
- **GALA DINNER**
- **BATON PASSING CEREMONY**



with
ALTOVISE
FERGUSON
featuring
F.A.M.



S150 PER PERSON

FOR MORE INFORMATION BROADWAYAREACDC.COM/GALA



CAMISHA BELL
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



VERNITA LESLIE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## Urban League of Northwest Indiana, Inc. Presents

### **GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA**

**Special Guests:** 





Comedian Ron Baker

Sunday, September 14, 2025 4pm

LOCATION: St. Timothy Community Church 1600 W 25th Ave. Gary, IN 46404

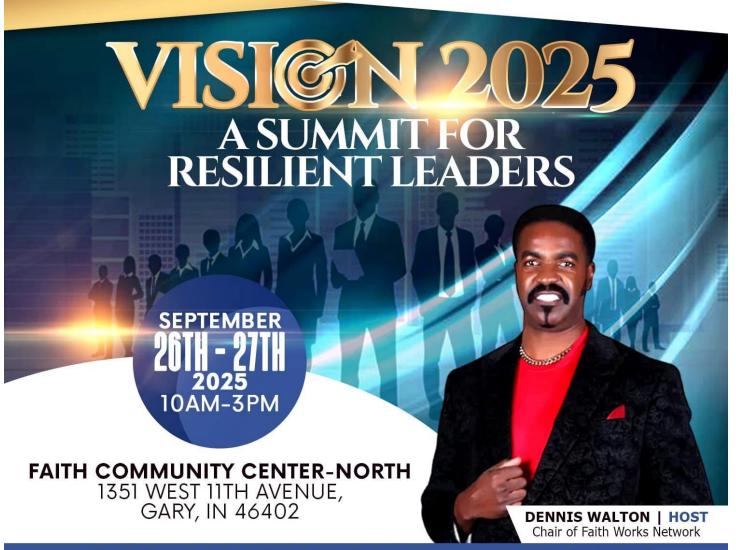
**VIP TICKETS \$75** 

RESERVE SEATING, PARKING, RECEPTION & RECOGNITION https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gospel-extravanga-tickets-1353361313119

**GENERAL TICKETS \$25** 

Additional information contact 219-887-9621





**REGISTER AT: VISION2025SUMMIT.EVENTBRITE.COM** 

# DIABETES EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

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





8 Weekly Guided Sessions 🗹

Engaging Activities 🗸

Healthy Meals 🗹

Free Health Tools & Raffles



### LOCATION

5233 HOHMAN AVE STE. II3, HAMMOND IN 46320

Dates: August 7 to September 25 Time: 12:00pm to 2:00pm

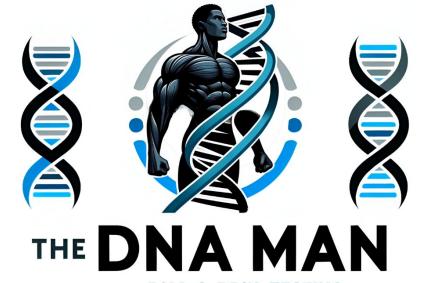


To register scan QR code or Contact: Natali Alvarez

nalvarez@hvusa.org 219-844-2698 ext. II6

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.

visit our website www.TheDNAMan.com



DNA & DRUG TESTING COLLECTIONS

(219) 232-6882







# RECOVERY IS FOR EVERYORE

**Every Person, Every Family, Every Community** 

### Recovery Health & Wellness

### Wednesday September 17

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. CST

### HealthLinc East Chicago Harbor

2301 Broadway St. in the Community Room

Pizza & Paint Activity • Behavioral Health Resources
Vendors • Giveaways • And More!



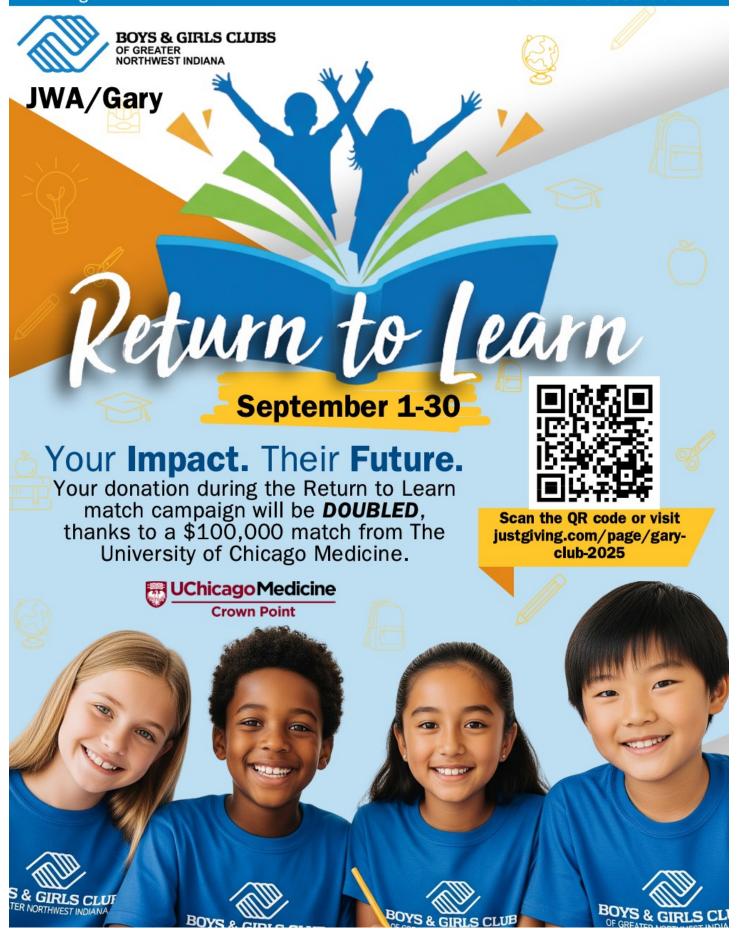


Healthy Snack Education Giveaways • Resources • and More!



HealthLinc East Chicago Harbor Community Room - 2301 Broadway St.





## 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@oeo.com







Allies for Community Business values our relationships with banks who provide entrepreneurs with traditional services such as bank deposit accounts. If your bank cannot lend you what you need, we may be able to do so and therefore banks will often refer valued entrepreneurs to us.

We offer term loans and lines of credit between \$500 and \$500,000 to early emerging, and established businesses in Illinois and Indiana. We charge 10% to 12% interest and 3% in closing fees.

We are a little different form other lenders: we do not use credit scores and do not put liens on your personal assets unless you are approved for more than \$250,000. Instead, we evaluate how well you have managed your debts over the past two years and how much cash you have available to make monthly loan payments to us. We provide a loan to every entrepreneur that qualifies, and we provide free coaching to every entrepreneur who is interested in growing their business.

Want to connect with us before applying? Schedule a 15-minute session with a Community Lender. Contact us at 312-929-1952 or <a href="mailto:loan@a4cb.org">loan@a4cb.org</a>.



## Certified Production TECHNICIAN



---- (PT-

The CPT training prepares one to master the core competencies of manufacturing production at the front line with the successful completion of the class and certification exams. Gain the skills and credentials needed for a



lakecounty-careerlink@ivytech.edu

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Erica Fizer Katsepas Vice President of Philanthropy Legacy Foundation efizer@legacyfdn.org 219-736-1880

#### Legacy Foundation Celebrates Record Year of Growth and Community Impact

MERRILLVILLE, Ind. (Aug. 25, 2025) – Legacy Foundation announced historic achievements at its 2025 Annual Celebration, highlighting a year of unprecedented growth and impact in Lake County, IN. Over the past 18 months, the foundation completed its largest fundraising campaign in history, raising \$9.3 million with support from donors and a matching gift from Lilly Endowment Inc. Of that total, \$5.87 million strengthened the foundation's unrestricted endowment, providing flexible resources to meet Lake County's current and future needs.

This campaign has supported a variety of projects, including the Tolleston Opportunity Campus, expanded food pantries at Tradewinds and the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana, renovations at Calumet College of St. Joseph and Ivy Tech Community College East Chicago Campus, environmental fellowships at Dunes Learning Center, Northwest IndianaSymphony's summer concerts, and preservation efforts at Friends of Marquette Park and the Marquette Greenway.

"Lake County's progress is built on the collective commitment of our neighbors, nonprofits and businesses," said Kelly Anoe, Legacy Foundation president and CEO. "These achievements are possible only because people continue to invest their time, talent and resources in our community. There is still more to do, and we are grateful to walk alongside our partners in this work."

In 2024, the foundation awarded \$6.6 million in grants and scholarships, supported by 792 donors, and grew its managed assets to \$130 million, a 55% increase in 18 months. Foundation leaders emphasized that continued community support is essential to sustaining the long-term impact.

Legacy Foundation also highlighted major programs in Lake County IN. The NWI Thrive project, supported by a \$20 million Lilly Endowment grant, will expand trails, connect communities and promote nature, culture and wellness across three counties and 11 municipalities. Cedar Lake became Indiana's first Heart & Soul community, engaging residents in shaping the town's future.

As part of the celebration, the foundation honored outstanding community leaders with the Heart of Lake County Awards. Beth A. Casbon, president and attorney at Komyatte & Casbon P.C., received the Excellence in Nonprofit Board Leadership Award; Dana Rifai, attorney at Rifai Law Group, received the Gold Key Award; Dr. Michael McGee, medical director of the emergency department at the University of Chicago, Crown Point received the Community Spirit Award; and Centier Bank received the Corporate Philanthropy Award. For more information and to support Legacy Foundation local initiatives, visit <a href="https://www.legacyfdn.org">www.legacyfdn.org</a>.

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#### Legacy Foundation

Since 1992, Legacy Foundation has connected people with the resources and opportunities they need to build a thriving Lake County. The foundation manages charitable funds, awards grants and scholarships and partners with nonprofits and community leaders to create lasting impact.

