



Gary
Chamber
of
Commerce

Lifeline

Volume 16 Issue 3
March 2018

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

PROVEN EXPERT IN MULTIPLE MANAGEMENT AREAS TO ADDRESS CHAMBER MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Gary....The Gary Chamber of Commerce will hold its Monthly General Membership Luncheon on Monday, March 12, 2018, 12:00 Noon at The Gary SouthShore RailCats Administration Building, 2nd Floor, One Stadium Plaza, Gary. The Chamber welcomes a proven expert in the areas of management, risk assessment, crisis management and dispute resolution, Robert Johnson Esq.



Robert has over 20 years of experience in these matters both domestically and international. Previously Mr. Johnson was the Franchise Relations Officer for McDonald's Corporation's Central Division. Come out and learn how Robert Johnson created McDonald's \$55 million a year Worker's Compensation program and ultimately saved the company \$60 million dollars.

Come out and hear this dynamic business executive and learn how his success can be your success.

The cost of the luncheon is **\$20 per person** reserved reservations, **\$22 at the door**.

Call the Chamber office (219) 885-7407 to **reserve your seats today**.

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



(L) Joe Hamrock, President & CEO of NiSource is presented with the Chambers' one of a kind "Drinking Vessel" by Executive Director, Chuck Hughes at the February General Membership Meeting/Luncheon. (R.) Mr. Hamrock and Chuck welcome new members (l-r) Attorney Tony Walker, The Walker Law Group, P.C. and Richard D. Ligon of Praetorian Consulting Group.



SAVE-THE-DATE



WORLD CIVILITY DAY 2018

Members of the Public Policy Committee, through their Community Civility Counts initiative is gearing up for the 3rd Annual World Civility Day. A full day of activities which includes civility themed morning workshops at the Indiana Welcome Center and an evening Awards Dinner at the Avalon Manor. Pictured are committee members: Chairman, Dr. Gordon Bradshaw, Cheryl Scott-Fields and Chuck Hughes. Not pictured are Beverly Harbour and Bob Heisse.



What's Up Chuck?



Hello All!

As we approach the end of the first quarter of the year, I want to thank the Board, our members and supporters for getting us off to a terrific start. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.



February luncheon guests: Renee Connelly and Mary Cossey.



Congratulations to Powers and Sons Construction Co., a partner of the Lakeside Alliance Construction Management Team selected to manage the building of the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago, a project worth over \$350 Million. Visit <http://www.blackenterprise.com/black-construction-company-projects-to-get-70-million-revenue-boost-from-massive-obama-presidential-center-project/> and read the full article in Black Enterprise Magazine.

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

Gary Chamber of Commerce Activities for March 2018

March 11	<u>Spring Ahead—Daylight Savings Time</u>	
March 12	<u>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/LUNCHEON</u>	12:00 Noon
	SouthShore RailCats Admin. Bldg. 2nd Floor	Networking - 11:30 a.m.
	Guest speaker: Robert Johnson, Esq. of the Solomon Group LLC	
March 21	<u>Economic/Business Development Committee Meeting</u>	9:00 a.m.
	Gary Chamber Conference Room	
March 22	<u>Education Committee Meeting</u>	11:00 a.m.
	Gary Chamber Conference Room	
March 26	<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u>	11:30 a.m.
	Gary Chamber Conference Room	
March 27	<u>Public Policy Committee Meeting</u>	9:30 a.m.
	Gary Chamber Conference Room	
March 30	GOOD FRIDAY • OFFICE CLOSED	



Member Activities for March 2018

- ▶ Methodist Hospitals appoints new Assistant Vice Presidents: Sheila Cook and Trischa Turner, both with well over 20 yrs. of dedicated nursing experience. Amy Grzyb has been appointed new Director of Food and Nutrition Services, and Kevin Parker as new Director of Plant Operations.
- ▶ 21st Century Charter School, 724 Washington Street in Gary receives \$900,000 startup grant. Wow! See attached flyer.
- ▶ March 9, 2018 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony invite for LRPLIVE.TV. 11am – 3pm, Dynasty Banquets, 4125 Calumet Ave., Hammond, Chefs hot buffet, live entertainment, and company overview. For info to reserve a seat call 844-943-3393 or visit: www.lrlive.tv/ticket-me (see attached flyer).
- ▶ March 10, 2018 – “Women and Men: Celebrating Healthy Hearts.” Increase the awareness of “Healthy Lifestyles.” 10am – 12:30pm, Genesis Convention Center, Gary. Co-sponsored by the Black Women Physicians Institute and Community Health-Net, Inc. Luncheon, Health Screenings, and scholarships. For additional information contact Dr. Rose Green Thomas, (219) 616-3912, or drthomas@sbcglobal.net (see attached flyer).
- ▶ March 14, 2018 – Healthy, Wealthy & Wise, a Women’s Empowerment Conference and Brunch. Keynote Speaker: Stedman Graham. Workshops, symposiums and vendors, 9am – 4pm, Innsbrook Country Club, 6701 Taft St., Merrillville. For information visit Eventbrite.com or Shear Creations (219) 881-9315 for tickets (see attached flyer).
- ▶ March 20, 2018 – LIVE2>LEAD Northwest Indiana. Dr. Danita Johnson Hughes hosts a symposium with a group of influential and successful leaders. 8am – 2:30pm, Horseshoe Casino, The Venue, 777 Casino Center Dr., Hammond. For addition info: 219-885-4264 ext. 2604. Complementary Breakfast and Lunch.
- ▶ March 22, 2018 – Urban League of Northwest Indiana, Inc. 2018 Diversity and Inclusion Awards Luncheon. 11:30am, Avalon Manor, 3550 E. US Hwy 30, Merrillville, IN. Sponsorship and ticket information available at www.urbanleagueofnwi.org, or call Urban League office 219-887-9621 (see attached flyer).
- ▶ March 23, 2018 – Ivy Tech Foundation presents 14th annual Spring Fundraising Event, 5:30pm at the Aberdeen Manor, 216 Ballantrae St., Valparaiso. Dinner, silent auction and a *Tribute to the Stars*. For information contact Cindy Hall 219-476-4710 or cjhall@ivytech.edu (see attached info).

SAVE -THE - DATE

APRIL 12, 2018 • WORLD CIVILITY DAY • INDIANA WELCOME CENTER • AVALON MANOR



You're Invited...

**MARCH 9, 2018
11AM - 3 PM**

**LRP BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY!
WE ARE EXCITED AND ASK THAT
YOU JOIN US AS WE UNVEIL OUR
NEW PLATFORM TO THE WORLD.
OUR 2018 MARKETING CAMPAIGN
IS "SHARE, SUBSCRIBE & SPONSOR."
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON
THIS MONUMENTAL EVENT!**



LRP MORNING SHOW HOST

**\$50 PER PERSON, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
WITH CHEFS HOT BUFFET INCLUDED:**

**FULL & HALF TABLE RESERVATIONS
AVAILABLE. SECURE YOUR TABLE EARLY
ON LRPLIVE.TV/TICKET-ME OR CALL:**

(844) 943-3393

TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY.

**DYNASTY BANQUETS
4125 CALUMET AVE.
HAMMOND, IN 46327**

4TH ANNUAL

♥ WOMEN & MEN ♥

4TH ANNUAL

You're Invited To

“CELEBRATING HEALTHY HEARTS”



THEME:
“THE COLOR IS RED”

Northwest Indiana Regional

Health Fair / Scholarship Luncheon / Program: Health Ministries in Northwest Indiana

Co-Sponsored by Black Women Physicians Institute & Community Healthnet, Inc.
Rose Green Thomas, Ed. D • Janet Seabrook, M.D./M.B.A.

Saturday, March 10, 2018 ♥ 10:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

GENESIS CONVENTION CENTER

One Genesis Center Plaza, Gary Indiana 46402

10:00 A.M. Health Screenings

11:30 A.M. Luncheon and Program

12:30 A.M. Adjournment

CELEBRATE!!!!!!!

- ENJOY:** A variety of health screening opportunities from reputable health services providers.
- LEARN:** A complete overview of heart health care innovations and research technologies to be shared by respected heart specialists.
- EXPLORE:** A diverse group of vendors rendering an array of products and services with your needs and desires in mind.
- SHARE:** A social gathering of regional health advocates for a delectable lunch and opportunities to acknowledge scholarship recipients and distinguished service awardees.
- WITNESS:** A program recognizing health ministries to include speakers, praise dancers and a “Parade of Spring Hats.”

LIVE 2 >> LEAD

LIVE 2 >> LEAD

NORTHWEST INDIANA

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Horseshoe Casino

THE VENUE

777 Casino Center Dr.
Hammond, IN 46320

8:00 AM - 2:30 PM



HOST:

DR. DANITA JOHNSON HUGHES

*Healthcare executive, author, speaker, trainer,
and television commentator.*



CO-HOST:

MICHAEL A. APPLGATE

*Internationally renowned motivational speaker,
program development specialist, business consultant
and an author.*

REGISTER

TODAY!

**PACKAGES STARTING @
\$89.00**

TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

VISIT: <http://bit.ly/Live2LeadDrDanitaHughes>

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 219-885-4264 Ext. 2604

SYMPOSIUM | VENDORS | NETWORKING
REBROADCAST

3.5 CEU CREDITS AVAILABLE

Complementary Breakfast and Lunch

SPEAKERS

JOHN C. MAXWELL



Leadership Expert, New York Times
Bestselling Author & Coach

DAVE RAMSEY



Personal Money Management
Expert, Bestselling Author

CHERYL BACHELDER



Former CEO, Popeyes Louisiana
Kitchens, Inc.

WARRICK QUINN



Former NFL Running Back, Partner
of the Atlanta Falcons



Urban League of
Northwest Indiana, Inc.



Diversity and Inclusion Award Luncheon

Avalon Manor

3550 E. US Hwy 30

Merrillville, IN 46410

March 22, 2018 – 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Sponsorship Levels

Moving the Needle	\$12,000
Champions of Inclusion	\$6,500
Heroes of Diversity	\$3,500
Leaders of Inclusion	\$2,500
Advocates for Inclusion	\$1,500
Team up for Inclusion	\$1000

Luncheon Only

Small Business Package, Admission for 3	\$175
Individual Admission	\$75
Vendor Table	\$100

Visit the Urban League website at www.ulofnwi.org for details
and a copy of the registration form or
call the office at 219-887-9621.

Program booklet Ad's are also available by calling the office.



March 2, 2018

**GEO's 20th Year is Off to a Great Start!
\$2,150,000 Received In First Two Months of**

Dear Friends:

I know I just sent you an email earlier this week so why a second one so quickly? We just received great news today that our new school in Gary received a \$900,000 startup grant. That's why. There were 23 applicants for this competitive grant and we were among the nine schools selected to receive the grant. Wow!

These dollars will help us buy desks, chairs, computers, software, hire and train staff, recruit students and much more. All I can say is WOW!!!

So, after getting this news, I had to sit back and reflect just a bit this morning and remind myself that this is GEO's 20th year of operation. That is hard to believe! 20 years!

We started out in my living room as an advocacy organization for school choice. We still support and advocate for school choice, but today, instead of buying radio, tv and newspaper ads, or writing op-eds and putting together rallies for school choice at the state house, we practice school choice by providing it in communities where it is desperately needed—Gary, Indiana, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Colorado Springs, Colorado. We currently serve 2500 students in these three cities and will serve 3,000 this August. I always tell friends, "Unfortunately, business is good. If we weren't needed, we wouldn't be in business." We are needed in Baton Rouge, Gary and Colorado Springs and now other cities are calling, too. We will see what we can do in other areas of the country but our focus will always be on making sure our schools are HIGH QUALITY. We do not seek to have hundreds of schools, rather, we seek to have HIGH QUALITY schools. The students we serve deserve nothing but the best from us and our focus must be on the students we serve, not on growing an empire of a bunch of low to medium quality schools.

In any case, this is our 20th year and we are off to an AMAZING start. In January and February, we received \$1 million to help us buy a building in Baton Rouge that will help us serve 500 students this August. We received another \$250,000 to help us with this same effort. In February, we purchased a building to start our new school in Gary. And today, we earned a \$900,000 grant to help start that school off on the right foot. Just wow!

The picture on the left down below shows the kind of parent support we receive at our schools and the picture on the right is perhaps the most illustrative of our results and our mission—beating poverty! Nyesha Canady is a 2014 alum of 21st Century Charter in Gary. She earned her Associate Degree while in our high school and then graduated from Ball State in 2016 debt free. She now teaches in our school and has earned enough and has enough financial security to buy her own car. She has financial security, health and retirement benefits and is off to a great life. That's what this is all about. Pretty cool!

I wonder what the rest of the year will look like.

Lets keep changing and improving the world together!

Sincerely,

Kevin Teasley
President
GEO Foundation
317-694-9985
Twitter: @teasleygeo



[Website](#) [About Us](#) [Our Schools](#) [Contact Us](#)





NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 30, 2018

For further information, contact:
Sarah M Holst, Marketing/Communication Assistant
219-981-1111
sholst1@ivytech.edu

Tribute to the Stars Spring Fundraiser to benefit Ivy Tech Students

VALPARAISO: The Ivy Tech Foundation presents the 14th annual Spring Fundraising Event on Friday, March 23, 2018 at 5:30 PM at the Aberdeen Manor, 216 Ballantrae Street in Valparaiso. The event includes dinner, silent auction and a *Tribute to the Stars* entertainment featuring Jim Bulanda & Quentin Flagg. Proceeds from this event will help support Ivy Tech students at the campuses in Lake County (East Chicago, Gary and Crown Point/Merrillville), Michigan City and Valparaiso.

Tickets are \$85 per person (\$45 is tax deductible). Tickets can be purchased on line at <http://connect.ivytech.edu/events/springevent2018>. For more information, please contact Cindy Hall at (219) 476-4710 or cjhall@ivytech.edu. Reservations and ticket purchases by Friday, March 9, 2018.

This Las Vegas-style act includes Bulanda paying tribute to the stars from Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin to Neil Diamond and Michael Buble, just to name a few. Flagg adds the high-energy rock 'n' roll of Bobby Darin, Elvis Presley, and Doo Wop to shake up the stage! This exciting show will make you tap your toes, snap your fingers, and leave you wanting to dance!

Ivy Tech Community College is the state's largest public post-secondary institution and the nation's largest singly accredited statewide community college system. Ivy Tech has campuses throughout Indiana. It serves as the state's engine of workforce development, offering affordable degree programs and training that are aligned with the needs of its community along with courses and programs that transfer to other colleges and universities in Indiana. Ivy Tech is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

###