

THIS EDITION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to provide access and opportunities to African American businesses and professionals throughout the region. Guided by the core values of equity in opportunity, economic advancement, self-sufficiency and entrepreneurial excellence, we will seek to advance economic parity by ensuring full participation.

**AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER SUITE 701
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

SEPTEMBER 2001

This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for members, supporters, and sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania.

Hope your summer was productive and provided some time to relax. Your chamber has been busy, with some exceptional programs and first time events having taken place: The Mentor Protégé Program is constantly evolving & receiving new applicants. Our Advisory Board has been helpful in providing valuable insights and advise as we work to make more matches. Director Courtney Smith has developed the curriculum that is designed to achieve success. The July 'Doing Business with CCAC' was well attended and provided a more unique insight into how procurement takes place at the college. A big thanks to Member Dr. Roy Flores for setting the tone, and to Annie Pettway for her effective way of translating staff comments. The key is working the system and developing relationships with the decisions makers. The August 'How to

Effectively Use the Media' was a power-packed meeting. Thanks to our facilitator-Member Rodd Doss for having four Editors present on the panel—a first ever. Thanks to all those who attended and returned the evaluation form. We will publish the results in October. And finally, the Town Meeting with the State Department of Transportation was an informative session with quite a vocal group in attendance. I am sure we will hear from John Dunlap on the follow up.

Enclosed with your newsletter was a printout of your membership information. It is critical to verify the accuracy and mail or fax us any changes as soon as possible. We are planning to produce the 2002 Directory by November. You should know the directory is widely used and without your specific areas of expertise listed, you will

not receive a reference to an inquiry or company referral.

The Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus will hold their Annual Summit October 4-7 in Philadelphia. For more info, call 1-717-772-6955. Member Joe Preston will obviously play a major role, given his new position of Minority Chairman of the state House of Consumer Affairs Committee!

Mark your calendar for: September 21st

PowerBreakfast—Earl Hord Executive Director, Allegheny County Dept. of Economic Development. He will discuss activities in the County and how you can participate. Also, Tom Sokolowski, Director/The Andy Warhol Museum will discuss the 'Without Sanctuary' Exhibit and what you can expect during your visit.

September 27th
Members Mixer—The Andy Warhol Museum to experience the exhibition; "Without Sanctuary". Sponsor: H.J. Heinz Co.

October 17th.
Kent George, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh

International Airport. His remarks will focus on doing business with the airport.

November 17th
Ronnie Bryant, President
Pittsburgh Regional
Alliance.

December 5th
Third Annual Business
Luncheon Omni William
Penn Hotel.

Opportunity
Member Beth Wainwright
Leadership Pittsburgh has
launched two programs:
Snapshot & Opportunity
Pittsburgh. These half-day
community sessions offer
you a behind the scenes
look at our region at a
price you can't resist. Call
412-392-4505 to sign up.
Member P.J. Dick is look-
ing for cement masons,
female truck drivers,
general laborers, operating
engineers, and carpenters.
They were awarded the
contracts for the Forest
County Correctional
Institute and the Somerset
County Turnpike Roadway
& Bridge Reconstruction
projects. Call their HR
department 412-205-1185
for details.

A LOCAL Bank is
recruiting positions at all
levels, from bank tellers to
branch mgrs. Excellent
benefits and up to \$3500
tuition reimbursement.
Know of anyone? Call
Member Sharon Tragesser
at Weida Tucker & Assoc.
at 412-351-9309.
If you have a four-year
degree and are looking for

work in sales, call Dan
Kerr at 412-492-0300.
Full benefits, company
car, etc. Must have at
least one year prior sales
experience.

Rotary International is
sponsoring a month long
all expense paid group
study exchange next
spring to Argentina for a
business or professional
ages 25-40. Interested?
Call Judy Lorigan 412-
425-7444 or email her at
jlorigan@neobright.net to
learn how you can apply
for this opportunity.

The March of Dimes
is accepting applications
for Community Grants at
their Smithfield Street
Office. To find out if your
business qualifies, call
412-391-3193. There is
time to sign up for the
October 13th Gift of Life
Walk. Email **Member**
Jaimie Joyce at
jaimie@kidneywp.org.

CONGRATULATIONS

Members Councilwoman
Valerie McDonald and
Ted Roberts planned a
coup. They were married
August 26th aboard the
Royal Caribbean's 'Voy-
ager of the Seas' the
largest Cruise Liner ever.
It was truly special and
the bride and groom were
all smiles as they dis-
appeared onboard for a
week. Good luck to Ted
& Valerie. Her early
wedding gifts were the
Democratic Endorsement
for County Recorder of

Deeds and being chosen as
the Woman of Spirit by
Chatham College. **Member**
Roda Ward Carter was
featured in the "Final Look"
article of Pitts-burgh
Magazine. Good luck with
your cosmetic line! **Member**
George Miles will be
recognized at Heinz Field
Oct. 2nd by The Mentoring
Partnership of Southwestern
Pa. **Member** Eddie Edwards
will receive the Lifetime
Achievement Award from
Member Sharon Williams &
the Minority Enterprise Corp
at the September Pillar
Awards Event. Up for the
Pillar Awards are: **Members**
Karen Davis, Al Merritt, Jim
Rice, Grace Robinson, Roda
Ward Carter, Gerri Holden,
Diane Daniels, Weida
Tucker, Louis Waller, & Irv
Williams. WOW!!

Member Sylvester Kaundra
of & S. K. Computers was
featured in the Donora Daily
News. **Member** Constance
Balthrop is busy with the
Eastgate development
project getting underway.
Member Bill Strickland was
nominated to become Chair
of the National Endowments
for the Arts. His newest
venture-Harbor Gardens
Park Greenhouse received \$2
million to teach students how
to grow tomatoes & orchids.
Member Ilecia Williams is
CCAC's 2001 Distinguished
Hotel & Restaurant Manage-
ment Professional!

" WELCOME NEW MEMBERS"

E. Baker
Images Fines Arts, Gifts & Food

Roda Ward Carter
Universal Colors Cosmetics
Marva Ford
Hair West of London
Theresa B. Johnson
Terri Johnson Training &
Consulting, Inc.
Ayanna A. King
Consulting & Concepts
Anthony D. Luck
Luck & Associates
Nicole D. Manison, Esquire
Law Offices of
Nicole D. Manison
Herman Mosley
Airport Display & Publishing
Diane P. Pernell
Pernell Printing & Publishing.
Willie Slaughter
G&S Transportation &
Cleaning, Inc.
Larry M. Williams
Minority Tire Reclamation, Inc.
Samuel J. Wright, Jr.
W & W Demolition &
Excavation, Inc.
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Connie Barren
United Way Allegheny County
Cheryl L. Coleman
CL Fund
Dr. John Thompson
Pittsburgh Public Schools
SUPPORTING MEMBERS
David Black
Pittsburgh Partnership for
Neighborhood Development
Nancy Sheppard
Pittsburgh Technical Institute
Sandra J. Stevenson
Slippery Rock University
Laura Zinski
Mon Valley Initiative
CORPORATE SPONSOR
Lloyd Gibson
NorthSide

**PRESIDENTIAL
ROUNDTABLE**
Murry Gerber