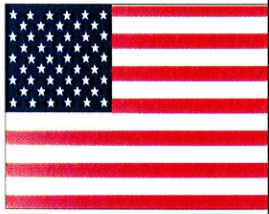


### THIS EDITION

- ◆ Four out of Five isn't bad!
- ◆ National Urban League Registration is open
- ◆ Breakfast with the Secretary
- ◆ Members in the News
- ◆ Welcome New Members



### 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

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER SUITE 1330  
425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219

(412) 392-0610 FAX (412) 392-0612 [information@aaccwp.com](mailto:information@aaccwp.com)  
[www.aaccwp.com](http://www.aaccwp.com) DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

June 2003

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

Thank you to all who attended the Members Annual Meeting and the luncheon that followed. Those who didn't attend missed a real treat☺. Ulice Payne addressed the members during our meeting before 'talking shop' with Corporate Sponsor Kevin McClatchy prior to his presentation. Ulice was truly engaging! He stayed around to shake hands with former "home boys", teammates, & Well-wishers. Thanks to the Brewers & Pirates for the exciting centerpieces. Member James Hamlin will present them to the Cub Scouts top achievers at their luncheon next week. A big thanks goes to Member Ralph Papa for Citizens Bank's sponsorship & to Supporting Member Barbara McMahon for the support of the Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel staff for the scrumptious lunch & for taking care of every detail. The view was incredible☺.

The Annual Meeting took place on Election Day. According to the Elections Bureau, only 12% of all registered African Americans voted in the primary! The good news, however is Four of the Five Blacks running

won their election, in some cases without the endorsement of their party. Member Twanda Carlisle (City Council-District9) & Valerie McDonald Roberts (Allegheny County Recorder of Deeds) were both endorsed but had opposition. On the other hand, Brenda Frazier, running for re-election to County Council, did not have her party's endorsement. She & Member William 'Bill' Robinson were both victorious in their race for County Council. Congratulations to each of them. The next forum is September 11<sup>th</sup> when candidates Dan Onorato & Jim Roddey come before you to discuss who should be our Allegheny County Chief Executive.

June 20<sup>th</sup> is our next PowerBreakfast Meeting when Dr. John Thompson will discuss his upcoming plans & formally introduce Paula Castlebury, his new MBE Coordinator. He will also be asked to discuss what affect Patrick Dowd winning in the primary may have on who may become the President of the School Board.

Mark your calendars for a special Breakfast

Meeting July 25<sup>th</sup> when Secretary for Community & Economic Development - Dennis Yablonsky- addresses you. He will share with us the impact of the new state budget & his plans for stimulating economic development in our region.

Member Esther Bush is busy preparing to welcome the National Urban League Conference & the new President of the Movement-Mark Morial, to our city. There is still time to volunteer, (must be 25 or older to work with the Nulites Students); call: 412-227-4802, & you can register online at [www.nul.org](http://www.nul.org). Don't forget you can join in the excitement:

Tuesday, July 22, 2003  
National Urban League Night  
PNC Park 7:05 PM

Houston Astros vs. Pirates  
Tickets are currently reserved & discounted especially for the National Urban League, so call the Pittsburgh Pirates at (412) 325-4653, mention the National Urban League & receive your discount.

If you act right away, there is still time to join Associate Member Dr. Mary McKinney at the Annual Entrepreneur's Growth Conference on June 12<sup>th</sup>. To register email [jonesst@duq.edu](mailto:jonesst@duq.edu) or call 412-396-6233.

The Girl Scouts are looking for new members for their Board of Directors. Call Glenda Murphy @ 412-281-9262; email [gmurphy@olszak.com](mailto:gmurphy@olszak.com) & learn about their timeframe for filling positions to their board.

The Department of Energy issued a Pre-solicitation notice for a "Competitive Sourcing Study for Financial Services", Solicitation Number, DE-RP05-03OR22963. Their website [www.pr.doe.gov](http://www.pr.doe.gov) has the details, or email



**PAGE 2**

Marcia A. Haynes

[marcia.haynes@hq.doe.gov](mailto:marcia.haynes@hq.doe.gov)

On Saturday, June 14, Presidential Roundtable Member Citizens Bank will host a free admission day at Carnegie Museum of Art & Carnegie Museum of Natural History. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Oakland facility will be open free to the public & the two museums will feature a host of family activities, entertainment & refreshments, & a special buffet in the Museum Café.

We recently learned from Member Mariann Geyer (PDP) that Federated Department Stores has implemented a national strategy to leverage its Macy's brand. That means the Macy's name will be coupled with all of the company's regional department store names, including Lazarus starting August 1.

The Eastern Corridor Transit Study and PAT will be holding a Public Open House on the potential expansion or implementation of light rail transit from downtown & out to Greensburg, New Kensington and Clairton. For dates & locations, call 412-244-3445.

The state Legislature approved an amendment to the Constitution permitting caps on non-economic damages in all civil lawsuits. The amendment must still pass the Senate & then pass a second time in 2005, but it is a precedent-setting start. This is a first!

The United Way made grants thru the Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management at Robert Morris University. Included was the Program

to Aid Citizen Enterprise (PACE). Member Barbara Bazron was one of the grant recipients will receive \$25,000 to implement the Commission's Strategic Plan.

If you are looking for grant opportunities, a good resource is the Delta Regional Authority, a special partnership. Current grant listings can be found at [www.dra.gov](http://www.dra.gov) or [www.grantstation.com](http://www.grantstation.com) if you are interested.

Power\*Up Education, an educational technology firm that's part of The NewMediaGroup, is holding two, week-long Tech Camps for middle school & high school teens at their offices Downtown in the Arrott Bldg. at Fourth & Wood. The first camp runs from July 7 to 11; the second from July 21 to 25. Students will learn how to make their own video games, & be introduced to advanced vector graphics, Action Script, programming logic, game design, plan & shoot a 30-second video with Star Wars-type effects. Call 412-765-3696 for details.

The Center for Minority Health would like to invite you to the 9th Annual Summer Public Health Research Videoconference on Minority Health. It will broadcast live from the University of North Carolina School of Public Health, June 9-13, 2003; 1:30-4:30 pm EDT. The broadcast will be shown locally at: University of Pittsburgh Lecture Room 1; 4th Floor, Scaife Hall 3550 Terrace Street Pittsburgh, PA 15261. You can join the discussions via toll-free telephone connection from the auditorium.

**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS**

Please help us keep your information current.

Call the office when you have email or address changes, updates to your certification, & new areas of expertise for your firm. It helps us with referrals to companies.

**June 20<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 AM

PowerBreakfast Meeting  
Dr. John Thompson,  
Superintendent  
Pittsburgh Public Schools  
& Paula Castlebury,  
MBE Coordinator

**Members Mixer**

Thursday, June 26th  
5108 Baum Boulevard  
from 5:00-7:30 pm

Your host: Member  
Grace Robinson

**July 25, 2003**

Special

Breakfast Meeting with  
Secretary Dennis Yablonsky  
Pa. Dept. of Community  
& Economic Development

**September 11, 2003**

5:00 – 6:30 PM

Rivers Club  
Candidates Forum for  
Allegheny County Chief  
Executive  
James Roddey &  
Dan Onorato

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Member Mulu Birru on  
URA's groundbreaking for  
the 7 new homes in Homewood.

Presidential Roundtable  
Member Dominion named  
a top supporter of engineering  
programs at black colleges  
and universities by  
Career Communications  
Group of Baltimore.

Member Mark Lay of  
MDL Capital Management,  
Inc. on being a finalists for  
Ernst & Young's W. Pa.'s  
2003 Entrepreneur of the  
Year Award.

Member Bill Strickland on

his successful opening and  
fundraiser for The Drew  
Mathieson Horticultural  
Center. At the opening,  
Allegheny County Chief  
Executive James Roddey  
announced a \$250,000  
planning grant to the Manchester Bidwell Corporation to begin the planning process for the Greenhouse II project in McKeesport!

Member Winifred Torbert  
Department of the Pirates  
received the Sports & Entertainment Ward from  
PRMPC.

Associate Member Ann  
Dugan, this year's recipient  
of the 2003 WOA  
Award. Ann is the Executive  
Director of the Institute  
for Entrepreneurial Excellence,  
University of Pittsburgh  
Katz Graduate  
School of Business

**WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS**

**Betty O. Agbede, MD, PC**  
Family Practice

**Charlotte Y. Bullock**  
Citizens Bank

**Todd Elston**  
Ebony Enterprises

**Marshall Norwood, CPA**  
WPXI – Channel TV

**Terri Michele**  
Banks Children's Learning  
Center

**Shelly Fant-Uku**  
FCG Solutions  
**Supporting Member**

**Clifford G. Benson**  
Deloitte Touche

**Associate Member**

**Joseph M. Farrell**  
Pittsburgh Community  
Reinvestment Group

**'Have a great summer'!**