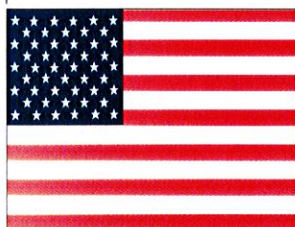


IN THIS EDITION

- ◆ Prime Office Space Available
- ◆ CCAC starts Entrepreneurial Institute
- ◆ Harvard steps up to the plate
- ◆ Members in the News
- ◆ Welcome New Members



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to continuously promote access & 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
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

FEBRUARY 2006

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

Happy New Year!

Our first PowerBreakfast of the year offered business tools & info. Gayle Nupnau, Mgr. Calif. Univ. PA's Govt. Office, discussed obtaining info on federal government issues in construction & professional services, & how RFPs can be received weekly for a \$20 fee. Judy Baker of the PA Treasury Dept. talked about how to verify state contracts for the purpose of doing joint ventures & how to verify the status of contracts. Dave Waters, Exec. Dir. PA Minority Business Development Authority presented the status of funds available for lending, their service centers, & plans for the next fiscal year — all good information for small firms.

Members enjoyed a lovely evening at National City's Executive Suite for our Members Mixer. Our Corporate Sponsor-Todd Moules President-National City, was a gracious host.

Ask the Expert

The Month of February Investment & Insurance
Call 412-392-0322.
Experts from Chamber

Choice, Luttner Financial Group, Met Life, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Prudential Financial, & Waddell & Reed will respond to questions concerning Insurance & Investment issues—Free!

PowerBreakfast February 17, 2006 7:30 AM Rivers Club

'Just Above My Head'
Presented by:
Dr. Jonathan Eaton,
Artistic Director
Opera Theater of Pgh
Confirm your attendance for viewing this special documentary on the life of Author James Baldwin produced by Dr. Nathan Davis.

**February 25, 2006
1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**
PPG Ice Skating Rink
We have partnered with our Associate Member-The Urban League of Pittsburgh for this event. Join us for an afternoon of fun for the entire family! As always, your 1st hot chocolate is on us. Skate rentals are available.

**PowerBreakfast
March 17, 2006
7:30 AM Rivers Club
Allegheny County**

Chief Executive Dan Onorato

Our Chief Executive will update us on the state of Allegheny County & the priorities for 2006.

PowerBreakfast April 21, 2006 7:30 AM Rivers Club

250th Anniversary of Pittsburgh
Bill Flanagan, Exec.
V. P. Allegheny Conference on Community Development

This meeting is designed to give information on the planned celebration, opportunities for doing business, & the impact it will have on our region.

Chamber Annual Meeting & Luncheon May 12, 2006

Speaker: John Surma,
Chairman & CEO
U.S. Steel Corporation
Details are forthcoming. Tom Usher, past Chairman of the Presidential Roundtable & Richard Simmons, former Chairman of Allegheny Tele-dyne, will be recognized for engaging companies to support the Chamber. It will be fun.

PowerBreakfast June 16, 2006 7:30 AM Rivers Club Mayor of Pittsburgh Bob O'Connor

Our new Mayor will present his vision & opportunities for growing

procurement for you.

Member Lucille Dabney has prime office space downtown at an affordable price. Business services also available. E-mail ldabney@pacepgh.com for details.

Sponsor CCAC has developed an Entrepreneur Institute to offer all **small business owners** an affordable eight week seminar to cover all aspects of leadership and growth. Registration information and frequently asked questions will appear in next month's edition. Until then, please contact Larry Furlong at: lfurlong@ccac.edu for more information.

Cherbo Publishing is working on a coffee table book for the region. This publication will be used as a gift to present when traveling to other cities, as well as being sold at out-of-town & local retail outlets. Your Chamber President reviewed similar books for other cities. This should not be part of your traditional marketing info, but viewed as a way to highlight your firm & the rich culture & diversity of our region. To learn more about the cost & how to have your business featured, email Kay Ziegler at kayziegler@net-zero.net. Let her know you were referred by the African American Chamber to obtain their rate for small business owners & non-profit organizations.

Harvard University recently announced that

effective immediately, undergraduate students from low-income families earning less than \$40,000 a year with an honor student, will not pay tuition. Learn more about this program by visiting Harvard's financial aid website @: <http://adm-is.fas.harvard.edu/FAO/index.htm> javascript:ol ('http://adm-is.fas.harvard.edu/FAO/index.htm'), or call the school's financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

Soon you will be receiving the 2006 edition of the Connections Directory that consists of all Chambers of Commerce who want to participate.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

In Celebration of Black History Month

**February 10th Noon
Two Mellon Center**

The Black/African-American Affinity Network at Mellon invites you to a free brown bag lunch film festival in their 10th floor auditorium to see: "Wylie Avenue Days." **Feb. 10th & 17th @ 12:30 PM** is "Teenie Harris"

**Annual Urban
League Sunday**

February 12th 4-6:00 PM
Calvary Episcopal Church
315 Shady Avenue

Co-Keynote Speakers: Dr. William H. Curtis & The Very Reverend Bishop Donald Wuerl

**February 13th
POISE Foundation
25th Anniversary
Luncheon**

**Heinz History Center
11:30 AM (register)**

A special briefing will also be provided by Dr. Audrey

Murrell, Associate Professor of Business Administration & Psychology, Center on Race & Social Problems, Univ. Of Pitt.

on: **Sweet Charity:
Increasing Black**

Philanthropy in Pgh

Cost: Luncheon: \$45

Briefing only: \$20 Call 412-281-4967 for info.

Now thru February 11th

Mahalia Jackson:
Standing on Holy Ground
Alumni Hall 7th Floor Auditorium

You must see this joyous musical celebration of the life of the world's greatest gospel singer. Call the Kuntu Repertory Theater for ticket information @ 412-624-7298, or visit: www.kuntu.org.

**Duquesne University's
Small Business Development Center's Classes**

Rockwell Hall Room 505

February 9th

1:30-4:30 PM

The First Step: Business Start-Up Essentials. No cost; Walk-ins welcome.

February 21st

8:30AM - 12:30PM

QuickBooks Made Easy

Speaker: Marian Linton, Dennis Piper & Associates. Designed for those interested in using the software, but aren't sure of its capabilities. Cost: \$45.00; * \$35 for 2 or more registrants. To register for either of their classes, call the SBDC @: (412) 396-6233, or visit their website at:

www.duq.edu/sbdc.
We wanted to make sure

you are aware Member Anthony D. Luck recently passed away.

Hope you won't have

to use it, but the Parking Court Services, new address & info is: 240 Fourth Ave. 412-560-7222

Mon. & Wed.

9:30AM - Noon;

Tues & Thurs

6:00PM - 7:30 PM

Closed Fridays.

CONGRATULATIONS

Member Esther

Bush on being appointed to the PA State Board of Education.

Member Edmund Effort on becoming a Cornet in U.S. Air National Guard (Full Bird).

Members Scott Brown, Rod Doss, & Mark Roosevelt on being part of Citizens Bank's Fifth Annual Writing Contest.

Members Greg Morris, Dr. Edmund Effort, Dr. Frank Sessions in the Courier's Lifestyles Section at the Frogs Christmas Party.

Member Stephen Thomas, Ph.D. on being awarded the opportunity to establish the Pitt's Minority Health Archive.

Corporate Sponsor Bill Strickland on receiving the Performing Arts Partnership & Achievement Award at Point Park Univ.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Tamara K. Davis
Unity Financial Group
Dianne B. Swan
Rosedale
Block Center