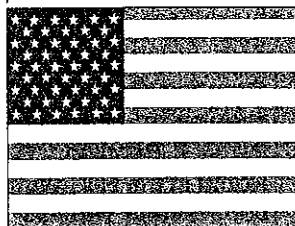


# IN THIS EDITION

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- ◆ Don't forget to Vote!
- ◆ Associate/Non-Profit Special Programs
- ◆ Members in the News
- ◆ Welcome New Members



## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Mission of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania is to continuously improve business opportunities for 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  
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

## MAY 2006

This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for members, supporters, & sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of W. PA.

The Members Mixer at the Homewood YMCA was both informative & full of networking for all. Two groups toured the new facility. It was fun.

Bill Flanagan, Exec. V. P. of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, gave an exceptional history of our region & discussed plans for the 250th Anniversary of Pittsburgh, scheduled for 2008. He also talked about business opportunities for members.

The SBA 8(a) Business Development Workshop was filled to capacity! Barbara Fisher did an excellent job explaining how firms can obtain government contracts.

We will be presenting the statistics of our successful season of Ask the Expert at the upcoming Annual Meeting. It will resume in the fall.

**May 12, 2006  
Annual Meeting  
11:00 AM  
Renaissance Hotel,  
Jimmy Stewart Room**  
We look forward to having all members in

attendance to vote on our new Chairman Sam Stephenson (Terry & Stephenson, PC) & incoming Board Members, & learn about the value of last year's programs. RSVP.

**Annual Meeting Luncheon 12:00 Noon  
Speaker: John Surma,  
Chairman & CEO  
U.S. Steel Corporation  
It is sold out!**

**Tuesday, May 16  
Primary Election Day  
Don't forget to vote!**

**PowerBreakfast  
June 16, 2006  
7:30 AM Rivers Club  
Mayor of Pittsburgh  
Bob O'Connor**  
The Mayor will talk about the status of city projects, his vision, & opportunities for business procurement.

**Special Breakfast Meeting  
July 14, 2006  
8:00 AM Rivers Club  
Secretary Alan Biehler  
PA. Department of Transportation**  
Secretary Biehler will brief us on issues involving transportation, plays in economic development, & upcoming projects

planned.

All Associate/Non-Profit Members should have received the first announcement for your customized programs. We suggest you sign up early to insure you have a seat.

Member Aradhna Dhanda of Leadership Pittsburgh, is recruiting for LP XXIII and LDI XIV. If you are interested, or know someone else who may be, please review the attached information and sign up today. Applications & info are available at [www.lpinc.org](http://www.lpinc.org). The program teaches & builds an infrastructure of civic leadership by connecting leaders to civic issues. It's important to be an alumnus!

The state house recently passed H.B. 257, increasing the minimum wage rate to \$6.25 effective July 1st. Then effective July 1, '07, it would increase to \$7.15 an hour. The measure would also allow for a 60-calendar-day training wage, at which time employers could pay less than the minimum wage for employees under age 20. We will keep you posted on this.

Did you know start-up companies & small businesses account for al-

most 2/3 of net new jobs in our region?

**Member** Slippery Rock University is recruiting candidates for full time employment in a number of disciplines. For more info, visit [www.sru.edu](http://www.sru.edu).

Corporate Sponsor Citizens Bank is expanding their Job Bank Program, having exceeded their low interest loan program goals by creating more than 4100 new high-wage manufacturing jobs at 37 companies. More than 2500 of the jobs will be created in Western Pa!

#### **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

##### **May 8th Tribute to Women Hilton Hotel**

You still have time to let Member Cecilia Griffin Golden know you plan to attend. For ticket info, call: 412-255-1237.

##### **May 9th Minority Purchasing Council Trade Fair Trade Fair 2:00—4:00 PM Open to the Public Heinz Field**

**Member** Nick Nichols has room for those interested in attending the reception following the trade fair, or the luncheon. Call 412-391-4423 for tickets.

##### **May 9, 2006 The Chatham College Center for Women's Entrepreneurship 6-8 PM Heinz 57 Center**

If you're a prospective entrepreneur wanting to expand your network, this is the event for you. The event hosted by PUMP&HELP (Helping Entrepre-

neurs Learn from the Peers), will allow you to connect with other entrepreneurs for mentoring opportunities & professional services & providers in the greater Pittsburgh region. Registration is free, but you must register. Visit: [www.pump.org/eventReg.jsp](http://www.pump.org/eventReg.jsp), or call 412-338-2133.

##### **May 9th 6:30—8:00 PM Finlay Township Activity Center 310 Main Street Imperial, Pa.**

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, in partnership with the Allegheny Conference, PA Departments of Transportation, Environmental Protection, & Conservation & Natural Resources, is presenting this workshop on regional economic development. The public is invited to participate in discussing strategies for local & regional development. RSVP to: [www.projectregion.com](http://www.projectregion.com).

##### **May 10, 2005 Legends of Leadership Heinz Field**

Join Corporate Sponsor Stewart Sutin for an evening to benefit the CCAC Foundation. Call Jodi Beemer, 412-237-4438 or email her: [jbeemer@ccac.edu](mailto:jbeemer@ccac.edu).

##### **May 16, 2006 8:30AM – 12:30PM Duquesne University Rockwell Hall Room 505 QuickBooks \$45.00; \$35 for 2 or more registrants**

This course is designed to show everything from setting up your chart of accounts, monitoring your finances, preparing

checks, to financial reporting. To register please contact the SBDC at (412) 396-6233 or visit our website at [www.duq.edu/sbdc](http://www.duq.edu/sbdc)

##### **Thru July 15th Images of children by Charles 'Teenie' Harris August Wilson Center for African American Culture 209 9th Street Gallery**

This exceptional exhibit shows the rapport Teenie had with children. Hours are: Noon—5:00 PM. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: Thursdays till 9:00.

##### **June 7, 2006 University of Pittsburgh 8:30 AM—10:30AM Supplier Workshops Supplier Show 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM William Pitt Union.**

Hosted by the University of Pittsburgh's Supplier Management Department, the event will begin with two workshops for Diversity suppliers: How the University Conducts an RFP, & the Katz School's Business Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence will present a workshop on the resources they offer. Over 35 suppliers have been invited.

##### **June 8, 2006 Entrepreneur's Growth Conference Duquesne University**

This annual event focuses on new, as well as established firms, seeking to move to the next level. Register by May 19th & receive a discount. Visit: [www.egc.duq.edu](http://www.egc.duq.edu).

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**Member** Dr. Ed Effort on his ceremony when promoted to Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Na-

tional Guard. **Member** Anita Galloway on her featured Courier article on marketing real estate. **Member** Peggy Harris featured in the Courier's Style Section. **Member** Constance Horton on a successful FAME Luncheon & Scholarship Program. **Member** Carol Neyland On her new position as Director of Wealth Management for TIAA-CREFF. **Member** Richard Portis on receiving the Veterans Small Business Champion Award. **Chairman** Greg Spencer on the opening celebration of the MLK Reading Room in the Hill. **Member** Stephen Thomas on the Minority Health Fair at Kingsley Association. **Member** Ruth Byrd-Smith on her article in the Courier: MBE/WBE program is working.

#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Darryl Hicks**  
Global Healthcare & Personnel Services, LLC  
**Tyrone G. Smith**  
Technology Links Training & Consultants

**Supporting Member**  
**Janet J Foerster,**  
**M.Ed.**  
inner CHANGE associates international

#### **Associate Member**

**Carol Washington**  
The NorthShore Community Alliance