

# IN THIS EDITION

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## 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

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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

## OCTOBER 2006

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

**Welcome to Fall!**  
Mayor Luke Ravenstahl expressed his desire to work with the Chamber & include you as members, in all aspects of his administration. City Council Members Twanda Carlisle, Bill Peduto, Jeff Koch, Tonya Payne, & President Doug Shields addressed the Chamber to a standing room only audience (hopefully you saw it on KDKA news). Your Chamber will follow up on Council's plans to improve the inspection & contract approval process for more timely payments.

We can also report on having reached 75% of our fundraising goal for the August Wilson Center for African American Culture! We need to hear from you with your contribution.

Over 100 Members & guests attended the Members Mixer at the Frick Museum. Associate Member Bill Bodine was a gracious host & Corporate Sponsor

Steve Marziotto & Cindy Cavallucci of Prudential Financial Services treated us to the most unusual hors d'oeuvres!

**Hats off to Corporate Sponsor** Mona Generett & Dollar Bank for the Governor's Conference for Women's Regional Showcase Gallery, "MPRINTING LIVES: THE MARK OF EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN". The collection of images reflecting women & women's institutions & organizations was projected on two parallel 28x14 foot walls. Included are Member Darryl Ford Williams & your Chamber President.

**Doing Business with PennDOT**  
**October 12, 2006**  
**9:00 AM—11:00 AM**  
Regional Enterprise Tower  
Dan Cessna-District Executive. This workshop will bring together the managers responsible for construction engineering & professional services, & other procurement opportunities within PennDot.

**PowerBreakfast**

**October 20, 2006**  
**7:30 AM Rivers Club**  
**Gregory G. Dell' Omo,**  
**President**  
**Robert Morris**  
**University**

Come learn about the many contract opportunities for you as members, including the building of a medical school.

**Ask the Expert**  
**Credit Program**  
**October 10, 2006**  
**11:30 AM—1:30 PM**  
**Regional Enterprise**  
**Tower 23rd Floor**  
This is our first 'Ask the Expert' program. The focus will be on helping you prepare for accessing capital markets by making sure you have a good credit score.

**Members Mixer**  
**October 25, 2006**  
**5:15 PM—7:30 PM**  
**Fifth Avenue Place**  
**Sponsor: Highmark**  
We will return to a fun evening of networking & enjoying the shops, and seeing their new Total Vision Care Center.

**December 7, 2006**  
**Annual Business**  
**Luncheon 12:00 Noon**  
**Omni William Penn**  
**Speaker: James Rohr**  
**Chairman & CEO**  
**PNC Financial Services**  
Our luncheon will

highlight our region as we prepare for our 250th Anniversary.

Due to the lack of response from both U.S. Senatorial Candidates, your Chamber will unfortunately not host a candidates forum. Don't forget you still have time to register to vote.

ChamberChoice has all the materials ready to implement a Wellness Program for you as employers & non-profit organizations. Call 1-800-377-3539, or go to [www.chamberchoice.com](http://www.chamberchoice.com).

Did you know Member Vicki Roberts produces "The Home-towne Sports, B-Mac Corner Show"? It airs Saturday mornings on WPMY, Channel 10, 11:30 AM-12 Noon

The Construction Craft Laborers Joint Apprenticeship Program is accepting applications for their training program. You must be 18. Visit [www.laborpa.org](http://www.laborpa.org).

GlaxoSmithKline is recruiting a Manager, Sales Strategy & Customer Marketing, requisition #37061. Go to: [www.gsk-us.com/careers/gsk.frame-us.htm](http://www.gsk-us.com/careers/gsk.frame-us.htm). Call: Sherri Von Stein/HR -GSK Talent Solutions @ 412-200-3184.

#### Upcoming Meetings & Events

October 10, 2006  
Chatham College  
"Envision you & your

#### *company moving to a higher ground".*

For more info & to register (space is limited), go to [www.chatham.edu/ccwe](http://www.chatham.edu/ccwe).

October 18, 2006  
**Expanding Supplier Diversity: Networking with the Department of Public Welfare's Purchasing Agents**  
Hotel Carlisle  
Carlisle, PA

Call 717-787-1127 or 1-888-561-0822 for more information.

October 19th  
**Business Opportunity Workshop**  
2:30 PM—4:00 PM  
Board of Education  
2nd Floor

This workshop will give you an overview on bid compliance. Call 412- 622-3729, or email: [mpiotrowski1@pghboe.net](mailto:mpiotrowski1@pghboe.net) to register.

October 25-27  
**RTI Focus on our Youth**  
Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Cranberry

Join Member Dr. Mike Flaherty [IRETA] for this region's Drug & Alcohol Training. Call 412-258-8569, or [www.ireta.or/training](http://www.ireta.or/training).

November 9-12, 2006  
**2006 SOFA Exposition (Sculptural Objects & Functional Art 2006 SOFA Exposition (Sculptural Objects & Functional Art Chicago, Illinois**

Member Julie Farr/Society for Contemporary Crafts invites Members to join them for this exciting experience. The trip includes roundtrip airfare from Pittsburgh, hotel, transportation to & from hotel/airport, tickets for the exclusive Thursday night preview reception (meet the artist events), two days to

the exhibition, lectures, & more. Visit [www.contemporarycraft.org/](http://www.contemporarycraft.org/), or call them at: 412-261-7003 x12.

November 17th  
**Soul Food Dinner & Jazz Night**  
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM  
Rivers Club  
Oxford Centre

This is Member Rob Jones' signature event! RSVP to 412-391-5227.

Thru November 2006  
**Abyssinia Gallery of Art, 6010 Penn Circle South, East Liberty**  
An exhibition of story quilts by fabric artist Cathleen Richardson-Bailey. Call 412-456-6666, or visit [www.pgharts.org](http://www.pgharts.org).

Don't forget you can purchase "LOOKING FORWARD" EXHIBITION, the souvenir catalog, with over 30 photographs by "Teenie" Harris, plus an essay by Charles "Teenie" Harris, Jr. Cost: \$10.00 plus tax, & shipping. To order, go to [www.augustwilsoncenter.org](http://www.augustwilsoncenter.org), or visit the August Wilson Center at 209/9<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Chairman Circle Member Bob Agbede's reception announcing ATS Chester Engineers is now named Chester Engineers.

Member Cecilia Griffin Golden was appointed one of the Co-Chairs for the Commission for Women.

Member Lou Alexander on getting married! Supporting Member Joyce

Bender selected as the 2006 recipient for the National Easter Seal's Distinguished Service Award. Member M. Gayle Moss on her partnership with Gateway Medical Society to address the health crisis. Corporate Sponsor Member Ernestine Harris nominated for the ATHENA award. Associate Member George Miles on winning 28 Emmy Award-s, including the Station For Excellence Award. Whirl Magazine featured the following Members in September: Curtis Aiken @ the Martinis & Cigars Under the Stars Event, Maria Anderson @ the Zoo & PPG's Aquarium Summer Safari, & Members Debra Mason & Ruth Byrd-Smith @ the NAWBO Annual Dinner & Awards.

#### Special

##### Announcements

We offer condolences to the family of our late Associate Member Linda LeFever, & condolences to Member Marvin Carolina, on his wife passing.

##### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ellis R. McGruder  
Consultant

Cheryl Walker  
Manchester Youth  
Development Center

##### Presidential Roundtable Member

Bridgette N. Driver  
FEDEX Ground