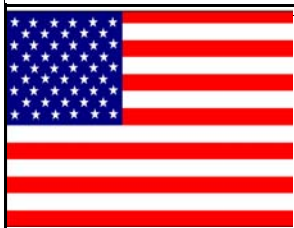


### IN THIS EDITION

- ◆ Candidates Forum
- ◆ The Mayor's challenge:  
Can you build it as fast  
as we can process your  
permit?
- ◆ Wal-Mart comes to East  
Hills
- ◆ Calendar of Upcoming  
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- ◆ 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

REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER SUITE 1330

425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA. 15219

(412) 392-0610

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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

LINDSEY NEYLAND, EDITOR

### MARCH 2007

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

To sponsor a Members Mixer or PowerBreakfast Meeting, please call the office for details.

Our PowerBreakfast Meeting with Secretary Dennis Yablonsky gave members a wealth of information on the Governor's energy strategy & the various small business loan programs available, including an update on PMBDA. We appreciate the Governor's Advisory Council on African American Affairs serving as the sponsor.

Everyone had a great time at the annual skate at the PPG Ice Skating Rink. Those we could get off the ice are in this week's New Pittsburgh Courier thanks to Member Rod Doss.

#### **PowerBreakfast**

**March 16, 2007**

**7:30 AM Rivers Club  
County Chief Executive  
Dan Onorato**

#### **Sponsor: Comcast**

The Chief Executive will review his first four years, followed by an interactive discussion about opportunities for small business owners.

#### **Members Mixer**

**March 27, 2007**

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**PNC Park**

**Sponsor:**

**Pittsburgh Pirates**

Make new contacts while enjoying a fun evening of networking.

#### **Candidates Forum**

**April 11, 2007**

**4:30—7:00 PM**

**Rivers Club**

#### **Sponsor: Comcast**

The forum will include the candidates for Mayor, County Controller, & District 9 City Council races.

#### **Members Mixer**

**April 26, 2007**

**5:00-7:00 PM**

**#1 Cochran of Monroeville**

**Host: Patty Jennings**

**Sponsor: #1 Cochran**

We look forward to meeting our host & making new connections. Door prizes will be given.

After 8 long years, Bishop Donald Clay (Petra International Ministries) & Member Connie Balthrop joined Wal-Mart in announcing their plan to develop the East Hills site as one of nine urban sites in the country. Lowe's will complement the new Supercenter. Construction is

expected to begin next year. Stay tuned for more info on how to do business with this international retailer.

Your Chamber applauds Member Glenn Mahone & Chief Executive Dan Onorato in securing US Airways' new operations center, to be located in Moon Township. This means retaining 450 jobs & adding another 150 jobs to our region.

### News:

Mayor Ravenstahl announces new permit procedure: On Monday, Wednesday & Friday, homeowners & contractors can register & walk their building permit applications thru the city departments & reviewers, obtaining a permit the same day (provided applications are complete & meet the zoning/building code requirements). Simply register at the Zoning counter before noon on the day of the walk-thru to have the permit processed the same day. Application requirements are on the City's website:

[www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/BBI/](http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/BBI/)

DiverseCITY Pittsburgh is gearing up for the August 16-19th festival celebrating the many di-

verse cultures & ethnicities in the Pittsburgh region. The three-day event will include a symposium, gala & outdoor festival. To volunteer, email Butler & Manges event planners at: [mwmanges@aol.com](mailto:mwmanges@aol.com).

**H.R. 109** has been introduced to Congress, allowing for all disabled veterans to become a participant in the 8(a) program.

The search is underway for a dynamic & mission-driven leader to fill the position of CEO of the YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh. For more info, call Lauren Baker at 412-434-1335 or email: [baker@deweykaye.com](mailto:baker@deweykaye.com).

The City is recruiting qualified candidates to fill the positions of Coordinator & Assistant Coordinator, Operation Weed & Seed; & Office Auditor. Applications are accepted until March 9th. For more info call 412-255-2710.

Beginning in March, the City's Housing Authority will have a PC TV cable channel highlighting their programs & services for residents.

The delay in the development of the Casino on the North Shore is impacting your Chamber's ability to obtain information on their formal bid process and referrals.

We will keep you posted.

#### **Upcoming Member Events**

**Color, Story & Motion:  
Jacob Lawrence Art  
Workshop**

**March 10, 2007**

**12-2 PM; Gallery 209/9**

**Call Sarah Williams at**

the August Wilson Ctr. at 412-258-2664 or email her at [swilliams@augustwilson-center.org](mailto:swilliams@augustwilson-center.org).

#### ***Mezzulah, 1946***

#### **City Theatre**

**March 14, 2007**

The reception begins at 6:30 PM, followed by the opening-night performance at 8:00 PM. RSVP by March 9th to 412.431. CITY.

#### ***"Lighting the Way"***

#### **44th Annual NEED**

#### **Benefit Dinner**

**March 14, 2007**

#### **Pittsburgh Hilton**

Special guest-Dr. Boyce Watkins. For more info, call 412-258-2703.

#### ***"Sugar 'n Soul"***

#### **Hill House Association**

**March 17, 2007**

#### **Carnegie Music Hall**

The Beacon of Hope Awards Ceremony begins at 7:45 PM. Dancing follows at 9 PM. Cost: \$50 per person. Call 412-392-3148, or visit: [www.hillhouse.org](http://www.hillhouse.org) to register.

#### **10th Annual Building a World Class Business Conference**

**March 20, 2007**

#### **Westin Convention Center**

The conference is presented by Seton Hill University's e-Magnify Program. Email Marlene O'Brien at [info@setonhill.edu](mailto:info@setonhill.edu) or call her at: 724-830-4614.

#### ***Out of Hand!***

#### **Society for Contemporary Craft**

**March 31, 2007**

**7-10:30 PM**

This annual benefit will raise funds for an array of exhibitions & educational programs. RSVP by calling 412- 261-7003

x12 by March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**MCG Jazz** on their 4th Grammy Award. **Members** Vicki Roberts & Calvin Washington on their video production for Wal-Mart's press conference. **Member** Roland Criswell on purchasing a second funeral home, to be located on the North Side. **Presidential Round Table Member** Ralph Papa as first place winner for the Pittsburgh Business Times' Diamond Award. **Associate Member** Judith Painter on a successful Mardi Gras Celebration for the Epilepsy Foundation. The King of the evening' was Jim Rohr, member of the Chamber's **Presidential Roundtable**. **Member** Robert Jones on a successful "Shake, Rattle & Soul" at the Rivers Club, benefiting the Kingsley Association. **Member** Joe McGrath on VisitPittsburgh's Top Destination Award from the Facilities & Destination editors. **Members** Bob Agbede/Chester Engineers; Mary Coffey/All Purpose Cleaning Service; John Laymon/JRL Enterprises James Rice/Rice Enterprises; Charles Sanders/Urban Settlement Svcs; Charles Toran/SCI-TEK Environmental Services; Sharon Walker/Home Healthcare Staffing & Services; Milton Washington/AHRCO; & Louis Waller III/Waller Corp., on being listed as the Largest Pittsburgh-Area Minority-Owned Companies in the Business Times. **Members** George

Miles of WQED Multimedia & Morgan O'Brien of Duquesne Light on their 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Celebration. Honored as one of the African American Leadership Awardees was **Member** Chloe Velasquez. **Members** Debbie Moses, Esther Bush & Associate Member Jayne Huston on being named Women of the Roundtable by the Business Times. **Member** Toni Silva on her feature article in the Business Times. **Corporate Sponsor** Mona Generett on speaking at the Martin Luther King Reading & Cultural Center event for **Member** Joe Williams.

#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Regular Members**

**Bentley Hicks**  
Larrimor's

#### **Supporting Members**

**Margaret Manges**  
Butler & Manges  
Productions

**James L. Wright**  
Wells Fargo Home  
Mortgage

#### **Associate Members**

**Van Kaplan**  
Pittsburgh CLO

**Mary Riebe**  
Chatham College Center  
for Women's  
Entrepreneurship

**James Thompson**  
Parental Stress Center

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