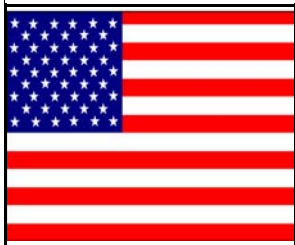


### IN THIS EDITION

- ◆ Online Membership Survey out this month
- ◆ Special Meeting with Gaming Commission
- ◆ UPMC's CFO to address the Chamber
- ◆ Citizens to host Members Mixer
- ◆ 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

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REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER - SUITE 1330

425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

(412) 392-0610

FAX: (412) 392-0612

Email: [information@aaccwp.com](mailto:information@aaccwp.com)

Website: [www.aaccwp.com](http://www.aaccwp.com)

DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

LINDSEY NEYLAND, EDITOR

### SEPTEMBER 2007

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

Join your Chamber & the Pittsburgh Regional Minority Purchasing Council for a special meeting on doing business with all casinos;

**September 20, 2007**

**8:30 — 11:30 AM**

**Fetteroff Room Regional Enterprise Tower 23rd Floor**

Commissioners Sanford Rivers & Kenneth McCabe will discuss the various application processes & implications of forming joint ventures. Smaller sessions will be held for asking 'your special' questions. You must RSVP to the office.

**PowerBreakfast**

**September 21, 2007**

**7:30 AM Rivers Club**

**Robert DeMichiei,**

**Chief Financial Officer, UPMC**

**Sponsor:**

**The Alcoa Foundation**

Come learn about his plan for procurement & business opportunities.

**Members Mixer**

**September 27, 2007**

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

**Citizens Bank**

Member Scott Brown will host us for a fun evening of networking &

meeting his associates.

**PowerBreakfast**

**October 19, 2007**

**7:30 AM Rivers Club**

**Stuart Hoffman**

**Chief Economist — PNC Financial Services Group**

Join us to hear the 2008 economic forecast & ask questions of the expert!

**Members Mixer**

**October 25, 2007**

**5:00 PM — 7:30 PM**

**Fifth Avenue Place**

**Sponsor: Highmark**

We will return for an evening of networking & enjoying the shops.

You will soon receive your Chamber's online Membership Survey that is designed to help us assess the growth of our organization & develop programs for 2008. Your completed survey entitles you to a complimentary PowerBreakfast Meeting.

The Pittsburgh Public Schools are looking to attract qualified minority firms for construction projects & will provide more detailed information on bids in their newspaper ads, which run in three newspapers. They have also reduced the bid bond requirement to 10% & are

now giving free copies of bid specs to organizations representing minority firms. We encourage you to bid on the Miller Academy project.

September 25th will kick off the **250 & Fit Program** in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the region on the Roberto Clemente Bridge; stay tuned.

### Members' Events

**Thru November 24th Transformation 6: Contemporary Works in Glass** at The Society for Contemporary Craft:

This biennial show features 28 artists & includes artist talks & tours, with a \$5000 prize.

**September 9, 2007**

**7:00—10:00 PM**

**Kevin Howard Quartet Rhythm House Café — Bridgeville**

Supporting Member Mitch Swain / Greater Pgh. Arts Council & the Pittsburgh Jazz Society will look forward to having you join them. No cover charge. Call 412-343-9555 for details.

**September 12, 2007**

**8:30-10:30 AM**

**University of Pittsburgh Small Business Development Center's Hiring &**

### **Firing Seminar**

Learn the laws that protect you & your staff. To register, call 412-648-1542 or email: [jeeregistration@katz.pitt.edu](mailto:jeeregistration@katz.pitt.edu).

**September 15, 2007  
1:30-4:30 PM**

**Homewood's Historic Landmarks: Bus & Walking Tour  
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation**

Tour will begin & end in front of The Shops at Station Square. Tickets are \$20 for members & \$45 for non-members. Call Mary Lu Denny to register at 412-471-5808 x527 by Sept. 12th.

**September 20, 2007  
5:30—8:00 PM**

**Leadership Pittsburgh & The Allegheny Conference present  
Green Sizzle:  
The Revitalization of Point State Park**

This private, guided tour & lively reception will feature **Member** Lisa Schroeder as the tour guide. The tour will begin at the Hilton Hotel.

**September 22, 2007  
8:00 PM**

**Byham Theatre  
Philadanco! (The Philadelphia Dance Co.)**

**Member** Neil Barclay invites you to join him for this presentation to benefit the August Wilson Center for African American Culture. For tickets, call 412-456-6666.

**September 30, 2007  
11:00 AM—5:00 PM**

**Sustainable Pittsburgh Design Fair for House & Garden  
Grand Hall at the Priory**  
Join Supporting Mem-

ber Court Gould for this event featuring different design resources for any & all homeowners in the areas of Gardening & Landscaping, Interior Decorating, & Home Remodeling & Renovation. It's \$5 at the door; \$7 in advance visit: [http://renplan.cdcp.org/Pittsburgh\\_Design\\_Fair.htm](http://renplan.cdcp.org/Pittsburgh_Design_Fair.htm)

**The Hill House  
Presents**

**"Live at the Hurricane"  
Blakey Program Center  
1908 Wylie Avenue**

Come out to enjoy this monthly event featuring live jazz & "storytelling jams." The concerts are held every second Sunday.

**October 5, 2007  
9:30 AM—2:30 PM  
MED (Minority Enterprise Development)  
Week 2007—Westin  
Convention Center**

**Member** Benjamin Butler invites you to network with corporations, banks, government agencies & entrepreneurs. Registration is \$50. Call 412-395-6067 for details.

**November 8, 2007  
PA Governor's Conference for Women  
Convention Center  
Philadelphia, PA**

Don't miss out! Register online today at [www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org](http://www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org).

A recent article, "The Effect of Wealth & Race on Start-Up Rates." is worth your reading by the SBA. Go to: <http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/rs307tot.pdf>.

The IRS has issued a consumer alert regarding an email scam targeting recipients via an online satisfaction survey. The IRS does *not* send un-solicited email. For more info on this scam & others like it, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

On September 11th, County Chief Executive Dan Onorato will launch *Allegheny Together*, a new program designed to encourage investment in the urban commercial districts of Allegheny County.

### **Members' News**

The Manchester Craftsman's Guild has been selected as the host site for the 2008 National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts.

Supporting Member Larry Slater completed his first book, "Ambridge" for the Arcadia Publishing "Images of America" series. This illustrated history of the Beaver County town & once-dominant American Bridge Co. (division of U. S. Steel Corp.) is expected to be in area stores by Christmas.

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, CompetePA coalition members convened for their annual retreat in Bedford Springs. The group emphasized its commitment to improving business tax competitiveness, agreeing that the overall message remains clear: It's about jobs & a better economy.

**FYI:** The Dominion Foundation has moved to a new location in the

Clark Building.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**Chairman Circle Member** Robert Agbede on his \$2 mill arena contract.

**Member** Robert Hill on his editorial, "No Asterisks," which ran in the P-G. **Associate Member** Barbara McNees on the 2007 Steelers Kickoff Luncheon.

The following members were featured in the New Pittsburgh Courier:

**Member** Evan Frazier in the Pittsburghers' *Speak Out* section. **Members** Bethany & Roland Criswell, along with **Member** Peggy Harris at the FROG Formal. **Member** Orlana Darkins at the Shyne Awards. **Member** Aaron Walton as Highmark's sponsor of the 13th Annual Golf Classic of the 100 Black Men of Western PA. **Member** Esther Bush in a front-page article on racial stereotypes.

The following members were featured in August in the Pittsburgh Business Times:

**Member** Richard Piacentini talking about the success of the Chihuly exhibit. **Member** Clifford Shannon quoted about autism advocacy. **Member** Jayne Huston quoted in the profile of Cozy Inn Pet Resort. **Member** Eustace Uku featured in the Diversity Works section; **Member** Arlinda Moriarty in a feature story.

### **Welcome New Members:**

#### **Regular Member**

**Stephanie Durrett**  
S.D. Transit

**Supporting Member**  
**Diana Bucco**