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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, selfsufficiency and entrepreneurial excellence, we will seek to advance economic parity by ensuring full participation.



AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

> Email: information@aaccwp.com Website: www.aaccwp.com **DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO**

July 2008

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

Member Steve Bland. President & CEO of the Port Authority, joined us for last month's Power-Breakfast. He updated us on the status of the North Shore Connector project, contract labor negotiations, & the "Smart Card" system, planned for January, which will provide more flexibility for bus riders.

Special Briefing Lunch City/County **Consolidation Briefing** Allegheny Conference July 15, 2008 12:30-2:00 PM

This session is filled. We will update you on the outcomes next month.

Special Breakfast

Meeting

July 18, 2008

8:00 AM **Rivers Club** Speaker: Keith Key, President of **KBK Enterprises** Our Chairman's Circle Member will present Phase 1 of the proposed three-phase Garfield Redevelopment Project with the City's Housing Authority that includes 90 mixed-income housing units. Don't miss it!

Save the Date! 10th Anniversary of the **Chamber Office Being** Opened October 28, 2008 5:00 PM-8:00 PM The Frick Museum

*I*nvitations for this special evening will be sent to you. Charter Members, Corporate Sponsors, & supporters will be invited to celebrate the accomplishments since October 1998. You won't want to miss it!

Member Events: June 27-September 13 5 Contemporary Masters The Center for **Contemporary Crafts** 2100 Smallman St.

This unique exhibit is presented in recognition of their patron supporter-Elizabeth R. Raphael.

The Pittsburgh **Cultural Trust** 3rd Annual Café Zao Portuguese Cookout July 11, 2008-4:00 PM Katz Plaza -**Cultural District** Tickets: \$20; Children (12 & Under): \$10.

Associate Member Kevin McMahon invites you to enjoy freshly grilled selections as well as authentic Portuguese sausages & sardines.

Financial Empowerment Series Tuesdays, July 22, 29, August 5, 12 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM YWCA Homewood 6907 Frankstown Ave. These 4 financial literacy workshops will cover such topics as budgeting, saving, investing, credit & credit repair. To register, call Member Tara Ellison-Jones @ 412-255-6749.

26th Annual PRMPC Golf Outing & Dinner August 11, 2008 The Club at Nevillewood Golfer Registration-10:30 AM Shamble Format—12:30 PM Dinner/Awards-5:30 PM

Member Nick Nichols has a registration deadline of August 4th. Call 412-391-4423.

Mon Valley Initiative 2008 Golf Outing August 19, 2008 Grandview Golf Club. North Braddock, PA Registration—10:30 AM Scramble Start—Noon Dinner/Prizes—5:00 PM Associate Member Laura Zinski needs your registration & payments by August 8th. For more info, call Dora Plummer,

412-464-4000 ext. 4024. August Wilson Center Developments:

Congratulations are owed to Joe Kopko, Lou Lannutti & Roger May who worked diligently to make sure the structural deck was poured & the site was ready to receive steel on schedule.

Other Events Governor Rendell's African American Business Summit September 4-5, 2008 Holiday Inn Harrisburg East

This event is presented by the Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs. For more info, call 1-877-374-0222; Fax: 717-787-4015, or Email:

ragacaa a@state.pa.us

The Pittsburgh 250 American Eagle Outfiters® Tour across PA was presented by Highmark Healthy High 5®. A huge success, it drew thousands to downtown Pittsburgh. On October 4th, we will celebrate the largest fireworks exhibition ever at Point State Park! Then on October 27th, during the Steelers' Monday Night Football game, Pittsburgh's 250th anniversary will also be celebrated. We will keep you posted on details in the coming months.

July 10, 2008, 6:00 PM

City Councilwoman Tonya Payne will hold a public hearing in Manchester at Pittsburgh Conroy School for the Disabled, 1307 Page St. Open to the public.

"Candidates Comedy Night"

August 20, 2008 Doors open at 6:30 PM Improv

166 E. Bridge Street, Homestead (Waterfront)

This event features candidates running for statewide political office in the upcoming November election. The event will raise funds for vulnerable children in Allegheny County. Included among the performers will be Chief Executive Dan Onorato, Mayor Luke Ravenstahl, & Governor Ed Rendell. Gene Collier, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette columnist, will emcee the event.

For tickets, contact Ondrea Burton at 412-350-3683 or via email at ondrea.burton

@alleghenycounty.us

Supporting Member Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership reports that reconstruction efforts for Market Square are well underway. Dunkin' Donuts recently opened its doors in the area.

CONGRATULATIONS

Corporate Supporting Member Joyce Bender & Corporate Sponsor Member Jackie Dixon, honored at the YWCA's Tribute to Women lunch. Member Sylvester Pace on being the 2008 recipient of the Bernard H. Jones, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award.

Corporate Sponsor Aaron Walton being honored by California University.

Members featured in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:

Chamber Foundation Board Member Ernestine Harris was featured in the "Stories That Touch Our Lives" section. Associate Member Chatham University was noted for their recent purchase of two buildings, one in the East End & one in Shadyside.

Members featured in the New Pittsburgh Courier:

Member Sean Gibson of the Josh Gibson Foundation broke ground on the newly renovated Josh Gibson Complex (formerly Ammons Center). Corporate Sponsor Milton Washington (ARHCO) honored as the Beacon of Hope Awards (Hill House Pioneer). Associate Member Evan Frazier on his Special Book Launch/Book Signing of "Most Likely to Succeed. Associate Member Peggy Harris on Three Rivers Youth's successful Nellie Leadership Awards, Presidential Roundtable Member Morgan O'Brien was the evening's co-host. Associate Member George Miles was the commencement speaker at LaRoche College. Associate Member Mary McKinney's Duquesne University's Small Business Development Center was recognized for its 10th Annual Entrepreneur's Growth Conference. At the conference. Associate Member Nick Nichols of PRMPC facilitated the workshop, "Overcoming Challenges: Best Practices for Women & Minority Entrepreneurs;" Associate Member Andy Masich of the Heinz History Center gave an informative breakfast presentation. Presidential Roundtable Member, the University of Pittsburgh, was an honoree for the Beacon of Hope Awards (Community Partner of the Year). University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work's Dean Larry E. Davis has co-edited the 20th edition of the Encyclopedia of Social Work, which is now available online. Corporate Sponsor CCAC received a three-year nursing grant. Corporate Sponsor Steve Marziotto, Member Paul Brown, Chairman's Circle Member Keith B. Key, & your Chamber President were all awardees for this year's Most Valuable Person at the "Night of Champions" presented by Champion Enterprises & Prudential.

Members featured in the Pittsburgh Business Times:

Fourteen member companies were included in the List of the 50 Largest Pittsburgh-Area Employers. They are: UPMC, University of Pittsburgh, Giant Eagle, PNC, BNY Mellon, Highmark, Carnegie Mellon University, US Steel, FedEx Ground, Port Authority, PPG, Comcast, Citizens Bank, & Duquesne University.

Welcome New Members:

Regular Members

Robert Chambers III Massaro Construction

Associate Members

Lois Mufuka Martin Bethlehem Haven

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