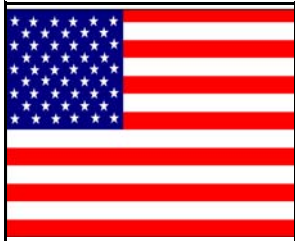


### IN THIS EDITION

- ♦ **Green** Going Great
- ♦ Candidates Forum scheduled for April 23rd
- ♦ Annual Meeting set for May 12th
- ♦ Members Upcoming Events
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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

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

### April 2009

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

### March was truly a Green Month!

Our 2nd "Lead the Way to Green Buildings" workshop gave valuable insight as presented by Member Highmark's Byron Falchetti. He presented their new data center in Camp Hill & the Green Roof at Fifth Ave. Place (Member Howard Graves was the Architect) Our joint sponsorship with Associate Member Green Building Alliance, was insightful as Jerome Ringo provided valuable information on global warming & opportunities for minority businesses in the green movement.

Associate Member Ellen Kight explained plans for the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development & how you, as members, can become involved.

Member Lois Martin was the perfect host for our Networking Mixer at Ambiance. Over \$600 went to benefit Bethlehem Haven.

Our Investment Workshop was filled with valuable tips & suggestions. Members Elise Yanders, Jada Grandy, Steve

Marziotto, & David Hopkins did an out-standing job. Stay tuned, the next workshop will be a "can't miss"!

### PowerBreakfast

**April 17, 2009 7:30AM  
Rivers Club.**

Members State Representatives Joe Preston & Jake Wheatley will present President O'bama's economic stimulus package & the effect it will have on small businesses in our state.

### Candidates Forum

**April 23, 2009  
4:30-7:00 PM  
Rivers Club**

The doors open at 4:30 PM. All Mayoral & hopefuls City Council Districts 6 & 8 have been invited. The public is welcome.

### Business Institutes'

#### IT Clinic

**April 29, 2009  
9:00—11:00 AM  
Davis Room**

**Regional Enterprise Tower \$5.00**

Sponsored by the URA & Pitt's Small Business Development Center, this advanced workshop is geared toward the advantages of E-marketing, new tools available, & efficient product marketing. RSVP

to: 412-392-0610.

### Networking Mixer

**April 30, 2009  
5:00 -7:00 PM.**

**One BNY Mellon Center Third Floor**

Members Hope Vaccaro & Jim McDonald look forward to hosting you as we announce Spring!

### Annual Meeting & Luncheon

**May 12, 2009  
12:00 Noon**

**Omni William Penn  
Dr. Kenneth Melani  
President Highmark Inc.**

Your invitation should have arrived. Highmark Board Chairman Robert Baum-Ph.D & Dr. Melani will both address you at the members meeting & following our election of officers. Our luncheon will recognize WPXI's Darieth Chisolm & Member Rod Doss, the New Pittsburgh Courier for their efforts in helping to grow the membership. We will recap the year before hearing from Dr. Melani.

### Chaka Khan & The Pittsburgh Symphony

**June 25th 8PM  
Heinz Hall.**

As one of the Community Partner for this *SPECIAL* evening, your ticket purchases will benefit the Chamber. Call 412-392-4894. **use code 11752.**

<p><b><u>Members Events</u></b>  <b><u>"Free At The Frick"</u></b>  <b>April 18, Frick Art &amp; Historical Center</b>  <b>7227 Reynolds Street</b>  Associate Member Bill Bodine would love to have you join him for this family tour &amp; birthday cake to commence the celebration.</p> <p><b><u>"Lighting the Way Home"</u></b>  <b>April 23, 2009</b>  <b>Speaker: Gwen Ifill</b>  Join Associate Member Lois Martin for Bethlehem Haven's annual fundraiser. Call 412-391-1348 for details.</p> <p><b><u>YW Enterprising Women Business Training</u></b>  Hosted by the YWCA each Wednesday in April, call 412-255-6749 to get more info.</p> <p><b><u>Bidwell Training Commencement</u></b>  <b>April 18, 6:30PM</b>  <b>Rodef Shalom Temple</b>  Join Member Len Johnson for this special evening. WTAE Anchor Andrew Stockey will be the Emcee. Call 412-323-4000.</p> <p><b><u>Duquesne University</u></b>  A Coaching Certification Program at Duquesne University's School of Leadership &amp; Professional Advancement, starting April 17th. The program will help you become a professional coach within your firm/private practice. Call 412-396-5600.</p> <p><b><u>Mark your Calendars</u></b>  <b><u>SCOORI</u></b> <b><u>General Contractors &amp; Sub Contractors</u></b> - Apply for Action Housing's South-side Clairton Owner-</p>	<p>Occupied Rehab Initiative. Call Luciano Lejano at 412-281-2102 X2013.</p> <p><b><u>A "Vital Guide" on President Obama's American Recovery &amp; Reinvestment Act</u></b>  "Get the facts and get in position." Senator Casey's guide book, available online. Go to: <a href="http://casey.senate.gov">casey.senate.gov</a>.</p> <p><b>General Contractors &amp; Sub Contractors</b> - Apply for Action Housing's South-side Clairton Owner-Occupied Rehab Initiative. Call Luciano Lejano at 412-281-2102 X2013.</p> <p>Trouble paying your bills? Help is available all residents of Allegheny City. Go to <a href="http://www.alleghenycountyny.us/dhs/help.aspx">www.alleghenycountyny.us/dhs/help.aspx</a>.</p> <p><b><u>"Obama Women"</u></b>  Did you know that 7 of nearly 36 senior positions on President Obama's team are held by African American women, <i>Awesome!</i></p> <p><b><u>CONGRATULATIONS</u></b>  <b>Presidential Roundtable</b> Member EQT Corp. on being the first &amp; only area utility listed on Standard &amp; Poor's, Presidential Roundtable &amp; Bayer MaterialScience - a grant from PA NanoMaterials Commercialization Center. Member Rhonda Carson Leach, City Council Proclamation for Core Series on Board Development, &amp; URA Board approval for work on business consulting/technical assistance opportunities. Member Judge Joseph Williams on placing 1st for the</p>	<p>Labor Endorsement &amp; 2nd Democratic Endorsement; Member Juan Garrett, new Board President, Northside/Chamber of Commerce; Member Dennis Yablonsky, new CEO, Allegheny Conference on Community Development, &amp; Member Sylvester Pace on N.E.E.D.'s Benefit Dinner.</p> <p><b><u>Members In New Pittsburgh Courier</u></b>  Member Rhonda Carson Leach, co-chaired the National Association of Negro Business &amp; Professional Women's Clubs' fashion show - Member Juan Garrett modeled. Member Seton Hill's E-Magnify Women's Business Center's conference "Building a World Class Business", Member Irv William's on being a successful entrepreneur, Member WQED's 2009 African American Leadership Awards, &amp; Members Bridgette Driver, Jada Grandy, Constance Horton &amp; James Williams, 4 of '09's Fab 40. Members YWCA &amp; CMU on the Micro-Enterprise Symposium. Member Urban League &amp; the City of Pittsburgh on the 1st Black History Honors Awards, &amp; Member Rod Doss, receiving the Organization Award at that event. Also awarded, Members NEED, NAACP &amp; August Wilson Center for African American Culture, Member Tamara Davis, promoted to Sr. Loan Officer at Fifth Third Bank, &amp; Your Chamber President on the Women's Leadership Breakfast at Bethel AME, Your Chamber President</p>	<p>&amp; Members Dr. Audrey Murrell &amp; Jackie Dixon receiving "Women of Achievement" Awards, &amp; Chamber President &amp; Member Sala Udin, panelists at Pitt's presentation on diversity.</p> <p><b><u>Pittsburgh Business Times</u></b>  Members USS, PPG, H.J. Heinz &amp; NOVA Chemicals among the area's largest manufacturers. Members Chester Engineers &amp; L. Robert Kimball &amp; Assoc. among area's largest environmental companies. Insights Magazine, featured Member Carolyn Pengidore, Members Aradhna Dhanda, Linda Clautti &amp; Sheila Weiner were among the top 25 Women Leaders in the region.</p> <p><b><u>WHIRL Magazine</u></b>  Member Chauncey &amp; Bernice Smith, Whirl's "Couples Who Make a Difference". Member Maurita Bryant, Parental Stress Center's Anniversary celebration; Member Judge &amp; Mrs. Joseph Williams, Jack &amp; Jill Ball. Members Dr. Mona Generett &amp; Attorney Rosa Copeland Miller, Links' Gala. Member Eric Mann, YMCA Season of Giving Gala.</p> <p><b><u>Welcome New Members Regular Members</u></b>  Deanna Davis  Coldwell Banker  Jacquelyne Nixon  Bank of America  Happy Easter!</p>
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