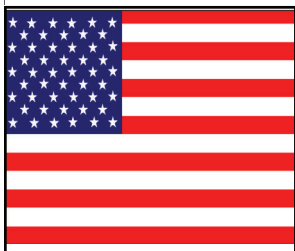


IN THIS EDITION

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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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REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER - SUITE 1330

425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

January 2010

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

Happy New Year!

Over 400 members & guests attended our Chamber's 11th Annual Business Luncheon, sponsored by Members Nationwide Insurance & Urban Settlement, & the Omni William Penn Hotel. Guest speaker BNY Mellon Chairman & CEO Robert Kelly, gave us an optimistic look @ plans for our region, particularly employment. Bob was presented gifts, including Chamber logo cufflinks.

We are please to offer our Chamber log as Cuff Links for our French cuff wearing members; the cost: **\$25**. Call the office; credit cards accepted.

PowerBreakfast Meeting

January 15th 7:30AM

Rivers Club

Bridgeway Capital

Member Mark Peterson, President, will talk about financing & other services that can help your business.

Night with Pittsburgh Symphony

January 26th 7:00 PM

Heinz Hall

Your Chamber President

will serve as host for Conductor Lawrence Loh & Trumpeter Sean Jones. Call 412-392-4900 for tickets. The evening will benefit the August Wilson Center & Hill House Assn.

Structuring the Sales Call

February 3, 2010

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Regional Enterprise

Tower- Fetterolf Room

This boxed lunch program is in response to requests on structuring your sales call to close the deal.

Cost: \$5. RSVP by Feb.1.

New Members Orientation

February 5,2010

Regional Enterprise

Tower- Renner Room

We welcome new & existing members & to learn about chamber benefits & the value of being part of an organized body.

Cost: \$5. RSVP by Feb.3.

PowerBreakfast Meeting

February 19th 7:30AM

The Rivers Club

Catalyst Connection

Member President & CEO Petra Mitchell will discuss how their organization helps small to mid-sized firms (mfg) improve their performance, & become more profitable than their competitors.

Annual Ice Skating Party

Saturday February 27th

1:00—3:00 PM

PPG Ice Skating Rink

We return for two hours of fun for the entire family. Remember, your first hot chocolate is on the Chamber.

Save the Date

May 21,2010

Chamber Annual Meeting & Luncheon

Pitt's Chancellor Mark Nordenberg has promised to stay off ladders & be our guest speaker!

Other Events

MWDBE Lobby Day

January 26th 10:00 AM

Press Conference

State Capital Media

Center— Harrisburg

Support the effort by Rep. Jake Wheatley to improve the business environment for minority/ women/disadvantaged businesses. Visits to Legislative offices will follow.

Women & Money Project

January 29th

8AM - 4:30PM

The Rivers Club

Oxford Center

Your Chamber has partnered with the PA Treasury's Women & Money, & Women Impacting Public Policy to present this seminar on

providing concrete resources for women in PA to start, grow & innovate their business. \$50 includes 1 year free WIPP membership. Register now @ www.patreasury.org/womenMoney.html

Mardi Gras Gala
February 16th - 6:30PM
Westin

Convention Center
Join Associate Member the Epilepsy Foundation for Fat Tuesday. Presidential Roundtable Member Greg Babe, Bayer President & CEO, will be crowned King of Mardi Gras. For more information call 412-322-5880.

SBA
Small Business Seminar
January 27, 2010
Riverside Center
for Innovation
700 River Rd.
You must register by phone. Call Marisa Fentzel for details @ 412-395-6560.

Help Connections
Member United Way offers info on social services to help your employees & co-workers. Go to: www.Helpconnections@uwac.org
Learn more about PA's Minority & Women Business Opportunities: www.portal.state.pa.us/bureau_of_monority_and_women_business_opportunities.

Assistance is Available
The Department of General Services will assist anyone who is interested in Stimulus Funded Projects. Call Elizabeth Bowers @ 412-442-5872.

\$1 ACCESS

Carnegie Museums are offering \$1 access to any of 4 museums for all Access/EBT card holders. The discount is good for unlimited visits for up to 4 people on 1 card. Show your Access/EBT card & ID. For more information call 412-622-3131.

White House Fellows
President Obama & the 1st Lady are encouraging professionals to become White House Fellows. If you or someone you know is interested in a fellowship, go to: www.Whitehouse.gov/about/fellows.

Internships with the Bucs
Supporting Member Pittsburgh Pirates has several Spring & Summer internship opportunities available. Apply online @ <http://careers.pirates.com>.

Advocacy & Outreach
The PA Minority Business Enterprise Center & American Recovery & Reinvestment Act's Advocacy & Outreach initiative is a one-stop resource for information about federal, state & local contracting & grant opportunities. For more information call 215-895-4037 or go to: www.mbda.gov & click on *American Recovery & Reinvestment Act*

Manage & Expand
The SBA in Pittsburgh offers several programs to help small businesses with management & growth. Go to: www.sba.gov

Certified Weatherization Training
Over \$1 Million of the state's Recovery Act

funds will be used to provide Certified Weatherization Training to 1000 individuals. Enroll @: www.pacareerlink.state.pa.us Enrollment is limited.

Did You Know
Pittsburgh is the 2nd best city in the U.S. in which to launch a small business... that's according to Fortune Small Business Magazine.

Congratulations
Associate Member The August Wilson Center for African American Culture featured in Crisis Magazine. Members Small Seeds received a percentage of the sales after members shopped @ 5th Avenue place to benefit charity; Leadership Pittsburgh's Aradhna Dhandra given the League of Women Voters the Good Government Award; Associate members Urban League's Esther Bush on the 14th Annual Ronald H. Brown Leadership Gala; Sean Gibson on a new Josh Gibson documentary; Maurita Bryant awarded Sigma Gamma Rho's Beacon of Light award; World Affairs Council former President Sky Foerster is on his way to Colorado joining the faculty @ the USAF Academy & Eisenhower Center for Space & Defense Studies; Joy Woodruff has joined Supporting Member The Event Group as Event & Political Campaign Coordinator.

Member Featured
Member Northside Christian Health Center featured on WQED OnQ. Watch it at: wqed.org/OnDemand/cancelafinancialgroup.aspx?y=NorthsideChristianCenter

IN THE NEWS
New Pittsburgh Courier
Members Dawn Webb-Turner 'Out & About'; Dr. Helen Davis, & Bethany Criswell @ Associate Member Adagio Health's Hot Pink Pittsburgh fundraiser; Member UPMC's Kidney Walk; Associate Member Hill House names Victor Rogue, Interim President & CEO; Pirates' Diversity Networking Reception; your Chamber's 11th Annual Business Luncheon.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Members Esther Bush & Murry Gerber (Honorary Chair) @ the Urban League's 14th Annual Ronald H. Brown Leadership Awards Gala.

Whirl Magazine
Members Chauncey Smith, Oscar Worthy, Carol Miller & Homer Walton @ your Chamber's Holiday Celebration; Max Miller @ the Pointe in Time Ball; Associate Member Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's 25th Anniversary Gala; & Supporting Member Sheila Weiner @ the Event Showcase & Expo.

Welcome New Members
Regular Members

Andrea Russell
AmeriPrise Financial

Gi Gi White
GiGi Foods, Inc.