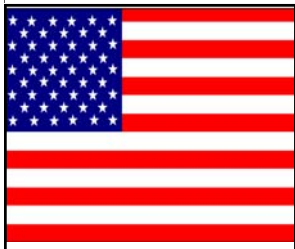


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### MISSION STATEMENT

*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  
REGIONAL ENTERPRISE TOWER - SUITE 1330  
425 SIXTH AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PA 15219  
(412) 392-0610 FAX: (412) 392-0612  
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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT & CEO

### February 2010

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

Pittsburgh welcomes the children from Haiti!

Your Chamber kicked off the new year with over **2,500** hits to our website!

Thanks to Supporting Member George Matta for hosting our New Year's Celebration at the Rivers Casino. Thanks to members who braved the weather for a productive & fun evening.

Member Mark Peterson, President of Bridgeway Capital, presented how his organization offers financing for business owners, including Chamber members he is currently working with.

**PowerBreakfast Meeting**  
**February 19th 7:30AM**  
**Rivers Club**  
**Oxford Centre**  
Catalyst Connection  
President & CEO and Associate Member Petra Mitchell will discuss how her organization helps manufacturing firms have the competitive advantage, & how the strategy applies to all of us: manufacturers, professional services

firms, educational providers, & economic development agencies.

**Annual Ice Skating Party**  
**Saturday February 27th**  
**1:00 PM — 3:00 PM**  
**PPG Ice Skating Rink**  
Join us for the 9th Annual Ice Skating Party. Remember, your first cup of hot chocolate is on the Chamber.

**PowerBreakfast Meeting**  
**March 26th 7:30AM**  
**Rivers Club**  
**Oxford Centre**  
Kent McElhattan, Chairman of Industrial Scientific Corp. will introduce us to his company & discuss how to do business with his company.

**Chamber Annual Meeting**  
**May 19th 11:00 AM**  
**Luncheon 12:00 Noon**  
**Sponsored by PNC Bank**  
University of Pittsburgh's Chancellor Mark Nordenberg will be our guest speaker for the luncheon; don't miss it!

**Candidates' Forum**  
**Sponsored by Comcast**  
**April 29th**  
**4:30PM - 7PM**  
**Rivers Club**  
Open to the public, all

the candidates for Governor & Lt. Governor have been invited to discuss their plans for PA & the future of small business in Western PA.

**Membership Survey**  
We need the input now from our business owners on the type of programs & services you would like for 2010. Take a few minutes & complete the questions that will give us information to better serve your needs. It will entitle you to a free PowerBreakfast.

**Chamber 'Links'**  
Your Chamber is pleased to offer our Chamber logo as *Cuff Links* for our French cuff wearing members. The cost is \$25. *Credit Cards Accepted!*

**Be Counted!**  
Watch for your Census Forms, coming in March!  
The Membership Directories have gone to print!

**Members Events**  
**Mardi Gras Gala**  
**February 16th - 6:30PM**  
**Westin Convention Center**  
Join Associate Member Judith Painter & the Epilepsy Foundation for Fat Tuesday! Presidential

Roundtable Member Greg Babe, President & CEO of Bayer Material Sciences, will be crowned King of Mardi Gras. For more info, call 412-322-5880.

**Revolutionizing Construction**  
**Green Building Alliance**  
**Panel Discussion & Luncheon**  
**February 18th**  
**12PM-2PM**  
**Westin Convention Center**

Associate Member Holly Childs is hosting an exciting discussion on building green. Call 412-431-0709 for details.

**Urban League Sunday**  
**February 21st**  
**Pentacostal COGIC**  
**6300 East Liberty Blvd.**  
**4PM - 6PM**

Associate Member Esther Bush, Members & friends will be hosted by Pentacostal Temple Church of God in Christ for their 25th Annual Urban League Sunday. Call 412-227-4150 for details.

**Living Legends**  
**February 23rd - 3PM**  
**Duquesne University**  
**Power Center Ballroom**  
John Marshall & Charles Hamilton Houston, Jr. will discuss their fathers, Thurgood Marshall & Charles Hamilton Houston. **Free** & open to the public.

**SBA Certification & Contracting Workshop**  
**February 24th**  
**9AM-12 Noon**  
**700 River Ave.,**  
**Northside**

This workshop is **Free** to the public, but you must

register @ 412-395-6560 X109.

**High-Tech FY\$!**

The URA has launched a loan fund to help high-tech entrepreneurs with loans up to \$200K. To apply go to [www.ura.org](http://www.ura.org) and click on the *Business Owners* section.

**Northside Community Development Fund**  
**3rd Annual Business Luncheon**

**February 26th**  
**11:30AM - 2:30PM**  
**Lexus Club - PNC Park**  
For more information call 412-322-0290.

**Positions Open**

Are you aware that PNC Bank has several hundred positions in retail, training, & part time positions available in our region? Anyone interested should send their resume to: [michael.sahayda@pnc.com](mailto:michael.sahayda@pnc.com). Salaries are competitive.

**Sr. VP, Community Giving & Fundraising**  
**United Way of Allegheny County.** For more information call 412-434-1335.

**Jobs with the Bucs**  
The Pittsburgh Pirates have Seasonal, Part Time, Temporary, & Internship opportunities available @: <http://careers.pirates.com>

**Become a Paramedic**  
The City of Pittsburgh has several positions open for Paramedics who will be trained. For more information call 412-362-8580.

**Black History Month**  
Dr. Carter G. Woodson began promoting Negro History Week during the

2nd week in February in 1926, & in the 1960's February became Black History Month.

**State of the Union**

During his State of the Union speech, President Obama proposed using \$30 Billion in Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds to provide cheap capital to community banks to make loans to small businesses.

**Did You Know**

According to *U.S. News*, Pittsburgh is # 7 in the nation among the most affordable places to retire.

**GREEN NEWS**

In 1990 unconventional cleaner gas from shale (**known as Marcellus Shale in South—western PA**) was only about 10% of total gas production in the U.S. - today it's **40%! Dr. Kathryn Klaber** was recently named President of the initiative.

**Congratulations**

Member Keith Key & the KBK Enterprises team on the grand opening of Phase 1 of Garfield Commons. Working with Associate Member Fulton Meachem of the City Housing Authority, the project achieved 33% MBE, & 11% WBE participation, the first in Pittsburgh's history!

Corporate Sponsors Dr. Mona Generett (Dollar Bank), Toni Silva (UPMC), & your Chamber President, named Pittsburgh Business Times Top 25 Women In Business. **Presidential Roundtable**

Member Dr. Ken Melani (Highmark) is one of two CEO's who spearheaded a local corporate effort, sending \$15 million in supplies & 70 doctors & nurses to Haiti.

**IN THE NEWS**

**New Pittsburgh Courier**

Members Royce Woods @ the Renaissance Group's fundraiser to benefit NEED. Member Dr. Rochelle Oakes volunteering for relief to Haiti.

**Pittsburgh Business Times**

Associate Members Allegheny Conference's Dennis Yablonsky on promoting the region's energy initiatives, & YWCA to open Nathan's Famous hot dog franchise in the YWCA building downtown this spring.

**Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**

Member Ann Dugan featured regarding the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence.

**Welcome New Members**

**Regular Members**

**Dr. Rochelle Oakes**  
The Oakes Group

**Doris A. Smith-Ribner**  
Philadelphia, PA

**Rev. Deryck Tines**  
ONEchurch

**Supporting Members**

**Rosemarie Perla**  
Perla Group

**Stay Warm!**