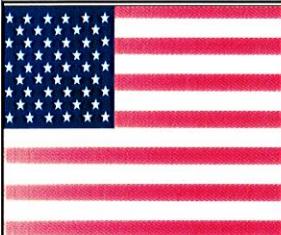


**Important Dates to record**

- ◆ April 17th - PowerBreakfast
- ◆ April 22nd—Financial & Budgeting Workshop
- ◆ April 29th - Members Mixer
- ◆ April 30th - Candidates' Forum
- ◆ May 7th - Annual Meeting & Luncheon
- ◆ Members' Events
- ◆ 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****Koppers Building****Suite 2220****436 Seventh Avenue****Pittsburgh, PA 15219**

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DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, CCE PRESIDENT AND CEO

**April 2015**

**This monthly newsletter is prepared solely for members, supporters & sponsors of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA**

**Spring has arrived!**

Our 'Structuring The Sales Call' workshop was well attended with good participation.

Mayor Bill Peduto gave a compelling presentation to a full house at our PowerBreakfast Meeting; Kudos to Comcast for sponsoring!

**Members Mixer**

A big thank you to Member Bill Thompson for hosting our Members Mixer at his beautiful Bed and Breakfast, Le Maison du Paix!

**PowerBreakfast Meeting****April 17th****7:30 AM - 9:00 AM****Rivers Club****Keith Key****President & CEO****KBK Enterprises**

Join us & welcome our Presidential Roundtable Member who will present the status of Skyline Terrace & other development activities, now a Hall of Famer!

**Financial & Budgeting****Workshop****April 22nd****Harvey Smith, Presenter****11:30 AM - 1:30 PM****Koppers Building****9th Floor Board Room**

Your Board Member, Author, & Guest Lecturer will present helpful plans on budgeting & financial management for small businesses. Plan to be there!

**Members' Mixer****April 29th****5:00 PM - 7:00 PM****Center for Organ****Recovery & Education****204 Sigma Drive****Allison Park**

Member Lisa Upsher will be our host. Bring your business cards & wear your logo pin!

**Candidates' Forum****April 30th****4:30 PM - 6:30 PM****Rivers Club****Oxford Center****Downtown**

Bring your questions as we welcome candidates for the District 9 City Council Race & the 12th & 13th Ward Magisterial District Justice Race—both for the upcoming May Primary. Member Rod Doss/New Pittsburgh Courier will be the Facilitator. The reception begins at 4:30 PM.

**Chamber Annual****Meeting & Luncheon****May 7th****11:00 AM****Members Meeting****12:00 Noon****Luncheon****Omni William Penn****Hotel 17th Floor**

Our guest speaker will be David Holmberg, President and Chief Executive Officer of Highmark, Inc.

**Members' Mixer****May 28th****5:00 PM - 7:00 PM****Hosanna House****807 Wallace Avenue****Wilkinsburg**

Associate Member Al Merritt will host you. Don't forget to wear your logo pin & bring your business cards.

**Save the Date****October 9th****Cyber Security****1:00 PM - 4:00 PM****Manchester Bidwell****Corporation****Auditorium****Sponsored by:****Huntington Bank**

Your Chamber is well into planning this workshop that is designed to help your company minimize the risk against this global problem, & the impact on your firm. Participation includes the speaker's book on the subject. A special invite will be sent.

If your company would like to host a Mixer or sponsor an event for

<p>Chamber Members, call us @ 412-392-0610.</p> <p><b>Members Events</b></p> <p><b>Spring 2015 Center for Women's Entrepreneurship at Chatham University</b></p> <p>Register online now for all programs and events: <a href="http://www.chatham.edu/cwe">www.chatham.edu/cwe</a>.</p> <p><b>April 8th Vibrant Pittsburgh</b></p> <p>Presents the series: <b>Inclusion Best Practices featuring Bruce D. Murphy</b></p> <p>Head Corporate Responsibility, The KeyCorp</p> <p><b>7:30 AM - 9:30 AM Point Park University Lawrence Hall</b></p> <p>Call Member Melanie Harrington for more info, @ 412-281-8600.</p> <p><b>April 15th An Evening with Audra McDonald Byham Theater 8:00 PM</b></p> <p>This event is presented by Member Cheryl Hall Russell/The Hill House Association. For tickets info, go to: <a href="http://www.trustarts.org">www.trustarts.org</a>, or call: 412-456-6666.</p> <p><b>April 16th Seton Hill University e-Magnify Bridges to Business 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Rivers Club Oxford Center Downtown Pittsburgh</b></p> <p>Learn business tools that will drive your business to new heights. Register at 724-830-4625</p> <p><b>April 24th YWCA Annual Stand Against Racism 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 305 Wood Street Downtown</b></p> <p>Make a strong visual</p>	<p>statement. Register @ <a href="mailto:mstevenkosnek@ywcapgh.org">mstevenkosnek@ywcapgh.org</a>.</p> <p><b>May 6th Celebrate The Power Of Propel Inspiring Achievement 6:30 - 9 PM Propel Hazelwood 5401 Glenwood Ave.</b></p> <p>Reserve your place at: <a href="http://www.propelschools.org">www.propelschools.org</a>.</p> <p><b>May 15th Duquesne University Small Business Development Center Entrepreneur's Growth Conference</b></p> <p>Learn more at: <a href="http://www.duq.edu/sbdc">www.duq.edu/sbdc</a></p> <p><b>May 16th East End Cooperative Ministry presents A Flavor of the East End</b></p> <p>Join Member Michael Mingrone &amp; sample tasty fare from some of our local restaurants. It will benefit at-risk youth. Learn more at: <a href="http://www.eecm.org">www.eecm.org</a>.</p> <p><b>May 21st YWCA 33rd Annual Tribute to Women Leadership Awards Luncheon</b></p> <p><b>Westin Hotel, Pittsburgh</b></p> <p>For more information call Associate Member Maggie Jenson @ 412-255-1261.</p> <p><b>May 21st NAACP 61st Annual Human Rights Dinner &amp; Centennial Celebration 100 Years: Yet the Struggle Continues</b></p> <p><b>Westin Convention Center Hotel 1000 Penn Avenue, Downtown</b></p> <p>Call Member Constance Parker 412-471-1024 for tickets.</p> <p><b>Save the Date</b></p> <p><b>July 3rd thru July 5th EQT Pittsburgh</b></p> <p><b>Three Rivers Regatta</b></p> <p>Now through April 15th</p>	<p><b>10 AM - 2 PM 2nd Floor City County Building</b></p> <p>Volunteer Income Tax Assistance</p> <p>Your President had the opportunity to meet with Governor Wolf one-on-one to discuss his budget proposal. It is his belief this budget will provide a boost to all businesses &amp; add a level of fairness essential to rebuilding our middle class economy to 5.99, finally while making a historic investment in public education to help prepare our workforce of tomorrow. Lowering our corporate tax rate by 40% will make our tax climate competitive. In addition, by zeroing out the capital stock and franchise tax &amp; closing the corporate tax loopholes, the Governor is optimistic it will help revive the state's manufacturing economy through tax credits &amp; assistance to firms that create higher paying jobs. What do you think?</p> <p><b>Attention Employers</b></p> <p>The Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) requires you to give employees the facts about retirement &amp; health benefits. Learn more at: <a href="http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/health-plan">www.dol.gov/dol/topic/health-plan</a>.</p> <p><b>Did You Know</b></p> <p>Deanna Conte is joining Associate Member Maher Duessel in the role of Principal.</p> <p><b>Congratulations</b></p> <p>Member Keith Key on KBK achieving 43% MWBE participation on the Skyline Terrace project; Member Paul Harper on a successful Global Venturing Israel: MedTech &amp; Inclusive</p>	<p>Innovation Conference at Pitt: it was impressive! Corporate Sponsor Dr. Quintin Bullock/CCAC on their partnership with Associate Member Carlow University. Students who earn an Associate Degree at CCAC can go directly to Carlow to receive their Bachelor's Degree; Supporting Members Craig Davis/VisitPittsburgh &amp; Jeremy Waldrup/Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership on both having held successful Annual Meetings.</p> <p><b>In The News</b></p> <p><b>New Pittsburgh Courier</b></p> <p>Board Member David Atkins/VisitPittsburgh, keynote speaker for MEN Challenge, Center for Victims of Domestic Violence.</p> <p><b>Pittsburgh Business Times</b></p> <p>Corporate Sponsor Gregory Dell'Omo/Robert Morris University on 'Say-ing Goodbye to Pittsburgh'.</p> <p>~~~</p> <p>We are deeply saddened by the passing of Member Faye Obregon Ritter/The Allegheny Group</p> <p>~~~</p> <p><b>New Members</b></p> <p><b>Regular Members</b></p> <p><b>Alexander Beasley</b> Beasley Plumbing</p> <p><b>Michelle A. Jones</b> Greater Pittsburgh Black Business Directory</p> <p><b>Supporting Members</b></p> <p><b>Richard Bosco</b> Ryco, Inc.</p> <p>A schedule of all programs &amp; events is emailed each Monday &amp; Thursday. Check your emails &amp; follow your Chamber on Facebook &amp; Twitter @ aaccwp.com</p>
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