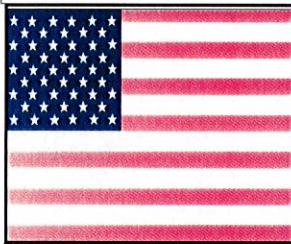


Dates for your Calendar

- ◆ February 11th Doing Business with the Housing Authority
- ◆ February 20th PowerBreakfast
- ◆ February 23rd Members Mixer
- ◆ February 24 How To Do Business with CONSOL Energy
- ◆ Members' Events



**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**

(412) 392-0610 FAX: (412) 392-0612

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**DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, CCE PRESIDENT AND CEO**

**February 2015**

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

business. RSVP by the 18th to 412-392-0610.

**Members Mixer  
February 23rd**

**East End Cooperative Ministry  
6140 Station Street  
East Liberty  
5 PM - 7 PM**

Join us as our Member hosts us at their East Liberty office. Bring your business cards & meet your fellow members: **RSVP by the 20th.**

**How To Do Business With Consol Energy**

**February 24th  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
Koppers Building  
436 Seventh Avenue  
9th Floor Board Room**  
Chad Guthrie, Manager for Contract Services & Supply Chain Mgmt will discuss CONSOL Energy's requirements & offer advice on doing business with CONSOL. **This Workshop is for Chamber members only!**

**Save the Date  
October 9th 1-4:00PM  
Cyber Security**

Your Chamber is planning special work-Shop for this fall to minimize the risk against this global problem & the impact on your firm. A special invite will be sent.

*If your company would*

***In recognition of  
Black History Month!***

Kudos to Morgan O'Brien for hosting our members who met with the procurement team at Peoples Natural Gas. The presentation included how to set up a vendor profile: several members are now signed up!

Our PowerBreakfast Meeting with County Executive Rich Fitzgerald was full of facts on his advancing minority hiring & procurement. As usual, it was well attended.

Pitt's former Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs, Robert Hill, did an outstanding job at our Communications Workshop: high marks were given on all evaluations.

Highmark hosted a fun mixer at Caffé Amante for the Chamber. Lots of business cards were exchanged.

It was good to see our new members at the Members orientation. It was an engaging session!

**Affordable Care Act  
Conference Call  
February 5th  
2:30 PM**

If you're a small business owner (50 employees or less), or a sole proprietor, you will benefit from this briefing being held by your Chamber & the Dept. of Health & Human Services. There will be time for questions & answers. Register @:  
<http://bit.ly/BFPACall>

**How To Do Business with the City of Pittsburgh Housing Authority**

**February 11th  
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
Koppers Building  
9th Floor Board Room**  
**This Workshop is for Chamber Members Only!**  
The Director of Procurement Kim Detrick will present the procedures & protocol to do business with their Authority. RSVP by the 9th.

**PowerBreakfast Meeting**

**February 20th  
7:30 AM  
Rivers Club**

Join us as we welcome Ellen McLean Port Authority CEO as our guest speaker. She will present their new initiatives & how you can engage in doing



like to host a Mixer for Chamber Members, call us @ 412-392-0610.

### **Members Events**

#### **February 4th Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Presents Zap Mama & Antibalas Byham Theater**

Don't miss this fusion of the musical worlds of African Pop and Funk. Get more information at: [www.trustarts.org](http://www.trustarts.org).

#### **February 8th Urban League Sunday August Wilson Center 980 Liberty Avenue Downtown 4 PM - 6 PM**

Join Associate Member Esther Bush for this annual celebration featuring Keynote Speaker Overseer Ennis Tait & the Citywide Mass Choir. Open to the public.

#### **February 11th Vibrant Pittsburgh Presents Inclusion Best Practices Series Featuring Nigel Telman, Partner Proskauer Rose LLP Leaders of Proskauer's Midwest Employment & Labor Practice 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM Lawrence Hall Point Park University Downtown**

Associate Member Melanie Harrington looks forward to seeing you. Learn more at [vibrantpittsburgh.com](http://vibrantpittsburgh.com)

#### **February 13th The Chatham University Center for Women's Entrepreneurship 8 AM - 9:30 AM**

"Unlikely Entrepreneur: The Intersection of Life Experiences, Food and a

Drive to Succeed" Join Associate Member Rebecca Harris for this Women Business Leaders Breakfast Program Series. Speaker: *Regina Koettters* Founder & CEO of Marty's Market, LLC. Register at: [www.chatham.edu/cwe](http://www.chatham.edu/cwe)

#### **February 19, 2015 6:30 p.m. Twentieth Century Club 4201 Bigelow Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15213**

*"An Artistic Journey Through the African American Experience"* Join the University of Pittsburgh for this special Black History Month celebration honoring Educator Doris Brevard, Musician Roger Humphries, & Activist Sala Udin. You must RSVP by the 16th by calling 412-624-7102 or [osereply@pitt.edu](mailto:osereply@pitt.edu).

The Arch Grants Global Startup Competition for Entrepreneurs is now accepting applications. Go to: [www.archgrants.org](http://www.archgrants.org).

#### **2015 Energy Leadership Awards**

Nominations are now open. Categories include natural gas, oil, coal, wind and solar. For more information contact Richard Cerilli @: [rcerilli@bizjournals.com](mailto:rcerilli@bizjournals.com)

#### **Live Well Allegheny**

An innovative initiative to improve the health and wellness of county residents. Learn more @: [livewellallegheny.com](http://livewellallegheny.com).

#### **Employment Workforce Development Generalist**

The Pittsburgh A. Philip Randolph Institute Education Fund is seeking applicants to fill this new position. For more

information go to: [www.pittsburghapri.org](http://www.pittsburghapri.org).

### **FYI**

#### **Did You Know**

Businesses certified as a DBE or ACDBE with the PA Unified Certification Program are eligible to participate on any Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) & the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funded contract as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise or Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

Jay Sukenek, RiverLife's CFO is the Acting Director while the Board of Directors conducts a search for a new Executive Director.

The Pittsburgh region lost 5,300 jobs in December, according to preliminary statistics but still managed to end 2014 with a total gain of 12,600 jobs. The 12-month job growth rate was slow compared with the 14 other Pittsburgh TODAY benchmark regions.

East Liberty native and Tony Award-winning actor Billy Porter will return to Pittsburgh as the star of "Kinky Boots" when the CLO hosts the Broadway musical in August. For tickets, call the CLO at 412-281-3973.

#### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Member Darryl Ford-Williams & Associate Member Deborah Acklin/ WQED on the completion of "August Wilson: The Ground on

Which I Stand"; Howard Russell on receiving approval for the regional center for the Homeland Security Immigrant Investor-EB5 program. The official name is the "West Penn Regional Center", now another financing tool for economic development in our region. Former Associate Member Dennis Davin/ Allegheny County Economic Development is now the Secretary for the Department of Community and Economic Development for Governor Wolfe's Administration; Robert Hurley is the Executive Director for the County's Economic Development Department. Corporate Sponsor Christina Cassotis is the, newly appointed Executive Director of / Allegheny County's Airport Authority.

### **In The News**

**New Pittsburgh Courier** Members Lance Hyde/ EQT & Jason Matthews/ W. Blazer Holdings featured in Business; & Member Grace Robinson/ State Farm Insurance with County Executive Rich Fitzgerald at our Power-Breakfast Meeting.

### **New Members**

**Dorretta Lemon**  
Bridge to Victory Nursing Care

### **Supporting Members**

**Amy Eury**  
Central Blood Bank

*A schedule of all programs & events is emailed each Monday & Thursday. Check your emails & follow your Chamber on Facebook & Twitter @ aaccwp.com*

