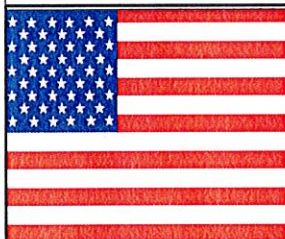


Important Dates to Record

- ◆ PowerBreakfast
January 15th
- ◆ Financial Workshop -
January 20th
- ◆ Members' Mixer -
January 28th
- ◆ Members' Orientation
January 29th
- ◆ 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

(412) 392-0610

FAX: (412) 392-0612

Email: information@aaccwp.com Website: www.aaccwp.com

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aaccwp> Facebook: www.facebook.com/aaccwp

DORIS CARSON WILLIAMS, CCE PRESIDENT AND CEO

January 2016

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

Here's to a Prosperous 2016

Thank you to all who joined us for our Annual Business Luncheon. Over 450 Chamber Members, Corporate Sponsors, & guests listened attentively to County Executive Rich Fitzgerald who introduced our guest speaker. The Honorable Tom Wolf-PA's Governor. Our sincere thanks to our sponsors: UPMC Health Plan, PNC Bank, MSA,-The Safety Company, Omni William Penn Hotel, S&T Bank, The Drew Mathieson Horticulture Center, & our media sponsor- KDKA. Save the date—May 16th for our Annual Meeting & Luncheon when Patrick Gallagher, Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh will be our speaker!

PowerBreakfast Meeting

January 15th

**7:30 AM Rivers Club
County Chief Executive
Richard Fitzgerald**

Join us as we welcome back our Chief Executive as he enters his 2nd term & learn about his plans & vision for 2016.

**Financial Health
Workshop for Chamber
Members**

**January 20th
8:30—11:00 AM
Koppers Building
9th Floor Board Room**

First Commonwealth Bank is sponsoring this important breakfast workshop on determining your economic outlook for 2016, how to build & sustain your financial health, their lending opportunities for small businesses & much more.

Members' Mixer

January 28th

5:00— 7:00 PM

**DoubleTree by Hilton
Downtown**

We look forward to returning to the Double-Tree by Hilton & having them host us in their beautiful event lounge. Wear your logo pin & bring lots of business cards.

Members' Orientation

January 29th

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

**Koppers Building
9th Floor Board Room**

Your Chamber will host this luncheon meeting for new & existing members to learn & be refreshed on the benefits of being part of an organized body, & how your Chamber works & advocates on your

behalf!

PowerBreakfast Meeting

February 19th

7:30 AM

Rivers Club

**PA Department of
Community & Econ-
omic Development
The Honorable
Dennis Davin**

Join us to welcome him home & learn about his imprint for helping spur development in our region.

PowerBreakfast Meeting

March 18th

8:00 AM

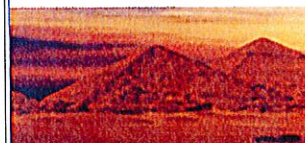
Rivers Club

**Bill Peduto, Mayor
City of Pittsburgh**

The Mayor will share his plans on his recent activity to ensure minority & small businesses are included in the city's economic development plans & activities.

A Trip to the Land of the Pharaohs

**November 9th - 17th
2016**



Add this program to your bucket list & be part of this special once in a lifetime trip: three exciting days in Cairo, a four day Nile River Cruise, then off to visit the Pyramids! Included are visits to Luxor,

Aswan, & the Valley of the Kings - all with a private Egyptologist! Sign up by April 29th to take advantage of the Early-Bird special. For more information & reservations, email us at: information@aaccwp.com.

Your Company Like to Host a Mixer?

If your company would like to host a Chamber Members' Mixer, call us at 412-392-0610.

Members Events

**March 3rd
An SMC Event:
Is Your Business Ready
8:00 AM**

**Marriott North
100 Cranberry Woods
Cranberry Township**
Join us to hear how the unfunded \$8 billion municipal and \$50 billion state pension liabilities will affect your business, & what you can do about it. For more information call 412-371-1500.

**Now through May 15th
Citizens Bank
2015-2016
Family Series**

Enjoy 6 live performances full of creativity and fun for the entire family. Learn more @: trustarts.org/events/series/childrens_theater

Employment / Training

**Jan. 23rd, & Feb. 27th
Heinz History Center**

Family search International will hold information sessions on how to volunteer & receive training for the Freedmen's Project at the History Center.

There are also several salaried positions open at Heinz

History Center. For more information go to: heinzhistorycenter.org.

Highmark Health Internships

If you know a college student who is looking for an excellent opportunity that could turn into a career opportunity, Highmark Health is actively recruiting interns for the summer of 2016. Applications must be submitted by February 15th. Go to: highmarkhealth.org

Fellows In Local Government Still Needed

Allegheny County Department of Human Services is seeking motivated & talented individuals who are recent graduates of Bachelor's programs to join the staff for a 1-year appointment; & help shape the work of the Department of Human Services. There is still time to apply. Go to: alleghenyco.usa. Click on [Careers](#)

FY\$!

The PA Chamber has announced that a state-wide "business privilege" tax has been proposed as an idea to generate revenue for increased state spending. Learn how this may affect your business. For more info, go to: pachamber.org or call 800-225-7224.

Did You Know

Your Chamber President participated in the recent roundtable discussion in Pittsburgh headed by Anthony Foxx, US Secretary of Transportation, on our region's air service priorities & what role the federal govern-

ment can play. We will keep you posted on the results.

Thanks in part to the efforts of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, Congress has passed the **Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act**. This legislation will maintain the Highway Trust Fund, invest \$305 billion, & set highway, transit & rail policy thru 2020. More than \$250 billion will be spent on highways & transit projects over the next 5 years.

The results of the SMC's (Small Manufacturers Council) annual member survey for 2015 has shown that *health care and taxes* have consistently ranked as the #1 & #2 concerns of the SMC membership over the last 5 years.

Attention Foodies!

Pittsburgh has been voted #1 among the 17 top Food Cities in the nation by Zagat, a google owned rating system of restaurants by diners. Go to Zagat.com to learn more.

Congratulations

Member Esther Bush/ Urban League on a successful Ronald H. Brown Leadership Awards Gala; Member Peggy Harris, was one of the Ronald H. Brown honorees. Member Anna Hollis/Amachi Pittsburgh on a successful toy distribution event for their clients' children.

**In The News
New Pittsburgh
Courier**

Member Arlinda

Moriarty/Moriarty Consultants featured in the [Business Section](#); Bill Strickland/Manchester Bidwell Corp. at the unveiling of the Rosa Parks sculpture at MBC; Member Anna Hollis/Amachi Pittsburgh, panelist at the public debate on 'Ban the Box'; Members Donna Baxter/Soul Pitt Media, Paul Harper/Vitalos & Howard Russell/H. Albert Holdings receiving the Iota Phi Foundation Achievement Awards; & PA Governor Tom Wolf (guest speaker) with Chamber Chairman Sam Stephenson & your President at the Chamber's Annual Business Luncheon.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Member Melanie Harrington/Vibrant Pittsburgh featured in People To Meet In 2016; Associate Member Dr. Gail Edwards on the successful transition of the Urban Academy of Greater Pittsburgh, now named as the top charter school in the city.

New Members

Corporate Supporter

**Errol S. Abdulla
AWK Consulting
Engineers, Inc.**

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

