

FROM THE PRESIDENT..

Dear Colleagues,

During the month of June, the African American Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) will host its annual **JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION** (JC), one of Westchester and Rockland's most exciting networking opportunities for persons interested in doing business within the African American community.

We invite you to become an active participant of the 2002 celebration, entitled "From Sharecroppers to Share Holders" (quote by Dorothy Pittman-Hughes). This year we will host a number of events designed to thrill and engage the participants while celebrating the accomplishments of African Americans. Once again, the Journal News will chronicle the annual JC special supplement, which will be distributed in all Westchester and Rockland newspapers. The supplement will also be available in local churches and designated locations throughout the counties. The supplement will contain interviews with a wide range of notable African Americans residents of Westchester and Rockland, such as: Hugh Price, President/CEO of the National Urban League; Earl Graves, Chairman /CEO of Black Enterprise Magazine; Richard Parsons, President of AOL Time Warner and Kenneth Chenault, President/CEO of American Express Company, and family members of former sharecroppers (Invited list).

We intend to have the annual sporting event, the ball, the tea, etc. We are also pleased to announce that we will host a Business-to-Business luncheon (BTB) and Business Development Day, where billionaire entrepreneur, **Mr. Robert Johnson, President/CEO/Founder of Black Entertainment Television (BET)** will deliver the keynote address.

The BTB luncheon will be followed by an expo, seminars and Town Hall meeting, where Ms Joan Parrot-Fonseca, former Director of Minority Business Development Agency (a division of the Dept. of Commerce), and others (TBD) will be on hand to discuss the state of the economy and sign sections of the book "Take a Lesson" (we are in discussion with Cable Vision about airing the town hall meeting live).

The annual **JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION** is designed to give new exposure and networking opportunities to members of the Chamber, member businesses and corporate partners, in a relaxed and entertaining atmosphere through the use of African heritage. African Americans spend an average of 17% more on vacations and are more likely to attend cultural activities, while on vacation, than any other group. As a result of their rich African heritage, Westchester and Rockland are desirable to potential travelers.

Again, we invite you to be an active participant of this exciting celebration, where you will gain new exposure and loyalty within one of Westchester and Rockland's most dynamic segments of the consumer market.

We know this years events will draw some of the most influential members of the community and those who participate are bound to make new contacts. Gaining new business is like the lottery - "You have to be in it to win it".

Sincerely,

Robin L. Douglas
President/CEO/Founder

3RD ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH LUNCHEON

The **Chamber** hosted its annual Women's History Month Luncheon and financial fitness seminars on Wednesday, March 27, 2002 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in White Plains, NY. The morning seminars took a hard look at "Economic Issues for Professional Women In A Weak Market". The Third Annual Women's History Month Luncheon followed the seminars.

Registration began at 7:30am. A continental breakfast was served and concurrent seminars ran throughout the morning. Speakers from: State Farm Insurance, Citibank, the Dime Savings Bank, JP Morgan Chase, (cont..)

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For meeting and event information call: (914) 699-4749

AACHW NEWSLETTER
ENTREPRENEUR
OF WESTCHESTER AND ROCKLAND COUNTIES
THE

3RD ANNUAL WHL CONT...

The bank of New York and Verizon gave an overview of the tools one should use to grow personal wealth and the wealth of your business in a weak economy.

The Annual Women's History Month Luncheon began with a business-to-business reception at 11:30 (lunch: 12:30pm). During lunch the **Chamber** saluted the **Hon. Lisa Copeland, Mt. Vernon City Clerk**, from Westchester. **New York State Lieutenant Governor Mary O. Donohue** delivered an insightful speech during lunch. **Ms Jennifer Jordan**, News Anchor for News 12 Westchester served as the Mistress of Ceremony.

Each attendee was asked to donate a laundered women's item for a shelter or Welfare-to-Work program. Twelve full sets of clothing were collected for women in need. For updates on who the clothing were donated to, visit the chamber website after May 1st.

The 2002 WHL was sponsored by: State Farm Insurance, Bermuda Tourism, Citibank, The Dime Savings Bank, JP Morgan Chase, The Bank of New York and Verizon.

THE 2ND ANNUAL JOB FAIR

You are cordially invited to participate in the Journal News and the African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester and Rockland Counties, Inc's **DIVERSITY JOB FAIR**.

The annual **JOB FAIR** will take place at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel** located at 66 Hale Ave, White Plains, NY; on **Wednesday, June 12, 2002**. Doors will open to the public at 10:00am and will close at 6:00pm.

Now is the time for your company to join us at our annual **DIVERSITY JOB FAIR**. The **DIVERSITY JOB FAIR** will give your company and opportunity to identify qualified personnel from within Westchester and Rockland's diverse population.

For vendor information, contact Ms Yvonne McFall at the Journal News at: 914-696-8836.

We look forward to your participation.

2ND ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL

On Monday, September 16, 2002, the **Chamber** and Title Sponsor AETna US Health Care will host the Chamber's 2nd Annual Golf Invitational (**Invitational**) at Lake Isles Country Club in Eastchester, NY. An all day networking opportunity for budding and experienced golfers.

The Chamber's Annual Golf **Invitational** is designed to give new exposure and networking opportunities to members of the Chamber, member businesses and corporate partners, in a relaxed and entertaining atmosphere.

Last years **Invitational** was hosted by NBC News Anchor Maurice DuBois retired NY Knick Herb Williams. Pete McDaniel, author of "Uneven Lies...The Historic Story of African Americans in Golf" (forward by Tiger Woods) was on hand to sign copies of his book.

The youth clinic will be held again, in the morning, for young people from Westchester and Rockland. Lessons on the fundamentals of golf, and golf etiquette will be given to the children.

We look forward to you joining us and Title Sponsor AETna US Health Care. The **Invitational** is where you will gain new exposure and loyalty within one of Westchester and Rockland's most dynamic business/consumer communities. Additionally, we invite the participation of procurement development officers. Their participation during the **Invitational** will provide the ideal atmosphere for members and sponsors to engage, interact and create new alliances.

HUDSON VALLEY PREP with the MTA

The Chamber has forged a relationship with the MTA Westchester Community College (WCC). In the Fall, the Chamber, WCC and the MTA will host a number of how-to-do business workshops for the business community, entitled the "**Hudson Valley PREP**". The program is a "Learning How to Procure MTA and Govt. Contracts through PREP" training course for entrepreneurs in the area. The PREP course is currently running 3 times a year at LaGuardia Community College.

The **PREP** program is a 32-hour workshop that helps disadvantaged-minority-and women-owned businesses learn how to compete successfully for contracting opportunities with MTA and other government agencies. The program has historically had 76% of its participants obtain contracts with the MTA. The Fall program will begin Saturday, November 2nd and run through November 23rd.

For more detail or a brochure, call the Chamber at 914-699-4749 if you would like more information about the program.

Classes begin November 2nd for the Fall session and May 10th for the Spring.

2002 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY...

- * **Breakfast Roundtable** - Dates and Speakers TBD. - the information will be on the website.

JUNE...

- * **Juneteenth Celebration 2002** - June 12th thru June 23rd. Events to be announced.
- * **NY/NJ Minority Purchasing Council Procurement Development Conference** - Date TBD.
- * **Chipping '02** - Group golf lessons and networking reception - Location TBD and details available in 02/02.
- * **Breakfast Roundtable** - Dates and Speakers TBD. - the information will be on the website.

JULY...

- * **Chipping '02** - Location TBD.
- * **African Family Day** - in Mt. Vernon (volunteers are needed for the booth).
- * **Membership Reception** - Thursday, July 25th - Location TBD.
- * **Breakfast Roundtable** - Dates and Speakers TBD. - the information will be on the website.

AUGUST...

- * **Chipping '02** - Location TBD.
- * **Community Festival** - Date TBA - Yonkers, NY (volunteers are needed for the booth and to march in the parade).

SEPTEMBER...

- * **Congressional Black Caucus** - Washington, D.C. Sept. 11th thru 14th.
- * **Chamber Annual Golf Invitational** - Sept. 16th - Lake Isle Country Club, Eastchester, NY
- * **MED Week 2002** - Washington, D.C.
- * **Membership Reception** - TBD
- * **Breakfast Roundtable** - Dates and Speakers TBD. - the information will be on the website.

YOU ARE INVITED TO VIEW
THE CHAMBER'S NEWLY DESIGNED WEBSITE



WWW.AFRICANAMERICANCHAMBEROFCOMMERCENYS.ORG

Designed by Chamber member
Technology Users Interface, Inc., Ossining, NY

E-MAIL US WITH YOUR COMMENTS @
RLDOUGLAS@COMPUSERVE.COM

100 Stevens Ave, Ste. 202, Mount Vernon, NY 10550
914-699-9050

THE ENTREPRENEUR - will be published in May, July, September and November.

If you have any questions about the Chamber (membership, upcoming events, and submitting articles) or for placing advertising, please contact:

THE ENTREPRENEUR
The AACWR, Inc.,

TEL: (914) 699-9050 FAX: (914) 699-6279

www.africanamericanchamberofcommercenys.org

SAVE THE DATE

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS LUNCHEON & EXPO
(RECEPTION & LUNCHEON) 11:00AM - 2:00PM



LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MR. ROBERT JOHNSON
CEO, BLACK ENTERTAINMENT TELEVISION (BET)



BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS EXPO

11AM - 5:00PM

FOLLOWED BY:

A NETWORKING RECEPTION & TOWN HALL MEETING
6:00PM - 9:PM

MODERATED BY:

MS JOAN PARROT-FONSECA
FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (MBDA) FOR
THE US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. APPOINTED BY THE HON. RON BROWN

AT: HILTON RYE TOWN * RYE BROOK, NY

For additional details log on to the Chamber's website after April 30th at:
www.africanamericanchamberofcommercenys.org

AFRICAN AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
WESTCHESTER & ROCKLAND COUNTIES INC.



Monthly
Breakfast Club



JUNE, 2002

CHECK WITH THE CHAMBER WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION

7:00am - 9:00am

This event will start on time and end on time.

The Breakfast Club gives business professionals an opportunity
to network before 9:00am.
What a way to start the day !!

**AFRICAN AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**
WESTCHESTER & ROCKLAND COUNTIES INC.

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IN THIS ISSUE.. UP AND COMING 2002 !!!!

THE ENTREPRENEUR...

*Newsletter Advertising Contract
March Issue of the Entrepreneur*

Please insert our advertisement into the AACWR's Spring issue of the Entrepreneur.

Contract enclosed.

(All contributions are tax deductible to the extent of the law)

NAME: _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO.: _____

FAX NO.: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Payment and camera-ready copy are due by **May 20, 2002**

(We will not be able to accommodate requests received after this date)

I/We hereby contribute \$ _____ for a business card page ad in the AACWR Inc's Newsletter.

Please make checks payable to: African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester and Rockland Counties, Inc. (AACWR, INC.)

COMING SOON !

The Executive Committee of the African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester and Rockland Counties, Inc. invites you to attend



JUNE, 2002

Location: TBD

For further information, check the Chamber website.
www.africanamericanchamberofcommercenys.org