

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
Contact:

June 3, 2013
Robin L. Douglas (914) 699-9050

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER HOST THE 12TH ANNUAL
OFFICIAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION'S
10 INFLUENTIAL BLACKS RECEPTION

The Annual Juneteenth Celebration for Westchester County, sponsored by The African American Chamber of Commerce of Westchester and Rockland Counties, Inc. (AACCCWR), will take place June 13 Through June 16, 2013. The theme is From Sharecroppers to Share Holders (a quote by Dorothy Pittman-Hughes). The first event will be the 6th annual Business to Business Reception honoring The Ten Most Influential Blacks at the Westchester Manor in Hastings on the Hudson, NY on Thursday, June 13th beginning at 6:00pm. Ms. Carol Wilkinson, News Reporter/Substitute Anchor on News 12 will serve as Mistress of Ceremony and Mr. Eric Hamilton, Chief Marketing Officer of Around The Way app will deliver the Keynote.

Honorees Include: **Mrs. Margaret K. Bing-Wade**, President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Westchester Alumnae Chapter, **Mr. Sherman Carrington**, VP Marketing of Haider Engineering, P.C., **Mr. Terrence Horton**, President of QFI/Sentinel, Inc., **Hon. Christopher Johnson**, Councilman of the City of Yonkers, **Ms. Dionne Olamiju**, Asst. Principal of Spring Valley High School and E. Ramapo Central School Dist., **Mr. A. Douglas Rogers**, Corporate Vice President - Corporate Services of New York Life Insurance Company, **Dr. Meredith F. Sirmans**, Posthumously, **Mr. Christopher Woods**, Director of DBE Preconstruction Services for McKissack & McKissack.

During the reception the members of the Association of Black Alcohol Beverage Companies will be on hand with samples and K & G Sweet Foods will provide the deserts.

The weekend will culminate with a worship service at Trinity Church, 335 South Fourth Avenue in Mount Vernon where Rev. Dr. Joel Nafuma is the pastor.

The Juneteenth Celebration commemorates the date – June 19, 1865 – when the slaves in Galveston, TX first received the word of the Emancipation Proclamation abolishing slavery which was originally issued by Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. Today, Juneteenth is a celebration of freedom which emphasizes education and achievement. Resolutions have been unanimously passed in the United States House of Representative and in the Senate encouraging the observance of Juneteenth with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs across the country.

Other major sponsors are: Silver Sponsor New York Life; Supporting Sponsor Entergy Nuclear North East and table sponsor Dormitory Authority of NY.

The AACCCWR was established June 28, 1996 as an independent not-for-profit agency to aid, counsel and protect the interest of the African American business concerns. The mission, according to Robin L. Douglas, founder and president, is to preserve competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of Westchester and Rockland Counties.

For more information on the events call 914-699-4749 or to purchase tickets go to our website: www.aaccnys.org.