

AFRICAN AMERICAN



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Monthly News & Updates

April 6, 2026 | Issue 15

▶ Business Institute Presents



BUSINESS INSTITUTE PRESENTS

Affordable Internet and Phone Services for Non-Profits, Government Agencies and Small Businesses Webinar

Tuesday, April 14, 2026
11:00am - 12:00pm

Join us as David Ombres, Government, Education and Non-Profit Account Executive presents options for low-cost, high-speed internet, VoIP telephone services, low-cost wireless service, POTS line replacement, and additional benefits for government and non-profit businesses

[Click here to RSVP](#)



**Special Legislative Breakfast Meeting with
Lt. Governor Austin Davis**

Friday, April 17, 2026
8:30am - 10:00am

Rivers Club
One Oxford Centre, 4th Floor
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Join us as Lt. Governor Davis updates us on his goals and plans for 2026 and give us an update on the economic health of the Commonwealth.

[Click here to RSVP](#)



BUSINESS INSTITUTE PRESENTS

Implementing and Sustaining the Plan Webinar

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

11:00am - 12:00pm

Join us for the third and final webinar in our three-part series featuring Orlando Houston, Managing Partner and Financial Consultant at Ohana Wealth Legacy. Orlando will walk through how to implement a succession plan effectively, monitor and update it over time, manage resistance and cultural change, and use technology to support succession planning.

[**Click here to RSVP**](#)



BUSINESS INSTITUTE PRESENTS

A.I. Demystified: A Practical Introduction for Small Business Owners Webinar

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

11:00am - 12:00pm

The owners adopting AI today aren't replacing their teams—they're freeing them. Less time on repetitive tasks means more time on what actually grows revenue: relationships, strategy, and service.

Join us as Delvina Morrow, Founder of Gleea & YMUai, discusses three free tools to help you with your business:

- Claude (claude.ai) – Draft emails, brainstorm ideas, summarize documents
- Canva AI – Create professional graphics and marketing materials in minutes
- Notion AI – Organize notes, projects, and documents with built-in AI assistance

This session will include live demos and interactive exercises so attendees leave with something tangible.

[**Click here to RSVP**](#)

2ND ANNUAL
MULTI-CULTURAL CHAMBER MIXER



German American
Chambers of Commerce
Deutsch-Amerikanische
Handelskammern



Join us for an evening of connection, collaboration,
and business growth opportunities

April 28, 2026 • 5:00-7:00 PM

FOGO DE CHÃO | 525 Smithfield St, Pittsburgh, PA

\$10 members | \$20 non-members

[Click here to RSVP](#)



Annual Meeting and Luncheon with David Burritt

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Members Meeting: 11:00am - 11:45am

Luncheon: 12:00pm - 1:30pm

The Westin Pittsburgh Hotel
1000 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

The Board of Directors of the
African American Chamber of Commerce
of Western Pennsylvania invites you to attend our
Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

Keynote Speaker:
David Burritt, President & CEO
United States Steel Corporation

[Click for Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

Click here to RSVP

▶ **Member Events**

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER & NETWORKING EVENT

JOIN US IN PITTSBURGH

April 6, 2026 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM | PPG Paints Arena - Lexus Club

Monday
April 6, 2026
5:30 - 7:30 PM
PPG Paints Arena - Lexus Club



SPECIAL GUEST
CHARLIE BATCH
of the Charlie Batch Foundation

- Keynote by Steelers Legend
CHARLIE BATCH
- Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres & networking

TO ATTEND OR DONATE:



Fraud Prevention



Fight fraud. Shred it!

AARP Fraud Watch Network™ can help you protect yourself against identity theft. Join us for a free document-shredding event in your community.

Reserve your spot for AARP Pittsburgh's shredding event. Your documents will be shredded on-site, free of charge. Bring your old financial documents, shipping labels, photos, and duplicates – no need to remove paperclips or staples!

Join us for a free document-shredding event:

Saturday, April 11 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
McCandless Town Hall Parking Lot
9955 Grubbs Road
Wexford, PA 15090

For more information or to register, scan the QR code or visit. aarp.org/pa.



AARP Fraud Watch Network provides resources to help you spot and avoid scams to help you protect yourself and your family. To learn more visit aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork

Call AARP's fraud helpline at **877-908-3360** to report a scam and talk to one of our trained specialists.

Upcoming Educational Medicare Webinar

Turning 65 or approaching Medicare eligibility? Join us for an educational Medicare webinar designed to help you better understand your options and next steps.

When: Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Time: 12:00PM

Host: Irwin Cherry, Jr., My Benefit Advisor

[Register here](#)

Local Procurement Webinar: The City of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Sports and Exhibition Authority (SEA)

April 16, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Speakers:

*Kathleen Nieves, Senior Sourcing Specialist

*Jessica Nusser, Senior Sourcing Specialist
Office of Management and Budget - City of Pittsburgh

*Michael Halpern, Procurement & MWBE Specialist
Pittsburgh Sports and Exhibition Authority

Register by April 15, 2026

For more information, contact Valerie Kachur at kachur_v@pennwest.edu or 412-237-6098.

[Register here](#)



AARP Day at the National Aviary

Grab a friend and join us for AARP Day at the National Aviary to explore one of Pittsburgh's most memorable destinations! Attendees can wander through immersive free-flight habitats at your own pace; see feathered friends, penguins, and sloths; and participate in fun, conservation-focused education. AARP Volunteers will be on-site to check in guests, share resources and connect with attendees throughout the day – the cost of general admission is on us!

The National Aviary, located on Pittsburgh's Northside, is the only independent indoor nonprofit aviary in the United States. The facility is also the country's largest indoor aviary.

Advance registration is requested. An AARP Membership is not required to attend. Guests must be age 18 or older to join.



April 18, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:00 PM ET

National Aviary
700 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Advance registration is required.

**Use your phone's camera app
scan the QR code below to RS**



PLEASE JOIN US

HEWITT LECTURE 2026



Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh welcomes **Dr. Nicole A. Cooke**, Augusta Baker Endowed Chair and Professor at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina, as the 2026 Vivian Ann Davidson Hewitt Lecturer. *All attendees are invited to attend a reception following the lecture.*

Tuesday, April 21

5:30 pm

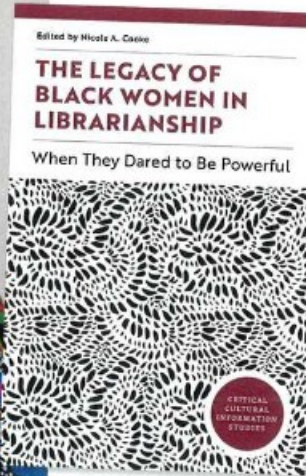
CLP – Main (Oakland)

Lecture Hall



scan to RSVP

carnegielibrary.org



The annual Vivian Ann Davidson Hewitt Lecture is intended to honor and celebrate the first Black librarian at CLP, who served the Hill District community in the 1940s.

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY INCORPORATED®
ALPHA OMICRON LAMBDA CHAPTER



BLACK & GOLD SCHOLARSHIP GALA

The Future is on the Clock

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

THE RIVERS CLUB

301 GRANT STREET, SUITE 411

Honorary Chairman: Max Starks — Pittsburgh football legend,
Two-time Super Bowl champion, and Alpha Brother
Held During the 2026 Pro Football Draft in Downtown Pittsburgh

SCAN TO
REGISTER





PARTNERING AROUND EMPLOYMENT

Agenda

Partners

12:30 PM: Registration/Networking
1:05 PM: Welcome
1:20 PM: Keynote Speaker: Khalif Ali, MSW
2:00 PM: Open Discussion
2:30 PM: Light Refreshments

Community Work™

Job Seekers

12:30 PM: Registration/Networking
1:05 PM: Welcome
1:20 PM: Keynote Speaker: Marcus A. Cofield,
Program Manager, Academic Service
Partnerships, UPMC
2:00 PM: Open Discussion
2:30 PM: Light Refreshments



APRIL 30, 2026
1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.



UPMC HEALTH PLAN
6401 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

REGISTER NOW

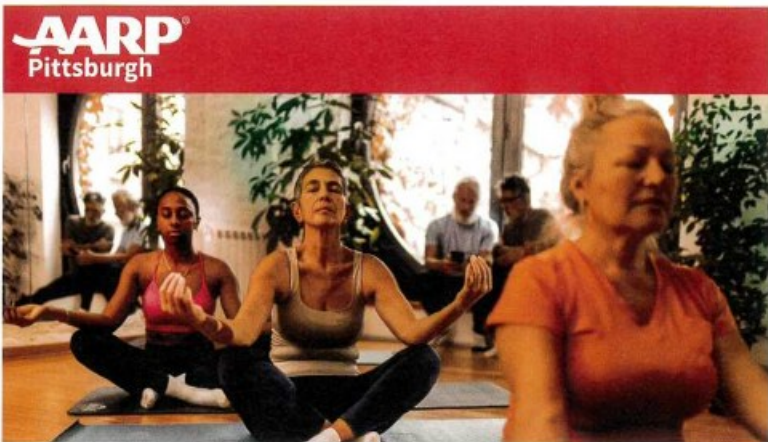


412-407-2494
workforce@davisconsultsolutions.com



Visit Our Website
www.davisconsultsolutions.com





Join us for a Free Community Yoga Series!

Unwind, stretch, and reconnect with your breath in this friendly, all levels yoga class. Whether you're unrolling your mat for the very first time or you've practiced for years, this gentle flow offers a supportive space to move at your own pace. Expect easygoing guidance, calming poses, and an atmosphere that celebrates every ability and every body. Come as you are, get centered, and leave feeling refreshed, grounded, and part of a caring community. All participants age 18+ are welcome.

Yoga instruction will be provided by Open Up, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to expand access to wellbeing through inclusive movement and mindfulness education. AARP membership is not required. Sign in to your aarp.org account or create a free nonmember account to register for events.

Please bring a yoga mat, bottle of water.



May 2, May 9, May 16
June 6, June 13, June 20
10:00 am - 11:00 am

Kingsley Association
6435 Frankstown Ave,
Pittsburgh PA 15206

Please consult your physician before
beginning any new exercise regimen.

Learn more at aarp.org/pa

[/AARPPA](https://www.facebook.com/AARPPA)

[@AARPPA](https://twitter.com/AARPPA)

[@AARPPennsylvania](https://www.instagram.com/AARPPennsylvania)





YOU ARE INVITED

Women Over 40

PORTRAIT SERIES

Gala & Exhibit

Celebrating Women in Their 40s, 50s, 60s, and Beyond

Join us for an elegant evening celebrating the inspiring women of the Women Empowerment Portrait Series. Experience a gallery exhibit of powerful portraits while we honor the strength, beauty, and stories of women in our community.

Saturday
MAY 9 2026

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM | One Valley at Roundhouse
4165 Blair St, Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Portrait Series by
Life Camera Soul
— PHOTOGRAPHY —





Students first
Always, in all ways.

REGISTER NOW!

**MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS DEPT'S
NETWORKING EXTRAVAGANZA**

All current and prospective business partners are invited to join us for the district's annual Business Opportunity Extravaganza. Our focus this year is: "Expanding Opportunity Through Strategic Contracting"

Chief Connections!

Prime Participation!

Chase Bank Business Benefits!

Supt. Walters Speaks!

Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers
10 S. 19TH ST., PITTSBURGH, PA 15203

Tuesday, May 12, 2026
9:15AM - 11:45AM

Contact Us:
412-529-4660

Register at:
[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/BK547GD1RP](https://forms.office.com/r/BK547GD1RP)

Featuring

C-LEVEL EXECUTIVES

PRIME CONTRACTORS & CONSULTANTS

BANKING BENEFITS, AT NO COST TO YOU

"2026 Business Opportunity Extravaganza" PFT Building, 10 S 19th St. Pittsburgh, PA 15203

REGISTER NOW: MAY 28-31, 2026



**BLACK ALUMNI
COLLECTIVE**

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

2026

**THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
THE FIERCE URGENCY OF NOW!
BLACK ADVOCACY FROM
CAMPUS to CORPORATE to CONGRESS**

A dynamic 4-day event designed to connect alumni and leaders from all across the country to learn, plan and implement change.

ALL ALUMNI AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND



**SCAN THE CODE FOR A
GREAT NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY**

Let's meet and prosper together through ideas and leadership that foster our collective community and help drive us forward into a brighter future.



BOAT PARTY

THURSDAY
**JUNE
18TH**

**GATEWAY
CLIPPER FLEET**
350 W STATION SQUARE DR
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

2 BOATS-1 PARTY!
RIDING THE EMPRESS & DUTCHESS.

BOARDING: 9PM
RETURNING: 1AM

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!

EARLY-BIRD TICKETS ON SALE:
tinyurl.com/2026allblackboatparty

FOR MORE INFO: STOPTHEVIOLENCEPGH@YAHOO.COM

UNDERSTANDING & OBTAINING DIVERSITY CERTIFICATIONS

ATTENTION SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

STAY CURRENT AND BE PREPARED FOR THE 2026 NFL DRAFT AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

New, existing and upcoming supplier diversity opportunities are a certification away. Check your certifications and stay current and prepared for the next big opportunity!

MBE Certification of Minority-owned Businesses (Pennsylvania - DBE Certification Management System) Go to:

paucp.dbesystem.com

WBE Certification for Women-owned Businesses (Pennsylvania - DBE Certification Management System) Go to:

paucp.dbesystem.com

MWBE Certification for Minority & Women-owned Business Enterprise (Pennsylvania - DBE Certification Management System) Go to:

paucp.dbesystem.com

DBE Certification for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (Pennsylvania - DBE Certification Management System) Go to:

paucp.dbesystem.com

WBENC Women's Business Enterprise National Council; Go to:

www.wbenc.org

NMSDC National Minority Supplier Diversity Council; Go to:

www.nmsdc.org

EMSDC Eastern Minority Supplier Diversity Council; Go to: emsdc.org

DGS Pennsylvania's Department of General Services; Go to:

dgs.pa.gov

City of Pittsburgh; Go to:

pittsburghpa.gov

Allegheny County; Go to:

www.alleghenycounty.us

► Spotlight Your Business

Spot on Business 1

Put Your Business In The Chamber's '2026 Spotlight'

Learn more about this opportunity to showcase your business by sponsoring a Chamber Business Institute Program. 2026 sponsorships are available.

► Share Your News

Share Your 2026 News, Events, and Hiring Opportunities

Are your sales up, have you opened a new office, are you hiring new staff members, or have an upcoming event? Your Chamber wants to share your 'Good News' with other Members in our monthly Newsletter.

Learn more at 412-392-0610 or AfricanAmericanChamberInformation@aaccwp.com

SCAM ALERT

If you receive an email that says the following it is a scam!

Subject: African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania

Hello,

I believe my email finds you well.

Your details have been forwarded to me by one of my colleague Scarlet. I'm glad to help you with the pricing & additional details. We will deliver you the 1,000+ Registrants/Members from African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania 2026.

Each record of the list contains: Contact Name (with 1st name and last name), Emails, Company Name, URL/Website, Phone No, Job Title/Designation, Location.

Cost: \$299

Data Quality and Guarantee terms:

- Delivery of list within 2-3 business days upon the receipt of payment.
- No any generic emails or junk emails (like info@, contacts@, sales@)
- These data you can use for multiple marketing activities including emails, paid online targeting, and more.
- List is delivered in CSV or Excel format.
- 95+% Accuracy/Deliverability Rate.

Let me know your thoughts on this so that I can send you the invoice & Payment Link to proceed.

Awaiting your response.

Steve Murray

Sr Sales Analyst

Email: steve.murray@businessbox-s.com

Website: www.businessbox-s.com

Address (HQ): 30 N North Gould Street, Sheridan, WY 82801

Chamber Social Media Sites

The African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania has a new social media sites.

- Please [click here](#) to follow us on Facebook!
- Please [click here](#) to follow us on Instagram



AI Essentials for Small Business Success

A partnership between the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western PA and YMUai

Issue 2: The Hidden Cost of Busywork and How to Reclaim Your Time

We are at the beginning of this technology and we need to start having the conversations now... The power to dictate what the future looks like is in our hands. - Chike Aguh, Senior Advisor, Harvard Project Workforce, 2025 ESSENCE Festival

He is right. And for small business owners, that power starts with one decision: What will you stop doing yourself?

Every entrepreneur knows the invisible tax. You planned to work on your business - pricing, partnerships, growth. Instead, you spent three hours answering emails, formatting proposals, and chasing invoices. The real work? Still waiting.

This is not a discipline problem. It is a systems problem.

AI does not replace your expertise. It protects it.

The goal is not to automate everything. It is to reclaim the hours where you create the most value - building relationships, making decisions, leading. Here are four tools to help you do exactly that:

Your AI Operations Toolkit

Tool	What It Does	How to Use It
Claude (claude.ai)	Thinking partner for writing, strategy, and problem-solving	Draft emails, summarize documents, brainstorm ideas. Use R.O.L.E. prompts for best results.
Canva AI	Design without a designer	Create social graphics, flyers, presentations. Let Magic Write generate your captions.
Notion AI	Organize and accelerate your workflow	Build task lists, meeting agendas, project trackers with AI that drafts and summarizes.
Otter.ai	Never lose a conversation	Record calls and meetings; get instant transcripts and action items.

The 15-Minute Challenge

Pick one task you dread this week. Time yourself doing it the old way. Then try it with AI.

Most owners cut the time in half or more. That is not efficiency. That is leverage.

We Want to Hear From You

We are building this series for you and we want to make sure we are covering what matters most. Take 30 seconds to tell us what you most want to learn about AI for your business.

Take the Survey: <https://forms.gle/tQEribxohQAxtWPu8>

Your answers will shape the rest of this series and future workshops from the Chamber and YMUai.

Next Issue: Marketing Without a Department - creating content that connects, without a creative team.



Delvina Morrow is the founder of YMUai, a people-first AI ecosystem strategy consultancy for nonprofits and social impact leaders. Based in Pittsburgh, YMUai helps mission-driven organizations harness AI to amplify their work - because your mission leads and intelligence follows.

dmorrow@delvinamorrowllc.com | ymuai.com

YMUai | People-Centered Intelligence
dmorrow@delvinamorrowllc.com | ymuai.com

lease take this survey to help us shape future content and workshops
urvey Link: <https://forms.gle/tQEribxohQAxtWPu8>

[elvina Morrow](#)

ounder, Gleea & YMUai

/here kindness meets intelligence.

MAKE COST REDUCTION AS EASY AS SPENDING

Turn the Tables on Spending with SpendBrain™

SpendBrain™

SpendBrain™ is SIB's AI platform for permanent spend advantage. It gives businesses total visibility and control over every dollar they spend. The system connects contracts, invoices, vendors, and charge codes into a private AI knowledge graph trained on 35 years of procurement expertise.

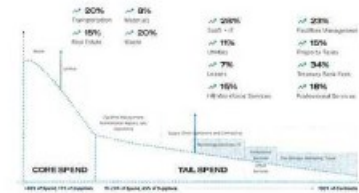
SpendBrain continuously detects overcharges, enforces contract terms, and exposes vendor pricing drift. In a world designed to make spending effortless, SpendBrain turns the tables on cost reduction.



“SIB specializes in cost reduction, use AI agents to scan invoices for saving opportunities as well as deploying human experts when needed.”

PERMANENT SPEND ADVANTAGE

Most cost reduction programs deliver a one-time win. Our solution is a private spend ontology that becomes your corporate memory for spend.



Strategic categories and fragmented purchases are treated with the same rigor. SpendBrain systematically helps teams prioritize cost reduction efforts across both high-impact core categories and the long tail of overlooked expenses.

THIS IS NOT A ZERO SUM GAME BUT...

Most cost reduction programs deliver a one-time win. Our solution is a private spend ontology that becomes your corporate memory for spend.



Humans are overwhelmed



Costs are rising



Vendors are winning

TECH EXPLAINED

The foundational technology is not an LLM. Where traditional AI guesses based on patterns, SpendBrain reasons through explicit logic and your organization's private data to deliver deterministic, auditable answers. It parses contracts, interrogates invoices, and flags anomalies in real time through a conversational interface, turning fragmented spend data into a single, intelligent financial memory.

SIB BY THE NUMBERS

ABOUT US

35	10K+	400	10
Years in business	Clients	Global Experts	Global Offices

BUSINESS

4B+	90%	\$73B+	700K+
Client EBITDA LTV	Spend Coverage	In-Process Managed Spend	Vendor Count

SEMANTIC DENSITY

1M+	71%	350+	20M
Unique Suppliers	Instances to Subject Ratio	Unique Products	Triggers with 3M added monthly

Book A Demo →

PRODUCT FEATURES

Anomaly Detection



Scan invoices and contracts in real time for errors, overcharges, or non-compliance the moment they occur.

Verbal Query and Fine Tuning

Find potential duplicate charges across all connected accounts.



Surface outlier terms, local law conflicts, detect unusual clauses, or cost traps without digging through PDFs.

Forecasting + Planning



Make connections between data, look for patterns, make recommendations and yes, build charts.

Analyst Mode



Forecast what my monthly waste charges will be for next year, taking into account the annual percentage increase.



Current Monthly Waste Charges (2023 Data)	Full Year 2024 Projections																																																								
Current monthly waste charges - Jan 2023: \$10,000.00 - Feb 2023: \$10,000.00 - Mar 2023: \$10,000.00 Annual Percentage Increase Analysis - Based on current trends, the annual percentage increase is 5.00%. - Based on current trends, the annual percentage increase is 5.00%. 2024 Monthly Forecast Summary - Jan 2024: \$10,500.00 - Feb 2024: \$10,500.00 - Mar 2024: \$10,500.00 Based on current trends, the annual percentage increase is 5.00%.	Full Year 2024 Projections <table> <tr> <th>Month</th><th>2024 Projection</th><th>2023 Actual</th><th>% Increase</th></tr> <tr> <td>January 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>February 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>March 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>April 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>May 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>June 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>July 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>August 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>September 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>October 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>November 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>December 2024</td><td>\$10,500.00</td><td>\$10,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Annual Total</td><td>\$126,000.00</td><td>\$120,000.00</td><td>5.00%</td></tr> </table>	Month	2024 Projection	2023 Actual	% Increase	January 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	February 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	March 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	April 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	May 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	June 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	July 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	August 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	September 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	October 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	November 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	December 2024	\$10,500.00	\$10,000.00	5.00%	Annual Total	\$126,000.00	\$120,000.00	5.00%
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Each answer is delivered as a clear narrative supported by visual graphs and presentation-ready charts, turning complex spend data into decision-ready intelligence leaders can use immediately.

CASE STUDY

Fortune 500 Client

1 Month of Data

- 3,110+ Location Analyzed
- \$8.8 Million Spend Reviewed
- \$1.5 Million Annual Saving Identified

WAYS TO GET SPENDBRAIN

OPTION 1

FAST TRACK

Full automation & continuous savings

WHO

Organizations ready to build a permanent cost reduction engine.

DETAILS

We onboard your first 200 contracts. Invoice anomaly detection goes live. Compliance monitoring begins immediately.

OPTION 2

SELF-FUNDED

Cost Reduction to Fund SpendBrain

WHO

Operators who already know where leakage exists and use savings to fund transformation.

DETAILS

We begin with focused cost reduction services in priority spend areas.

OUR CLIENTS



HOW TO GET STARTED

- 1 **Book a Demo:** Explore SpendBrain™ from live anomaly detection to natural language queries.
- 2 **Select Build Out Option:** Choose Fast Track to build a permanent cost reduction engine immediately, or Self-Funded to finance the transformation through the savings it creates.
- 3 **Fine-Tune Your Ontology:** SpendBrain continuously tinkers and iterates on your ontology, refining accuracy until the language, vendors, and pricing logic match the lexicon of your business and industry.
- 4 **Permanent Cost Advantage:** SpendBrain continuously audits invoices and contract performance, surfacing deviations and new savings opportunities before spend creep takes hold.

Book A Demo →

Follow us [f](#) [X](#) [in](#) [v](#)

Why Are Energy Costs So High Right Now—and What Can Businesses Do About It?

If your electric or natural gas bills feel higher than expected, you're not alone. Many businesses across the region are seeing elevated energy costs driven by a few key factors:

- Rising demand from data centers, electrification, and economic growth.
- Supply constraints, including power plant retirements and infrastructure limitations.
- Capacity cost increases, which are set years in advance and are now working their way into bills.

While these factors are largely outside of any one business's control, how you purchase energy can make a meaningful difference.

Most businesses default to locking in a fixed price for their entire energy supply. While simple, this approach often includes built-in risk premiums meaning you may pay more for the certainty.

An alternative approach is a managed or blended strategy, where a portion of your energy is secured in advance and the rest is purchased at market-based (index) prices over time. This can help balance stability and the opportunity to reduce costs, especially in volatile markets.

What can you do today?

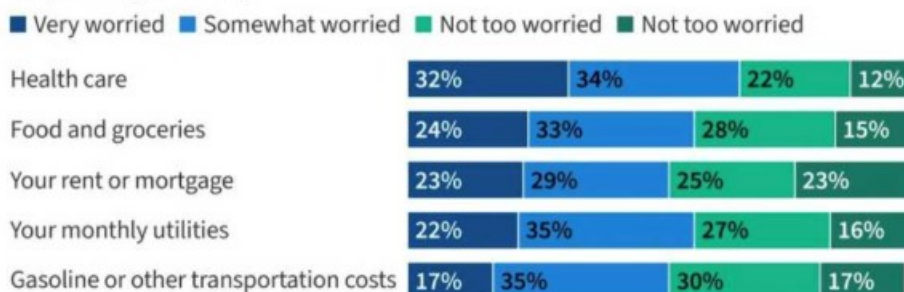
- Review when your current contract expires.
- Understand how much of your price is fixed vs. market-based.
- Consider whether a more flexible purchasing strategy aligns with your risk tolerance.

Energy markets will always fluctuate—but informed decisions can help you avoid overpaying.

Richard K. Voelker
Senior Vice President
412-400-2567
Rkvoelker@newworlddeg.com
Newworldenergygroup.com

Health Care Costs Are the Top Household Expense the Public Worries About

How worried, if at all, are you about being able to afford each of the following for you and your family?



Note: Health care includes the cost of health insurance and out-of-pocket costs for things like office visits and prescription drugs. Monthly utilities include electricity or heat. See topline for full question wording.

The Challenge: Unsustainable Health Care Costs

Health care costs remain one of the biggest concerns for families and businesses alike. We're gathering feedback to better understand interest in alternative health care options.

If this is something that matters to you, please take a few minutes to complete this brief survey.

[Click Here to take the Survey](#)

The African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania has partnered with United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania for decades. We invite you to make a contribution to United Way's vital work of meeting basic needs, moving our neighbors toward financial stability and helping our youngest community members to build for success in school and life. Your gift will support United Way's efforts in Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette and Westmoreland Counties.

[Click here to make a contribution](#)

Common Employee Benefits Compliance Mistakes (And How to Avoid Them)

Employee benefits compliance is one of the most overlooked risk areas for employers. While most organizations focus on offering competitive benefits, many unintentionally expose themselves to penalties, audits, and employee disputes through avoidable compliance mistakes.

One of the most common errors is assuming carriers or brokers handle compliance automatically. While vendors may provide guidance, the legal responsibility ultimately rests with the employer. Missing required notices, outdated plan documents, or incorrect filings can trigger significant penalties even when coverage itself is strong.

Another frequent issue is incomplete or inaccurate plan documentation. Summary Plan Descriptions (SPDs) are often outdated, missing required language, or never distributed properly to employees. This becomes especially problematic during employee disputes or Department of Labor audits, where documentation gaps can quickly escalate liability.

Employers also underestimate the risk of ACA reporting errors. Incorrect employee classifications, late filings, or mismatched data between payroll and benefits systems can result in unexpected fines and IRS notices—often months or years after the mistake occurred.

Finally, many organizations fail to recognize their fiduciary responsibilities. Decisions around plan fees, vendor selection, and benefit changes must be documented and made in the best interest of employees. A lack of formal review processes can create fiduciary exposure, even when no wrongdoing is intended.

The good news is that most compliance issues are preventable. Regular compliance reviews, updated documentation, coordinated payroll and benefits data, and proactive advisor support can dramatically reduce risk. In today's regulatory environment, compliance isn't just an administrative task—it's a critical component of responsible benefits management.

The African American Chamber of Commerce offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information about My Benefit Advisor, visit our website at aacc.mybenefitadvisor.com or contact Craig Pritts at (800) 377-3539.

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Now's the time for a great rate.

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Take advantage of reduced rates on new small business secured loans and convertible lines of credit from \$100,001 to \$5,000,000.

Offer expires on 07/03/26.



All loans are subject to credit approval.

*Offer available on new small business secured loans and convertible lines of credit from \$100,001 to \$5,000,000 only. Applications must be received by July 3, 2025, and loans must close on or before September 30, 2025. Offer requires a primary business operating account at PNC and automatic deduction from a business checking account. Other fees and charges may apply. Refinances of existing PNC business loans are excluded. May be subject to a property appraisal. Offers may be extended, modified or discontinued at any time without prior notice.

**Reduced rates are the result of the Federal Reserve Prime Rate reduction that occurred in December 2023. Rates remain subject to change, including changes as a result of future Federal Reserve actions which increase or decrease the Federal Reserve Prime Rate.

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Get started today!

Christopher Arndt

Vice President, Business Banking
Relationship Manager

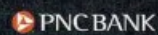
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412-768-0590

christopher.arndt@pnc.com



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ALLEGHENY
FORWARD

ALLEGHENY COUNTY'S
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



In the New Pittsburgh Courier

Congratulations to The New Pittsburgh Courier for a successful Feb 40 Under 40 Dinner & Ceremony.

[Congratulations](#) to members Khamil Bailey, Philip Gbee Sr, Marty Smith, and Patriece Thompson for being recognized as a honoree for the Feb 40 Under Forty.

[Congratulations](#) to The Boy Scouts of America Laurel Highlands Council for a successful Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Awards Dinner.

[Congratulations](#) to Derrick Wilson for being a awardee for the Whitney M. Young Jr. Service Awards.

[Congratulations](#) to the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh for a successful 30th Annual Ronald H. Brown Leadership Gala.

In the Pittsburgh Business Times

Congratulations to UPMC Center for High Value Care for being awarded \$3.26 Million in federal grants to improve the heart health of pregnant women.

[Congratulations](#) to the Community College of Allegheny County on celebrating its 60th year anniversary.

[Congratulations](#) to the Pittsburgh International Airport Terminal Modernization Program for being awarded the 2025 Civil Engineering Achievement Award.

[Congratulations](#) to the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership for a successful Annual Meeting.

[Congratulations](#) to member Mark Lewis for being recognized as "People on the Move".

[Congratulations](#) to United States Steel Corporation on its acquisition of the former Fifth Season vertical farming building in Braddock.

[Congratulations](#) to member Carrington Williams of Auberle for being a 30 under 30 honoree.

[Congratulations](#) to member Kelley Benson for being a 2026 Women of Influence Award winner.

Congratulation to member Victor Fields for being named CEO-elect of Highmark Wholecare.

[Congratulations](#) to Allegheny Conference on Community Development for a successful Annual Meeting.

[Congratulations](#) to the Pittsburgh CLO and Public Theater on their approved vote to consolidate.

Career Opportunities

Cameron Professional Services Group

Experienced Accountant

Pay: \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00 per year

Job Summary EDUCATION: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or higher

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or related field
- At least 5 years of accounting experience (required)
- At least 3 years of QuickBooks experience (required) RESPONSIBILITIES:

Accounting:

- Record financial data into QuickBooks (i.e. Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Revenues and Expenses)
- Performing bank reconciliations
- Posting journal entries
- Generating financial statement and variance reports
- Responding to client inquiries
- Perform financial analysis and forecast of financial statements
- Creation of Financial Dashboard Template
- Create Internal Control procedures
- Formalize reconciliation procedures
- Provide a written summary of financial variances
- Make recommendation - policies, procedures, and best practices
- Other duties as assigned Tax Return Preparation:
- Preparation and filing of the following tax returns is a plus: 1040, 1120, 1120S, 1065 & 990

BENEFITS:

After a 90-day orientation period, employees are eligible for the following:

- Paid Time Off 10 days of personal time off 24 hours of sick time
- Insurances: 50% of the premium for single coverage will be paid by the company Health Dental Vision
- Insurances: fully paid by the company Life insurance Short-Term Disability Long-Term Disability Retirement Benefits:
- Retirement Plan – 401K
- Company Match - 3% Education Benefits:
- Professional Development Assistance
- Access to free Continuing Professional Education (CPE)
- Yellow Book Certifications
- QuickBooks Certification is required

SCHEDULE: • Monday – Friday • 8:30am – 5:00pm • One Hope Square, 1901 Centre Avenue, Suite 202, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 • Location may vary depending on client requirements (most clients are local to the Greater Pittsburgh area)

Interested candidates should e-mail their letter of interest, salary requirement and resume. No phone calls please; candidates will be contacted for interviews. rhinton@cameronpsg.com

Bookkeeper (Full-Time)

Pay: \$16.00 - \$20.00 per hour

Job Summary Cameron Professional Services Group, LLC (CPSG) has a variety of clients in the fields of community development, social services, construction and recruitment. Client are for-profit, non-profit and government agencies. CPSG is seeking part-time Bookkeeper. This is a great opportunity for a person that is organized, detailed and proactive. This position requires detailed computer work with a strong emphasis on accuracy and meeting deadlines.

Candidate is required to be proficient in QuickBooks Desktop and Online. The Bookkeeper must sign a Client Confidentiality Agreement upon acceptance of employment with CPSG. Position: Bookkeeper (Full-Time): Major Responsibilities: · Recording financial transaction using QuickBooks (desktop & online) · Reconciliation of bank accounts · Reconciliation of credit card accounts · Preparing financial statements (B/S, I/S & CF) · Creating a Financial Dashboard · Reporting any findings Qualifications and Skills: · Must possess at least a two-year degree or certificate from qualified trade school in Accounting · Must be proficient using QuickBooks (Desktop & Online) 2-4 Years Experience · Must be proficient in Microsoft Office programs · Ability to multitask · Detail-oriented and highly organized The qualified candidate must be able to work independently in a fast-paced environment. Position reports to the President & CEO. Salary is commensurate with experience and includes a great working environment.

Interested candidates should e-mail their letter of interest, salary requirement and resume. No phone calls please; candidates will be contacted for interviews. rhinton@cameronpsg.com

Duquesne University

The Business Consultant provides comprehensive, equity centered management and technical assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance (HDBA) Grant participants. The consultant delivers one on one advising, conducts need assessments, prepares written recommendations, and supports clients in developing the operational, financial, and strategic capacity needed to start, stabilize, or grow their businesses. The role requires strong analytical skills, cultural competence, and the ability to guide clients through complex challenges including access to capital, market development, regulatory compliance, and long term sustainability.

The consultant also contributes to outreach, training, data reporting, and special projects that advance the mission of the SBDC and Duquesne University. If interested please reach out to Richard Longo.

Richard A. Longo, R.N., FACHE, FACMPE, CTC
Director, Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Duquesne University
Palumbo/Donahue School of Business
600 Forbes Ave/Rockwell Hall Ste 108
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
412-396-5138
longor@duq.edu

Pittsburgh Regional Transit

Pittsburgh Regional Transit is seeking a Government Affairs Liaison to serve as primary liaison between the PRT of Allegheny County (PRT) and elected officials and their staff for constituent issues relative to PRT and public transportation, engaging other PRT divisions and departments as necessary, working closely with the Chief Communications Officer, and using organizational data and messaging. Monitors, reports, and analyzes proposed legislation and government activities for the purpose of advising the PRT on matters relevant to the PRT and public transportation. Coordinates and directs PRT-contracted government relations consultants.

Annual Salary \$70,500 - \$105,800

We offer a comprehensive compensation and benefits package. Interested candidates should forward a cover letter (with salary requirements) and resume to:

Glenn Huetter
Employment Department
345 Sixth Avenue, 3rd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2527

GHuetter@RidePRT.org

EOE

Pittsburgh Regional Transit

Pittsburgh Regional Transit is seeking a Accounting Assistant – AFCS to responsible for maintaining all aspects of Automatic Fare Collection System billing for Port Authority of Allegheny County d/b/a Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT).

Monthly Salary \$ \$5,779.78

We offer a comprehensive compensation and benefits package. Interested candidates should forward a cover letter (with salary requirements) and resume to:

Patience Baker
Employment Department
345 Sixth Avenue, 3rd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2527
PBaker@RidePRT.org
EOE

Allegheny County Airport Authority

We are excited to announce several job openings at the Allegheny County Airport Authority that may be of interest to your networks.

As part of our commitment to fostering local employment, we believe these positions can provide valuable opportunities for individuals in our region and community. We encourage you to share this information widely.

Available Positions:

Plumber

Finance Business Analyst

Senior Staff Accountant

AR AP Staff Accountant

For more details about these roles and how to apply, please visit our website at <https://flypittsburgh.com/aca-a-corporate/join-our-team/career-opportunities/> feel free to reach out to me directly.

Stacy Lutz

Talent Acquisition Specialist

Office: (412) 472-3523

Email: SMlutz@Flypittsburgh.com

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

The Programming Manager is an integral member of the Cultural Trust's programming team, led by the Chief Programming & Engagement Officer, which is responsible for curation of programming to fulfill the Trust's artistic mission, align with industry best practices and relevant trends, and meet department/organization metrics. In addition to managing the venue calendars for all performance related programming, the position provides extensive support to the Programming department's senior team members to program and implement the mixed portfolio of mission focused and revenue generating bookings/programs. As a member of the larger Programming, Arts Education, and Community Engagement (PEACE) unit, this position requires a flexible schedule that includes evening and weekend hours, especially during performance and festival weeks.

Those interested need to apply on our website <https://pittsburghculturaltrust.applytojob.com/apply/gRxXXvu7UP/Programming-Manager>.

Pennsylvania Needs Teachers

Pennsylvania is in the midst of a teacher shortage crisis, which threatens our students' futures, along with the future well-being and prosperity of our commonwealth. That's why we're proud to stand with [PA Needs Teachers](https://www.paneedsteachers.com), a statewide coalition working to address this issue. By taking a moment to visit the link below, you can easily email your elected officials and encourage them to invest at least \$40 million in the Student Teacher Stipend Program — a proven, cost-effective, bipartisan strategy to rebuild our educator pipeline. Together, we can address the root causes of the shortage and build the excellent and diverse teacher workforce that every student deserves. <https://www.paneedsteachers.com/take-action>



The NFL has listed their opportunities to do business. Please click this link in order to submit a form of interest <https://2026nfldraftsuppliers.com/>. Please scroll to the bottom of the page a click submit an interest form.

FYI

Interested in Business Property in Allegheny County? Learn about property for sale in Allegheny County, property taxes, and property assessments. Go to: **realestate.alleghenycounty.us**

Did You Know

The upcoming 2026 NFL Draft in Pittsburgh is just over 20 days away. Get updates and learn about the activities planned for the 2026 NFL Draft at www.visitpittsburgh.com



REGULAR MEMBERS

Mike Barnes

Roux Orleans

<https://www.facebook.com/RouxOrleansCatering>

Aaron & Tamaira Ridgely

Ridgely Home Services

<https://www.ridgelyhomeservices.com/>

Is your Chamber Membership up for renewal?

Renew Your Membership Now at:

information@aaccwp.com or call 412-392-0610x1



412.392.0610