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# WELCOME TO THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY



**Cleveland C. Washington, Jr.**

*Founder and Publisher*

Thank you for joining us for the 46th Annual Maryland Minority Business Directory. Each edition captures a moment in Maryland's business landscape, and this one reflects both growth and continuity. You'll meet entrepreneurs appearing here for the first time, and you'll reconnect with long-established leaders, who continue to shape and strengthen our community. Together, they highlight the momentum and talent that define this directory.

Inside these pages, you will find businesses and organizations that are innovating, problem-solving, and expanding their impact. The Directory is a powerful resource when searching for goods, services, experts, or non-profits across Maryland.

As you explore the listings, consider taking a deliberate step to meet someone new. A single virtual meeting, call, coffee, or lunch can lead to fresh ideas, unexpected partnerships, or opportunities.

And, as always, this directory comes to life because of my hard-working and talented staff. I salute each of you.

*Cleveland Washington - Publisher*



**In Loving Memory, Jacquelyn L. Washington**

The Minority Business Directory is forever dedicated to my daughter, Jacquelyn L. Washington, known as "Little Jackie." I continue to feel inspired by how she lived her life. She lived each day to the fullest. Her life was violently cut short on May 18, 1998. During her short life, Little Jackie touched so many. All those who knew and loved her miss her deeply.

**"Little Jackie"**

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*Writer*



# The State of Maryland



*Governor of the State of Maryland, to*

**MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY**, *Greetings:*  
**46<sup>TH</sup> PUBLICATION**

**Be it Known:** *Because of your demonstration of high integrity and ability, meriting our great trust and respect, we are most pleased to award you the*

## *Governor's Citation*

*in appreciation of your outstanding services to the  
citizens of this State*



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1 day of January  
Two Thousand and twenty-six

*[Signature]*  
Governor

*Anna Miller*

*[Signature]*  
Lt. Governor

*Susan C. Lee*

*Secretary of State*



**BRANDON M. SCOTT**  
MAYOR  
*100 Holliday Street, Room 250  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202*



November 1, 2025

On behalf of the people of Baltimore, congratulations on the publication of the 2026 Maryland Minority Business Directory, the 46th edition. The Minority Business Directory is Maryland's oldest business and professional directory featuring minority owned and managed businesses.

For decades, this directory has been an invaluable resource that promotes collaboration between local businesses, diversity and equal opportunity in the state of Maryland. Minority and women-owned businesses are major contributors to our national, state, and local economies. Successful entrepreneurial undertakings like these provide jobs, promote economic growth, diversify our economy, attract new residents, and improve the quality of life in our communities.

To all who have contributed to this year's Minority Business Directory, I wish you success as you continue to demonstrate your commitment to diversity and inclusion. On behalf of the people of Baltimore, thank you for your leadership in raising the profile of the businesses and organizations in this directory and for helping to drive entrepreneurial advancement for minorities throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Brandon M. Scott  
Mayor  
*City of Baltimore*



The  
City Council of Baltimore



Resolution

Be it hereby known to all that  
The City Council of Baltimore  
offers its sincerest congratulations  
to

**Cleveland Washington Jr.**

in recognition of

Your Minority Business Directory's 2026 Edition - 46th Publication.

The entire membership extends  
best wishes on this memorable occasion  
and directs this resolution be presented on

this First day of January 2026.



President  Zeke Cohen

#0331

Resolution

Council President Cohen

By

and all Members



# On the Covers



## **Michael Cassell**

*Real Estate Broker, Appraiser, Consultant & Expert Witness  
Creative Real Estate Services, Inc.,  
Express Appraisal Services, Inc.*

Michael Cassell, CRB, CRS, GRI, CRA, is the Broker and owner of Creative Real Estate Services, Inc.; and Express Appraisal Services, Inc.. He has more than 25-plus years of experience. His company offers sellers the unique opportunity to sell a home, anywhere in Maryland, that is in any condition or, if necessary, to repair or renovate their homes and to pay the cost of the repairs at the settlement. He was Chairman of the MD Real Estate Commission, and was responsible for the State's 50,000+ Brokers and Agents. Some of his many awards include three times "Broker of the Year" for MD and "Broker of the Year" for the USA. He is listed in "Who's Who in Real Estate in America." For three years, The Baltimore Sun listed him as "One of the outstanding Black business leaders in MD" and the 2nd largest Black business in the area. He has taught the Real Estate Licensing class at local colleges. Mr. Cassell's goal is to always operate with absolute integrity while protecting his clients' best interests and exceeding their expectations. His motto is "Mike will get you more." He can be reached 24/7 at 410 409-7345 or Mike@MikeCassell.com.



## **Charles A. Sparks Jr.**

*V.P., Sparks Quality Landscaping*

Sparks Quality Landscaping was established in 2009 with an emphasis on residential and commercial lawn care and maintenance. Sparks Quality Landscaping is a Certified Minority Business Enterprise registered in Baltimore City. The company has a long list of repeat, faithful residential customers while being able to secure multi-year contracts with major clients such as Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Baltimore City Public School System, Towner Management and the City of Baltimore. Mr. Sparks is a graduate of (HBC) Hagerstown Business College with a degree in Business Administration. He says he is blessed to have this opportunity and owes much of his success to his father, who paved the way.



## **Deborah Lacy, RN, MS**

*Founder & CEO, Lacy's Professional Nursing Services, Inc.*

Lacy's Professional Nursing Services, Inc (LPNS) is a licensed Private Duty Nursing & Staffing Agency with the primary goal of providing clients with superior health care services, emphasizing "compassion and competency." LPNS is a certified MBE/WBE/DBE and serves clients across the entire spectrum of life. Services offered are: Private duty & shift nursing, personal care, escort and chore services, staffing, nurse consultant, delegating nurse, CPR/FA & Certified Medication Technician (CMT) Training, assisted living (2 facilities), respite, g-tube, j-tube, tracheotomy and ventilator management. Mrs. Lacy has 41 years of nursing experience and will "Always be eternally grateful to her wonderful grandparents, proud mother, loving, patient and supportive husband, family, loyal friends and caring colleagues." Mrs. Lacy received her B.S. in Nursing from Coppin State College, Masters from University of Baltimore and is a 2018 graduate (Cohort 5) of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Program. In 2022, in the presence of her loving family and friends, she received the Guiding Light Award for her ongoing community work assisting people with limited abilities. The Lacy's are members of Southern Baptist Church. "God has always and will continue to get the glory for EVERYTHING in my life."



## **Terence Williams**

*President, A-1 Firearms*

Terence Williams opened A-1 Firearms, an e-commerce store, after retiring from 25 years of Coast Guard service. He is a registered Federal Firearms Licensed (FFL) dealer. His store carries handguns, shotguns, rifles, ammunition and accessories geared for those who are looking for home protection and/or for sport. He also provides firearms training. Beyond the products, Mr. Williams takes pride in taking the time to educate his clients about the law and on what products will best fit their self defense and/or outdoor activity goals. He offers military and first responder discounts. Mr. Williams, a graduate of Jackson State University, is a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Prince Hall Shriners.



# On the Covers



## **Martha Ann Newby, CEO**

*Owner, Newby's Tax*

Martha Ann Newby has served her community for over 40 years. Her goal is to help her clients face their financial obligations, with knowledge and conviction. Ms. Newby retired from the Federal government in 2003, after 30 years of service. She is a certified tax preparer, who has been in business for over 30 years. Her professional experiences include tax preparation of personal, small business, corporation, S corporation and estate taxes. Ms. Newby has been an active member of Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church for over 50 years. Additionally, she is a life member of Blacks in Government, Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, Inc. and the Baltimore West Democratic Club.



## **Jennifer Quinn, President**

*All-Pro Placement : Your Staffing Solutions Trusted Partner for Exceptional Talent*

All-Pro Placement is your trusted partner for exceptional staffing solutions. We connect top-tier talent with leading organizations, ensuring the perfect fit for every role. Our team specializes in professional and administrative support across multiple industries, offering flexible short-term and long-term staffing options tailored to your needs. As a certified MBE/MDOT, WBE, WOSB, and Small Business, we're proud to promote diversity, strengthen local communities, and deliver excellence in every placement. All-Pro Placement: Professional. Reliable. Results-Driven.



## **Carlton J. Moss, Jr., Esquire**

*Law Office of Carlton J. Moss, Jr., LLC*

Carlton Moss, a 27-year-veteran of the legal profession, has an established law practice that is accessible, accountable and attentive to his clients' needs. He prides himself in taking a personal approach and centers his firm's philosophy on the principles of zealous advocacy and service to others. His Bel Air law practice serves injured people throughout Maryland and focuses on personal injury cases such as auto accidents, slip and falls, work-related injuries and medical negligence. Mr. Moss has fundraised for the Sickle Cell Association of Harford and Cecil Counties, is a strong supporter of both the Girl and Boy Scouts, and Black Youth in Action. Mr. Moss is a graduate of Morehouse College, where he met his wife, a graduate of Spelman College. He received his law degree with honors from North Carolina Central University, School of Law. Mr. Moss sits on a local attorney grievance peer review panel and is a member of the Maryland Bar Association, Harford County Bar Association as well as the Maryland Association for Justice.



## **Romona Lewis**

*Co-Owner, Compassionate Health Care Nursing Services*

Romona Lewis' caregiving career dates back to when she was just 15. Her experience working as a "Pinky" volunteer at Bon Secours Hospital sparked a lifetime passion. She graduated from the University of Maryland School of Nursing and has spent more than three decades as a nurse. In 2005, she opened her homecare agency called Compassionate Healthcare Nursing Services. The agency provides in-home care to medically fragile children and adults, including eldercare, wound care, medication administration and skilled nursing visits. Ms. Lewis is a registered nurse and proud mother of two sons, one of whom is also a registered nurse and co-owns the business. Ms. Lewis takes a caring, nurturing approach with her clients and enjoys making a difference. She spends time mentoring disadvantaged children when not working.





# On the Covers



## **John Bugg**

**Select Agent and Registered Representative, State Farm Insurance**

John Bugg is dedicated to helping families understand the value of insurance and proper financial planning. Nothing is more satisfying to him than making a difference in his clients' lives. Mr. Bugg, a former Urban League vice president, and now a major force in the insurance industry, has vowed to continue serving his community by taking a lead role in educating Marylanders on the importance of taking precautions when it comes to protecting themselves, their assets and future generations. As a "Select Agent," Mr. Bugg is licensed to sell property, casualty, life and health insurance. He credits his success to his spiritual relationship and his commitment to working to empower his community. Mr. Bugg graduated from Morgan State University and is married to Coreia Mitter Bugg.



## **Thel Moore, Jr., MBA, ASFP - Record of Completion**

**President, Moore's Income Tax Service, LLC**

Moore's Income Tax Service was established in 1976 by Thel Moore, Sr., in the basement of his family home. Thel Moore, Jr. would clean trash cans, greet clients and escort them to the basement office. Moore's Income Tax Service assists clients with bookkeeping, payroll, record keeping and filing requirements, reducing tax liabilities, solving business and personal tax problems, and electronic filing and future tax planning. Mr. Moore, Jr. is committed to continuing the legacy of integrity and outstanding customer support his father established. Mr. Moore, Jr. is a member of the National Black MBA Association, National Association of Tax Professionals, and the National Society of Accountants. He received his BSN from Coppin State College and MBA from University of Phoenix. Mr. Moore, Jr. is a retired uniformed officer and he loves spending time with his family.



## **Barry Curtis**

**President and Owner, BEST Fence, LLC**

There is perhaps a surprising link between Barry Curtis' role at the helm of BEST Fence, a commercial fencing installation company, and his previous life as an investment banker. With nearly two decades of experience in advising companies on their financial and business strategies, he applies the same skills to providing his clients with optimal solutions for their fencing needs, with respect to design, efficiency and budget. BEST Fence offers the full gamut of fencing products and solutions to governmental agencies, corporations, schools, large-scale contractors and more. The Company's client roster includes large general contractors like Clark, Gilbane and Whiting Turner, large publicly-traded companies like Under Armour and Exelon/BGE and six of the largest counties in the state of Maryland. Mr. Curtis is a member of the board of directors of Enterprise Community

Investment, Community Preservation and Development Corporation, Pavement Corporation and is an Operating Capital Partner with Vicour Partners. Mr. Curtis is a CPA, received his undergraduate degree from Howard University and his MBA at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



## **Charles A. Sparks**

**President, Sparks Quality Fence Company**

Charles Sparks started Sparks Quality Fence Company in 1991. The company serves residential and commercial clients in Maryland and beyond. Sparks Quality Fence offers many products, including chain link, wood, ornamental iron and vinyl fencing as well as decks, playground installation and paving. Mr. Sparks has been happily married since 1974 and has two adult children. He attended Baltimore City Community College, Community College of Baltimore and American University School of Law. Before entering the fencing industry, Mr. Sparks worked as a Baltimore City police officer. Sparks Quality Fence is a leading fencing industry innovator and Certified Minority Business Enterprise Company with Baltimore City. The company's work is displayed throughout Baltimore with large projects such as Mount Auburn Cemetery Entire Perimeter Chain Link and Iron Fence, Dunbar High School Football Field

Perimeter Fence, The Avenue Bakery 2229 Pennsylvania Avenue Concrete Driveway, Ornamental and Chain Link Fence, John Hopkins Biotech Park, and DHMH Public Health Laboratory. Sparks Quality Fence supplies and installs fence products for Parks & People Foundation.



# On the Covers



## **Erica P. Clifton**

*President and CEO, Chesapeake Home Health Care, Inc.*

Erica P. Clifton, CEO and President of Chesapeake Home Health Care (CHHC), is deeply committed to supporting and caring for others. Her journey in the home healthcare industry began after earning her accounting degree from Oral Roberts University, assisting her future mother-in-law with financial management for her home healthcare business. Nearly three decades later, she continues to find fulfillment in caring for sick and medically fragile children. Ms. Clifton has extensive expertise in finance, accounting, auditing, tax, and business management, developed through high-level roles within the federal government, CPA firms, and various small businesses. She emphasizes the importance of providing meaningful support to families with medically fragile children. "We're not just sending warm bodies, we're sending assistance and care to help guardians and parents bear the burden of a sick or medically fragile child. Those families need to know they are not alone." In 2021, CHHC expanded to include Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and Care Companion services for both seniors and children. With over 30 years of experience, Ms. Clifton is driven by the community impact her company makes and plans to establish an adult medical daycare and a certified nurse training program.



## **Jacqueline Hodges**

*Owner, Hodges Window Distribution*

A window into Hodges Window Distribution reveals a far different view than what you may expect to see at a window company. You will not find a sales team. Instead, owner Jacque Hodges talks with clients personally and serves as a middle person between the manufacturers and contractors. Ms. Hodges is proud to provide historic windows for a number of Baltimore City clients. Hodges Window Distribution is a sister company to Hodges Window and Glass, a window repair and shower installation company that Ms. Hodges' husband ran before she took over the reins. Ms. Hodges' professional background includes more than two decades as a shock trauma nurse. She gives back to the community by visiting the elderly at nursing homes and supporting the Alopecia Fund for children.



## **Pamela McMichael, RN-BSN**

*President and Founder, Trustworthy Staffing Solutions*

Pamela McMichael, RN-BSN, is the president and founder of Trustworthy Staffing Solutions, a Maryland licensed health care staffing agency that began operating in 2005 with a primary goal to provide compassionate, competent and professional service. In 2007, Ms. McMichael expanded to form a residential services agency that provides quality in-home nursing and personal care for elderly and medically impaired clients. She is an active member of Maryland National Capital Homecare Association. In January 2016, Ms. McMichael, along with her husband Calvin, opened the H.O.P.E. Training Center. The center is dedicated to her deceased parents, Harvey and Harriet Brown, both entrepreneurs and owners of HB Tours and Travel, Inc. H.O.P.E stands for Helping Other People Excel, which expounds Ms. McMichael's pursuit to be a benefit to others. She and her husband are also certified CPR/ First Aid instructors for the American Red Cross. She utilizes the center to train and help develop healthcare skills in others. Ms. McMichael is most fulfilled when helping people grow professionally. Using her vision and ability to nurture others has led to long-term solutions and success.





# On the Covers



## **Shari Fleming**

*The Law Office of Shari Fleming*

Shari Fleming is a Maryland licensed attorney with a sincere desire to help individuals and families preserve and pass generational wealth while also supporting the causes they love. She is Principal of the Law Office of Shari Fleming, which is a law firm geared towards helping individuals and businesses build, protect, and preserve their wealth and legacy, and its practice areas include estates and trust, real estate, and business formation/succession planning. Ms. Fleming also serves as a Gift Planning Consultant who helps charities strategically plan to accept gifts involving estates, trusts, and other deferred giving opportunities. She is a graduate of Lincoln University (PA) and the University of Maryland School of Law. Her post-law school education includes achievement of the designations of Accredited Estate Planner® and Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy®. She founded the Our Legacy Matters community with the

purpose of advancing the concepts of ownership, wealth maintenance, and wealth retention, and in 2021, Ms. Fleming was named one of The Daily Record's 2021 Leadership in Law Generation J.D. honorees, due to her dedication to the practice of law and her community.



## **Ashley Rock Wylie, RN, MS, MBA**

*Co-Owner and Program Director, Above it All*

*Co-Owner and COO, Fleurs d'Ave Floral Boutique*

Ashley Rock Wylie's entrepreneurial path revolves around growth, new blooms and planting seeds for the future. This registered nurse divides her time between her Above it All Mental Health program and Fleurs d'Ave Floral Boutique. Above it All (AIA) provides Therapy, Therapeutic Mentoring (PRP) and Substance Use Disorder treatment to youth and adults. AIA's mission is to equip families with the knowledge, skills and resources they need to become productive members of society. In 2018, she and her husband, Brandon, launched their West Baltimore floral boutique after acquiring a florist business that had served the community for over 50 years. Along with offering unique floral creations, she sees the boutique as a catalyst for continued economic growth along the North Avenue corridor. She received her

MBA from University of Baltimore and her master's degree in Health Leadership and Management from University of Maryland School of Nursing.



## **Shelia Russell Williams**

*Realtor and Owner, Faith Realty, LLC*

"I always say, if we know better, we'll do better," shares Shelia Russell Williams. "I love to get the word out and help people see how they can better their lives and become a homeowner, paying their own mortgage instead of paying someone else's mortgage." Ms. Williams has a team of five realtors working with her at her faith based real estate firm. She and her colleagues at Faith Realty pray over every contract. The team educates their clients on how to become credit ready through their 1st Time Home Buyer Seminars. Ms. Williams serves as a Board of Directors member and Vice President of Real Estate Brokers of Baltimore, was recognized by the National Women's Council in 2022 as a Mover and Shaker, was named the Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors Realtor of the year in 2022 and Distinguished Sales Associate of the Year Award 2020/2021, and designated as an "Agent of

Change" in 2021 by the Baltimore Business Journal, among other accolades and accomplishments. She volunteers with Project Place to find housing for homeless veterans in Baltimore, is a volunteer with Belair Edison and a supporter for the National Alliance to End Homelessness.



## **Richard Green, Jr.**

*Owner, Maryland Janitorial Services*

While some companies set out to offer the lowest price, Richard Green's philosophy centers around giving his clients the best service for a great price. That has meant pivoting during the Covid-19 Pandemic to add on disinfectant fogging to all cleaning services. This BBB accredited business specializes in eco-friendly commercial cleaning jobs for small to large sized offices, multi-unit apartments, medical offices, post construction sites and warehouses. "We focus on the details so you can have a clean, orderly office every time," says owner Richard Green, who launched his company in 2014 and has more than 20 years of experience. He found his niche after researching starting a business and saw cleaning as one of the best start-up services to pursue. The company provides complimentary consultations and estimates and is Customer Service, Bloodborne Pathogen, Medical Cleaning and Bio-hazard Cleaning certified.

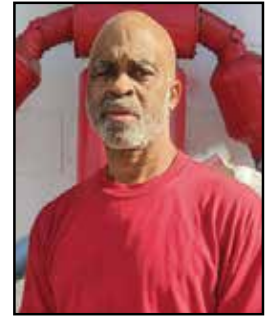


# On the Covers



## **Marvin Blume Sr.** *President, Marvin's Muffler Works*

When Marvin Blume Sr. quotes his customers a price, he sticks to his word, no matter what it takes to get the job done. Just as he makes customer service a priority, he does the same when it comes to his employees. The Baltimore native opened Marvin's Muffler Works more than four decades ago and takes pride in the fact that he can count the number of employees he has had at the Brooklyn shop on two hands. The full-service shop specializes in high performance exhaust, American and foreign vehicles, trucks and motorhomes. He believes his clients should understand where their money is going and often brings them into the service area to show them what was fixed. When not at his shop, Mr. Blume enjoys racing cars and camping.



## **Andrea Scott** *Owner, Brownstone Tax and Financial Services*

Andrea Scott's career in the tax and financial industry began nearly 20 years ago when she began doing her personal taxes. She identified a need for a wraparound of services in the financial services industry. "People want to know they can trust you through their financial journey," she shares. In 2007, she graduated from the University of Baltimore with her Master's in Legal and Ethical Studies. Brownstone Tax and Financial Services is the umbrella of other financial services companies, The Brownstone Insurance Agency (life auto, home, business insurance), and The Brownstone Training Academy (Pre-licensing for Life/Health and Property and Casualty Insurance). Ms. Scott's company is MBE/WBE certified through the City of Baltimore; she is a graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Program and ICCB (Inner City Capital Connections, Business Program). "Let us help you through your financial journey from where you are at to where you want to be," says Ms. Scott.



## **Tamala Price** *Owner, Carey Hardware*

When you turn to Carey Hardware for your building and repair needs, you're not only leaving with improvement products. You are putting money back into the Northwest Baltimore Community. In 2017, Tamala Price took over the hardware store that her father started back in 1986. She has always worked in the store and dreams of one day passing it to her children and grandchildren. She takes pride in providing the kind of customer service rarely found in big-box stores. Along with goods, Carey's Hardware also offers repair services. The most popular three reasons customers come to the Better Business Bureau accredited store include window and screen repair needs, key duplication and for old plumbing supplies. Ms. Price volunteers in numerous organizations including for the Matthew Henson Community Development Corporation and the Robert W Coleman Community Association.



## **Wendy Williams** *Owner and Director, Bright Stars Learning Center*

Wendy Williams leads Bright Stars Learning Center with a simple yet powerful philosophy – every child should feel the same love, safety, and warmth they experience at home. The family-run center, which has served the community for more than 40 years, offers daycare and after-school programs for children ages 2 to 12 and is expanding to include infant care. When Ms. Williams' mother passed away in 1998, her stepmother carried on the legacy until she officially took the reins in 2020. She finds joy in seeing former students return and proudly say, "I used to go to this center." Ms. Williams earned her AA degree from CCBC and continues to further her education. She gives back to the community by adopting families during the holidays to ensure children have gifts to open and by volunteering with a nonprofit that helps fathers gain custody of their children. Her long-term goal is to keep Bright Stars Learning Center thriving within her family, inspiring her daughter or niece to one day carry the torch.





# On the Covers



## **Mark Wrenn**

*President and Owner, M&G Customs*

What started as a business run from a Southwest Baltimore backyard by Mark Wrenn and Gerald Winder over 25 years ago, has grown into a successful high-end automotive shop. M&G Customs provides its clients with top of the line accessories including radios, remote starters, alarms, wheels, tires, window tinting and more. Mr. Wrenn takes pride in working to satisfy his customers' requests and enjoys seeing them smile as they return to pick up their cars. He strives to keep his services affordable by offering payment plans on all purchases. Mr. Wrenn, who is always up for a new challenge, fully warrants his work. He credits his wife and two children for always being there for him. He is active with his church, Transformation Ministries.



## **Timera D. Loftin**

*Owner, Loftin Love Christian Daycare & Learning Center*

Timera D. Loftin is in the business of laying the foundation for future success stories with a strong moral compass. She is the founder of Loftin Love Christian Daycare & Learning Center in Windsor Mill, which provides a warm, loving Christian based atmosphere for ages six weeks to five years. Ms. Loftin is vested in being the difference she seeks. She is the Children's Director at Pleasant Rock Baptist Church, the church her father founded 30-plus years ago. She credits her parents for instilling the sense of love in her that is the cornerstone of her approach to education. Ms. Loftin is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and a dance, model and etiquette teacher at Studio A Modeling, Etiquette and Dance Academy. Honored by Black Wall Street with

the Joe Manns Black Capital Award for Entrepreneurship, Ms. Loftin graduated cum laude from Lincoln University, where she received her B.S. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education; she earned her Master's in Education Administration from Coppin State University.



## **Dr. Garland K. Davis, DDS**

*Garland K. Davis Family Dentistry*

"We care for our patients like we care for our own families, which means we take the time to understand each patient's concerns," explains Dr. Garland K. Davis of his approach to dentistry over the last 30+ years. He and his team at his Laurel practice go to great lengths to make each patient feel comfortable. A lifelong learner, Dr. Davis continues to train in the newest dental technology to offer his patients the latest treatments in such areas as dental implants, Invisalign clear aligners, computer-aided design for same day crowns and laser gum treatment. This Maryland native loves spending time with his wife and children, attending Baltimore Ravens games and participating in charity events in his community. Dr. Davis is a graduate of the University

of Maryland School of Dentistry and also completed his undergraduate studies there.



## **Elijah Etheridge**

*Executive Director, Baltimore Teacher Network*

Elijah Etheridge is a champion of education. He serves as the Executive Director of Baltimore Teacher Network (BTN), which operates ConneXions, a community based, charter arts school. Under his leadership since 2014, BTN has moved into the forefront of issues impacting teachers in the classroom, such as the increase in violence in our public schools, equitable funding, teacher voice, and new school facilities for Baltimore City Kids. BTN sponsors teacher forums and publishes the quarterly newsletter, The Voice. Mr. Etheridge developed the Beacon of Light Award, which is nationally known for recognizing outstanding leaders in education for the past 11 years. He is also leading the campaign to develop a state-of-the-art Teacher Resource Center called The Teacher's Place. Mr. Etheridge's multi-faceted career

includes leadership roles in organizations focusing on fair housing initiatives, youth development through YouthBuildUSA, and the former Baltimore Education Network. In 2025, BTN launched its inaugural visit to the continent of Africa, by taking a delegation of students to Ghana. This year's trips will include Ethiopia and Egypt. Mr. Etheridge received his BA from the City University of New York and his Master's from Lincoln University.



# On the Covers



## **Malcolm Day**

*Owner and COO, M4 Security*

Malcolm Day, Owner and COO of M4 Security, refers to professional integrity, effective crisis intervention and protective security as the triple threat that the organization's clients need. He credits these leadership qualities as the foundation for his insured and certified armed and unarmed security guard/private detective agency. Mr. Day employs highly skilled certified instructors to teach Handgun Wear and Carry, HQL, Private Detective Certification, Tactical Weapons Certification, Executive Protection Training, CPR and Narcan Certification. The company also offers executive protection and transportation for VIPS. He is a proud graduate of Morgan State University, with a B.S. in Marketing and a minor in English. Mr. Day created the strategic marketing plan for Morgan State University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions. His expertise, commitment, and passion helped increase student enrollment from 5,000 to 8,000, during his tenure. He gained his experience in the security field from working for Maryland Department of Juvenile Services at the Charles H. Hickey School-Youth Detention Center and the Morgan State University Police Department. "Our mission is your security!" he says.



## **Kelvin Haynie**

*Owner, Furniture Installation and Service Technicians, LLC (F.I.S.T.)*

Kelvin Haynie's biggest professional accomplishment came when he had the opportunity to bring his services to the National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC. What he started as a weekend furniture installation side job more than 30 years ago grew into a full-time endeavor with 11 employees and work up and down the East Coast and in the Midwest. Furniture Installation and Service Technicians serves government, commercial and private clients and has expertise in major and minor lines of systems and modular furniture. The company is GSA scheduled, 8a certified and a member of the United States Black Chamber of Commerce. F.I.S.T. is A+ rated by the BBB.



## **Dr. Benjamin Shelton, DDS and Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton, DDS**

*Partners, Shelton Family Dental*

"We believe a healthy mouth is a gateway to a healthy body," share father-daughter dental team, Dr. Benjamin Shelton, who founded the practice in 1976, and his daughter, Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton. Shelton Family Dental helps patients "achieve the smile they deserve" through many dental treatment options in general, cosmetic, and periodontal dentistry. Veteran, Dr. Benjamin Shelton, earned his undergraduate degree from Morgan State University and his Doctorate of Dental Surgery at Howard University Dental School. Dr. Cohloe-Shai Shelton received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from Hampton University and her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Meharry Medical College. The Sheltons take pride in creating lasting, trusting relationships with their patients and serving as a one-stop shop for all of your dental needs. They are involved together and separately in many associations including, the National Dental Association, Maryland State Dental Association, American Dental Association, Baltimore City Dental Association and Academy of General Dentistry.





# On the Covers



## **Clifton Cornish**

*Owner, CBY Enterprises Inc.*

Clifton Cornish is driven to get the job done, no matter what it takes. His drive puts him in the lane for success at his licensed and bonding trucking company, CBY Enterprises, Inc. After growing up in the 1960s, saying that he one day wanted to drive a dump truck, like his dad, he brought that vision to life in 1985. The family business has a fleet of 15 dump trucks and works with clients in the Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware areas. The company offers such services as hauling and snow removal. You won't find Mr. Cornish cooped up in an office. He takes pride in going out in the field, to make sure every job is running smoothly. He treats every job, big or small, with equal importance. Mr. Cornish

recently launched a new business venture in Anne Arundel County called 9 Five Kitchen and Bar, which features a restaurant with American Cuisine, a bar and event space for up to 300 people. Mr. Cornish is active in his church, Empowered Church Ministries.



## **Yves Joseph Jr., PT, CMTPT, PES, FMS-c, CSCS**

*Founder & Owner, Y-Motion Physical Therapy*

Serving as a healer – That's what drew Yves Joseph to become a physical therapist. When he ran track back in high school and later in college, he remembers that there were not many physical therapists to nurture athletes to get back on track. Mr. Joseph is a dedicated physical therapist with nearly two decades of experience specializing in sports injuries, recovery and prevention, post-operative care as well as balance and fall prevention, particularly for seniors. He has worked in various settings, including hospitals, military bases, and private practice. Committed to serving the community, Mr. Joseph opened his own physical therapy clinic in Baltimore City to provide personalized care for patients. He

is passionate about helping individuals achieve their health and wellness goals, both through his clinical practice and community outreach efforts. Mr. Joseph received his B.S. at Towson University and his doctorate at SUNY Downstate Medical Center. He volunteers with Doctors Without Borders OCHO and has visited Honduras and Nicaragua to provide care for those who wouldn't otherwise have access to physical therapy. He also supports athletes at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute.



## **Crystal and Eric Maroya**

*Co-Owners, King Mechanical Company*

King Mechanical Company is a family-owned and operated HVAC business based in Baltimore, built on a foundation of experience, integrity, and customer care. With more than 20 years of hands-on expertise in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, Eric Maroya leads the technical side of the company, specializing in system installation, repair, and energy-efficient solutions. His wife and partner, Crystal Maroya, oversees operations, drawing on her extensive background in accounting and business management. Together, they founded King Mechanical with a shared vision – to create a local HVAC company that treats every customer like family. Their services include advanced energy-efficient

technologies such as Aeroseal, a clean, modern duct-sealing solution that improves comfort, reduces energy loss, and boosts system efficiency. The couple recognized the need for a service provider that combines expert craftsmanship with honesty, clear communication, and long-term customer relationships.

# On the Covers



## **James Brooks**

*Owner, Brooks Contracting*

James Brooks is a big fan of seeing the before and after pictures after he completes a project. His construction company serves as a general contractor and specializes in asphalt, paving, concrete, demolition and remodeling of commercial properties and for government projects. He launched the company in 2004 and is MBE certified in the city and state and DBE certified at the federal level. Mr. Brooks, who takes pride in keeping his pricing competitive, is honored to serve as president of a new association for local contractors.



## **Kenyatta Clinton**

*Owner, Brooks Clinton Funeral Service, P.A.*

Kenyatta Clinton opened his funeral home with a mission of helping families that can't afford the high cost of funeral services and now has three locations: Randallstown, York Road in Baltimore and North Avenue in Baltimore. He takes pride in working closely with the families he serves and supporting them through the grieving process. He started Brooks Clinton Funeral Service in 2019, after spending a decade learning the ropes of the industry. Brooks Clinton Funeral Service offers cremation, full-service funerals and a place for families and friends to gather socially to celebrate and memorialize the lives of loved ones. He says families are particularly moved by the crowning ceremony that they offer. Mr. Clinton is active in his community and participates in West Baltimore area community association meetings. He studied Health Science at Kennesaw State in Georgia and attended Catonsville Community College.



## **Lorenzo Moore, Jr.**

*Owner, Yard Merch, LLC*

Lorenzo Moore, Jr. is a Baltimore, Maryland native with a lifelong passion for creativity and design. From an early age, he was drawn to art and fashion, spending countless hours sketching ideas and imagining new ways to express style. He earned his BA in Graphic Design from Morgan State University and later completed his MBA at the University of Baltimore. With extensive experience in garment manufacturing, Mr. Moore founded Yard Merch Greek Apparel in 2022 to reimagine fraternity and sorority fashion. His vision was to offer unique designs that break away from the ordinary, blending streetwear influences with traditional Greek collegiate style to appeal to all organizations. Today, Yard Merch stands as a brand where creativity, culture, and quality craftsmanship meet – rooted in Mr. Moore's lifelong love for creating clothing that tells a story.



## **LaQuicha Brown**

*Owner, Berries by Quicha*

Get ready to be "Berry" impressed. Barack Obama, Beyoncé, Michael Bloomberg and Sinbad are among the client list, who have enjoyed Berries by Quicha's gourmet chocolate covered strawberry creations. LaQuicha Brown starts with high-quality sweet strawberries dipped in gourmet chocolate. From there, her creations get adorned with decorative accents, ranging from a simple band of sprinkles to even your company's logo or an edible photo design of your choice. Ms. Brown started making her confections from her home kitchen and then seized an opportunity to open her retail shop at the Best Western in Baltimore in 2013. Next came a location in Federal Hill, which she expanded in late 2021 from 1000 to 3000 square feet. "I love the creative side," shares Ms. Brown, who channeled the skills she gained from her Morgan State sociology degree and criminal justice minor (she plays detective to figure out what her clients want) into making a name for herself in the DMV. Ms. Brown is a mom of three, ages 19, 22 and 24.







# On the Covers



## **Debra Keller-Greene**

*Founder and CEO of Keller Professional Services, Inc.*

Core Services: Organizational Development and Human Capital Management Consulting. Keller Professional Services, Inc. helps organizations hire smarter, lead better, build strong cultures, and stay compliant. (1) Providing management support and strategic human resource (HR) consulting including staffing and training programs to enhance employee performance, productivity, and customer service; and change management, process improvement and program development services that build organizational capacity. (2) Government contracting HR & management support services are designed to enhance the impact of public service.



## **David Martin**

*Founder and CEO, Mansa Electric*

Mansa Electric is a trusted electrical contracting company dedicated to delivering reliable, efficient, and high-quality electrical solutions for commercial, industrial, and residential clients. The Mansa team of licensed professionals brings expertise in power distribution, lighting, data cabling, energy efficiency upgrades, and emergency services. The company prides itself on providing safe and code-compliant work while tailoring solutions to meet each client's unique needs. Mansa Electric is committed to excellence, integrity, and building long-lasting partnerships. From routine maintenance to large-scale projects, the company goes to great lengths to ensure every job is completed on time and with the

highest standards of workmanship. Founder and CEO David Martin completed a five year apprenticeship through the IBEW and studied electrical engineering at Morgan State University.



## **Chimere L. Murrill, Master Captain**

*CEO, Reveur Sauvage Private Yacht Club & Charters*

Elevated experiences, Luxury uncharted. With your red carpet dock arrival, champagne chilled and in hand, Captain Chimere Murrill brings a vibrant, new concept to Baltimore yacht charters. This trailblazing and dynamic leader in the maritime industry proudly serves as a U.S. Coast Guard Master Captain and the owner of a thriving yacht charter and commercial maritime transportation company. Reveur Sauvage Private Yacht Club & Charters, which means Wild Dreamer in French, is headquartered in the Baltimore Peninsula at the beautiful Port Covington Marina. She has cultivated a business that not only elevates the maritime experience but also brings local talent into the spotlight. As a Morgan State University alumna, Captain Murrill has used her education and dedication to establish a platform where local chefs, restaurants, and entrepreneurs can showcase their crafts on the water, creating unforgettable experiences that bridge land and sea. Governor Wes Moore appointed her to the Maryland Boat Act Advisory Committee and Hart Miller Island Citizens

Oversight Committee, where she serves as a voice for progress in local maritime regulations.



# On the Covers



## **Dr. Denise Beach Davis**

*Podiatrist, Surgeon and Owner of Beachfeet Podiatry*

Denise A. Beach, D.P.M., P.C. allows “no negative” statements about foot health. She started her practice in 1997, focusing on helping patients “keep the pep in their step” and providing comprehensive podiatric services in a caring, hospitable environment. Dr. Beach Davis earned her undergraduate degree from UMBC and Doctorate from PCPM. This happily married physician is proud of the success of her young adults. Kevin, a 2024 college graduate, now entrepreneur, majored in Finance and minored in Economics. Kaila, a college senior, with a double major in Biology and Spanish, received her Girl Scout Gold Award (highest honor, only 2% of African Americans receive), was Chief of Staff for SGA, and currently studying abroad in Spain (traveling the world) while serving as a study abroad school ambassador for Lincoln University, PA. Dr. Beach Davis remains passionate about mentoring youth to be the best version of themselves. She is grateful to God for allowing her the ability to provide patient satisfaction, education with realistic expectations, partnered with professional knowledge and expertise. She is thankful to be part of diversifying the podiatric field. She proudly serves the Baltimore County Chapters Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Inc.



## **Antonio Foster**

*Founder and Owner NOIR Restaurant & Lounge*

Antonio Foster thrives on turning old into new and adding fresh flavors to Baltimore. This self-described foodie's latest launch is a perfect blend of his love of cooking, renovation and eating. NOIR Restaurant & Lounge, on York Road in the Upper Govans area of Baltimore, features a tapas style restaurant on the first floor, known for its lamb chops and salmon, with a nightclub upstairs with live bands, DJs and comedy shows. Mr. Foster's mark doesn't end there. His Angelique's Pizzeria has seven Baltimore locations, including one next to NOIR. Mr. Foster's entrepreneurial path began with commercial real estate investing and then took a turn toward his love of food. This East Baltimore native is a graduate of Baltimore City Public Schools and earned his degree in mechanical engineering from University of Baltimore. Along with being a restaurantor and a real estate investor, Mr. Foster is also a Master barber and a general contractor.



## **Ellen Hollaway**

*Executive Vice President, Watkins Security Agency*

Ellen Hollaway's beloved father's legacy lives on through the security company she helped him start in 1981. Ms. Hollaway's administrative skills help her perform and oversee the company's accounting and HR functions, along with the company's daily challenges that go along with managing a business. Watkins Security Agency has provided over 700 security guards to Federal, State and Local government facilities and businesses, such as property management, airports, public utilities, Fortune 500 companies, public schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, prisoner transportation, court security, construction sites, and NFL and MLB stadiums in the Maryland, DC and Virginia areas. Lt. Colonel James Watkins would be proud to see the company he launched has continued to grow and serve our communities. Ms. Hollaway, a Baltimore native, who resides in Owings Mills, returned to Morgan State University and obtained her B.A. in Business Administration.



## **Calvin McCargo, Jr., NCARB, NOMA, AIA**

*Principal, Design Hand Architects, Inc.*

Calvin McCargo, Jr. is principal at DesignHAND Architects. He has a Master's of Architecture degree from Morgan State University and over 20 years of experience in the architectural field. Mr. McCargo has a love and passion for architecture and people. His personal goal is to help create an accessible practice that can become a household name, known for excellent and inspiring architecture that is focused on community empowerment.





# On the Covers



**William Wright-EL**  
*Owner, Pro Energy Electric, LLC*

While growing up, William Wright-EL would accompany his dad on electrical jobs and learned the tricks of the trade from his dad's 45 plus years of experience. At the time, it felt like a chore. Years later, he realized the gift he had been given: "a trade that could never be downsized." Pro Energy Electric, with a tagline of "Professional, Reliable, Outstanding Service that Lights the World," provides residential and commercial work, specializing in wiring and installation, rewiring, whole house, smoke detectors, tenant fit outs, panel and amp, service upgrades and outdoor lighting. The company is licensed, bonded and insured. Mr. Wright-EL's vision is to learn what the customer wants and then to give his expert opinion.

Sometimes there is a match and other times he needs to educate the customer on why it's not a good fit. Mr. Wright-EL credits his wife for supporting him through every stage of his career development and for pointing out his strengths when the view for him felt dim. "Sometimes when we think we are the most strong, we are the weakest."



**Rod Smith, EA**  
*CEO, A1 Taxperts, Inc.*

Need a blueprint for your financial future? Rod Smith, who has provided financial and tax advice to clients for nearly two decades, takes the time to look at his clients' individual needs and prepares an evaluation to support their goals. A1 Taxperts, Inc. offers tax preparation and representation, insurance services, mortgage and real estate services, and investment products and consultations. The business is a one-stop financial organization, merging tax planning and financial planning tools to formulate powerful financial solutions that have a strong impact on investments as well as garnering tax savings.

Mr. Smith, whose passion for finance and advocacy inspired him to start his business, thrives on helping people obtain, maintain and grow real wealth. He is involved with the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP), National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA), National Society of Accountants (NSA), National Society of Tax Professionals and the Baltimore Insurance Round Table.



**Carianne "Cari" Adams Finch, PE, BCEE**  
*Owner, Principal Environmental Engineer, Adams Environmental Engineering Group, LLC (AEEG)*

Named by Baltimore Magazine as one of the "Women Who Move Maryland 2021," Cari Finch oversees engineering and project management for AEEG. Ms. Finch, who founded the company in 2018, serves industrial, commercial, government and residential clients. She has three decades of experience working in the environmental engineering, consulting and contracting services industry. The firm provides Phase I/II and hazardous-material surveys, as well as property-condition assessments and environmental testing, monitoring, and remediation. The firm also offers STI SP001 AST inspections, third-party UST inspections, waste management, spill response and prevention (SPCC), environmental

permitting, underground/aboveground storage tank services (removal, installation, and repair), storm-water permitting, and health and safety compliance. Ms. Finch volunteers as the Chief of the Maryland Ad Hoc Committee on Oil. She is a graduate of Penn State University.



# On the Covers



## **Gayle Johnson**

*Owner, Kre8ing Your IdeaS*

Kre8ing Your IdeaS is a family-owned embroidery company that cultivates the creativity of its customers through personalized apparel and accessories. Committed to the growth and development of its community business partners, the company provides accessible and affordable branding opportunities and partnerships while providing a one of a kind, customized Kre8ive experience. Gayle Johnson, owner and founder of Kre8ing Your IdeaS, explains bringing clients' visions to life gives her and her team the opportunity to test the limits of their Kre8ivity daily. "If you can dream it, we will try it!" Ms. Johnson's own vision to provide a service to her community has blossomed into a nationally recognized brand and a flourishing legacy. She and her team are committed to delivering a one of a kind customer experience with diligence, skill and attention to detail to every fellow Kre8ive that walks through their doors. From beginning to end, whether its pricing quotes, design consultations, individual or bulk orders, they have you covered.



## **B.J. Borden**

*Principal Agent, Borden Insurance Agency*

Choosing Borden Insurance Agency for your auto, home, life and business insurance needs is comparable to having hundreds of companies working to find you the best rates and policies to protect you and your family. Erie, Allstate, Geico, Nationwide, Safeco, Progressive, State Auto, Travelers, The Hartford and AAA are among the main companies BJ Borden and his team represent. Mr. Borden, who has 40 years of experience, shares how his team is there at moments of truth: After a fire destroyed one family's home, his team secured them temporary housing while they had their home rebuilt, thanks to their coverage. The agency has an office in Columbia and in Glen Burnie and also does bonds and notary services. Mr. Borden, a licensed realtor in Maryland, serves on multiple boards, including the Howard County Sports Hall of Fame and the Howard County Youth Program (HCYP), for which he is Director of Basketball Operations. He and his wife, Christine, launched the non-profit, Skyy 2 Win Youth Foundation, Inc., to help Baltimore area and Nairobi, Kenya youth learn life skills through sports; such as basketball, lacrosse, soccer, golf and tennis; and to make sure finances never stop a child from playing. He started a youth basketball referee training program to provide at-risk teens an income source. Mr. Borden is a University of Baltimore graduate. He received his Master's in law from Trinity Law School, where he focussed on non-profit law to "share the blessings God has bestowed upon my family and me," maintained a 4.0, graduated Summa Cum Laude and received the Exceptional Masters Student Award.



## **Stan Harris**

*Co-owner, Harris Brothers Construction Company*

When Stan Harris went into the construction field, he and his brother, Ralph, became the fourth generation of carpenters in their family. Today, the two are partners in Harris Brothers Construction Company. They specialize in all phrases of home improvement and light commercial jobs. Licensed in Baltimore and in Maryland, they also do DHCH grant programs for companies and agencies throughout Maryland. An active community volunteer, Mr. Harris spent 15 years serving as the treasurer for the Hamilton Hills Association, works with local kids to help them get their volunteer hours, helps seniors navigate technology and other challenges, and also donates his time at his church.





# On the Covers



## **Lisa Mitchell Sennaar**

*Small Business Reserve (SBR) Program Compliance Manager, Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs, The Department of Social and Economic Mobility*

Lisa Mitchell Sennaar is a dynamic advocate and accomplished communicator with an unwavering commitment to community empowerment. Ms. Sennaar has held key roles in the government, communications, and nonprofit sectors. She is a small business program Compliance Manager in The Maryland Department of Social and Economic Mobility Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs. Her work is crucial as she facilitates access for small and minority businesses to connect to state procurement opportunities. Ms. Sennaar is the great-granddaughter of freedom fighter Dr. Lillie

May Carroll Jackson, the matriarch of the Jackson-Mitchell family of Maryland. She supports the Lillie Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum in Baltimore, which provides visitors with an insightful journey into some of the struggles and victories that have shaped the nation's history. Ms. Sennaar is married and a mother of two.



## **Charles William Groce, Ph.D.**

*Owner, C. William Groce Associates*

"What is going well?" That's the first question Dr. Charles William Groce asks the clients he works with as a certified life and health coach. This coach and motivational speaker made the career change to coaching in order to "retire into more things I like to do." His prior professional background includes working in HR, serving as an adjunct professor in psychology, as a school principal and in the Job Corps in NJ, leading guided group interactions with inmates. Today, Dr. Groce helps people from diverse cultures who are facing life and wellness challenges around being diagnosed with a disease, their careers, relationships and financial hardships. He specializes in habit change and helps people look at

behaviors that are not effective for them and how to systematically modify them. Dr. Groce is especially proud of a 5-year project that he and a partner did in Connecticut to significantly reduce the rate of prison recidivism. He received his BA from Emporia State in Kansas, his Master's with an emphasis on counseling and psychology and his Ph.D. from the University of Hartford.



## **Michael Jackson**

*Director and Founder, A Little Faith Accounting & Tax Services, LLC*

You never know what moment in life will spark your career. As a high school junior, while touring local colleges, Michael Jackson remembers visiting Baltimore City Community College and looking at a list of career options and associated salaries. Mr. Jackson, who was always good with numbers and aced his high school accounting class, knew he found his career. When Mr. Jackson started his private practice in 2015, he named it after his daughter, Faith. He says the firm's name has a double meaning, as he and his wife felt faith was something they needed, especially when starting a new venture. Mr. Jackson specializes in tailored, personalized tax planning and preparation, payroll, compilation, financial advising

and reviews for small businesses and individuals. Mr. Jackson received his BS from Coppin State University and continues to add to his list of certifications, in order to bring enhanced value to his clients. He also invests his time in others by volunteering and mentoring Baltimore City children.

# On the Covers



## **Nkiambi Jean Lema** *Owner, N.J. Lema and Company*

When Nkiambi Jean Lema moved to the United States at the age of 24 from Zaire, also known as the Democratic Republic of Congo, he did not speak English. Six months later, he learned the language and seven years later opened his own accounting firm in Baltimore. Today, Mr. Lema handles more than 1000 individual tax returns annually and provides services for more than 200 business clients. He enjoys the freedom of doing what he loves and reporting to himself. Mr. Lema hopes his three children will one day follow in his entrepreneurial footsteps. He believes the key to success is committing to a plan and sticking to it. Mr. Lema received his accounting degree from University of Baltimore. He is a member of the National Association of Black Accountants.



## **Perry T. Standfield** *President and Founder, Life, Love, Peace*

Retired Police Colonel Perry T. Standfield created the Life, Love, Peace outreach program to help improve the lives of Baltimore kids and teens. Through his program, he leads various projects, such as coat drives, youth activities and events, and campaigns around the holidays to make them more special, including a turkey drive at Thanksgiving. He is working on funding and coordinating amusement park field trips for next summer. Before starting his own program, Mr. Standfield volunteered in the Police Activities League (PAL) and in the Explorers program. After retiring from the Baltimore City Police Department, he wanted to continue his mission of supporting Baltimore's youngest members. Mr. Standfield grew up attending Baltimore City Public schools and took additional coursework through The Police Academy.



## **Larry Moore** *Owner, Home Base Remodeling*

Futures are not always the ones that seem to be written on the wall – or painted, in Larry Moore's case. The path that led him to launch Home Base Remodeling was not one he expected. Years ago, while working as a manager at Burger King, Mr. Moore ran into one of his employees and her mother at Home Depot in the paint section. Next thing Mr. Moore knew, his employee's mom asked him if he painted and if he would do her living and dining room. That led to referral after referral. Mr. Moore, a Baltimore native, kept up the side work while putting himself through school to earn his computer science degree at Coppin State University followed by advanced certifications. He went on to work at Procter & Gamble for 15 years and a 2012 lay off turned out to be a blessing in disguise. It inspired Mr. Moore to turn his part-time contracting business into his full-time passion. He says no job is too small. Flooring is his favorite. He does everything except for heat and air conditioning.







# On the Covers



## **Dr. Crystal Denise Williams**

*Owner, Crystal's Bridal and Tuxedo*

Don't tell Dr. Crystal Denise Williams that there is no such thing as a miracle. She takes pride in making them happen every week. Whether brides and grooms come to her Bel Air Road in Baltimore store with a dream wedding look in mind or no idea of what they want to wear, Dr. Williams will lead them to a standout style to match their budgets. Dr. Williams, who launched her business 25 years ago, offers gowns and tuxedos for purchase along with tuxedo rentals. The store offers custom tailoring services and top-of-the-line designers. Dr. Williams loves when her couples return to share their wedding photos, and she's been known to get invited to their weddings. She recently added another offering. She is now a

certified travel agent and ready to help her couples book their honeymoons. Dr. Williams gives back to the community by serving as Vice President of The Priceless Gown Project, which donates prom dresses to less fortunate high school students.



## **Gladys Wade Bragg**

*Owner, Specialty Marketing and Printing*

Gladys Wade Bragg launched Specialty Marketing and Printing after discovering she could provide businesses and organizations with a tool they were missing – promotional items. She has spent over 30 years bringing her clients' visions to life. Mrs. Bragg's Baltimore one-stop-shop provides promotional products, awards, plaques, embroidery and silk-screened products, and printing services. She is a member of the Liberty Road Business Association, Maryland Minority Contractors Association and is MBE/WBE certified through the State of Maryland and City of Baltimore. She also has MBE/WBE status through the Capital Region Minority Supplier Diversification. Mrs. Bragg is a Golden Life

Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter and past president of Baltimore County Delta Foundation, Inc. She is a life member and past national treasurer of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Baltimore Chapter, and member of the Baltimore Chapter and past national president of National Smart Set. She completed her undergraduate studies at North Carolina Central University in mathematics and earned her MBA in marketing with an option in information systems from the University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton Graduate Division. She and her husband, M. Guy Bragg, DDS have two children and three grandsons.



## **Bryan Burnette**

*Founder, Oleline Group, LLC*

With decades of experience in construction management, Bryan Burnette guides his clients in taking new construction and capital renovation projects from inception through completion, including due diligence to determine project feasibility, planning and zoning entitlements, design management, construction management through occupancy, and post-occupancy services. He began his undergraduate studies at North Carolina State University. When the out-of-state tuition became too much, he transferred to and matriculated from Morgan State University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, after becoming friends with and a mentee to the then Dean of Civil Engineering. A Baltimore City resident, Mr. Burnette takes

pride in paying it forward and giving back to the community via volunteerism and participation on local boards. The company's name is a nod to Maryland being known as the "Old Line State," which traces back to the American Revolution and considers Baltimore's vital role in the victory for independence.

# On the Covers



## **Tiffi'ni Michelle, Chief Dr. (Simms-Ushry) Davis, LBSW, Msc.D**

*Tribal Leader, Scholar, Business Mogul, Corporate Developer, Healer Dealer*

Tiffi'ni Michelle Davis, a licensed social worker and Alumni of Coppin State University, graduated in 2006 with a BA in Social Work and a collaborative degree in Business. She holds a Doctoral degree in Metaphysical Science from the International University of Metaphysics and is a scholar in Mind, Body, Spirit mechanics for future innovations. Ms. Davis founded Life is What You Think It in 2008, providing life coaching, motivational speaking, and Mindful Meditation. In 2010, she established J&T Davis Investments, Inc., a real estate and commodity investment company offering international corporate consulting and financial services. In 2013, she created Abundant Living Resources, Inc. to provide community-based services promoting holistic mental healthcare, corporate stress management, wellness training, and customized programs, and later developed For Hope's Sake, LLC., specializing in Inpatient Recovery and Addiction Treatment Services and holistic Mental Health and Wellness. Known as Chief I'ni in her tribal community, she serves several native tribes by expanding access and recovery tools for Tribal and Indigenous Black communities. She founded Urban Brujetta for spiritual growth and development and published "The Quantum Mechanics of the Mind, Body and Spirit Connectivity to Quantum Consciousness." Her 30-year research continues with her April 2025 book, WORD to Your Mother!: From Root to the Problem, Find the Solution," examining childhood trauma during America's crack crisis.



## **Kim Parker**

*The Law Offices of Kim Parker, P.A.*

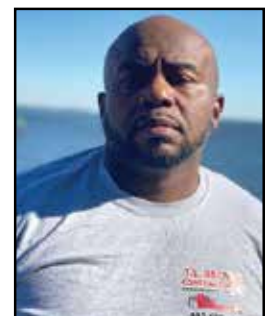
The Law Offices of Kim Parker, P.A. stands as a trusted advocate for those facing personal injury, medical malpractice, nursing home neglect or abuse, and car accident cases. For years, Ms. Parker has been a voice for individuals and families harmed by the carelessness of others, ensuring their stories are heard and their rights protected. The firm is centrally located and known throughout the community as a pillar of support during difficult times. While Ms. Parker's work centers on fighting for the injured and vulnerable – whether from a devastating car crash, medical error, or neglect in a nursing home – her dedication goes beyond legal strategy. It's her genuine compassion and unwavering resolve to make a difference in her clients' lives that truly sets her apart.



## **Terrence Brown**

*Owner, TL Brown Contractor, LLC*

After watching his uncle and cousins find success in the plumbing industry, Terrence Brown became intrigued. His company, TL Brown Contractor, specializes in fulfilling all plumbing needs – from service to installs – for commercial and residential clients across Maryland. The company is MDOT certified with MBE/DBE status. Mr. Brown graduated from Forest Park High School, went on to study at Bowie State, and received his plumbing and gas fitter licenses from Local 486 Plumbing and Training School. He takes pride in mentoring young boys as a football coach of the Hamilton Tigers.





# On the Covers



## **Jessie Lyons Crawford**

*Attorney at Law, Law Office of Jessie Lyons Crawford, LLC*

Jessie Lyons Crawford is a seasoned trial attorney and practices in the areas of personal injury, estate administration, criminal law, and family law. This former Assistant Attorney General of Maryland is a seasoned litigator with trial experience in Federal Court, State Court and Administrative Courts. Her office is located in the historic Charles Village of Baltimore City, Maryland where the clients enjoy free parking. Call 410-662-1230 for a free consultation. "We listen and we care."



## **Lavin Reid**

*Owner, Reid's Jerk Shack*

Born and raised in Portland, Jamaica, Lavin Reid, now shares flavors of his island country with his customers at Reid's Jerk Shack. He opened his family-owned Jamaican restaurant in Essex in 2021. Mr Reid, who has always had a passion for cooking and comes from a long line of cooks, proudly uses all Jamaican spices. Unsatisfied with the mass market brands of jerk spices, he set out to create his own home-made recipe. Reid's Jerk Shack is known for its oxtail, curry goat and jerk chicken dishes. He says that he seized the opportunity to fill a void in the restaurant space.



## **Tina Chase-Harris**

*Founder and CEO, Omega Home Care*

Omega Home Care is a licensed DDA (developmental disability association) agency and serves clients throughout Maryland. Omega Home Care provides homes with staff for residential clients, as well as staffing for those clients that live in their own homes. Tina Chase-Harris founded this business because of her passion for assisting vulnerable clientele, which initially started with her family hosting foster children in their home for many years. Ms. Chase-Harris, a proud alumnus of Towson University, also has over 30 years of business experience. In 2022, she decided to leave her safe corporate career to try her hand at entrepreneurship. In a few short years, Omega Home Care has now served over 50 clients, has 70 employees and is growing! The motto, Special people helping Special people, is clearly proven by clients' smiling faces, as Omega Home Care ensures they are thriving and living their BEST lives.



## **Carlos Moorer**

*Owner, Cameo Consultant Company, LLC*

An active detective with a local police agency, Carlos Moorer launched his security protection company in 2018 as a way to give more people an opportunity to work in law enforcement. Cameo Consultant Company employs around 80 armed and unarmed security guards, off-duty officers and retired officers in Baltimore and Washington DC. Along with providing regular patrol and guards for long-term clients, Cameo offers executive protection, funeral detail, and special event security. Mr. Moorer is a state certified Wear and Carry instructor as well as a CPR instructor through the Red Cross. He previously served as a Baltimore City Police Officer and took courses in criminal justice at Baltimore City Community College. He is a volunteer with Save our Young (SOY) Baltimore, a non-profit bridging the gap between youth and police officers. His company donates to make holiday gift giving possible for local families in need. When not serving the community and his clients, Mr. Moorer can be found with family and friends, coaching football and watching football and basketball.



# On the Covers



## **Joshua Taylor**

*Owner, Changing Lanes, LLC*

Changing Lanes. It's part of Joshua Taylor's own Covid story and the name of his company. This career program monitoring auditor for the Maryland Department of Labor had already been working part-time off hours as a driving instructor when he decided to make a life-changing shift. He started Changing Lanes, a Dundalk based driving school, in the fall of 2022 and continues to also work for the state. He credits God for putting the entrepreneurial spirit in him. Changing Lanes offers an MVA-certified, 36-hour driver's education course and the opportunity for students to use company vehicles for their driving tests at select MVA locations. Mr. Taylor describes his approach with his clients as being hands-on, flexible and supportive. He graduated from Morgan State in 2015 and is an active member of Iota Phi Theta fraternity.



## **Ronald S. Hazell, Jr.**

*Founder and Chief Everything Officer, The Kreative Print Shop, LLC (TKPS)*

Fueled with creativity and by a mission to close the racial wealth divide, create opportunities for education and entrepreneurship, Ronald S. Hazell, Jr. launched The Kreative Print Shop (TKPS). TKPS makes it possible for businesses, organizations and individuals to bring their messages to life with custom apparel, promotional products and signage. This Baltimore native grew his business from a small basement operation to a dynamic enterprise, known for its craftsmanship, innovation, and community-driven approach. Beyond being a print shop, TKPS is "a platform for empowerment." Along with creating partnerships with corporations, nonprofits, and schools, TKPS helps clients express their creativity and make an economic impact. Mr. Hazell received his Business Management B.S. and a certificate in Entrepreneurship from North Carolina A&T State University, received his MBA in Entrepreneurship from Morgan State University's Graves School of Business, and graduated from the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program. Known for blending business acumen with heart, this husband and father also invests his time in teaching, mentoring and serving the community.



## **James Warren Bartee**

*Owner, IMS Auto Clinic*

James Warren Bartee fixes everything from performance cars to antiques at IMS Auto Clinic in Baltimore City. IMS stands for Intense Motorsports, which is one of his passions. Along with body and other repair work, Mr. Bartee offers consultations for customers who have gone to a dealership and don't understand what was communicated to them. He believes in keeping communication simple and makes sure his clients understand exactly what is happening with their cars. Mr. Bartee says his hobby is his work and his three kids are his life. He is a Mason, part of Rise Baltimore and a member of The Urban League Young Professionals group.





# On the Covers



## **Michael Callaham**

***Owner and Operator, CJ Consulting, Inc.***

CJ Consulting, Inc. is a small, versatile company specializing in hauling and waste collection, freighting, janitorial, and environmental consultation services. Established in 2010, the company has steadily built a reputation for excellence in the industry, personalized services, and cost-effective solutions to its clients. With more than two decades of experience in equipment maintenance, procurement, and contract bidding, Michael Callaham demonstrates a keen ability to optimize operational efficiency and secure government contracts. He is passionate about advancing sustainable waste collection solutions and driving organizational growth through innovative practices. Mr. Callaham received his Bachelor of

Business Administration, Procurement and Public Contracting from the University of the District of Columbia. The business has a Small, Minority & Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification and a Small Business Enterprise Certification.



## **Fred Williams**

***Certified Public Accountant, MY OFFICE TAX & BUSINESS SERVICE***

New clients at MY OFFICE TAX & BUSINESS SERVICE are treated to a free hour of consultation and ongoing clients receive a free professional consultation. Fred Williams, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, offers personal and business tax return preparation, accounting, payroll, compilation, incorporation, business plan review/consultation and document preparation for Minority Business status and tax exempt status as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit entity. He also provides additional services to meet his clients' needs. He was inspired to follow an entrepreneurial path after seeing some of his college professors, who also had military backgrounds, running their own businesses. Mr. Williams is a member of the

Maryland Society of Accountants & Tax Professionals, National Society of Tax Professionals, the American Legion, National Association for the Self-Employed, National Notary Association, National Association for Black Veterans and is a member of St. Stephen AME Church of Essex. Mr. Williams received his BA in business administration from Armstrong State College and his MBA from Savannah State University.



## **Michael Washington**

***Founder and President, The Washington Building Group (WBG Construction, LLC)***

Piano keys and power tools both play a role in Michael Washington's backstory. As a teen, he was already a budding musician, playing piano at church. After his dad told him, "You can't make a business out of that," a fellow church member offered him a summer carpentry job. Mr. Washington has never looked back. He earned his BS in Construction Management from Bradley University and a Master's in Construction Project Management from Northwestern University in Chicago, then moved to the East Coast for "love and money," as his wife was pursuing her doctorate at the University of Maryland. Mr. Washington founded The Washington Building Group (WBG Construction, LLC) after working for Turner Construction. His company is a full-service

general contractor, specializing in renovations and build-outs for universities, office spaces, retail locations, and hospital labs. Along with being OSHA 30 trained, Mr. Washington is a LEED AP and has completed multiple LEED projects. This father of four enjoys playing music, hiking, and fishing.

# On the Covers



## Vonnette Harris

*Founder and President, Kairos Development, LLC*

Vonnette Harris has a long-standing commitment to providing sustainable, high-quality housing solutions for low to moderate-income families. Kairos Development, LLC, a certified 100% minority owned Maryland based real estate development and consulting firm, focuses on expanding opportunities of community economic development and investment in underserved neighborhoods in the Baltimore-Washington region. Ms. Harris is a credentialed real estate professional with over 20 years experience in the construction, development, and finance of multi-family, mixed-income housing. She is well versed in the development process including site selection and acquisition, project feasibility and market demand, community engagement and entitlements, project financing and management, construction management, lease up, continued occupancy and compliance. Ms. Harris has completed over \$230 million dollars of mixed-financed transactions, including the substantial renovation and new construction of a large scattered site development, multiple mid-rise developments for seniors and families, and the adaptive reuse of several historic structures into multifamily housing. Ms. Harris has the combination of passion, experience, drive, vision, and integrity to ensure her initiatives succeed. Kairos Development grew from her desire to assist historically disadvantaged and underinvested communities of color, recognizing quality housing should be a fundamental right, not a privilege.



## There Goes My Hero

Every three minutes, someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. There Goes My Hero's mission is to save lives, provide hope and support those impacted by blood cancer. A swab of the cheek can save a life. Nationally, people of color are underrepresented on the bone marrow donor registry, which means they have a harder time finding a donor – only 23% of African American blood cancer patients find a donor. Through Color the Registry, TGMH seeks to diversify the bone marrow donor registry offering hope to all patients in need of a bone marrow transplant, no matter their ethnic or racial background. You can support their mission by hosting a bone marrow registry drive at your workplace, place of worship, neighborhood organization, or community event. By simply swabbing your cheek, you could be identified as a life-saving match for someone in need.



## Eric Brockman

*Founder, Chairman & CEO, Focus on Communities United for Success (FOCUS)*

Eric Brockman is living proof of the power in giving people a chance. He graduated with a 1.6 GPA from high school and Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), an HBCU in North Carolina, gave him a semester to prove himself. He went beyond that and is now paying it forward. With more than 40 years in the IT field behind him, this tech industry executive and cyber risk advisor launched Focus on Communities United for Success (FOCUS), a Baltimore-based non-profit that provides IT job training opportunities to disadvantaged and underprivileged 18 to 45-year-olds, interested in earning CompTIA and AWS certifications to work in A+ network plus, security plus and Amazon web services roles. Participation in his competitive program is based on an in-depth selection process. Since 2018, there has been a 100-percent placement rate. Mr. Brockman received his BS in math and computer science from ECSU and his BA in biblical studies from the Triangle Bible Institute. Mr. Brockman serves as a volunteer in the prison ministry and is an avid bowler. Mr. Brockman is proud that his personal story of how an HBCU saved his life is part of the nation's historical record in the Library of Congress.







# On the Covers



## **Joshua Manns**

*Owner, Legacy Awards & Recognition*

Joshua Manns was only 3-years-old when the business he now owns first launched. He took over Joe Manns awards from his late father, Joe Manns, who started the awards company from his aunt and uncle's basement in 1986 before moving to a storefront in Woodlawn. Joshua Manns changed the name of his family business to Legacy Awards & Recognition. Joe Manns sadly passed away in 2022 after spending many years working with his son. The company specializes in Personal & Corporate Awards such as plaques, acrylics, trophies and recognition needs. They also provide printing and embroidery services and carry greek and masonic paraphernalia. Mr. Manns takes pride in being of service to his community and carrying his father's Legacy.



## **Shirlee "Sparkle" Diggs-Moyer**

*Owner, Sparkle Occasions by Shirlee*

Shirlee "Sparkle" Diggs-Moyer's nickname and business goal are the same. She goes to great lengths to make her clients' weddings and all special events Sparkle. Ms. Diggs-Moyer, who has more than a decade of customer service and event management experience, works closely with couples to plan their big day and produces anniversaries, parties of all kinds, banquets and post-funeral receptions. Whether she is creating an event on a shoestring budget or pulling out all of the stops, she approaches each event with the same energy and enthusiasm, working closely with her clients to select the right photographers, videographers, music, catering, venue and more. Sparkle Occasions by Shirlee is certified by the U.S. Small Business Administration and serves clients in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and the DC area. Ms. Diggs-Moyer is a graduate of the Community College of Baltimore's business management program, earned her certification in event and wedding planning from Stratford Career Institute, completed her certificate in Small Business Management at Penn Foster Career School and is a licensed notary. Along with floral and decor, she now also offers table linens and chair covers for events.



## **Chauna M. Watson**

*Founder, Sprouting Scholars • Educator*

Chauna M. Watson is an inspiring educator, dedicated community activist, and passionate advocate for families and children, committed to uplifting the communities of Baltimore. With a deep belief in the power of collaboration among children, families, schools, and communities, Ms. Watson strives to sow the seeds of change that will transform educational outcomes. As a visionary leader, Ms. Watson founded Sprouting Scholars, a small business with the mission of "Sprouting Scholars, One Seed at a Time." Her vision focuses on creating nurturing environments where children, families, and communities can thrive and reach their full potential. She likens this nurturing process to cultivating plants—optimizing the conditions for growth through dedicated care and support, reflecting her unwavering commitment to the children and families she serves. As a servant leader, Ms. Watson established Sprouting Scholars as a ministry aimed at uplifting children and families in inner-city neighborhoods. She holds a B.S. in Education and Psychology and a Master's in Arts of Teaching. A reflective practitioner in education and behavioral health, Ms. Watson also serves as a community liaison, small business advocate, financial literacy promoter, grant writer, business contract developer, education/business consultant, coach, and change agent.

# On the Covers



## **Dr. Marvin J. Perry**

***CEO and Founder of Professional Consultant Group (PCG) and Associates, Inc.***

PCG and Associates offers consulting and management services for businesses, municipalities, educational institutions, non-profits, corporations, and individuals in the private and public sectors. Dr. Perry has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management, a Master's in City and Regional Planning and a Doctorate in the Community College Leadership Development Program from Morgan State University. He has several educational training certifications and brings over three decades experience in educational and business solutions. Dr. Perry's consulting company assists clients in developing and executing goals for growth for their businesses, cities and municipalities through proven solutions.

The company conducts training in negotiations; conflict resolution and mediation; leadership; diversity, inclusion and equity; educational leadership coaching and mentoring. Dr. Perry is a motivational speaker, marketing consultant, national branding officer and a Leadership, Wealth Builder, Anger/Stress Management facilitator. PCG and Associates Inc. works with community leaders and public officials in transforming communities, universities and non-profits.



## **Tonia Cain**

***Owner and Founder, Ruby Rock Inc.***

Tonia Cain's commercial cleaning company is named after her late mother, Ruby, who was Tonia's "rock" in life and whose memory continues to serve that role. Ruby spent more than three decades cleaning offices on Capitol Hill. It wasn't until Ms. Cain grew up when she realized the impact her mom made on her and of the amazing experience she gained from the days she spent accompanying her mom to work. Ms. Cain started Ruby Rock, Inc. in 2018, to keep her mom's legacy alive. Ruby Rock Inc. provides cleaning and mold remediation services as well as construction clean-up throughout the DMV area. Ms. Cain gives back to the community by mentoring other women on how to get certified as small business owners.



## **Samantha Sullivan**

***Owner, ACS Property Services***

Three driving forces propelled Samantha Sullivan into the construction industry. Growing up without a father figure in her life, Ms. Sullivan taught herself as a child by trial and error how to fix things. After gaining experience at a large company, she realized that she didn't want to be a number. When she went out on her own, she felt driven to change the story of single and elderly women getting taken advantage of and being charged more for repairs that they didn't understand. ACS Property Services, a general contracting firm, does commercial and residential projects, including painting, demolition and concrete work. Ms. Sullivan credits her husband, who works in the concrete industry, for being her biggest supporter.





# On the Covers



## **Kendrick "DJ 5Starr The General" Tilghman, MBA**

*Owner, 5Starr Enterprise, LLC*

Kendrick R. Tilghman is a Baltimore entrepreneur, DJ, educator, outreach specialist and top Science Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (S.T.R.E.A.M.) advocate. The vision of his company, 5Starr Enterprise, is to become the premier resource for S.T.E.M. workforce diversity nationwide. His company educates and empowers communities to play more active roles in S.T.E.M. related curriculum and fields. He believes this foundation will create greater opportunities in advanced education training and contribute to a more diverse workforce. His company's primary focus is S.T.R.E.A.M. integration and Mr. Tilghman travels nationally to engage and excite communities. His

product partnership Math Thru Music, teaching the DJ craft using Mathematical Principles & Virtual Solutions, has Mr. Tilghman using his B.S. in Computer and Electrical Engineering and an MBA from Morgan State University. He serves as President of the Greater Baltimore Black Chamber of Commerce, President of the Baltimore County African American Cultural Festival, Vice President of Black Professional Men and serves on multiple boards. He is a loving, devoted husband to Carole L. Tilghman, who has been instrumental in many of his recent accomplishments.



## **Monica Brunson**

*Motivational Speaker, Founder & CEO, Brunson Healthcare Consultants Group (BHCG)*

Monica Brunson and her staff at Brunson Healthcare Consultants Group (BHCG) specialize in locating affordable, 24-hour assisted living. With three plus decades in senior care and nearly 20 years running her Five Star Google rated company, Ms. Brunson's mission is to guide families through the healthcare maze, encourage those who need it and empower small, family style providers to continue to offer better care. Ms. Brunson is a content expert, motivational speaker and has helped manage a family owned business, Berries by Quicha. This Baltimore native graduated from The Bryn Mawr School and serves in the alumnae program and received her BA from McDaniel College. Ms. Brunson is a contributing author

in the Unapologetically Brave anthology and in the soon to be published second installment, Unapologetically Strong. Her writing project, My Sisters' Prayers to Our Father, is a devotional collaboration with women of faith. She is the founder and creator of The Healing Experience, an interactive workshop on grief and loss. She sits on the Advisory Board at The Help Outreach Center, a community resource and workforce development organization managed by The Anointed House of Prayer. She is a licensed Minister and partner at the Anointed House of Prayer Ministries under the covering of Pastor Marlin Austin, Sr.



## **Rebecca Klein and Keith Scott**

*Co-Founders and CEOs, TALLsmall Productions*

Keith Scott and Rebecca Klein, of TALLsmall Productions, coach clients internationally on how to communicate in a simple, confident style in which words, tone, and body language are aligned. The husband and wife duo launched a decade ago, and yes, the company is named for their heights. They provide private executive and leadership coaching, group workshops, keynotes, and panel facilitation for corporate, government, and non-profit clients. Niche topics include public speaking, LinkedIn strategy, media relations, banishing imposter syndrome, presentation creation, and conflict resolution. They have worked with clients including PayPal, Graybar Electric Company, BGE, Coldwell Banker, Maryland Transit

Administration, and many small businesses and entrepreneurs. You'll also catch TALLsmall providing communications analysis on morning TV news segments. The couple gives back by emceeding gala events and serving as auctioneers for nonprofit organizations. Ms. Klein holds a B.A. from Brandeis University. Mr. Scott received his B.A. from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.



# WHAT IS THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY?

The Minority Business Directory is a privately-owned business entity, not supported by any government grants or assistance.

The Directory is a controlled circulation of classified listings and advertisements of community owned businesses and professionals, offering a wide range of goods and services. **The Directory also includes a number of advertisements from local majority businesses and government agencies.** Extensive public service listings provide social, civic, educational and medical information. The combined result is a valuable consumer shopping guide, distributed free to the community. Free distribution of the Directory is made possible by the sale of advertising space within the Directory.

## HOW TO ACQUIRE AND USE THE MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To acquire the **MINORITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY**, refer to the list of distribution points in the back of the Directory. Stop by the most convenient location and request a copy of the MBD. Copies of the Directory are also available within the businesses on this list. For further information on how to receive the Directory, please call the Minority Business Directory, Inc. at (443) 224-2343.

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS CONSUMERS** - When seeking goods and services, community consumers are urged to look first within the Directory. If the goods and services are not offered by participating MBD businesses, then pursue other conventional means of locating the business you seek.

Remember, when you patronize community-based businesses, you are contributing to the economic foundation of the community which benefits all members in the community. Community consumers are also urged to patronize the majority corporations advertising in the MBD. These corporations are concerned for and committed to improving the minority community.

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS OWNERS** - The major corporations and government agency advertisers in MBD have expressed their desire to do business with community vendors and suppliers. Community business owners should contact these advertisers to make them aware of your firm's capabilities for supplying goods and services.

MBD received requests on a regular basis for the names of community vendors and suppliers for various goods and services. Community business owners whose businesses are not listed in the Directory should write to the MBD office to make us aware of your existence and expertise so that we can refer your business to those purchasers seeking your goods and services.

**CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT PURCHASERS** - Purchasing officers are urged to utilize MBD to locate businesses for supplying their firm's needs. MBD has approximately 500 community based businesses on file, all of which are not listed in this edition. In addition, MBD is continually informed of new and existing businesses in the area. For additional information on community based businesses, please call the Directory at (443) 224-2343.

**STUDENTS AND JOB SEEKERS** - Many advertisers in MBD request job applicants with specific skills and educational training. Students and job seekers are encouraged to review the Career Opportunities Section of the Directory when planning for careers and employment changes.

**ALL USERS** - MBD is your resource to locate competent, professional, dedicated and hardworking members of the Baltimore community. They will be pleased to serve you. Keep your Directory accessible and call on the merchants advertised herein; and when you do, tell them you found them in the Directory. They will appreciate it, and we will all benefit from it. It's Good Business to Do Business with Minorities.



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**Cell: 410-469-0006**

**minoritybusinessdirectory.com**

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**Deborah Lacy, RN, MS**  
*Founder/CEO*

Lacy's Professional Nursing Services (LPNS) is a Residential Service Agency (RSA) that provides private duty nursing, staffing, and skilled nurse visits in the Baltimore Metropolitan area. We take pride in hiring the most qualified RN's, LPN's, CMT's, CNA/GNA's and Companions.

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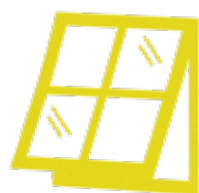
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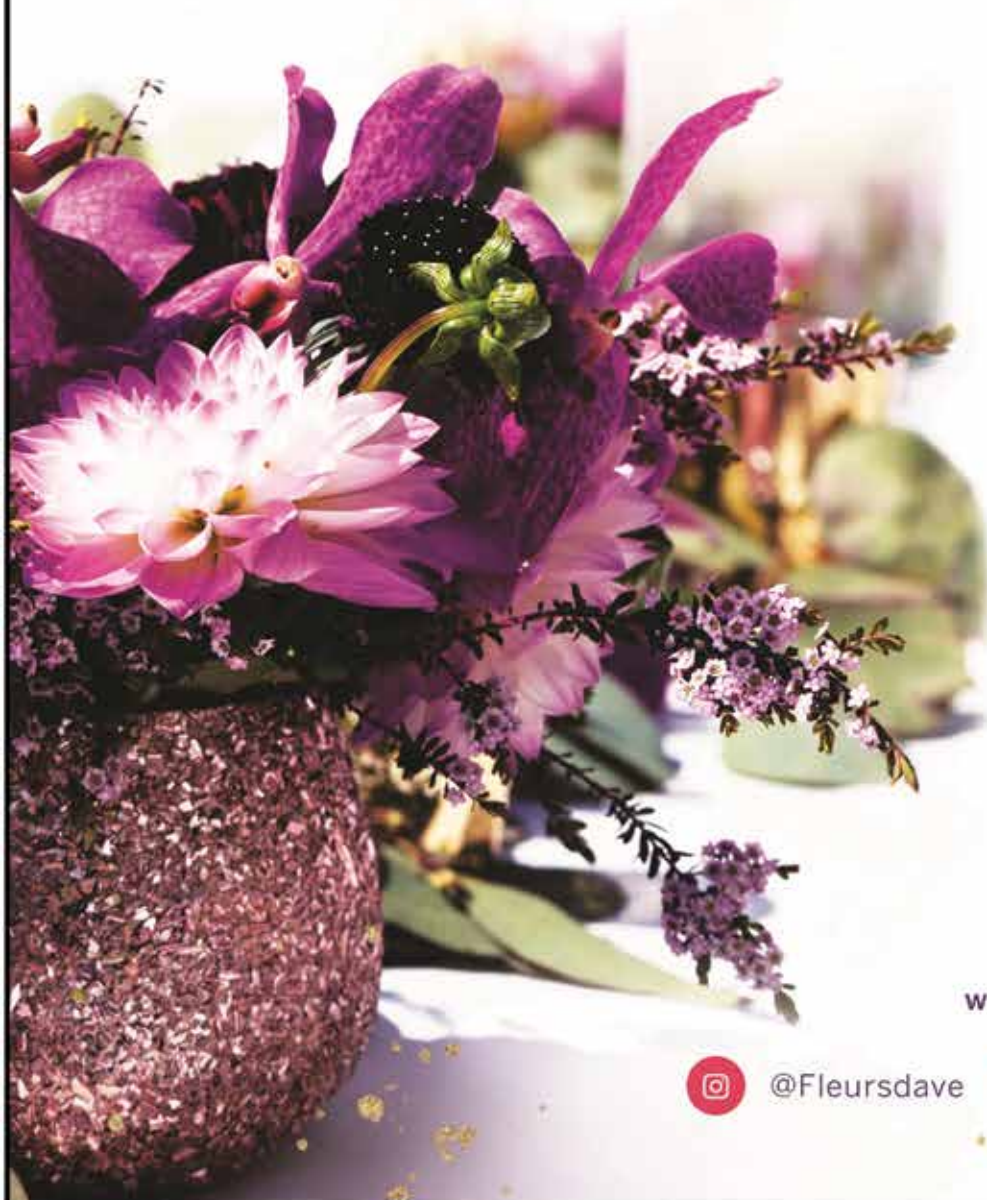
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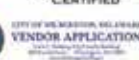
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The advertisement features two men in suits standing in front of three white Cadillac hearse vehicles. A central logo displays the letters 'BC' in a gothic font, surrounded by a gold laurel wreath and a crown. Below the logo, the text 'BROOKS CLINTON FUNERAL SERVICE' is written in a serif font. The main headline 'Stop Overpaying For Funerals' is in large red letters, followed by 'FINANCING AVAILABLE!' in white. Below this, 'Cremations Starting At \$995.00' is written in white. A table-like layout lists three services with their starting prices. At the bottom, the website and email address are provided, along with a QR code. The background of the lower half of the ad shows a funeral home interior with floral arrangements.

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gpmort7@hotmail.com

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 Washington, DC 20001  
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[Hair4lifemerch@gmail.com](mailto:Hair4lifemerch@gmail.com)

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CEO & Founder

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