

# The Annapolis Times

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## State, local politicians highlight \$2 million investment for revitalization of Avenue Market



*Jules D. Howie, Director, UPCCDC; U.S. Congressman Kweisi Mfume; Ashiah Parker, CEO, No Boundaries Coalition; Wanda Best, President, Upton Civic Association; U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen; U.S. Senator Ben Cardin; Maryland Senator Antonio Hayes; Colin Tarbert, President & CEO, Baltimore Development Corporation Second Row (l-r) Johndre Jennings, Executive Director, Druid Heights CDC; Councilman Eric Costello (11th District); Annie Hall, President, Penn North; Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott; and Dr. Al Gourrier, University of Baltimore, Director of Nonprofit Management and Social Entrepreneurship, and UPCCDC Board Member (See article on page 12)*



# Amerigroup Maryland partners with City Schools to combat food insecurity, Gardenville Elementary given \$8K for refrigeration units

By Demetrius Dillard

Food deserts, areas where individuals have limited or no access to healthy and nutritious food, is among the most notable challenges facing America's Black communities in particular.

In recent years, the issue has come to the forefront as numerous charitable organizations, nonprofits, etc. have garnered resources, advocated for policy implementation and launched initiatives to improve access to healthy, affordable foods in low-income neighborhoods.

According to research cited by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, nearly 39.5 million people—roughly 12.8% of the U.S. population—were living in low-income and low-access areas. Within that demographic, an estimated 19 million people (6.2% of the U.S. population) “had limited access to a supermarket or grocery store.”

On a local scale, thousands of Baltimore City residents suffer from food insecurity, including a good portion of children attending Baltimore City Public Schools. To combat the issue, Amerigroup Maryland—a health insurance and healthcare provider—has teamed up with City Schools.

As part of the collaboration effort, Gardenville Elementary School in Northeast Baltimore was recently awarded \$8,000 from Amerigroup, which will enable the school to purchase two refrigeration units stocked with healthy foods that will be sustainably stored at the school for families to access.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, more families than ever faced food insecurity, highlighted Amerigroup's Lori Hammond.

“Our goals through this partnership is that Amerigroup Maryland provides the opportunity for residents to have greater access to healthy food and deal with food insecurity,” said Hammond, marketing director of Amerigroup Maryland.



*Gardenville Elementary School is presented an \$8,000 check to fund refrigeration units for the sustainable storage of fresh food. (Left to right): Lori Hammond, Amerigroup; Councilwoman McCray District 2; Harvey Miles, Community School Coordinator; Principal Ms. Wilson-Shirley; C. Johnson, Social Worker/Food pantry lead; and V.P James Kraus. Photo credit: Ashelle Henry*

“The funds that we provided allow them (Gardenville) to purchase two refrigeration units that will allow them to purchase fresh eggs, cheese and items that will be sustainable for their families to access - not only families at the school but also families within the community.”

The partnership goes back a few years, according to Harvey Miles, the community school coordinator at Gardenville Elementary. The origin of the collaboration was when Miles reached out to Amerigroup explaining his plans of opening up a food pantry at the school to provide additional food resources for families of students.

However, the pantry was missing a refrigeration unit, limiting the items that could be sustainably stored, such as eggs, cheese and other dairy products. As a result, many food items had to be discarded which prompted Miles to request refrigeration units.

Gardenville Elementary sits in a food desert, said Miles, which explains his intent to open a fresh food pantry for students and families.

“We're just forever grateful unto them (Amerigroup) for their support because the goal of course for the community school is to remove

barriers that interfere with student success, as well as our relationships to their parents. We try to meet them at the level of their needs as well,” Miles said.

“Every school's needs are different, and for this school, food was a necessity. We have different partnerships that helped us meet that need, especially during the pandemic... so it just shows how diligent we are on our end to try to meet the need in reference to food.”

A partnership with the Maryland Food Bank provides donated food items to Gardenville, which is a 100 percent free-lunch school, according to Miles, meaning that the vast majority

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of students come from economically challenged backgrounds.

“I think the kids and the staff get to reap the benefits of the refrigeration units and hopefully will notice the change in the quality of their meals and nutrition value as well,” Hammond said.

The \$8,000 check was presented from Amerigroup Maryland to Gardenville on April 1, 2022 in a brief event at the school which featured District 2 Councilwoman Danielle McCray, Gardenville Elementary Principal Shirely Wilson, Hammond, Miles and a few others.

Access to nutritious food directly impacts academic performance, which can in turn affect long-term outcomes outside the classroom.

“The end [goal] is for our students to learn, to be able to comprehend without any barriers that can be addressed hindering them from accomplishing their goals. When kids are hungry, they can learn but they can't learn at the height of their ability,” Miles continued.

***“When we meet the needs of food to our families, it lessens other issues that may come about because of hunger and being in a food desert. And financially, we all go to the market because we have to eat, so, we're able to reduce some of that financial stress that our families go through.”***

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## Can Elon Musk Save Twitter?

By Thomas L. Knapp

Mere days after my column explaining why Elon Musk shouldn't buy Twitter, Elon Musk bought Twitter — sort of. His offer's been accepted, but there's likely a good deal of red tape to get over before he hands over the cash and the current board hands over the keys. Given his continually adversarial relationship with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, it may take a little while.

That guy, he never listens to me. But he seems to have done pretty well for himself anyway. Not everyone can swing a \$44 billion deal on a hot property. Or build an electric car that accelerates from zero to 60 miles per hour in 3.3 seconds. Or send people to space and bring them back, then re-use the rockets.

Can he save Twitter? Well, he seems like a guy who gets things done. I wouldn't bet against him.

And, make no mistake, Twitter's in desperate need of saving. It's been declining for years, shedding real users and picking up annoying spam bots under management that seems less concerned with operating a high-engagement platform for all comers than with carrying water for the American political establishment and scolding and ostracizing wrong-thinkers.

Many Twitter users disagree. They've become accustomed to living in a walled garden, protected from viewpoints that make them uncomfortable. And the possibility that new ownership might tell them to grow up, stop whining, and learn to use the "block" button enrages them.

Only a few months ago, those users and I were in general agreement:

It's Twitter's platform. Twitter gets to set the rules for using that platform. If you don't like Twitter's rules, find or start a platform with rules you like better. Problem solved.

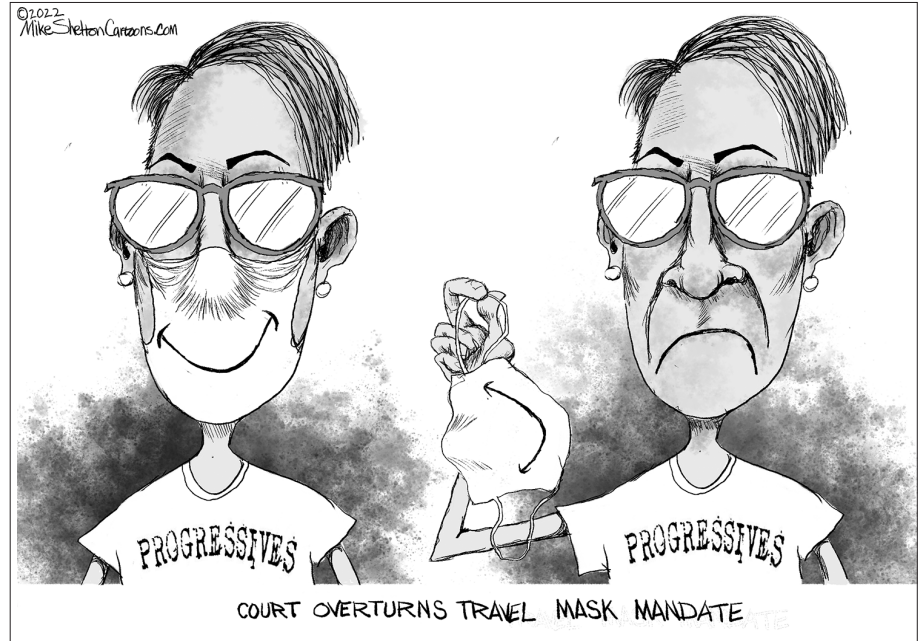
Now those rules may change, because the platform's ownership is changing. But my position remains the same, because that position wasn't based on happening to like the rules. It was based on respect for the property rights of the platform's owners.

Now that the ownership is changing, which may portend the rules changing, some who agreed with me when they liked the rules are hanging out on (virtual) street corners in sackcloth and ashes, waving THE END IS NEAR signs, and even urging the SEC to nix the deal so they can return to their version of Eden, undisturbed by serpents peddling heterodoxy.

Apparently "it's a private company and can set whatever rules it wants" was a position of convenience, not principle. Go figure.

Musk has a tough row to hoe. Changing an entrenched corporate culture and bringing an aging platform up to date to deal with its infestation of spammers and scammers won't be easy. I still think he'd have been smarter to start from scratch. But I wish him luck.

If he can transform Twitter back into a bona fide public square, he'll be due the thanks of a grateful user base. And he'll probably get some of that thanks, mixed in with complaints from those who pine for the return of their former idea-proof safe space.



*Community Affairs*

## Anne Arundel County Dept. of Aging and Disabilities recognized Older Americans Month 2022

Annapolis, MD (April 20, 2022) - The Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities is pleased to recognize May as Older Americans Month (OAM). The Department of Aging and Disabilities' mission is to provide services and programs for older adults that allow them to stay healthy and remain independent in their communities. For Older Americans Month, the Department of Aging and Disabilities would like to honor older adults in Anne Arundel County and celebrate their contributions.

Every May, older adults across the nation are recognized for their contributions to their communities and society. While raising families and building careers, older adults continue to give back to their neighborhoods, serving as volunteers, employees, employers, educators, mentors, advocates, and so much more. Older adults offer insight and experience that benefit the entire community.

The theme for 2022 is "Age My Way,"

which focuses on aging in place – how older adults can plan to stay in their homes and live independently in their communities for as long as possible. Older Americans Month is an opportunity for older adults, their families, and the greater community to explore the many ways older adults can remain in and be involved with their communities.

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Kinder Farm Park located at 1001 Kinder Farm Park Road in Millersville, Maryland 21108. The celebration will feature refreshments, live entertainment, and raffle prizes. Representatives from our community partners and organizations will be available to share information about resources available to older adults and their families. The rain date is scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2022.

To learn more about this event, please contact the Department of Aging and Disabilities at (410) 222-4257. Anyone needing accommodations must contact Jennifer Jackson at 410-222-4383 or e-mail at [disabilities\\_info@aacounty.org](mailto:disabilities_info@aacounty.org) at least seven days before the event. TTY users, please call via Maryland Relay at 7-1-1. All materials are available in an alternative format upon request.



## An Extraordinary Life, Linking Past and Present

**By Ben Jealous, President of People For the American Way, The Seattle Medium**

I was trained to fight by my grandmother, Mamie Bland Todd. She would often remind me, “Pessimists are right more often, but optimists win more often.” “In this life you have to decide what’s more important to you.” Then she would add, “As for me, I’ll take winning.” My favorite optimist died recently at 105. For our family, she was the last living link to our story of origin in antebellum Southern Virginia.

Three of her grandparents were Black and born into slavery. The fourth was white and helped run a plantation. She and my grandfather made the great migration north to the Up South that is Baltimore. Their love story was the bridge to our family’s life in modern America. She carried lessons from the old world with her. She learned to fight from her paternal grandfather, Edward David



*Ben Jealous*

Bland. He was born into slavery in his white uncle’s house.

He would defeat one of his white cousins to become one of the last Black Reconstruction statesmen in Virginia. He was also the Black leader of a multiracial populist movement made up of former slaves and former Confederate soldiers. His white counterpart was former Confederate General William Mahone. Theirs was a coalition of working men, Black and white. Most of them were farmers with rough hands and dirty fingernails. Together they built a movement in the early 1880s that created Virginia State University, expanded Virginia Tech, and secured the future of free public education for every child in the commonwealth.

Their common enemy was the far right-wing politicians who said Virginia could not afford the universal free public education that had been created during Reconstruction. Pub-

licly, these wealthy conservatives said the state could not afford both free public education and paying off Civil War debt.

Privately, they feared free universal public education would render both poor whites and poor Blacks ungovernable. Bland and Mahone’s multiracial movement also attacked voter suppression, outlawing the poll tax and several other measures meant to make it harder for Blacks and low-income whites to vote. When they took control of the state legislature, they made Mahone a U.S. Senator.

Without forgetting the sins of the past, the men they led each chose to invest in new-found unity rather than renew old hurts and divisions. What united those men was their commitment to providing a better future for their children. They recognized that what the children of working families – Black and white – needed more than anything was access to a free high-quality education.

In short, they needed what the children of plantation owners took for granted. My grandmother was born in 1916. She was a third-generation NAACP member who rebelled against Jim Crow without hesitation. As a young teacher, she confronted the white man who was the local superintendent of schools. She convinced him that just like white teachers, Black teachers could not teach without adequate supplies.

He rectified the problem at her segregated all-Black school the next day. Two decades later, she would support my mom when at age 12 she signed on as a named plaintiff in one

of the feeder cases to Brown v Board of Education. When my mom desegregated her local high school at 15, my grandmother was with her every step of the way.

Ultimately, however, my grandmother, like her grandfather, could not escape the moral imperative that children of every color who are struggling need the same protections and supports. She would go on to found Child Protective Services for the city of Baltimore and lead Maryland’s effort to replicate the program statewide.

Like Bland, she built an army of warriors for social change. In her case, it was an army of social workers, who were mostly women. Among them was a young white woman and future U.S. senator named Barbara Mikulski.

Four years ago, when I was the Democratic nominee for governor of Maryland, I bumped into Sen. Mikulski at a women’s political event. She looked at me and said, “You’re Mamie Todd’s grandson.” I said, “I am,” and I watched a tear roll down her face.

As I close this week’s column, tears are running down mine.

*Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and Professor of the Practice in the Africana Studies Department at the University of Pennsylvania where he teaches leadership. The post An Extraordinary Life, Linking Past And Present appeared first on The Seattle Medium.*

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**Mailing Address**  
The Baltimore Times  
2530 N. Charles Street, Suite 201  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Phone: 410-366-3900- Fax 410-243-1627  
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# Getting The Most Out of Your Next Doctor Visit, Understanding Your Needs Going into Retirement

By La-Villa Brooks

A doctor's visit is usually a means to report any new issues, follow-up from a previous visit, screenings or an annual check-up. The conversation that ensues are your doctor's expectations and any follow-ups for lab work, etc., before your next visit. Spark a new conversation and consider engaging your physician about changes in healthcare and new policies that you may be unaware of or what you should be considering regarding your health. You might be surprised by what you learn or you may be enlightened with new information that you can pass along, particularly the cost of healthcare as you go into retirement.

If you don't know what to ask or you're a bit shy, ask someone who is familiar with your health needs like a family member, a close friend, or you can google questions to ask concerning your specific needs. To maximize your time with the doctor, keep a diary or a list of incidents, ailments, or changes that have occurred since your last visit. For example, if you had to go the emergency room, you'll want to make sure you document the date and time of occurrence, how you were feeling, and if you've developed a rash or sustained any cuts or bruises that have not healed. The more information you provide, the better the feedback and transparency between doctor-patient relationships; it also lets your doctor know that you, too, are engaged



La-Villa Brooks

in your well-being.

Most people are aware of healthcare cost going up and that changes happen every year but are unaware of the expenditures involved. In 2000, health expenditures in the U.S had reached \$1.4 trillion and tripled by 2020 to \$4.1 trillion. Health expenditures such as hospital care, nursing home care, physicians' services, clinical services, and prescription drugs contribute to these increases over time and is directly related to social, behavioral, and environmental determinants of health. This includes access to care both physically and financially based on the distribution of money, power and resources. In 2021 there was an increase between 4%-10% for mental health utilization and specialty drugs.

The impact of determinants: Social can range from food and housing, racism and violence, to

socioeconomic status and education, and dying a premature death or suffering from poor health.

Behavioral can range from addictions to exercise and obesity.

Environmental can range from poor water systems, climate change to the depletion of the ozone layer in the air.

According to Peterson-KFF System Tracker, the average growth in health spending costs from 2010-2019 showed an increase of 4.2%. However, its biggest increase was 9.7% from 2019-2020, surpassing the 2018-2019 increase of 4.3%. Fidelity Investments estimates healthcare costs, to include medical, for a baby boomer of 65 years old to pay \$300,000 for the duration of their retirement.

Medicare costs and age-related healthcare services will continue to rise. Although original Medicare will continue to cover Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical

insurance), there are some limitations. Outpatient hospital care is covered, however, prescription drugs, eyeglasses, dentures, hearing aids, and medical marijuana are not covered. The good news is it will also pay for home healthcare services and skilled nursing facility (SNT) expenses; hospice care would be for a limited period of time. Medicaid covers similar services as Medicare but it does include clinic visits and inpatient and outpatient hospitalization. It does not cover services that are not medically necessary or that are covered by another government agency.

Remember, this is the time to invest in your long-term care needs. Set goals to determine your healthcare needs by charting a framework and formulating a financial plan to meet them. A healthcare expert can help you to streamline the process. Investing in your health from exercising, playing a sport, preventative care, and making lifestyle changes will play a part in determining your costs and long-term care, and in having a healthy physiological and psychological relationships.

**Did You Know?**

There are no limitations on the number of doctor visits under Medicare, however, there is a cap on the number of tests and frequency of visits for specialty services, some will also make a home visit. You can discuss this with your doctor or contact Medicare at 800-633-4227.

Know before you go outside the U.S. what services are covered and inform your doctor about your travel so that you are prepared for any emergencies that may arise.

*If you have questions or would like to read about a specific healthcare topic, please email your questions to [LrTBrooks@gmail.com](mailto:LrTBrooks@gmail.com). I look forward to your engagement.*





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# Native Baltimorean Becomes First Ever Managing Regional Director of the IARFC®, Furthers Financial Literacy

By Andrea Blackstone

Financial Literacy Month offers a time to reflect on the importance of reassessing our relationships with money and ways to make improvements. Dr. Constance Craig-Mason of York, Pennsylvania grew up in Baltimore and is currently shattering glass ceilings in the financial industry space. She was selected to serve as the first ever Managing Regional Director (MRD) of the U.S. Chapter of the International Association of Registered Financial Consultants (IARFC®).

“I am a champion for financial professionals who desire to pursue designations that will help boost their credibility, hold them to a higher ethical standard, enhance their networking and continuing education opportunities, and set them apart from other financial experts,” Craig-Mason said, “It is truly a privilege and honor to be a leader in the Association’s grassroots effort to increase the number of world class professional consultants in the IARFC family.”

Despite Craig-Mason’s noteworthy accomplishment, when it comes to the financial advice profession, a mere 18% of all Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) are women, per findings presented through “Driving Diversity: Opportunities for Action in the MIA Marketplace.” Furthermore, just 2.6% of them are black women.

Lack of diversity nor obstacles did not permanently impede Craig-Mason from pushing forward by launching her career through becoming life insurance licensed in 2009. Exercising determination and patience led to her status of earning her place as a Master Registered Financial Consultant (MRFC®), insurance broker, entrepreneur, financial literacy advocate, professional speaker, and Amazon bestselling author.

Craig-Mason was reared by a young, single mother who struggled to



*Dr. Constance Craig-Mason grew up in an impoverished environment in Baltimore. The mother and wife who now resides in York, Pa. recently began a new role as the first ever Managing Regional Director of the U.S. Chapter of the International Association of Registered Financial Consultants. Along with her husband, Anthony Mason, Craig-Mason presents an Amazon bestselling anthology series called “Money TALK\$: Uncut Convos With Power Couples About Love, Money & Entrepreneurship.” Both books reached #1 positions in various categories. Photo by Lindria Dockett Photography*

achieve work stability and provide necessities, during her early years in Baltimore. Upon reflection, Craig-Mason remembers facing “unstable home environments, impoverished, and witnessing domestic violence and substance abuse.”

More challenges surfaced when Craig-Mason reached her next phase in life. When she became a mother of three, before marrying her current husband, limited daycare options slowed down her pursuit of working in the financial education and insurance agent field. A friend suggested that she join her, but the timing of it presented difficulties. Craig-Mason delayed the idea, but she did read everything that she could about budgeting to credit, savings, insurance, investing, mort-

gage loans, and real estate investing to improve her own life. It took nearly seven years before Craig-Mason could revisit the idea of working in the financial education and insurance agent field. The persistent mother did not give up.

“A few years after I got married, I jumped in and went full speed ahead! It was my first successful experience with entrepreneurship which was a chain-breaker for my family,” Craig-Mason said.

Much of her workdays are now spent assisting her collaborative husband with running their multi-media marketing business called The Real Connected Co., balancing responsibilities as a Managing Regional Director of the IARFC and serving as a “financial

therapist” of sorts to her clients.

“Financial coaching and consulting puts me in position to educate and guide my clients in regarding their finances in both a restorative and proactive fashion,” Craig-Mason said. “Insurance and risk management allows me to equip my clients to withstand and persevere through the “what ifs” of business, health, life, and death.”

Empowering couples about the inner workings of money is another facet of Craig-Mason’s astonishing story which fuses family empowerment. Along with her husband, Anthony Mason, Constance brings financial discussions into more homes through an anthology series called “Money TALK\$: Uncut Convos With Power Couples About Love, Money & Entrepreneurship.” In 2020, the industrious pair decided to create the book anthology series highlighting 34 married, entrepreneurial African American couples. Contributors shared their candid love, money, and entrepreneurship stories, including trials and triumphs.

“Since I’m in the financial industry, I felt it would be a great title, but also digging deeper into the other areas of life where many of my colleagues, coauthors and readers can find relatability. We all innately want the same things in life—love, security, and significance. How we arrive there is what makes us all unique,” Craig-Mason said. “Both Volumes reached Amazon #1 Best Seller on launch day in February of 2021 and February of 2022. The categories were #1 in Personal Money Management New Releases; #1 in Marriage & Long-Term Relationships New Releases; and #3 in Budgeting & Money Management New Releases.”

The “Money TALK\$: Uncut Convos With Power Couples About Love, Money & Entrepreneurship” books are available via Amazon.com, at Walmart.com, Barnes & Noble, lulu.com and www.conciergefg.com.



# Pioneering African American Reporters Alice Dunnigan and Ethel Payne to be First Recipients of the New “Dunnigan-Payne Prize”

WASHINGTON, April 25 – The White House Correspondents’ Association is pleased to announce the creation of its first-ever lifetime career achievement award, named after the first two African American women to serve as members of the White House press corps.

From here on, the Dunnigan-Payne Prize for Lifetime Career Achievement will be awarded on an occasional basis at the discretion of the WHCA board to recognize meritorious service throughout an individual’s career as a White House correspondent.

The namesakes of the award, the late reporters Alice Dunnigan of the Associated Negro Press and Ethel Payne of the Chicago Defender, will be the first recipients of the prize. Their relatives will be on hand to accept the posthumous honor at the White House Correspondents’ Dinner in Washington on April 30.

Gayle King, co-host of “CBS Mornings,” will present the award at the dinner.

“This association of White House reporters has never given its due to these two pioneering WHCA members who paved the way for so many,” said WHCA president Steven Portnoy. “We are proud to see to it that Alice Dunnigan and Ethel Payne will be forever remembered for their service to the profession and to the American public.”

Ms. Dunnigan was the first African American female reporter to be credentialed at the White House in 1947. She was joined on the beat by Ms. Payne a few years later. Both women distinguished themselves during the presidency of Dwight Eisenhower, regularly pressing him at his press conferences – when no other reporters would – about his administration’s



*Left-right: The late Alice Dunnigan (Associated Press), and Ethel Payne (Chicago Defender), are the first recipients of the newly-created Lifetime Career Achievement award named after them by the White House Correspondence Association.*

support for civil rights for Black Americans.

Eisenhower insisted that he eschewed racial discrimination, and that his administration was aiming to do what was “decent and just.” But in the summer of 1954, in response to a question about whether Black Americans could count on his support for a ban on segregation in interstate travel, Eisenhower sternly told Ms. Payne that he would not act “to support any particular or special group of any kind.”

The moment – which occurred just two months after the Supreme

Court’s *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling – sparked the headline in the Washington Evening Star: “President

Annoyed by Query On Travel Race Ban Support.”

Ms. Dunnigan repeatedly asked Eisenhower about segregated schools on military bases in the south, as well as the president’s overall support of civil rights legislation.

He eventually stopped calling on the two women at his press conferences.

As one of the first ten reporters to be recognized by President John F. Kennedy at his first press conference in 1961, Ms. Dunnigan asked about Black sharecroppers who were being evicted from their land in Tennessee simply for registering to vote. Jet Magazine reported it was the first time Ms. Dunnigan had been called on in two years.

“In the face of the racism and sexism of the era, these two women fearlessly brought the concerns of their readers directly to the most powerful man in the world,” Portnoy said. “It is our honor to lift up their legacies.”

The WHCA board voted to approve the creation of the Dunnigan-Payne Prize in January 2022. Portnoy credited board members Fin Gomez and Justin Sink, whom he said were key to the efforts to bring the honor to fruition.

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# Standing on Shoulders of Giants, April Ryan is Opening Doors for Others

By Stacy M. Brown,  
Special to The Baltimore Times

After 25 years working as a White House correspondent, April Ryan has seen it all.

Before he became president, Barack Obama invited Ryan as a guest of his for a Congressional Black Caucus dinner.

She covered Obama's two terms as president and wrote about more history when Kamala Harris became the first Black vice president and Ketanji Brown Jackson earned confirmation as the first African American female on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ryan also joined a host of other journalists and minority women to draw the ire of former President Donald Trump, who infamously railed at the decorated journalist in 2018, calling her a loser.

"After what I've seen, no," Ryan remarked when asked whether anything surprises her anymore.

"I hope I don't have to be surprised anymore. I've seen 25 years of ebb and flow, and, at the end of the day, it's about people and reporting for people."

Ryan noted that she once worked for a "boutique" news organization, and now she's achieved near unparalleled success at theGrio, where she opened up the news department and the White House Bureau.

On Saturday, April 30, Byron Allen's Allen Media Group and theGrio will honor Ryan for 25 years of distinguished and passionate service as a White House correspondent during a star-studded bash, "A Seat at the Table: A Celebration of Black Media."

The bash takes place at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture and immediately follows the White House Correspondents' Association (WHCA) Dinner at the Washington Hilton.

Ryan, a Baltimore native, and Morgan State University graduate serves on the board of the WHCA, only the



***White House correspondent April Ryan, has had a unique vantage point as the only Black female reporter covering urban issues from the White House—a position she has held since the Clinton era. As a White House correspondent, she has unusual insight into the racial sensitivities, issues, and political struggles of our nation's past presidents. Ms. Ryan made history in January 2022 as the longest-serving African American female White House correspondent and longest-serving African American reporter covering Black news. Photo credit: Courtesy of theGrio***

third African American in the organization's more than 100-year history to hold such a position.

"It's been 25 years, so what an honor," Ryan said.

She added that the secret to her longevity is simply keeping her head down and doing the work.

"It's not about me. It's about the story," Ryan insisted.

"Along the way, people found out about me, but if you're true to the story and telling all sides, that's where my longevity has been."

With fake news, misinformation, and social media wreaking havoc on traditional journalism, Ryan maintains that she's praying for a middle ground.

"There's always been opinion, but now the line is obscured more than ever, and there's misinformation," she asserted.

"People are in need of facts. They don't need lies and entertainment; they need facts. We're in perilous times where the gas prices are higher than they've ever been. We're looking at stores, and they can't keep stuff on the

shelves.

"We're dealing with a pandemic, and we're watching one conflict on television when there are several around the world.

"The World Food Organization says it can't meet the demand for food. We are in a crisis. It's a pandemic, and people are wearing masks, and then they're not wearing masks. We need facts, and I don't have the stomach for entertainment when the stakes are so high."

An honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta, Ryan has earned numerous journalism awards, including the 2019 Freedom of the Press Award from the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Last year, Ryan earned an NAACP Image Award nomination for Social Justice Impact.

Backing up her often-professed love of her hometown, Ryan has served as a mentor to aspiring journalists, and she's assisted the development of up-and-coming broadcasters.

She's authored "The Presidency

in Black and White," "At Mama's Knee: Mothers and Race in Black and White," and "Under Fire: Reporting from the Front Lines of the Trump White House."

"I watched history, and now I'm scribing the first woman of color who identifies as Black as vice president," Ryan stated.

"Now, I see someone who identifies closely to Thurgood Marshall, this amazing Black woman who is authentic in herself with her braids, beautiful brown hue, and voice that comes out of the wisdom of our ancestors and our culture and history."

Ryan said she's also honored that the WHCA will honor Ethel Payne and Alice Dunagan, two Black Press alumni who blazed trails as White House reporters.

"I stand on their shoulders. So many of us stand on their shoulders," Ryan said.

"They are brave women, and I thank them because if it weren't for them, I wouldn't be in the room."

Ryan counts daughters Ryan and Grace as her life's "greatest work."

"I'm a Baltimorean. I grew up, and I'm still here," Ryan declared.

"I can't leave, my family is here, and I know that there's this vibe here."

She said Baltimore is primed for a comeback, much like the recent rise of Detroit, which had for decades been mired in problems that stemmed from local government mismanagement and other woes.

"Baltimore is a real community, and I'm an HBCU baby who grew up on the campus of Morgan State, where my mother worked until she died," Ryan related.

"My heart is here, and I want to see Baltimore come back like Detroit. I see Morgan State's renaissance, and it's like a Phoenix — one of the most beautiful schools in the country, and it's in the heart of Baltimore City. Like Maya Angelou said and Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson repeated, 'and still I rise.'"

# State, local politicians highlight \$2 million investment for revitalization of Avenue Market

By Demetrius Dillard

The historic Pennsylvania Avenue Market, a historic community staple in West Baltimore, has a storied history that dates back more than 150 years.

While the establishment is still a well-known landmark commonly frequented by community members, there are numerous vacant booths that show its decline over the course of recent decades. State and local political leaders have teamed up in an effort to restore the Avenue Market back to one of the city's vibrant attractions.

As part of the fiscal year 2022 omnibus funding legislation enacted in March, Senator Chris Van Hollen and Congressman Kweisi Mfume fought to secure \$2 million in direct federal funding to be used specifically for the revitalization of the once-blossoming market.

The two were joined by Senator Ben Cardin, Mayor Brandon Scott, community leaders and a few dozen local residents to highlight and celebrate the investment at a press conference right outside the doors of Avenue Market on April 25.

According to a statement released by Van Hollen's office, the funds will go directly to renovating Avenue Market and will help provide access to healthy foods for area residents, support local entrepreneurs seeking to grow their businesses, provide more jobs and sustain farms across the metro area.

In the 30-minute press conference, speakers approached the podium and delivered remarks as follows: Van Hollen, Cardin, Mfume, Scott, Baltimore Development Corporation president and CEO Colin Tarbert, No Boundaries Coalition executive director Ashiah Parker and Upton Planning Committee executive director Wanda Best.

Many of West Baltimore's residents live in food deserts and don't have ac-



*U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, U.S. Congressman Kweisi Mfume and U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen greets Mia Davis, CEO of Ruth Lavender. Ruth Lavender is the second business to join the market's Pop-Up Shop Program, a partnership between BPMC and Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street. Ruth's Lavender offers organic hair care products for men and women without using chemicals that strip away important oils or add plastics to their scalp.*

cess to healthy and fresh produce. This shouldn't be the case for anyone living in the city, Van Hollen said.

"This is all about building a hub for vital and healthy food, and a hub for the community and greater economic development. That's what this project is all about," Van Hollen said, highlighting the more than 20 urban farms and 100 community gardens in Baltimore.

"Baltimore has the longest continuously operating city market system in the country. This one right here – Avenue Market can be traced 150 years back, and now it's time to breathe new life in Avenue Market and to make sure that this historic place is afforded a brighter future here in West Baltimore."

Cardin emphasized Baltimore's rich history of city markets and expressed excitement for the reemergence of Avenue Market as a potential space for entrepreneurship and local sourcing, among others.

"The markets are critically im-

portant to our communities. This is healthy food, this is entrepreneurship, this is local sourcing, this is critically important to the survival of neighborhoods which are the strength of Baltimore," he said, adding that \$5 million of the estimated \$9.6 million revitalization project costs is coming from the federal government.

"It is our local government, state government and federal government working together in partnership to deliver for the people of Baltimore, and we're so proud."

Paul Ruppert, Baltimore Public Markets CEO, will lead the renovation project. He and his colleagues commenced a listening tour in which they met with community organizations for input on what they want to see in the upgraded Avenue Market.

Construction is expected to run from the beginning of 2023 to mid-2024, Ruppert said.

"At the Public Markets, we think it's most important that we focus on what the neighborhoods around the markets

want," he added. "We really see this as an opportunity to connect with the community and learn from them about what we want to put in here. And it's really an opportunity for workforce development, healthy food and building up an entrepreneurial base."

Securing the investment was more than a victory for Mfume; it was personal, he said. The congressman grew up three blocks away from Avenue Market and got his first job there when he was 16, he said.

"We want to turn this back into a first-class market, so that it rivals any other market," Mfume said. "All the things that were lacking are going to be put back in place."

Scott acknowledged that the market is in need of a "makeover" for restoration of an economic hub for Black entrepreneurs. Accordingly, Black-owned vendors and pop-ups are encouraged to occupy vacant spaces in the market, which according to Scott, is on its way to becoming a vibrant cornerstone of the Upton community.

The press conference concluded with a \$2 million check presentation followed by a brief tour of the market.

Mosiah Fit, founder and owner of Grandma Louise Pies in the Avenue Market, said he recently received an email about the \$2 million investment toward the revitalization project. The Black-owned business offers a variety of sweet and savory pies and was the first official pop up under the new partnership.

"I think it's needed, it's very necessary because when things get out of date, people don't like that. People like new stuff," Fit said of the changes coming to the market.

"It's going to take a lot more for this community to be lifted up besides just a market, but it's a good start."



# Rambling Rose

**BALTIMORE IS BUSTING LOOSE  
WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
ONCE AGAIN!**



*Rosa Pryor Trusty*

Hello everyone! I miss all of you. Shorty and I have been a little out of commission in the past few months, not able to get out there to jump up and down and do the James Brown with you. But slowly and surely, we are coming back out there to see your smiling faces in person, starting this weekend.

I first want to thank all of our fans and friends who called, sent prayers and those of you who sent cards and stopped by in person to check on us. God is so good! My "Boo-Boo's" lung surgery was a success, and my spinal surgery has also been a success so far. We both must take it easy and move just a little slower for right now. I have so much to tell you. I am so excited that Baltimore is opening back up. I am talking about live entertainment. It is really busting loose in Baltimore. THANK GOD!

So put on your seat belt and let us start out with one of my favorite spots in Baltimore, the Caton Castle at 20 S. Caton Avenue. Beginning this weekend, Saturday, April 30th from 6p to 10p, the Paul Carr Quartet with vocalist Vanessa Rubin will perform. This promises to be a dynamite show, so check it out!

Honey Child, I am just getting started. Check this out! Ladies and gentlemen pull out your best after five and semi-formal outfit because you will need them for an evening of elegance at the American Legion #122, 4422 Painters Mill Road in Owings Mills, Maryland. Dance the evening away to music by Nu Band and New World Outreach Jazz Orchestra. It is BYOF and cash bar. For more information, call 410-963-8098.

Now, what about my frisky adopted daughter, Pamela Rene Leak? Many of you know her as Baltimore's renowned comedian, host, promoter and top of the list Baltimore advocate for the less fortunate "Ms. Maybelle." She is really showing off. She is not only having a "One Woman Show" soon (details to come next month), but she is being "roasted" by her dear friend "Tee-Shirt Brian" Hall and Lamont Hill at the Patapsco Arena, 3301 Annapolis Road, on Sunday, May 7th from 5p-9p. I don't know what is on your calendar for this date, but I suggest that you add this one!

This year I promise you that you will not have to wonder where to take your mother, your wife, the mother of your children or your special loved one for this Mother's Day Weekend. I have a couple of suggestions: a Pre-Mother's Day Concert at the Chesapeake Arts Center, 194 Hammond Land and Ritchie Highway in Brooklyn Park, Maryland. This concert will feature Harold Melvin's Blue Notes; Stylistic Revue with Van Field; Frank Washington, (former lead singer of the Spinners); Jr. Walker's Allstars; and the Kevin Langford Band. The doors open at 6p; the show is from 7p-11p. For more information, call Paula Gee 410-718-1799 or 443-857-2771.

Now, if you prefer more of a church scene, check this out! There will be a "Pre-Mother's Day Concert on Saturday, May 7th. Please contact Martine Charles, President, Chief Communications Officer, MARC Global Communications

at 206-295-9114 or by email [martine@marglobalcommunications.com](mailto:martine@marglobalcommunications.com). The concert starts at 4pm at the



*Pamela "Ms. Maybelle" Rene Leak is going to be "roasted" by her dear friend "Tee-Shirt Brian" Hall, the owner of D.O.T. Promotion & Entertainment and Lamont Hill on Sunday, May 7, 5-9 p.m. at the Patapsco Arena, 3301 Annapolis Road.*



*A Pre-Mother's Day Concert is on the Agenda at the Higher Dimension Christian Center, 2900 Liberty Heights Avenue. The concert will feature The Christaineurs, The Fantastic Violineires, Lady Called Moses, Sparkie & Tones of Joy, Redemption Music and many others. For more information, call 443-355-0662.*

Higher Dimension Christian Center, 2900 Liberty Heights Avenue and will feature: the Fantastic Violineires; Pastor Armondo Adams & Redemption; JB & Total Submission; Legacy of Betha; Pastor Maurice Yancy & One Accord; Baltimore's own, Sparkie & The Tones of Joy; "Lady Moses;" The Christainairs; and Redemption Music Group just to name a few. There will be a "Best Dressed Women Contest." Food is available for purchase. For more information, call 443-255-0662.

If you feel like a daytime thing for the woman in your life for Mother's



*The Nu Band featuring Obasi and New World Outreach Jazz Orchestra will be performing at "An Evening of Elegance" on Friday May 6th from 8pm until Midnight at the American Legion #122, 4424 Painters Mill Road in Owings Mills, Maryland. BYOF and cash bar. Dress attire is Semi-formal. For more information 410-963-8098.*

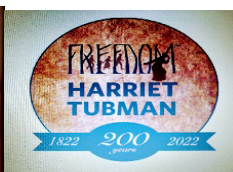


*The Paul Carr Quartet with special guests Vanessa Rubin, Allyn Johnson, Michael Bowie, and Chris Latona will perform at the Caton Castle, 20 S. Caton Avenue on Saturday, April 30th from 6-10 p.m.*

Day Weekend and every Saturday, check out the R&B Brunch Day Party Saturdays from 2p-6p, featuring DJ Mike Jones at the Olive Branch Italian Grill, 11706 Reisterstown Road in Reisterstown, Maryland. Great atmosphere and Great food! For more information, call 410-415-7880.

Well, my friends, this is it! I must go. I will see you some place, somewhere this weekend and remember if you need me, call me at 410-833-9474 or email me at [rosapryor@aol.com](mailto:rosapryor@aol.com). UNTIL THE NEXT, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.





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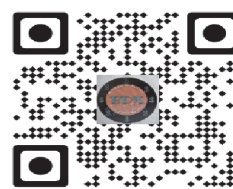
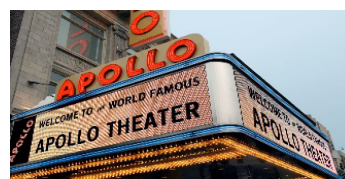
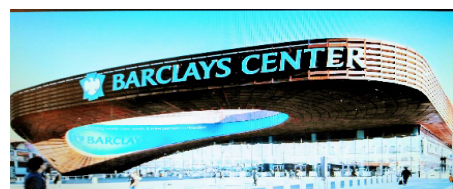
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# Top mid-round Ravens draft prospects

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens have traditionally done well after the first round of the NFL Draft. Players such as defensive tackle Brandon Williams and tight end Mark Andrews are good examples of non-first round hits.

This year the Ravens can continue with their trend by adding impact players on Day 2 and Day 3. Here's a look at a couple of prospects that general manager Eric DeCosta could target on Friday and Saturday with analysis from NFL.com draft analyst Lance Zierlein:

## Cornerback Roger McCreary, Auburn

Press-man cornerback with physical limitations that could create occasional roller-coaster matchups on Sundays. McCreary is aggressive, with the play strength to bully the release and alter route timing. He lacks fluidity in lateral transitions from off-man and lacks make-up burst to stay connected to cross-country routes. Tall receivers have advantages on jump balls and fades, but finding catch space will be a chore for opponents when he's in phase on vertical routes. He has average starting talent as a CB2/3 but needs to operate in a scheme that allows him to play hugged-up coverage, limiting operating space for wideouts.



Roger McCreary  
Photo credit: AP/Barry Reeger.

## EDGE David Ojabo, Michigan

Emerging edge defender who should see a substantial leap in play consistency with more time to work on his technique and learn the game. The upside is evident, despite his inexperience. At times, the run tape can be a rough study, but it improved as the 2021 season progressed. Ojabo's rush approach is fairly sophisticated with the feet and agility to juke, stutter, spin and race his way past offensive tackles. He's not ready to take on pro run blockers, but Ojabo is in the early stages of his physical and play development. The Achilles tear he suffered at his pro day is likely to hurt his draft stock, but it will be hard for teams to pass on his upside if he remains available in the second round.

## Wide Receiver Erik Ezukanma, Texas Tech

Productive three-year starter with desired combination of size and foot quickness. Ezukanma has enough speed to get down the field and challenge coverage while displaying an innate sense for protecting and finishing contested catches underneath. The route tree has been limited by scheme, but he's not as polished with the routes he runs as he should be for his experience level. Size, ball skills and toughness work in his favor as a quality backup with some upside.

## Center Chasen Hines, LSU

Burly, strong center/guard prospect whose strengths lend themselves to a fit with a power-based rushing attack. Hines can create run lanes as an aggressive drive blocker and is effective hitting targets on the move on pin-and-pull reps. He needs to drop some weight and improve his hand placement in order to sustain blocks as a pro. He protects the pocket with

decent technique but might not have enough mirror to keep the gaps clean as a full-time guard. Hines has early backup value along the interior line with eventual starting talent that is best-suited at the center spot.

## Inside Linebacker Chad Muma, Wyoming

A high-cut linebacker, Muma has a nose for the football but his methodology for getting there will need an upgrade to earn NFL playing time. He falls prey to false steps and wasted motion at times. He has a see-ball, get-ball mentality and hunts runners with good build-up speed and an aggressive demeanor. Patience and leverage are below average when fitting up inside runs and flowing to outside runs. He needs to improve at slipping and taking on blocks if he's going to play inside. Muma profiles as a backup inside/strong-side linebacker with four-phase special teams talent that should lock him into a roster spot as a Day 3 selection.



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#### CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PROJECT # 1370 ON-CALL/URGENT NEED WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES

The City of Baltimore, Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to advertise for services of qualified Civil/Environmental engineering firms to perform On-Call/Urgent Need Wastewater Engineering Services for the Urgent Respond Project Delivery Section (URPDS).

The City intends to select engineering services of two (2) firms for a period of three (3) years with one two (2) year option at the estimated cost in the amount of \$1,500,000. DPW reserves the right to have a second interview with the eligible firms.

This project will be managed by Ms. Beverly Albert; should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Ms. Beverly Albert at (410)501-8089 or by e-mail at [beverly.albert@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:beverly.albert@baltimorecity.gov).

The firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

Experience in responding to sanitary system emergencies by assessing the situation and recommending corrective measures.

Experience in design of sanitary systems, including post award services, coordination with federal, state, and local governments, railroad, local utilities in obtaining the permits on a fast-track basis.

Experience in review and design of sanitary system using trenchless technologies including CIPP lining, pipe bursting, and some tunneling.

Experience in flow monitoring and conducting field investigations of sanitary systems including CCTV inspection, smoke testing and dye testing.

Experience in the preparation of reports, cost estimates and contract documents including all permit applications, right of ways, easements, and related items necessary for procurement of construction. Also have ability to provide project management and construction

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management services, and prepare as-built plans and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Experience in geotechnical engineering, sub-surface exploration, test pit, test holes, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), and survey services for utility investigations and designs. Experience in developing and managing an overall team with Minority/Women Business Enterprises Utilization and demonstrate manpower availability to complete the project.

Services will include review of available information, project management, contract administration, investigation, design, emergency services, geo-technical, test pit, GPR, and survey services, preparation of reports and contract documents including construction cost estimates, permit applications, right of ways, and post award services such as shop drawing review, RFIs and consultation during construction.

The services would be for a period of three years with an option to extend for an additional two (2) year period at a fee not to exceed \$1,500,000 per firm.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Ms. Beverly Albert at (410)501-8089 or by e-mail at [beverly.albert@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:beverly.albert@baltimorecity.gov).

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highway, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures." City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (FAX (410) 396-3229). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with five

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(5) copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions.

The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **Friday, MAY 27, 2022**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

### Prequalification Requirement

All architectural, engineering, and surveying firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline at time of submittal for this Project. Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on (410) 396-6883.

### Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

### MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is 30 %

The WBE goal is 15 %

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

### Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for considera-

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tion for a project is responsible for verifying that all

MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

### Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE  
(Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

### Additional Information

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; revision of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of

Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

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**Project #1370 continued on page 16**



## Legal Notice

*Project #1370 continued from page 15*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should imply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Ms. Deena Joyce

Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

## Legal Notice

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that this lien sale shall be conducted online at [www.storageasures.com](http://www.storageasures.com) where additional information about the sale and the contents to be auctioned will be posted at least three (3) days before the sale date. The contents will be sold to the highest bidder on 05/10/2022 at 2PM

#### Unit # Name

1034	Myrick, Damien Nathaniel
3026	Jamieson, Wendy
5081	Droppa, Alan Michael
3053	Williams, John T.
1078	Coleman, Jacqueline
2149	Williams, Natasha M.
1000	Lebby, John H.

This sale is subject to cancellation without notice in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

SECURITY PUBLIC STORAGE  
3500 Pulaski Hwy, Baltimore, MD 21224  
410-276-3300

## Legal Notice

### CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PROJECT #1362– Project and Construction Management Assistance on Sanitary Contract 992 For Egg-Shaped Digesters Rehabilitations at Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Baltimore City Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of engineering firms to provide Project and Construction Management Assistance for Sanitary Contract 992 Egg-Shaped Digesters Rehabilitations at Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant. One contract will be awarded for a period of 4.5 years.

The Quality Assurance services to be provided are generally in accordance with the US Army Core of Engineers CQM program and include, but are not limited to assisting the City Office of Engineering and Construction with construction monitoring and inspection, preparation of daily reports, maintenance of project records and documentation, review of contractor's application for payment, attendance at progress meetings, preparation of record drawings, review of contract claims and support documents, estimating, scheduling, quality control, project engineering, constructability reviews, submittal reviews and responses, RFI reviews and responses, and other contract documents.

Experience in Facilities Rehabilitation and Construction at Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Experience in development and implementation of a Construction Project Management program.

Familiarity with standard construction inspection procedures and requirement for civil, Structural, Mechanical, and Electrical disciplines, and SCADA system installation and implementation. Familiarity with applicable building codes, Electrical NEC and standards. Experience in providing field inspection staff with experience with change orders and claims analysis.

Experience with Critical Path Method construction scheduling, Primavera version 6 scheduling software, and experience with Primavera Contract Management version 14 project tracking

## Legal Notice

software.

Overall team approach to utilize, manage and coordinate assigned tasks of the *Minority/Women Business Enterprises* partners and to conform to City goals.

Project fees have been estimated at \$4,000,000 for a period of 4.5 years. If further information is required regarding this request, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at 410-396-5385.

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Baltimore, Maryland 21202 (EMAIL: [OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov)). Since these letters are utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners, the letter should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The letter should contain a contact person. Failure to submit a "letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

Each prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **FRIDAY MAY 27, 2022**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

#### Prequalification Requirement

**All** architectural, engineering, and surveying firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline at time of submittal for this Project. Any construction contractor listed in the specific proposal for the Project to perform work in an existing prequalification category must also be prequalified. *A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by

## Legal Notice

calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

#### Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

#### MBE/WBE Certification

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **30%**

The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

#### Verifying Certification

Each firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

#### Non-Affiliation

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5 subtitle 28-41).

*Project #1362 continued on page 17*



# Legal Notice

## Additional Requirements

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

Please be advised that for the purpose of reviewing price proposals and invoices, the City of Baltimore defines a principal of a firm as follows:

*A principal is any individual owning 5% or more of the outstanding stock of an entity, a partner of a partnership, a 5% or more shareholder of a sub-chapter 'S' Corporation, or an individual owner.*

Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Ms. Deena Joyce  
Chief, Office of Boards and Commissions

# Legal Notice

## CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION

### CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICES

#### PROJECT # 1360 – LIBERTY DAM MAXIMUM PROBABLE FLOOD RE- HABILITATION

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of Engineering Firms to perform evaluation of existing condition assessments of dam, (including MDE Dam Safety Division Reports and other engineering Inspection and Assessment Reports performed since 2015), spillway, and earthen abutments, prepare a preliminary engineering report addressing spillway capacity improvement options, and perform design ENGINEERING SERVICES for the LIBERTY DAM MAXIMUM PROBABLE FLOOD REHABILITATION. One (1) firm will be selected to perform this project managed by the Office of Engineering and Construction.

Experience in the evaluation of existing conditions; preparation of preliminary engineering reports; and design of high hazard earthen dam upgrades and improvements to pass the Maximum Probable Flood and mitigate potential of dam failure. Experience in the evaluation of existing inadequate safety conditions, including stability assessment of spillway and non-overflow portions of the dam. Experience performing hydrologic and hydraulic analyses and recommending options to eliminate unsafe conditions.

Experience in the investigation of structural, mechanical and electrical equipment/system failures, including assessment of seepage conditions and internal drainage systems, and development of innovative methods to upgrade, repair and replace existing systems to improve efficiency and reliability while maintaining operations during construction.

Experience in evaluation and design of site grading and security improvements to existing Dam structures and support facilities.

Manpower availability and ability to complete assignments within time and budget.

# Legal Notice

Experience in preparation of Bid Documents and Cost Estimates including QA/QC procedures to be performed at critical stages.

Overall team approach to utilize, manage, and coordinate assigned tasks of the Minority/Women Business Enterprises partners to conform to City MBE/WBE goals.

Services will include review of available information, project management, contract administration, investigation, design, developing and implementing public information and education programs, emergency services, preparation of reports and contract documents, including construction cost estimates, permit applications and bid phase services.

The engineering services will be for a period of 2 years and the estimated cost of these services is \$2,500,000.00. At the option of the City, the consultant may subsequently be considered for post award engineering services.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at (410) 396-5385 or by e-mail at [Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov).

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

### Prequalification Requirement

All firms listed in the specific proposal for the Project must be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal* for this Project. *A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

### Submittal Process

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202

# Legal Notice

(EMAIL:OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov). Letters of Interest will be utilized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners and should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The Letter of Interest must contain the name of number of your contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

The prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with five (5) copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on FRIDAY MAY 27, 2022. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

### Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

### MBE/WBE Requirements

It is the policy of the City of Baltimore to promote equal business opportunity in the City's contracting process. Pursuant to Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code (2000 Edition) – Minority and Women's Business Program, Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) participation goals apply to this contract.

The MBE goal is **30%**

The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

### Verifying Certification

The firm submitting a SF 255 for consideration for a project is responsible for verifying

*Project #1360 continued on page 18*



## Legal Notice

### **Project #1360** **Continued from page 17**

that all MBEs and WBEs to be utilized on the project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

#### **Non-Affiliation**

A firm submitting a proposal may not use an MBE or WBE to meet a contract goal if:

1. The firm has a financial interest in the MBE or WBE
2. The firm has an interest in the ownership or control of the MBE or WBE
3. The firm is significantly involved in the operation of the MBE or WBE (Article 5, Subtitle 28-41).

#### **Local Law Hiring**

Article 5, Subtitle 27 of the Baltimore City Code, as amended (the "Local Hiring Law") and its rules and regulations apply to contracts and agreements executed by the City on or after the Local Hiring Law's effective date of December 23, 2013 which is applicable to all vendors. The Local Hiring Law applies to every contract for more than \$300,000 made by the City, or on its behalf, with any person. It also applies to every agreement authorizing assistance valued at more than \$5,000,000 to a City-subsidized project. Please visit [www.oedworks.com](http://www.oedworks.com) for detailed on the requirements of the law.

#### **Additional Information**

A firm submitting as a prime consultant that fails to comply with the requirements of Article 5, Subtitle 28 of Baltimore City Code when executing a contract is subject to the following penalties: suspension of a contract; withholding of funds; rescission of contract based on material breach; disqualification as a consultant from eligibility to provide services to the City for a period not to exceed 2 years; and payment for damages incurred by the City.

A resume for each person listed as key per-

## Legal Notice

sonnel and/or specialist, including those from MBE and WBE firms, must be shown on the page provided within the application.

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Out-of-State Corporations must identify their corporate resident agent within the application.

Firms will not be considered for a specific project if they apply as both a sub-consultant and prime consultant.

The applications for this Project (Form 255) cannot be supplemented with any additional information such as graphs, photographs, organization chart, etc. All such information should be incorporated into the appropriate pages. Applications should not be bound. Applications should simply be stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Cover sheets should not be included. Inclusion and/or submittal of additional material may result in the applicant being disqualified from consideration for this project.

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Deena Joyce, Chief  
Office of Boards and Commissions

**To place  
Legal Notices,  
call: 410-366-3900  
email:  
[legals@btimes.com](mailto:legals@btimes.com)**

## Legal Notice

### **CERTIFICATION OF PUBLICATION**

#### **CITY OF BALTIMORE OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PUBLIC NOTICE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANT SERVICES**

#### **PROJECT # 1376 – EFFLUENT SAND FILTERS REHABILITATION AT THE BACK RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

The City of Baltimore Office of Boards and Commissions has been requested by the Department of Public Works, Office of Engineering and Construction, to certify the qualifications of Engineering Firms to perform evaluations and design ENGINEERING SERVICES for the EFFLUENT SAND FILTERS REHABILITATION AT THE BACK RIVER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT. One (1) firm will be selected to perform this project managed by the Office of Engineering and Construction.

The Firms interested in providing these services must demonstrate and document:

Experience in the evaluation, preparation of preliminary engineering reports, and design of rehabilitation on the existing reinforced concrete traveling bridge sand filter upgrades and improvements on existing reinforced concrete filtration basins including assessments of equipment, piping, concrete and structural steel conditions.

Experience in the investigation of mechanical equipment failures and development of innovative methods to upgrade, repair and replace existing systems to improve efficiency and reliability while maintaining plant operations during construction.

Experience in evaluation and design of upgrades to mechanical, electrical, instrumentation and control, systems on operating wastewater treatment facilities.

Manpower availability and ability to complete assignments within time and budget.

Experience in preparation of Bid Documents and Cost Estimates including QA/QC procedures to be performed at critical stages.

## Legal Notice

Overall team approach to utilize, manage and coordinate assigned tasks of the Minority/Women Business Enterprises partners to conform to City MBE/WBE goals.

Services will include review of available information, project management, contract administration, investigation, design, developing and implementing public information and education programs, emergency services, preparation of reports and contract documents, including construction cost estimates and permit applications.

The engineering services will be for a period of 2 years and the estimated cost of these services is \$2,000,000.00. At the option of the City, the consultant may subsequently be considered for post award engineering services.

Should you have any questions regarding the scope of the Project, please contact Mr. Gurminder Singh at (410) 396-5385 or by e-mail at [Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Gurminder.Singh@baltimorecity.gov).

Projects must comply with the 2006 edition of "The Specifications for Materials, Highways, Bridges, Utilities and Incidental Structures". City personnel will utilize the City of Baltimore Guidelines for the Performance Evaluation of Design Consultants and Construction Contractors for this contract/project.

#### **Prequalification Requirement**

**All firms** listed in the specific proposal for the Project **must** be prequalified by the Office of Boards and Commissions for each applicable discipline *at time of submittal* for this Project. *A copy of the prime and sub consultant's current Prequalification Certificate should be included in the bid submittal package.* Information regarding the prequalification process can be obtained by calling the Office of Boards and Commissions on 410.396.6883.

#### **Submittal Process**

Firms interested in submitting a proposal for this Project, shall address a "Letter of Interest" to the Office of Boards and Commissions, 4 South Frederick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202 (EMAIL: [OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:OBC.Consultants@baltimorecity.gov)). Letters of Interest will be uti-

**Project 1376**  
**Continued on page 19**



## Legal Notice

lized to assist small minority and women business enterprises in identifying potential teaming partners and should be submitted within five (5) days of the date of the project's advertisement. The Letter of Interest must contain the name of number of your contact person. Failure to submit a "Letter of Interest" will not disqualify a firm submitting a proposal for the project.

The prime consultant applying for this Project will be required to complete and submit an original Federal Form 255, along with **five (5)** copies, to the Office of Boards and Commissions. The Federal Form 255 and the five copies must be submitted on or before 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on **Friday May 27, 2022**. Submittals may not be accepted after this deadline.

### Insurance Requirements

The consultant selected for the award of this project shall provide professional liability, auto liability, and general liability and workers' compensation insurances as required by the City of Baltimore.

### MBE/WBE Requirements

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The MBE goal is **30%**  
The WBE goal is **15%**

Both the proposed Minority and Women's Business Enterprise firms must be named and identified as an MBE or WBE within Item 6 of the Standard Form (SF) 255 in the spaces provided for identifying outside key consultants/associates anticipated for utilization for this project.

Any submittals that do not include the proper MBE/WBE (in some instances DBE) participation will be disapproved for further consideration for this project.

### Verifying Certification

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## Legal Notice

project are certified by the Minority and Women's Business Opportunity Office (MWBOO) prior to submitting the proposal. A directory of certified MBEs and WBEs is available from MWBOO. Since changes to the directory occur daily, firms submitting SF 255s should call MWBOO at (410) 396-4355 to verify certification, expiration dates and services that the MBE or WBE is certified to provide.

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### Additional Information

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A resume for each person listed as key personnel and/or specialist, including those from

## Legal Notice

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Failure to follow directions of this advertisement or the application may cause disqualification of the submittal.

Deena Joyce, Chief  
Office of Boards and Commissions

*Stay up-to-date on positive news in the community! Sign up for The Baltimore Times weekly newsletter at <https://bit.ly/2E5NuM5>*

## Maryland Emergency Education Relief Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) through the Office of Statewide Broadband (OSB) is administering funding for the Maryland Emergency Education Relief Grant Program (MEER).

Read the Maryland Emergency Education Relief Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability.

The MEER grant program is designed to provide relief to K-12 students and related school staff to close the gap for students who lack necessary internet access or the devices they need to connect to classrooms. Eligible applicants are Schools, Libraries, and Anchor Institutions. Given their purpose, the grant opportunity will help communities close existing gaps and lay the groundwork for improved broadband access, adoption, and utilization. The program provides grants of between \$50,000 and \$350,000 for up to 100% of the eligible program costs. Funding will be provided for qualifying expenses and projects completed between September 1, 2021 and September 15, 2022.

\$14 million is available for this program. The funding source for the program is the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. The fund and all federal rules required of the funding apply to the program. Apply for the Maryland Emergency Education Relief Grant Program Grant.

For more information, visit the website or contact [dhcd.communitysafety@maryland.gov](mailto:dhcd.communitysafety@maryland.gov)





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