

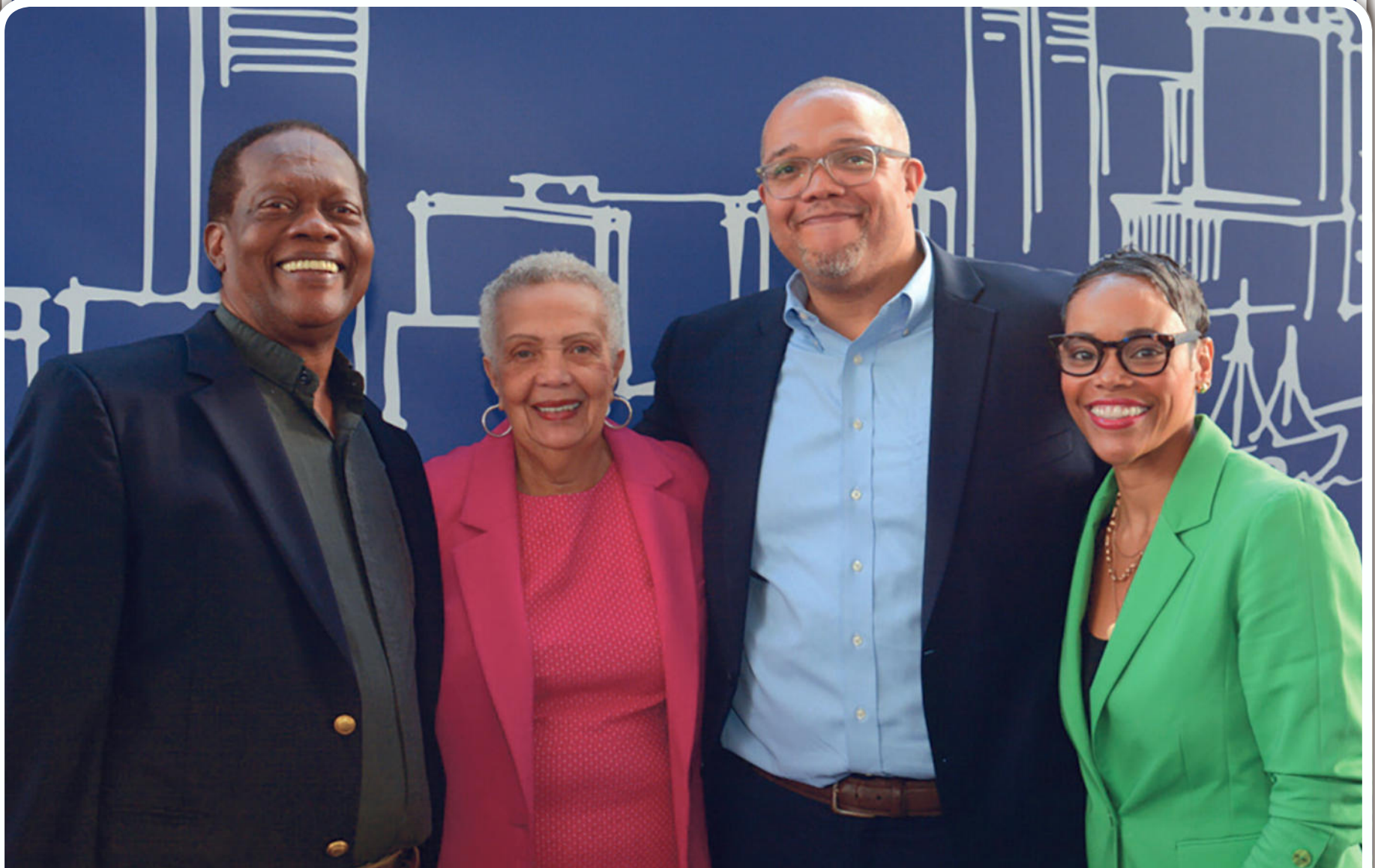
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Local Developers Unveil Design Plans for Harborplace Revitalization



David Bramble (second from right), managing partner and co-founder of MCB Real Estate, stands alongside his wife, Jernee (far right), and his proud parents, Joy Bramble, Publisher of The Baltimore Times (second from left) and Peter Bramble, businessman and former Episcopal priest (far left). David announced design plans for the revitalized Harborplace in downtown Baltimore on Oct. 30, 2023. Joy and Peter said they couldn't have been prouder of their son's milestone achievement. See article on page 10. Photo credit: Gar Roberts

Updated Expungement Law Speeds Up Criminal Record Relief for Human Trafficking Survivors and Others

By Heather Heiman, Esq.

Criminal records, like relentless zombies, haunt individuals long after they've paid their debt to society. These records can create barriers to employment, housing and other opportunities regardless of the circumstances surrounding the crime. In addition, the criminal legal system often fails to screen for or recognize signs of victimization when individuals are arrested for and charged with a crime.

For survivors of human trafficking and other forms of exploitation, these lingering criminal records create continued hardship. Instead of finding

safety and stability, survivors with criminal histories endure ongoing trauma and uncertainty, often stemming from crimes they were forced to commit by their traffickers or that are related to their trafficking experience.

A survey by the National Survivor Network exposed the widespread issue of victim criminalization, with 91 percent of human trafficking survivors reporting arrests during their trafficking ordeals. Shockingly, 80 percent of them never reported their trafficking due to fear, threats from their traffickers or because no one ever asked if they were being trafficked. In addition, 73 percent of these survivors

faced barriers to employment and 58% struggled to secure housing due to their criminal records.

Expungement, which is a civil legal process that removes information about a case from court and law enforcement records, offers a lifeline to those seeking a second chance. Until this year, Maryland lagged behind most states with its lengthy expungement wait times. But, in a breakthrough move, the REDEEM Act, enacted on October 1, 2023, reduced wait times for criminal expungements from 10 to 5 years for eligible misdemeanors and from 15 to 7 years for eligible felonies – opening new doors for those with criminal records.

These decreased wait times will benefit survivors of human trafficking and other forms of violence by making expungement more widely available. Unlike vacatur – another critical option in Maryland for criminal record relief that involves a deep dive into a trafficking survivor's experiences through in-depth personal affidavits, detailed motions and supporting evidence – expungement only requires a basic court form, sparing survivors from traumatic disclosures and a more drawn-out court process. With the reduction of the waiting period from 10 to 5 years for convictions like prostitution, drug possession and trespassing, this change expands available options and gives greater agency to those pursuing criminal record relief.

Navigating the criminal legal system can be a harrowing experience for anyone, but particularly for survivors of exploitation and violence who are all too often overlooked by law enforcement and the courts. Survivors are then forced to grapple with the



compounded trauma of being let down by the systems meant to protect them, and criminal histories that leave them with few options post-release, except to turn to the underground economy. In this liminal space, traffickers lurk, ready to exploit survivors' vulnerabilities.

While there is still a long road ahead to ensure criminal records do not continue to trail individuals and act as barriers to future safety and stability, Maryland's recent reduction in wait times and continued broadening of expungable offenses is a move in the right direction. For survivors of trafficking and other crimes who are grappling with the aftermath of their encounters with the criminal legal system, these evolving expungement laws offer a glimmer of hope and increased options to rectify past injustices.

Heather Heiman, Esq., is the Human Trafficking Prevention Project (HTPP) manager at Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS). To learn more about HTPP and how MVLS can assist, please visit mvlslaw.org/ht.



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Take Steps to Become Financially Empowered

Financial Experts Raise Awareness About Financial Well-being

By Andrea Blackstone

Dr. Constance Craig-Mason is a financial advisor with a passion for money talk and improving financial literacy.

“I have worked in the financial industry for nearly 15 years,” the resident of York, Pennsylvania said.

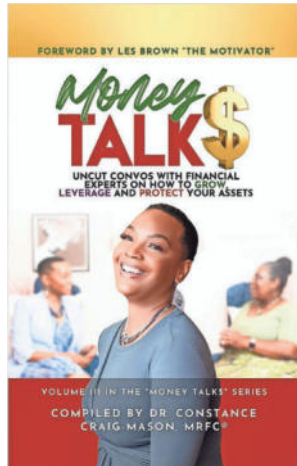
Craig-Mason was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland. The master registered financial consultant attained an honorary doctorate in philosophy for making eminent contributions to financial literacy, financial advancement and entrepreneurship empowerment.

Most recently, Craig-Mason continued her journey to empower BIPOC families and small business owners while serving as the visionary for “Money TALKS: Uncut Convos With Financial Experts on How to Grow, Leverage and Protect Your Assets Vol III.” The collaborative book that encourages readers to take control of their financial future launched in late October 2023. It features 24 accomplished Black financial thought-leaders who offer financial wisdom and empowerment. Craig-Mason mentioned that Les Brown, a renowned motivational speaker, penned the foreword of the book.

“Inside the pages, they [readers] will learn how to navigate the financial world confidently, how to manage their assets and debts like a pro and how to infuse tradition and innovation for success.”

The book also helps readers establish a \$1,000 emergency savings.

“Bankrate’s 2023 annual emergency savings report, reflects that 57 percent



Dr. Constance Craig-Mason, (center) is the visionary of “Money TALKS: Uncut Convos with Financial Experts on How to Grow, Leverage and Protect Your Assets.” She spearheaded the book authored by 24 accomplished Black financial thought-leaders.

*Photo credit:
Rich Creatives Media*

of adult Americans cannot handle a \$1,000 emergency. Unfortunately, this makes them vulnerable to unexpected crises,” Craig-Mason said. “By partnering with Advantage Publishing, we customized the Paycheck Power BOOSTER® Calculator, adding it as an option to grab along with the “Money TALKS Vol III” book, thereby creating the “Money TALKS Emergency Savings Challenge & Tool Kit.”

The tool kit offers step-by-step guidance and an easy-to-use calculator. An exclusive Facebook Group called “Money TALKS: Uncut Convos & Savings Challenge Community” enables participants to

connect with fellow challengers and gain insights from the authors.

Ashlin Price is a Baltimore-based, licensed master social worker, financial literacy consultant and financial social worker contributed to the book.

“A financial social worker empowers individuals to examine their feelings, thoughts, and beliefs to evaluate financial behavior of spending, saving, sharing, earning, and borrowing money to build generational wealth,” Price said, adding that financial social workers create a safe space for communication regarding finance.

Through her business, Financial Freedom Enterprises, LLC, Price provides financial consultant services to communities and organizations that need financial education and strategic planning to improve their personal and



Robin R. Haynes

Photo credit: Jermaine Gibbs Photography

professional finances.

Price provided a noteworthy comment about the importance of discussing debt before couples get married and afterward.

“It creates a space of autonomy to allow the other partner to make the decision whether they want to accept that part of the person or not (premarital) and it fosters a place of open communication to learn about your partner’s strengths and weaknesses. Couples should make it a part of their routine to sit down together and discuss shared finances,” Price said.

Robin Haynes, who has worked in the financial industry for 24 years, is another “Money TALKS” coauthor. She earned a B.S. in Accounting from Morgan State University and an MBA in Entrepreneurial Studies. Haynes also holds a designation as a registered financial consultant®, serves as a business advisor and financial strategist for Robin R. Haynes Consulting and business advisor for Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business – Baltimore. Haynes works with business owners to identify their needs and aid them.

“For businesses to get involved with this particular program, I encourage them to visit the website <https://www.10ksbapply.com/>. Here, the business owner(s) will find an in-depth overview of the program as well as eligibility,” Haynes said.



Ashlin Price

Photo credit: Donta Wade- Kel Kol Pro

She added that if the individual has realistic goals along with strategies that will be implemented, starting a business can be a realistic way to grow financially and create generational wealth over time.

Haynes further explained that at some point during the business life cycle, a business owner may need additional capital to facilitate their growth.

“When that time arrives, the business owner must be bankable. Being bankable simply means all financials components are intact (financial statements, business tax returns, and most importantly, the business owner’s personal financial picture which includes credit), Haynes said.

She further stated that the book helps the reader reshape their mindset as it relates to their finances.

Haynes added, “Whether the reader is a consumer trying to understand and navigate through their personal financial space, or a business owner trying to better understand how to unlock financial clarity as it relates to business, this book provides in-depth insight and guidance.”

Purchase “Money TALKS: Uncut Convos With Financial Experts on How to Grow, Leverage and Protect Your Assets Vol III” via <https://a.co/d/4MyYC6t>, or www.moneytalkschallenge.com to purchase both the Paycheck Power BOOSTER® Calculator and the book.

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HealthBeat

The Hidden Dangers of Teas, Herbs, and Spices: What You Don't Know May Hurt You

By Jayne Hopson

For centuries, people have found comfort, revitalization, and sustenance in the use of teas, herbs, and spices as both natural remedies and flavor enhancers. Their significance has been so profound, entire wars have been waged over coveted teas and exotic spices. Today, the business of bringing these treasured ingredients to our kitchens and dinner tables is a billion-dollar industry.

The allure and demand for herbs, teas and spices has never been stronger. From soothing herbal teas, exotic spice-infused dishes to organic medications, these botanical wonders have found their way into our diet and are an important part of our wellness lifestyle.

However, behind the many benefits of teas, herbs and spices lies a seldom discussed truth: they can be dangerous to your health. With few exceptions, these products are sold and consumed without health warnings. When in fact they may harbor hidden hazards that demand our immediate attention and caution.

One of the most common misconceptions about teas, herbs, and spices is that they are universally safe. While many are benign when consumed in moderation, some can have adverse effects on your health. For example, herbal teas. Their soothing properties and medicinal potential are the main selling points online or in health food magazine ads.

However, herbal teas are not all created equal. Some, like comfrey tea, is harvested from a raggedy shrub that can be dangerous for some to drink. Nicknamed "knit bone" because of its reputed power to heal breaks and soothe joint inflammation, comfrey tea contains compounds that can be toxic to the liver when consumed in excess.

Licorice root tea is considered one of the world's oldest herbal remedies. Today, it is used to treat heartburn, acid reflux,

hot flashes and coughs. It reportedly works well when used with caution. Nevertheless, it can elevate blood pressure and lead to potassium imbalances if consumed excessively.

Herbs have also been used for centuries in traditional medicine for their therapeutic properties. The caution required for herbs is controlling their potency. The absence of regulation by government agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) means the purity and safety of herbal supplement products is not guaranteed.

Kava, a popular herb used to reduce anxiety, can damage the liver and cause a range of health problems when consumed in excessive amounts. It is considered so toxic that in 2002 the FDA issued a warning about the potential liver risks associated with kava and advised consumers to exercise caution when using kava-containing products.

The overuse of St. John's wort is another growing concern. It is frequently used to alleviate depression and manage attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD) and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). According to the National Institute of Health, St. John's Wort can lead to dangerous interactions with prescription medications, including Warfarin, a blood thinner, birth control pills and some HIV drugs.

Spices, on the other hand, are valued for their ability to elevate the flavors of our favorite foods. While they can enhance the taste of our meals, they can also wreak havoc on our health when consumed in excess. For example, nutmeg is a common spice used in both sweet and savory dishes.

However, the Journal of Medical Toxicology reports consuming large quantities of nutmeg can lead to a condition known as "nutmeg poisoning," an acute condition characterized by hallucinations, nausea,



Jayne Hopson

and heart palpitations.

Some spices, such as cayenne pepper and chili powder, can be incredibly spicy, causing digestive discomfort and even irritation to the gastrointestinal tract when consumed in excess. While these discomforts may not pose severe health risks, they can certainly be unpleasant and contribute to digestive problems if overindulged.

Other popular herbs like ginkgo biloba and garlic have blood-thinning properties, which, when combined with anticoagulant medications prescribed to reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes, can increase the risk of bleeding. Such interactions highlight the importance of consulting with healthcare professionals before adding teas, herbs, or spices to one's daily regimen, especially for individuals taking multiple medications.

The hidden dangers of teas, herbs, and spices extend beyond individual health concerns. The global spice trade is notorious for its lax regulation, leading to potential risks associated with contamination and adulteration. Spices can be contaminated with harmful substances like mold, pesticides, and heavy metals, which can pose severe health risks when ingested.

To mitigate the potential dangers of teas, herbs, and spices, it is essential for consumers to exercise caution and make informed choices.

Innovative Health Conference to be Held Online

By Andrea Blackstone

The 10th Annual Healthy Churches 2030 Conference, a four-day, virtual event held from November 13-16, 2023 and presented by The Balm In Gilead, Inc., will provide information and resources targeting prevalent health conditions that are present in Black communities. The conference provides a unique setting for faith and public health representatives to work together toward achieving solutions that are aimed at reversing and eliminating health disparities.

“The Balm In Gilead, Inc. is a non-profit, national organization that develops educational and training programs designed to help African American faith communities become community hubs for health awareness, education and support. The organization recently celebrated 35 years of service,” said Dr. Pernessa C. Seele, founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc.

Seele added, “This year’s Healthy Churches 2030 Conference theme is: “Struggle! Patience! Faith! The Journey of the Black Health Agenda.” The theme represents the African American healthcare experience both individually and as a community. We believe that as health disparities hinder Black Americans’ access to healthcare and result in worse health outcomes for our families and communities, Black institutions, along with all who care about health equity, face increased responsibility—and opportunity – to be part of the solution.”

According to Seele’s bio, “Dr. Seele is known for her work in forging public health and faith-based partnerships for engaging individuals in health promotion and disease prevention interventions.”

Seele, who is a scheduled conference speaker, earned her bachelor of science

degree and master of science from Clark Atlanta University, then later earned a Doctor of Humane Letters from the College of New Rochelle, located in New York.

Another speaker, Bishop Horace E. Smith, is an attending physician specializing in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago (formerly Children’s Memorial Hospital) and pastor of the Apostolic Faith Church in Chicago.

Cookie Johnson— an entrepreneur, author and philanthropist who raises awareness about HIV/AIDS, advocates for the LGBTQIA+ community and encourages women spiritually and physically— will speak during the event. Cookie is married to businessman and former professional basketball player, Earvin “Magic” Johnson.

Information provided on The Healthy Churches 2030 Conference’s website revealed that the conference’s goal is to equip churches and congregational health ministries to become community hubs for health awareness, treatment and support to help reverse and eliminate the impact of health disparities in Black communities.

“Faith communities are the oldest, most important, and most ubiquitous institutions that Black people own, lead and fund,” said Seele. “Their potential and influence to lessen the impact of systemic disparities and improve the health status of African Americans is unmatched.”

The impactful, online conference will feature more than 80 speakers and presenters, 30 exhibitors and over 25 interactive sessions. Conference topics include heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, maternal health, mental health, asthma, the cost of caregiving and Black health advocacy. Expert presentations and educational sessions



Dr. Pernessa C. Seele, founder and CEO of The Balm In Gilead, Inc.

Photo courtesy of The Balm In Gilead, Inc.



**Cookie Johnson
Entrepreneur, author and philanthropist**

Photo courtesy of The Balm In Gilead, Inc.

for church and community members and leaders, as well as public health and medical professionals will be provided.

Faith leaders, public health professionals, medical professionals, volunteers, community leaders, church members and community activists are encouraged to attend. Resources and training will be provided for attendees from all over the world who are passionate about the health and wellness of African American communities. Popular gospel artists will also perform.

Seele, a longtime public health activist, also said that “The Balm In Gilead, Inc. is driven by the mission to respond to systemic racial health disparities that have significant negative impact on Black congregations, families, and communities.”

“Most health disparities are rooted in generations of discrimination. Today, we see their impact in the fact that African Americans suffer from

higher rates, and inadequate treatment for, many conditions, including heart disease, diabetes and kidney disease,” Seele said. “The Balm has evolved over the years by remaining current with the latest trends in faith communities and in public health. Our flagship programs include The Healthy Churches 2030 Conference, The Healthy Churches 2030 Roadmap Tour, The Southeast Diabetes Faith Initiative and The National Brain Health Center for African Americans.”

Seele added, “These programs deliver the latest evidence-based health knowledge using principles of cultural competence to a broad spectrum of African Americans.”

Visit <https://www.hc2030.org/en/agenda-page> to view a schedule at a glance. The website to register for The 10th Annual Healthy Churches 2030 Conference is <https://hc2030.org>. Tickets are only \$35 when registering with promo code Faith23. The registration deadline is Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at midnight (EST).



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College Student Launches Nonprofit to Help Homeless, Young Mothers and Their Children

By Andrea Blackstone

Gloria Lawrence, 25, founder and executive director of Esi's House of Hope (Esi's House), is a senior who attends Morgan State University. Esi's House opened its doors on October 1, 2023, in Baltimore.

"Our community-based maternal group home is designed to provide shelter and support to homeless pregnant teens and [female] parents aged 18 to 24, along with their dependent children under the age of five," Lawrence said, noting that three women and three children have already moved into Esi's House.

Emma, 21, is a mother who said that the services she received at Esi's House have been an amazing blessing.

"The support and care are unmatched," she said. "I hope that anyone that is experiencing the situation that I'm in gets a chance to come across this beautiful experience that Esi's House offers."

Women and children who find their way through the doors of Esi's House are given a "family-like" hand up.

"All of our residents are currently living in our home free of charge. As we continue to provide workforce development training and connect our residents to educational opportunities, we will help them put together a budget and provide services on a sliding scale based on what they can afford to contribute," Lawrence noted, explaining that Esi's House is a leased home.

The business administration major manages a full plate outside of school. It also includes working as a nonprofit development consultant and being a mother to a six-year-old son. Lawrence's passion to support young mothers began after she had been attending college at a highly selective university in Washington, D.C.



The living room at Esi's House of Hope. Photo Credit: Emma Artis

"I excelled academically during my freshman year, but encountered a setback with my FAFSA application," Lawrence said.

Based on her family's financial information, Lawrence said that she was audited midway through the semester of an expensive, private university. After being denied financial aid, the student was left with a significant collection on her credit report.

Following expulsion, Lawrence became pregnant.

She added, "By 19, I was a teenage mother living in poverty, trying to find my first apartment, surviving on SNAP [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program] and WIC [a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children] and struggling to find educational opportunities without financial aid."

After becoming determined to improve opportunities for her son, Lawrence said that she began working two full-time jobs and saving \$20,000. A portion of the money was used to repair her credit and obtain financial advisory services. Lawrence stated that a financial advisor scammed her out of over \$30,000.

She persevered, took legal action, reclaimed her funds and used

them to purchase a home in a safe neighborhood for her child.

Despite experiencing unexpected obstacles, Lawrence did not give up on attending college.

"I was given a second chance by a local community college and then went on to pursue my bachelor's degree in business administration at Morgan State University, while also seeking ways to assist girls facing similar challenges."

With guidance from her mentor, Juanita Grant, Lawrence founded her own nonprofit. Additionally, Lawrence's thriving consulting business, Nonprofit For Newbies, enabled her to leave her old job and achieve six-figure earnings in 2022.

"With my consulting business thriving, I am giving back to my community through my latest project, Esi's House of Hope, a dream I have nurtured for five years," Lawrence said.

Lawrence stated that she raised money to fulfill her wish of getting Esi's House of Hope off the ground through donation-based "pay-what-you-can" consulting services that she offers to women entrepreneurs. She has received some in-kind donations thus far.

As a part of Esi's House programming, current expenses of participants are evaluated to determine



Gloria Lawrence, founder and executive director of Esi's House of Hope with her son, Aaron.

Photo Credit: B Classic Photography

how the nonprofit can work with a mother to help cover or supplement them so that she can reduce her employment from full-time to part-time, and focus her energy on school, self-development and caring for her child.

"In addition to basic needs, we provide supportive services including but not limited to our "Weekly Support Circle/Girl Talk," "Big Sister 1-on-1 Mentorship," parenting skills and financial literacy," Lawrence said.

The location of Esi's House is confidential to protect the safety of our residents who have been victims of sexual assault and/or domestic violence. A first event will be held on November 24, 2023 for residents and supporters.

Lawrence added, "Baltimore has been extremely supportive of us as we've opened our doors six months early. We are currently in need of household essentials from the community and financial support from local businesses."

Visit www.esishouse.org to learn more about Esi's House of Hope.



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Baltimore Harborplace Reimagined

Local Developers Unveil Design Plans for Harborplace Revitalization



Rendering of New Harborplace. Photo credit: MCB Real Estate

By Demetrius Dillard

Downtown Baltimore's Harborplace just moved one step closer to undergoing a much-needed facelift.

MCB Real Estate managing partners David Bramble and Peter Pinkard were joined by Gov. Wes Moore, Mayor Brandon Scott, City Council President Nick Mosby, along with several other political leaders, business leaders, community leaders and dozens of local residents as they unveiled design plans for the revitalized Harborplace on the morning of Oct. 30, 2023

The unveiling signified a major

milestone in MCB's endeavor to revitalize the heart of downtown Baltimore – characterized by many as the city's "front lawn."

Held at the Light Street pavilion, members of the revitalization project's design team were in attendance, including Vaki Mawema, managing director and principal at Gensler, which is the leading design firm.

During the 45-minute event, project leaders shared remarks about what this transformative investment means for the future of Baltimore's residents, visitors and business community. Event speakers expressed unwavering support

and touted the efforts of MCB, the design team and project supporters as renderings for the reimagined Harborplace were unveiled.

Bramble also fostered support from his mother, Baltimore Times Publisher Joy Bramble, and father, entrepreneur and retired Episcopal priest, Peter Bramble. He has been ambitious since he was a child, Joy and Peter said, adding that they couldn't be prouder of their son's milestone achievement.

"I'm proud beyond words," Peter said. "I always knew he was going to do something significant with his life, but I never thought it would be this

high-level. I'm just overwhelmed by his progress and his dedication to this city."

Joy expressed similar sentiments.

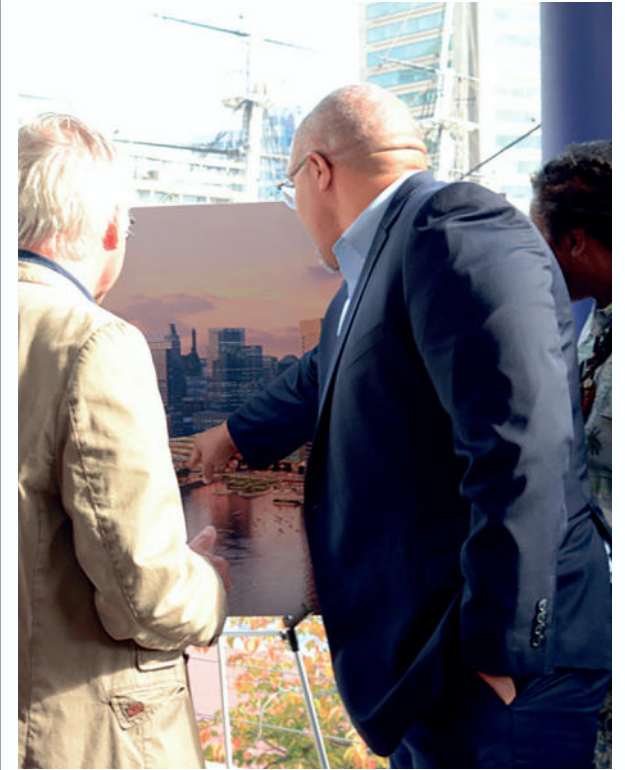
"I'm extremely proud. I always thought he was going to have a successful life but this far outweighed any dream I could have had about him," she said. "As I said, he's a Baltimore lover, so he's trying to do the best for his city."

Images seen on the renderings reflected a complete renaissance of Harborplace that increased visibility of

Continued on page 15



Peter Pinkard, Managing Partner, MCB Real Estate; Joy Bramble, Publisher, The Baltimore Times; Jernee and David Bramble Photo credit: Gar Roberts



David Bramble explains development plans to attendees Photo credit: Gar Roberts



Joy Bramble, The Baltimore Times Publisher and Baltimore City Council President Nick Mosby Photo credit: Gar Roberts



Vaki Mawema, Managing Director and Principal, Gensler and David Bramble, Managing Partner, MCB Real Estate Photo credit: Gar Roberts



Robbyn Lewis, MD House of Delegates, 46th District, Baltimore City and David Bramble Photo credit: Gar Roberts

The Elijah Cummings Youth Program Keeps Legacy of Youth Leadership Alive

By Andrea Blackstone

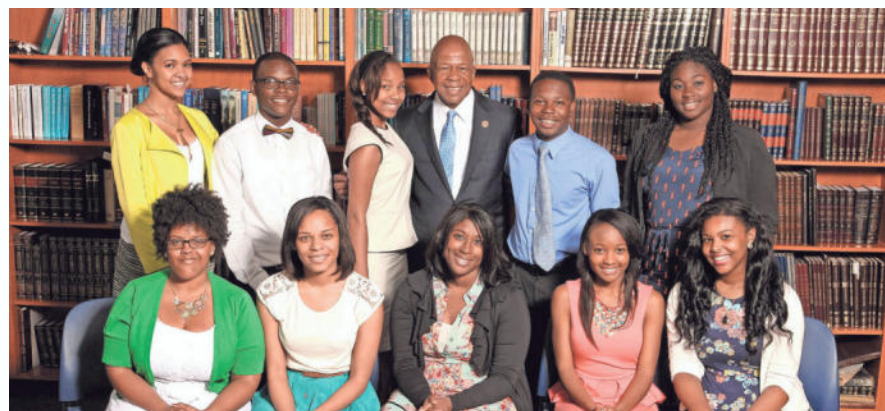
The Elijah Cummings Youth Program (ECYP) nonprofit recently celebrated its 25th anniversary with a fundraiser event. Maryland Governor Wes Moore, other elected officials, supporters and ECYP alumni and current fellows were featured during the milestone.

ECYP's beginning dates to 1998 when the late U.S. Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (Maryland's 7th Congressional District) came together with leaders from Maryland's Jewish community. They formed a two-year leadership opportunity that builds bridges between the Black and Jewish communities. Over 300 ECYP fellows have been served thus far.

"The program's efforts are infused with the spirit of bridge-building exemplified by the longstanding relationship between the late Congressman and the Baltimore Jewish community," said Jennifer Cummings, daughter of the late U.S. Rep. Elijah E. Cummings.

Youth leaders are making noteworthy strides. Ninety-five percent of all ECYP alumni graduated from college, according to Jennifer. She serves as a member of the ECYP board and events chair while volunteering to keep the program's momentum intact.

"I joined the ECYP Board shortly after my Dad passed away and have seen firsthand the impact of this program on the lives of the brilliant young people who are our fellows," Jennifer said. "High school juniors and seniors from Maryland's 7th Congressional District apply to the program and are admitted at the end of their sophomore year. ECYP fellows travel to Israel during the summer between their junior and senior years in high school for one month. Fellows reside at Yemin Orde, a youth village in Haifa that overlooks the Mediterranean Sea. ECYP is proud to



The late U.S. Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (center, rear) with a group of Elijah Cummings Youth Program (ECYP) students before 2019. High school juniors and seniors from Maryland's 7th Congressional District participate in ECYP. Over 300 fellows have been served to date. Photo credit: ECYP

have had Yemin Orde Youth Village as a partner since 1998."

Approximately a dozen high school juniors and a dozen high school seniors participate in ECYP each year. To date, 21 trips have been taken by ECYP's young leaders.

Jennifer added, "Fellows are paired with Israeli teens with ancestry from over 24 countries, including Brazil, Ethiopia, Germany, Russia and Ukraine. Together, the American and Israeli teens tour modern and historic sites in Israel, such as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Nazareth, the Jordan River and the Dead Sea. When not traveling, these young leaders participate in daily workshops on diversity, conflict resolution and leadership. This exciting time away from home helps students gain independence, learn more about themselves and develop respect for others."

Jennifer noted numerous program opportunities that ECYP fellows are afforded through the program, including an ability to learn about the Jewish community in Baltimore; advocate for issues in their community; gain an understanding of Israel and the Middle East; learn about the legislative process

in Maryland and more.

Jackson, a 17-year-old Owings Mills, Maryland resident who attends Beth Tfiloh High School began participating in ECYP in the fall of his junior year.

"We get to participate in community service activities, mentor underprivileged children, travel to Israel, and create a podcast on issues in our society," he said. "This program has allowed me to become a better person by helping my community and the people around me that need it. It has also given me the opportunity to travel to Israel and use my Jewish education to help other non-Jewish teens learn about Israeli and Jewish culture in Israel."

Jackson also explained that since he attends a predominantly white Jewish day school, he is often the only Jewish person of color in any situation where he finds himself.

He added, "This program has allowed me to surround myself with a different, more diverse community, making it easier for me to express and embrace my culture."

Kare, an 18-year-old McDonough school student, also sang the praises of ECYP. She had an opportunity to travel



Jennifer Cummings with an ECYP fellow while attending a fundraiser last fall. Photo credit: ECYP

to Israel and participate in a podcast that was recently started called "Justice is Not Just Us." The nine-month internship will allow her to explore different issues through it.

"We get to reach out to representatives, to advocacy programs, to different people in the community to come on the podcast and share their story," Kare said.

Kare will graduate from high school June of 2024. She is planning to attend college and study political science and international affairs.

"In the past couple years that I've been part of the program, it made me realize that the work and the advocacy and the political and the social changes that I want to create. I want them to start here. Baltimore is my home, and this program has kind of taught me that I want to give back to my community and bring change here. So, I hope that wherever I go, I come back home to Baltimore and start here first," Kare said.

Find out more about ECYP and how to apply for the program by visiting <https://www.ecyp.org/apply-for-ecyp>.

HIP-HOP DAY OF SERVICE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2023

11AM-1PM

Franciscan Center | 101 W. 23rd St.
Baltimore, MD 21218

To Register your TEAM:

Call: BHHHP - (404) 507-6432

Email: BmoreHipHopLegacy4Life@gmail.com

ONE HOODIE,
ONE LIFE

NOVEMBER
IS NATIONAL HOMELESS
YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH!

DONATE YOUR NEW AND GENTLY USED
HOODIES AND SWEATSHIRTS, ALL SIZES

SCAN TO MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION.



5TH ANNIVERSARY

“HOODIES
4
A PURPOSE”



Still Fighting & Winning

By Ursula V. Battle

Breast Cancer Month may have ended in October, but not its message of educating everyone about disease and the importance of early detection. The Rev. Dr. Ruth Travis is “fighting” everyday to raise awareness about breast cancer. She was diagnosed on November 27, 2007 and credits mammography with saving her life.

“I was diagnosed two days before my 62nd birthday,” she said. “I had taken a mammogram since I was 40 years of age. For 22 years, I had taken an annual mammogram. I will become 78 years old on November 29, 2023. I am glad to be alive!”

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) describes a mammogram as an X-ray picture of the breast. Doctors use a mammogram to look for early signs of breast cancer. According to the CDC, regular mammograms can find breast cancer early, sometimes up to three years before it can be felt.

Dr. Travis’ many efforts surrounding breast cancer awareness include educating both men and women about the importance of early detection through self-breast examinations and mammograms. Her busy schedule also includes taking to the streets with her pink boxing gloves to hand out information about breast cancer to increase awareness and “knockout” myths about the disease. She also provides financial assistance to men and women who have breast cancer.

“Monetary donations are needed so I can continue to provide educational and financial support to breast cancer survivors,” she said. “Currently, I am working with a young lady [who was] diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer at age 35. She had to resign from her job due to severe pain in her leg.”

She continued, “She was evicted from her apartment and now lives in a hotel

with five of her six children. She said, ‘Miss Ruth when I got the diagnosis, I didn’t ask how long I had to live.’ I responded, ‘that was a great decision not to ask that question because you have a lifetime to live.’”

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), in 2023, about 297,790 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and approximately 43,700 women will die from the disease. ACS also notes that Black women have the highest mortality rates. This is thought to be partially because about one in five Black women with breast cancer have triple-negative breast cancer more than any other racial/ethnic group.

“Many Black women have what they think is a rash on their breast,” said Dr. Travis. “By the time they get to the doctor, they have stage three and stage four breast cancer. All women under the age of 40 should check their breasts each month to see if there are any changes. One way to remember to check is to examine your breasts on your birth date each month. The key is early detection.”

Dr. Travis is also seeking to open Ruth’s Pink House, which she says will be a beautiful pink home where women with breast cancer can come for a night or weekend of restoration and relaxation.

“To date, donations to Ruth’s Pink House have provided educational and financial support to 64 breast cancer survivors,” she said.

Dr. Travis is the former Sr. Pastor of Ebenezer African American Methodist (A.M.E.) in South Baltimore, retiring from the position in 2017. However, she has not retired from the ministry, still preaching at services, conferences, and other speaking engagements. The former Physical Education teacher is a native of Augusta, Georgia and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.



Dr. Ruth Travis is the former Sr. Pastor of Ebenezer African American Methodist (A.M.E.) and is on a crusade to “knock-out” breast cancer.

Courtesy photo

Dr. Travis recommended those who have been recently diagnosed with breast cancer to read “I’ve Been Diagnosed, Now What?: Courageously Fighting Cancer in the Face of Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt” by Katreece Nolan.

“I also suggest those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer to create a theme for themselves. My personal motto is taken from the words of the singer, Jill Scott ‘living my life like it’s golden.’”

Her other suggestions include joining

a support group such as The Journey Continues and a living environment that is peaceful, neat and clean.

“Also, understand your diagnosis is NOT a death sentence, but a license to live,” said Dr. Travis.

The breast cancer awareness advocate said that individuals can feel free to email her at drruthtravis@gmail.com. To donate or for more information about Ruth’s Pink House, visit <https://drruthtravis.com/pink-house>. You can also learn more about Dr. Travis at www.drruthtravis.com.

Harborplace

Continued from page 10

the water for pedestrians and bypassers in cars, bicycles and public transit.

The unveiling announcement was an esteemed and unique occasion and that represented a special moment in Baltimore's storied history, bringing together the state's first Black governor, a Black mayor, and a Black developer – all of whom share a deep-rooted passion for the growth, well-being and prosperity of Baltimore.

“While MCB has completed real estate transactions in more than 30 states here in the U.S., nothing – and I mean nothing – means more to us than our hometown and the amazing potential we see in this city,” said Bramble, who characterized Harborplace's redevelopment as Baltimore's next big renaissance.

This undertaking is one of two of MCB's most notable redevelopment projects, Bramble added, also estimating the total project cost to hover around \$500 million at the least.

“This is a new mixed-use waterfront designed for environmental resiliency, more public and park space, better water views and water access, and a gathering place where people will want to come and shop, and be entertained, and work, and work, and live, and linger and enjoy,” he said.

The renderings also reflect a mixed-use development that will see a transition from indoor malls to a more active, multi-purpose space for living, gathering, recreating, eating and shopping. The preliminary design plans revealed four new buildings along with several other amenities and features, some of which include:

- A 200,000 square foot commercial building on Pratt Street, with an open public ground floor

with publicly available conference spaces.

- A 200,000 square foot retail and commercial building that will house food and beverage options, including a 50,000 square foot publicly accessible rooftop park on Pratt Street.

- An 8,500 square foot retail building in a 30,000 square foot park and 2,000 seat amphitheater, bounded by Light and Pratt Streets.

- A conjoined residential tower on Light Street with a stepped down design (32 stories and 25 stories) to maximize views. The building will include approximately 900 dwelling units, retail and commercial uses.

- A new two-tiered Promenade that will enable visitors to directly interact with the water.

Following the unveiling event, Moore's office announced that the state of Maryland will invest \$67.5 million to redevelop Harborplace during the second annual Baltimore Together summit.

The future of Maryland is largely hinged on the success and progression of its largest city, Moore expressed while at the podium, saying the Harborplace redevelopment plan will catapult Baltimore to unprecedented heights.

“It is wonderful to have a physical illustration of what is required for change and impact,” Moore said. “In order for this to be Maryland's decade, it's got to be Baltimore's time. And we're going to invest that way.”

Mayor Brandon Scott expressed his administration's commitment to making the revitalization project come to fruition.

“The plans being unveiled today for this project looks through the lens of what's best for Baltimore, what's best for our residents – current and future – what's best to bolster our neighborhoods, not just here in downtown but everywhere in the city. And what is best for our city to thrive and grow,” Scott said.



Peter Pinkard and David Bramble, Managing Partners, MCB Real Estate; and Adam Genn, VP, MCB Harborplace Photo credit: Gar Roberts



MCB Real Estate Team Photo credit: Gar Roberts



ETHEL ENNIS, BALTIMORE'S OWN JAZZ ARTIST, AND ETHEL'S PLACE IS BEING CELEBRATED

By Rosa Pryor

Hello, my dear friends,
How are you? I hope that you are well and enjoying life as much as I am. With all my aches and pain, life is still good. We are going to talk this week a little about this and a little about that, but all positive.

Sheridan Libraries, in partnership with the Billie Holiday Center for Liberation Arts at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, and the Jazz studies Program at the Peabody Conservatory, organized by the Sheridan Libraries in partnership with Billie Holiday Center for Liberation Arts at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, and the Jazz Studies Program at the Peabody Conservatory, was responsible for Ethel's Place: Celebrating Ethel Ennis, Baltimore's First Lady of Jazz. Exploring each era of Ethel's remarkable life, including Ethel's Place, the club that she and her husband founded became a hub of the arts in Baltimore. Ethel's Place opening celebration was held on Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 4-6 p.m. at the George Peabody Library, located at 17 E. Mount Vernon Place in Baltimore, Maryland. The event included remarks by George "Doc" Manning, founding host of WEEA's "In the Tradition," performances by vocalist Charenee Wade with the Peabody Jazz Ensemble. All were welcome. Admission was free. Attendees were required to RSVP by emailing jhu.libcal.com, or by calling 410-516-7943. Just in case you couldn't make it in October, don't worry, you can still explore the exhibition through March 31, 2024 at The George Peabody Library Johns Hopkins University.

THE MIGHTY CHRISTIANAIRE



Ethel Ennis, Baltimore's First Lady of Jazz 's celebration was held on Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 4-6 p.m. at the George Peabody Library, located at 17 E. Mount Vernon Place in Baltimore, Maryland. The opening of Ethel's Place: Celebrating Ethel Ennis, Baltimore's First Lady of Jazz was free and open to the public. Photographs, posters, unpublished written arrangements and more were featured.

ANNIVERSARY

Baltimore celebrated the Gospel Group "The Mighty Christianaires" Anniversary on Sunday, October 29, 2023, 3 p.m. at St. John's Christian Community Church, located at 1208 E. Lanvale Street in Baltimore, Maryland. The event included the Rev. E.L. McNair & Covenant, Loretta Jackson and Livin Sparkie & The Tones of Joy, Kenny Davis and Melodyaires, special guest Rev. Jesse Watson & The Watson 4 also featured James Price Jr. & Redemption, The Mighty Wonders and The New Ebony Gospel Singers. The MC's were Doresa Harvey and Robert Wilson. Dinners were sold.

BLACK MEN UNIFYING BLACK MEN HONORS BRUNCH

Black Men Unifying Black Men is having their 2023 Honors Brunch on Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. at the Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys located at 2525 Kirk Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland. The guest speaker is my friend, Kai Jackson,



Kai Jackson, a FOX 45 news anchor, will be the guest speaker for the Black Men Unifying Black Men Honors Brunch on Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys, located at 2525 Kirk Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland. For more information, call Bill Goodin at 410-746-3607.

who is a FOX 45 anchor. The honorees are: Travis Winkey, Cameron Miles, Rev. P.M. Smith, Edwin Avent, Dr. Barney Wilson, Tyrone Powell, Arthur "Squeaky" Kirk, Doni Glover, Hassan Giordano, Nati Kamau Nakati, Van Anderson, Seleh A. Rahman, Jabari Natur, Andre Humphrey, Victor Clark, Cleve Brister, Captain Andrews Muhammad, Mark Cannon, Bilah Omar, Terance Dickson, Robert "Bob" Dashiell, Aaron Maybin and Rico Crawley. The Humanitarian Awards will go to Professor Larry Gibson. Robert "Bob" Cheeks is receiving the Civic Engagement Organization Award.

Now, if you know any of these gentlemen, you owe it to yourself and to them to be there and help them to celebrate such a wonderful event. Do it now while they still can smell the roses. Don't wait like some people, when they are gone and lying in their casket. They can't see or feel your appreciation then. So, I suggest you do it now. I take my hat off and praise this organization for choosing to do this for these gentlemen



Hassan Rasheed's Soul Marathon Cabaret is Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 2-7 p.m. at the 5th Regiment Amory, located at 219 West Hoffman Street in Baltimore, Maryland.

now while they can still smell the roses. Get your ticket and be there for them. I will see you there.

Well, my dear friends, I need your help. My new book, number 3, is ready to be published, but I need your financial support. Any donation will help. This will be my last book. It is over 600 pages of photos and stories of people like yourself. It is an extension of my second book covering the Baltimore and Maryland history of music, arts, crafts, churches, families, musicians, preaches, night clubs and so much more. Don't be surprised to see yourself if you are over 50 years old, or your family members from the 1950's to the 1980's. If you wish to help me get this book published, send your donation to Rosa Pryor, 214 Conewood Avenue, Reisterstown, Maryland, but please make your check out to **Page Publishing**. All who send donations will get a free copy of my book with my autograph. I thank you in advance.

Well, my dear friends, I am out of space, but if you need me, please feel free to call me at 410-833-9474, or email me at rosapryor@aol.com. **UNTIL THE NEXT TIME, I'M MUSICALLY YOURS.**

Ravens Gaining Confidence in Healthy Rashod Bateman

By Tyler Hamilton

The Baltimore Ravens have used a series of first round picks on wide receivers over the years. Rashod Bateman is one of the more recent ones. Bateman was selected out of Minnesota by the Ravens with the 27th pick in the 2021 draft. The third-year receiver is gaining confidence after a rough start to his career.

The expected impact from a first-round player was limited by injuries over the first two seasons. Bateman started his career on injured reserve before being activated in October 2021.

In Week 14, Bateman recorded his first 100-yard game catching seven passes for 103 yards in a 22–24 loss against the Cleveland Browns. In Week 16 against the Cincinnati Bengals, Bateman scored his first NFL touchdown on a 4-yard pass from Josh Johnson in the 41-21 loss. [21] He finished with 46 receptions for 515 receiving yards and one touchdown in 12 games.

Baltimore traded 2019 first-round receiver Marquise Brown to the Arizona Cardinals before 2022, opening the door for Bateman to start. In a Week 2 42/-38 loss to the Miami Dolphins, Bateman recorded 108 receiving yards on four catches, including one catch that he took 75 yards for a touchdown.

Bateman injured his foot the following week and missed the next two games. Bateman returned against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers but left in the second quarter with a foot injury. On November 3, 2022, it was announced Bateman will undergo surgery on his foot, ending his season. He finished with 15 receptions for 285 receiving yards and two receiving touchdowns in six games.



Rashod Bateman Photo credit: Jim McIsaac/Getty Images

The Ravens revamped their receiver group before this season causing Bateman to compete with 2023 first round pick Zay Flowers and free agent additions Odell Beckham Jr. and Nelson Agholor for playing time. Bateman has 14 catches for 152 yards in seven games this season. His biggest impact can in last week's 31-24 win over the Cardinals.

"Rashod [Bateman] had two big plays. The early catch, to keep the drive alive, to go get the ball and take it away from the defender, was just ... You're not going to see a better play than that," Ravens head coach John Harbaugh said.

"Then the end around, it was

actually a jet sweep. I'll tell you, when he turned the corner and accelerated up the sideline, that was impressive, wasn't it? He ran by a couple guys, and he really showed some burst there and got up the sideline. They actually hit him out of bounds [which] got us another 15 [yards], so it was a huge play in the game that ran time off the clock, got us down [the field] deeper and got us another score."

Bateman has always had the ability. His biggest problem was a lack of availability due to injury. Now that he's healthy, Bateman is able to work towards being a steady contributor.

"It's the fact that he's been able to stack practices now and get a

feel in the offense and catch balls and run routes and compete for balls," Harbaugh said. "Football is a practice sport. The more you practice, the better you get, and the better feel you get for the game, all of those different things. I would say it's just starting to kind of come together for him that way."

Harbaugh added that he sees things starting to come together for Bateman and hopes the second half of the season will be big for him. The Ravens need another receiver to step up down the stretch. It's a perfect opportunity for Bateman to give the Ravens a return on their first-round investment.

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CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed Bids or Proposals, in duplicate addressed to the Board of Estimates of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and marked for **ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION CONTRACT NO. 4127-Environmental Restoration Project 11** will be received at the Office of the Comptroller, Room 204 City Hall, Baltimore, Maryland until 11:00 A.M on **December 20, 2023**. Positively no bids will be received after 11:00 A.M. Bids will be publicly opened by the Board of Estimates and can be watched live on **Charm TV's cable channel (Channel 25/1085HD); charmtvbaltimore.com/watch-live or listen in at (443) 984-1696 (ACCESS CODE: 0842939)** from City Hall at Noon. The Contract Documents may be examined, without charge, at Contract Administration 4 South Frederick Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 on the 3rd floor (410) 396-4041 as of **November 3, 2023** and copies may be purchased for a non-refundable cost of **100.00**. **Conditions and requirements of the Bid are found in the bid package.** All contractors bidding on this Contract must first be prequalified by the City of Baltimore Contractors Qualification Committee. Interested parties should call (410) 396-6883 or contact OBC at 4 S Frederick St., 4th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202. **If a bid is submitted by a joint venture ("JV"), then in that event, the document that established the JV shall be submitted with the bid for verification purposes.** The Prequalification Category required for bidding on this project is **D02800 Landscaping and F02200 Earthwork and Site Preparation**. Cost Qualification Range for this work shall be **\$100,000.01 to \$500,000.00**.

A "Pre-Bidding Information" session will be conducted via Microsoft Team Meeting. Vendor can call **1 667-228-6519 PASSCODE: 568144427#** or join virtually at the following link that will be provided on **November 16, 2023 at 1:00 PM**. Any prospective bidders desiring an explanation or interpretation of the requirements shall submit all questions via email to Ms. Kirastin Spence at Kirastin.Spence@baltimorecity.gov and Rick Banks at RBanks@baltimorecity.gov. Questions will be received until **November 13, 2023 at 12:00 pm EST**. Oral Questions will not be entertained outside of the Pre-Bidding Information session. All questions and responses will be published as an Addendum to the solicitation on the City's website.

To purchase a bid book, please make an electronic request at: <https://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/dpw-construction-projects-notice-letting>. For further inquiries about purchasing bid documents, please contact the assigned Contract Administrator Doreen.Diamond@baltimorecity.gov and dpwbidopportunities@baltimorecity.gov

Principal items of work for this contract include, but are not limited to:
Construction of Tier II structural BMPs using environmental site design (ESD) measures including: one (1) bioswales, one (1) micro-bioretenion, and one (1) bioretention to attenuate peak runoff discharges and improve water quality.

This is a State Funded Project:

The MBE goal is **22%**

The WBE goal is **16%**

APPROVED:

APPROVED:

Clerk, Board of Estimates

Richard J. Luna
Interim Director
Department of Public Works

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

JENNIFER CARDONA

*

Plaintiff

*

v.

JASON OBREGON

Defendant

* Case No.: C-03-FM-21-004074

LEGAL NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: DEFENDANT JASON OBREGON

Pursuant to the Court's Order and in accordance with Maryland Rules §§2-121 and 2-122, **NOTICE** is herein given that: on the 6th day of August 2021, Jennifer Cardona, the Plaintiff in the above-referenced matter, filed a **COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE AND CUSTODY**, (hereinafter, "Complaint") against you in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, Maryland for an Absolute Divorce and Custody of the Minor Child, A.O., born December 2006. You are named as a party to this case. To participate in your case, you must file an Answer or other defense to the Plaintiff's Complaint in accordance with the law of the State of Maryland, to the Circuit Court for Baltimore County in writing within sixty (60) days from the date of the posting of this Legal Notice by Publication. Failure to file an Answer or other defense to the Plaintiff's Complaint may result in judgment against you or granting of the relief requested by the Plaintiff. Further information on this case and a copy of the Complaint can be requested from the Family Division of the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, Maryland, located at 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204. Legal Counsel for Jennifer Cardona is Sandra V. Guzman, Law Offices of Sandra Guzman-Salvado, 11 N. Washington Street, Suite 500, Rockville, MD 20850; Phone: 301-340-1911.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO BID

Minority Subcontractor/Supplier Schummer, Inc. seeking Certified Minority Subcontractors for: Contract #2060A002.A01, West End Sewer Replacement, Phase 1 for the City of Cambridge, MD. Prevailing wages apply. Bids due in our office 11/30/23. Certified MBE's & WBE's for: Pre-cast, Pipe, Excavation, Paving, Pipe-laying, Plumbing, Aggregates, and Trucking. Fax quotes to: 410-798-1709 or email: schummerinc@aol.com For more information call 410-956-8080.

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO BID

Minority Subcontractor/Supplier Schummer, Inc. seeking Certified Minority Subcontractors for: Rock Hall Water Meter Installation, Town of Rock Hall, MD. Prevailing wages apply. Bids due in our office 11/8/23. Certified MBE's & WBE's for: Pipe, Excavation, Paving, Pipelaying, Plumbing, Aggregates, and Trucking. Fax quotes to: 410-798-1709 or email: schummerinc@aol.com For more information call 410-956-8080.

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INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids for the construction of a portion of the sanitary sewerage facilities for Phase 4 of the Southern Kent Island service area (consisting of the subdivisions of Chesapeake Estates, Sunny Isle of Kent, Matapeake Estates, and the community of Batts Neck/Normans), Queen Anne's County, Maryland will be received from qualified bidders by the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County at the Queen Anne's County Sanitary District, 310 Bateau Drive, Stevensville, Maryland 21666 until 9:00 a.m. local time on **December 5, 2023** at which time they will be opened publicly and read aloud.

The overall project is a failing septic system abatement project which will consist of two construction contracts:

- Contract SAN 24-01 – Septic Tank Effluent Pumps
- Contract SAN 24-02 – Community Pressure Sewer Mains

The work of this contract, Contract No. SAN 24-02, consists of the installation of approximately 21,000 linear feet of 2-inch and 3-inch HDPE pressure sewer mains. The work must utilize horizontal directional drill methods to the maximum extent possible. Work includes the placement of the mains, including the installation of division valves, clean-outs, air release valves, and curb stops to approximately 211 improved properties and approximately 55 vacant lots. Work will also include road restoration as required. A portion of the Work is in SHA rights of way.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained beginning **October 31, 2023**. Contract Documents will be available at no cost in electronic format (only in .pdf format) at ebidmarketplace.com and the Queen Anne's County web page:

<https://bit.ly/3BoJy3M>

<https://www.qac.org/Bids.aspx>

A notice of an addendum posting will be sent to all known plan holders. Any Addenda issued shall be issued via electronic posting on the ebidmarketplace.com and Queen Anne's County Procurement websites. **However, it is the Bidders responsibility to ensure receipt of all addenda.**

A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Southern Kent Island Sanitary Project Office – 9410 Romancoke Road, Stevensville Maryland at 9:00 a.m. local time on November 16th.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with:

1. The President's Executive Order No. 11246as amended by Executive Order 11375. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in the Contract Documents.
2. The facilities to be constructed under this Invitation to Bid will include funds from the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund. Bidders will be required to comply with Federal and State requirements pertaining to minority business enterprise and women's business enterprise.
3. The Davis Bacon Act labor standards provisions are applicable to this contract.
4. Use of American Iron and Steel provisions are applicable to this contract.
5. The successful bidder will be required to place both a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of 100% of the contract price, and a Maintenance Bond in the amount of 5% of the contract price.

Each Bidder must submit a bid security of not less than five (5) percent with his bid, in the form and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders. Bids to remain open for 120 days. No bidder may withdraw his bid within one hundred twenty (120) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The Owner reserves the right, in the exercise of its sole judgment, to reject any or all Bids, and to re-advertise and award the Contract in the regular manner, or to waive any informalities, irregularities, mistakes, errors or omissions in any Bid received and to accept any Bid deemed to be responsive to this invitation and favorable to the interests of the County.

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County

Public Notice AEAC

ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING AWARDS COMMISSION (AEAC)

**Agenda / Virtual Information
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
2:45 P.M.**

The Architectural & Engineering Awards Commission (AEAC) meeting will be held (*Virtually*). The following projects will be considered for recommendation of approval and award by the AEAC Commissioners.

PROJECT NUMBER(S)

PROJECT #1367R – STREAM RESTORATION DESIGN AND POST AWARDS FOR ER 4022 HERRING RUN.

PROJECT #1382 – CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Please see meeting link below

Join from the meeting link

<https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/j.php?MTID=maec354cbc6c4b461d0524685486d2f97>

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

If you need any additional information to participate in the AEAC Meeting, please contact the Office of Boards and Commissioners at (410) 396-6883.

**To place
Legal Notices,
call: 410-366-3900
email:
legals@btimes.com**



TOP 10 COMPANIES FOR WORKERS

 **CNBC** 2023



Bank of America is proud to be named the #1 Top Company for Workers

On behalf of our more than 210,000 teammates, Bank of America is proud to be recognized as the best company for workers in JUST Capital's recent Top 10 Companies for Workers list.

Our diverse and inclusive workplace offers best-in-class career development programs, industry-leading benefits and competitive pay. Hourly wages are increasing to \$23 beginning in October 2023 and heading toward \$25 per hour in 2025. It all explains why we were named the #1 company overall.

Investing in our people is the right thing to do, and we're honored to be recognized.

Learn more at bofa.com/about

BANK OF AMERICA 

What would you like the power to do?®

In determining the top 10 companies for workers, JUST Capital used its Workers Leaders Index which tracks the top 20% of companies in its annual Rankings that perform the best across the five worker related issues evaluated. <https://justcapital.com>

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