



THE DAILY RECORD

# VIP LIST

SUCCESSFUL BY 40

VERY IMPORTANT PROFESSIONALS





# CONGRATULATIONS

## VERY IMPORTANT PROFESSIONALS WINNERS OF 2014

### The Beach Boys

Featuring Original Members Mike Love and Bruce Johnston

November 1, 2014  
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront

For tickets or more information:

**410.358.7774**



## GET TO KNOW US

In 1947, the School of the Chimes was founded in Baltimore, Maryland serving five students with intellectual disabilities to help them achieve their fullest potential. This was the cornerstone and guiding spirit of the present organization.

Currently Chimes provides services, supports and employment for over 17,000 people with disabilities. We are a leading not-for-profit organization known for innovative, responsive and flexible solutions that are customer focused and results oriented. Our array of educational, employment, vocational, residential, habilitative and behavioral health services and supports are known internationally for their quality. Be sure to visit us online or in person to learn more!



410-358-6400 • 1-800-CHIMES1 • [www.chimes.org](http://www.chimes.org)

Chimes International  
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Chimes Maryland • Chimes Delaware • Chimes Virginia • Chimes Israel  
Employment for People With Disabilities: Chimes District of Columbia  
Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse: Holcomb Behavioral Health Systems • Family Services Association • Open Door • Family-Child Resources  
Chimes Foundation



Facebook: [ChimesInternational](https://www.facebook.com/ChimesInternational)  
Twitter: [ChimesInc](https://twitter.com/ChimesInc)



# Letter from the Publisher



SUZANNE FISCHER-HUETTNER

The Daily Record's recipients of the 2014 VIP List — Very Important Professionals Successful By 40 awards — represent an impressive cross section of the young professionals performing great work in Maryland each day.

These VIPs are the ones to watch – at law firms, companies large and small, hospitals, nonprofits and universities.

The Daily Record created its VIP List in 2011 as a means of recognizing younger professionals who are finding success in their careers and volunteer work. Winners are selected on the basis of their professional accomplishments, civic involvement and the overall impact of achievements.

Our 2014 VIP list winners, selected from 129 nominees, are amazing individuals who are making an impact in their communities. We celebrate our honorees' accomplishments and hope that by telling their stories, other young professionals will be inspired. I hope you will enjoy reading more about them in this publication.

A panel of nine judges, including a representative of The Daily Record, selected the following 43 winners for the 2014 VIP List, but we know there are more out there to be recognized in 2015. You can help us to celebrate the achievements of young professionals you feel are deserving of this honor by forwarding us their names. We want to ensure Maryland's future leaders are rightfully given the recognition they deserve.

Suzanne Fischer-Huettner  
Publisher  
The Daily Record

## VIP JUDGING PROCESS

The judging process for The Daily Record's third VIP — Very Important Professionals Successful By 40 awards — was a particularly difficult task because the judges faced an embarrassment of riches. It turns out Maryland is chock-full of accomplished and impressive professionals age 40 or younger.

The judges were looking for young professionals who are making especially significant contributions not just to their professions, but to their communities as well.

The judges emerged with a list of 43 young Marylanders whose influence is being felt across the state and beyond. They are an impressive group.

We hope you will enjoy the stories of these young go-getters. The Daily Record is proud to present them to you.

Here are the distinguished past-VIP winners and Daily Record staff who comprised the judging panel.



Erin Cunningham  
The Daily Record



Katherine Lawler  
Miles &  
Stockbridge P.C.



Dennis Robinson Jr.  
Whiteford Taylor  
& Preston LLP



Danny Farrar  
Soldierfit & DDT  
Fitness



Amy Luppens  
United Way of  
Lower Eastern  
Shore



Tracy Sorzano  
PNC Wealth  
Management



Tonya Jackson  
The Agape Health  
Group Inc.



Kimberly Neal  
Niles, Barton &  
Wilmer LLP



Matthew Vocci  
Ober|Kaler

## THE DAILY RECORD

SUZANNE E. FISCHER-HUETTNER  
Publisher

THOMAS BADEN JR.  
Editor

ERIN CUNNINGHAM  
Special Products Editor

MARIA KELLY  
Comptroller

TRACY BUMBA  
Audience Development Director

JUSTIN CARSON  
Advertising Manager

GAIL CLOUGH  
Director of Business Development

MORGAN COOK  
Advertising and Events Assistant

CLARE SHEEHAN  
Operations and Events Assitant

MATTHEW STANDERFER  
Digital Manager

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ  
Senior Photographer

LAUREN GURNY  
Graphic Designer

KATE S. ALEXANDER, TRIPP LAINO AND GINA GALLUCCI-WHITE  
Contributing Writers

To order additional copies of this publication, please contact Clare Sheehan  
at 443-524-8101 or email [clare.sheehan@TheDailyRecord.com](mailto:clare.sheehan@TheDailyRecord.com).

# CONTENTS

Elizabeth L. Adams.....	21	Mindi B. Levin.....	5
Christopher A. Adebonojo .....	7	Ingrid M. Lofgren .....	9
Awais Akbar .....	11	Thomas Maronick Jr., Esq.....	7
Matthew D. Alegi, Esq. ....	5	Michelle N. Mendez, Esq. ....	14
Billy Apostolou .....	14	Carla N. Murphy .....	10
Calvin B. Ball, Ed.D. ....	7	Laura Pierson-Scheinberg.....	21
Dr. Nia Danielle Banks .....	22	David Posin.....	21
DeWitt Bauer .....	13	Amy Eva Raehse.....	19
Tim Bojanowski .....	17	Jonathon Rondeau .....	12
Adrienne Breidenstine .....	17	Jeffrey S. Rosen, CPA .....	9
Melissa Chalmers Broome .....	9	Dr. Samantha L. Scott .....	7
Meighan G. Burton .....	11	Janine DiPaula Stevens .....	13
Emily M. Chiarizia .....	11	Ian C. Taylor .....	8
Alicyn DelZoppo .....	7	Betsy Fox Tolentino .....	8
Katrina J. Dennis, Esq. ....	19	Chris Trumbauer .....	7
Kimberly Fusco .....	10	Harel Turkel .....	22
Brendan Gill .....	14	Ashley Valis, MSW .....	12
Craig R. Haughton .....	17	Maureen van Stone, Esq., M.S.....	17
Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D. ....	22	Laurie M. Wasserman.....	14
Gregory K. Kirby.....	7	Angela Whittaker-Pion.....	5
Dr. John C. LaMattina.....	19	Mark A. Yost Jr., Esq. ....	21
Bobbie Laur .....	5	Sponsors .....	23





Photo taken at Fort McHenry, Baltimore

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ





**ANGELA WHITTAKER-PION**

Principal  
Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Only a handful of women have become equity partners in the law firm of Miles & Stockbridge P.C.

Angela Whittaker-Pion is among them.

Promoted directly to equity partner in 2008, Whittaker-Pion is the only female to reach that level with the firm in several years. She is also the only female to serve as a relationship partner for one of the firm’s largest clients, a Fortune 500 power tool manufacturer that makes products overwhelmingly targeted to men.

She now serves as a principal in the mass tort and product liability practice group at her firm, where she manages the litigation and coordinates the global defense strategy for one of the firm’s top clients. She also mentors young attorneys at the firm and sits on the board of the Miles & Stockbridge Foundation, the firm’s charitable arm.

“I think some of it is luck, I think some of it is working really, really hard,” she said of her success. “At the end of the day, I think you have to have the work ethic and the will to succeed.”

Having a strong support system and being in the right place at the right time also factor into the equation, she said.



**BOBBIE LAUR**

Director of External Affairs, Division of Innovation and Applied Research  
Towson University

In the Towson University community, Bobbie Laur is something like a matchmaker — but she’s not dealing with college romances.

Laur’s work centers around bringing the Towson students and staff closer to the surrounding community through service projects, service learning and a variety of other similar applications. She said the process can include finding places for students to volunteer or matching a community member in need of help with a student who has those skills.

“In short, a lot of what I do on a day-to-day basis is matching the needs of the university with the resources of the university,” she said. “We do a lot of different things.”

In addition to her civic work with the university, Laur, 32, also is vice president of the improvement association in Lauraville, where she and her husband reside. For her, civic engagements are her way of giving back to a community she loves.

“I’m really engaged and interested in Baltimore city as a whole,” she said. “Doing whatever I can to make Baltimore city as successful as possible and be a place for parents to raise their children.”



**MATTHEW D. ALEGI, ESQ.**

Shareholder/Partner  
Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker P.A.

When people ask Matthew D. Alegi, Esq., what he does for a living, he doesn’t tell them he is a lawyer.

“I tell them I solve problems because it’s the truth,” he said.

As shareholder and partner with Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker P.A., Alegi has a caseload that consists of real estate and financial issues and transactions.

Alegi was attracted to the law because he could help people and businesses. He prides himself on working hard to understand each client’s dispute, transaction or problem through the lens of the business, family or personal situation to work toward the best result. He began doing real estate transactions while serving as a clerk during law school.

The 39-year-old also serves as the chair of the Maryland State Bar Association Real Estate Law Section Closings and Title Committee and co-chair of the Bar Association of Montgomery County Real Estate Law Section. He also donates his time to his church, Sugarloaf Congregation of Unitarian Universalists, by working as a religious education assistant and as a member of its real estate committee.

After losing his mom to cancer two weeks before his bar exam, Alegi offers financial support to multiple cancer charities. “It’s nice to be able to give back,” he said.



**MINDI B. LEVIN**

Founder and Director, Student Outreach Resource Center (SOURCE)  
Johns Hopkins University

As founder and director of the Student Outreach Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, Mindi B. Levin helps students pair their skills with the needs of nonprofit groups in the area.

“We are this one-stop shop for our students, faculty and staff to do all different types of community engagement,” she said. “We partner with about 100 different nonprofits in Baltimore city; we are trying to respond to needs that have been identified by our community partners.”

Levin, 39, said programs include service days and more regular volunteering from students using their skills to help the community. SOURCE, which turns 10 next year, grew out of the need to combine several different parts of Johns Hopkins University under one roof. Previously, each of the three schools at the institution operated independently for similar endeavors, she said.

Now, students and staff are more easily able to find places to put their skills to use.

“A lot of our students are involved in the community in a scholarly way,” she said. “It’s not just painting and doing a clean-up. They’re writing grants for programs, evaluating programs and doing data analysis and community-based participatory research — everything under the sun related to academics.”



Everyone at Towson University  
congratulates our own

**Bobbie Laur**

*Director of External Affairs for the university’s  
Division of Innovation and Applied Research*

for being named to The Daily Record’s VIP List

**We’re very proud of you!**



[www.towson.edu](http://www.towson.edu)





Photo taken at Lake Kittamaqundi, Columbia

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ

# Celebrate...



**September 18, 2014**  
BWI Hilton

Honors talented business CEOs and nonprofit executive directors throughout our state who are admired for their leadership and professionalism.



**October 15, 2014**  
American Visionary  
Art Museum

Recognizes individuals and companies that have created a product, service or program that has had a positive effect on their business, industry or community.



**November 13, 2014**  
BWI Hilton

Honors legal leaders who are making a significant impact on the profession and their community.



**December 4, 2014**  
Hyatt Regency Baltimore

Recognizes women 40 years old or younger for their professional accomplishments, community service and commitment to inspiring change.



Event sponsorships are available. Contact Gail Clough at 443-524-8135 or [Gail.Clough@TheDailyRecord.com](mailto:Gail.Clough@TheDailyRecord.com).





**ALICYN DELZOPPO**  
Realtor  
The Creig Northrop Team of Long and Foster Real Estate Inc.

Alicyn DelZoppo began her career with The Creig Northrop Team of Long and Foster Real Estate Inc. long before she earned her real estate license.

As a high-school student, DelZoppo did administrative work for the team, and after college she earned her real estate license and began working as a sales assistant to her mother, who also is an agent.

In 2008, DelZoppo became a full-time real estate agent with the team, and since that time she has treated it as more than a job, but rather a mission to serve others and the community.

In 2013, she broke her personal record, selling 49 homes and completing nine rental transactions – with her total volume reaching more than \$17 million.

The 30-year-old is heavily involved with her community including giving her time to both the state and Howard County Association of Realtors and serving as a member of the Howard Community College Grand Prix Event Board.

DelZoppo, a cancer survivor, also is passionate about supporting others with the disease. She is a committee member for Howard County Relay for Life and has given her time in the past to visit patients at Gilchrist Hospice of Howard County.



**DR. SAMANTHA L. SCOTT**  
Psychologist  
The Child & Family Center

Dr. Samantha L. Scott has dedicated her work as a psychologist to helping children and families.

As a psychologist with the Child & Family Center in Salisbury, she specializes in working with children, but she’s also dedicated to helping children and teens in her off hours.

Scott, 31, recently created a nonprofit program called One Year to Empowerment, which serves teenage girls. The group will meet once a month to do empowering activities focused on mental and physical wellness and balance, as well as self-respect and reliance, Scott said.

“They’re important life skills for teenage girls,” Scott said, adding that the group also has an altruistic bent. “Three of our activities are pay-it-forward days. We volunteer in the community.”

She said the program will launch in January and that she’s using a committee of teenagers to help develop the program and find places to volunteer.

“One of the big components of the program is fully committing to something and being dedicated and following through to the end,” she said. “A year is a big commitment, especially for a 16-year-old.”



**THOMAS J. MARONICK JR., ESQ.**  
Managing Partner  
The Law Office of Thomas J. Maronick Jr. LLC

Thomas J. Maronick Jr., has been described as a Renaissance man for his passion for a variety of subjects. For example, in addition to serving as managing partner at his own law firm, he’s a writer, jazz musician, singer, actor and philanthropist.

Maronick, 37, runs a multi-branch firm that handles criminal defense, automotive accidents and DUI law, among other things. And while they may not seem similar, he draws parallels between his acting career and legal defense.

“In a sense, in a courtroom, you’re talking to the jury or the judge,” he said. “You’re telling a story of your client. When you’re on a stage, you’re telling the story of your character.”

In addition to his legal work and achievements in the arts, Maronick is on the board of Jazz Way, a nonprofit that promotes jazz in Baltimore, and is involved with Musicians on Call, a group that performs for injured and sick veterans in military hospitals.

“I view whatever I do as a means to be able to help other people,” he said. “Be able to support charity, be able to give something to the community that they don’t have now .... Every project I’m involved with, I’m keeping that in mind. Helping people is the driving force.”



**CHRISTOPHER A. ADEBONOJO**  
Senior Associate  
Development Design Group (DDG)

As a senior associate for Development Design Group (DDG), Christopher A. Adebonojo does work that can be seen in commercial retail properties across the country and the world, including the Andalucia Village at Jumeirah Golf Estates in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; Station Park in Utah and the Mall of Istanbul in Turkey.

He also contributed to the award-winning Bayshore Town Center development in Glendale, Wisconsin, and National Harbor in Maryland.

“I enjoy the experience of how what I do manifests itself on wider social and physical environments,” he said, noting his commitment to sustainable architecture and the need to construct buildings that use fewer natural resources.

Adebonojo was first drawn to architecture through the desire to design beautiful environments in both the public and private domain. Being a senior associate provides Adebonojo the opportunity to lead staff members in a variety of different duties, including designs and presentation assignments.

He also gives his time to Habitat for Humanity and the Civil Works’ annual Ricky Myers Day of Service and helped the Audubon Society explore concepts and design ideas for the renovation.



**CALVIN B. BALL, ED.D.**  
Chairman, Howard County Council  
Howard County Government

When he was elected chairman of the Howard County Council in 2006, Calvin B. Ball, Ed.D., then 31, was the youngest person to serve in that role in the county’s history.

Now 38, Ball says he has always been drawn to public service — he just wasn’t sure what form that would take.

“So, once there was an open seat on the county council, I was honored to throw my hat in the ring and see if I could expand my service to our community,” he said.

Ball earned a doctorate of education in 2008 and recently became director of Baltimore City Community College’s Complete College program. In 2012, Ball was appointed by Gov. Martin O’Malley to the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities. One of his proudest accomplishments is founding the Diversity Caucus at the Maryland Association of Counties.

“We still have a lot of people of color who are being elected who are ‘the first,’ and it’s still striking to me when I hear ‘the first mayor,’ ‘the first council member,’ ‘the first delegate’ to represent that particular jurisdiction,” he said. The caucus is able to help “not only this current generation of leaders of color but the emerging generation of leaders of color to not only run and win but be successful in serving their constituents.”



**GREGORY K. KIRBY**  
Attorney  
Pessin Katz Law P.A.

Growing up, Gregory K. Kirby, 38, dreamed of being a doctor.

Now, as an attorney at Pessin Katz Law P.A., he has found a way to combine his childhood passion and career in law, where he focuses on medical malpractice, as well as personal injury, insurance defense and environmental torts.

For years, Kirby has been active in the community and within his profession, currently serving as president of the Baltimore Bar Foundation, on the board of directors of the Maryland State Bar Association and vice president of The Bar Association of Baltimore City.

“I’ve always enjoyed being in leadership positions because it really helps you,” he said. “It fosters your ability to lead other people, and that transcends into the practice.”

Now the father of three youngchildren, Kirby said that role shapes much of how he views life and his career.

“It’s not just about how you can succeed individually, but what lessons you can pass on to the next generation and those around you that can enrich society as a whole, which will ultimately judge our true success,” he said.

And, while Kirby continues to make a name for himself in the community and within his profession, he gives a lot of the credit to the people around him.



**CHRIS TRUMBAUER**  
Director, State and Environmental Initiatives  
The Hatcher Group

As a child on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, Chris Trumbauer learned the values of conservation, throwing back the pregnant grass shrimp he’d catch to keep the population growing.

As an adult, Trumbauer, 39, exercises those same values as the director of state and environmental initiatives for The Hatcher Group — a public affairs and communications firm in Annapolis that works with nonprofit agencies. He’s working to protect the environment and preserve it for future generations.

“I like to take my kids out on a bike ride or on a camping trip,” he said. “That’s why I got into this. I enjoy nature, being outside. I want to work to protect our natural world. That’s why I got involved in a lot of the things I am involved with.”

In addition to his work with The Hatcher Group, he also has represented the sixth district on the Anne Arundel County Council since 2010 — a role he says allows him to focus on environmental issues.

“The community has a lot at stake with the health of the rivers and the bay in general,” he said. “I am involved in a lot of activities to try to preserve that resource.”

# SIZZLING SUMMER SPECIAL!

\$\$.99

DIGITAL ACCESS  
PRINT EDITION  
DAILY ALERT

All of this for one low price for your first month.

THE DAILY RECORD

Call 800-451-9998 to subscribe or visit  
<https://subscribe.thedailyrecord.com/SUMMER>





MAXIMILIAN FRANZ

Photo taken at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore



**BETSY FOX TOLENTINO**  
Director of Legislation, Policy and Communication  
Maryland Department of Juvenile Services

As the director of legislation, policy and communication for the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, Betsy Fox Tolentino plays an important part of shaping legislation and helping reform juvenile services across the state.

Tolentino, 36, got her start in Baltimore working for Legal Aid and helping represent foster children, and it inspired her to keep working for children in need. She said “near and dear to her heart” always has been ensuring that as youth age out of the foster care system that they have the resources they need to be successful. In addition to Legal Aid, she also worked as an attorney with the public defender’s office, which also gave her insight into the issues Maryland children face in the justice system. Now she gets to help make changes to the system. “That was something I just wanted to be part of,” she said. “There’s a great team that works at DJS that I wanted to work with — looking at issues with youth from a different angle, putting together initiatives and strategies.”



**IAN C. TAYLOR**  
Partner  
DLA Piper

As a litigator with the largest law firm in the world, Ian C. Taylor’s job sometimes takes him to global destinations for his cases. Taylor, 39, is a partner with DLA Piper and has been with the firm since he was a summer associate in law school in 1998. In that time, he’s seen the company expand through several mergers, growing to be the global legal giant it is today. “It’s been quite an adventure for me,” he said. “It’s been great. It’s led to not just local work, but a lot of national work. I’ve done cases from California to Maryland, coast to coast, and even some international work, although that was local cases with international elements.” An avid runner, Taylor also has completed several marathons. He serves as the general counsel and secretary for The American Flag Foundation, a nonprofit group that aims to increase patriotism in children and adults via education and is a member of the executive committee for the Lawyers’ Campaign Against Hunger to benefit the Maryland Food Bank and Capital Area Food Bank.





**MELISSA CHALMERS BROOME**  
Senior Policy Advocate  
Job Opportunities Task Force

As a senior policy advocate for Job Opportunities Task Force, Melissa Chalmers Broome has passionately lobbied in Annapolis on behalf of some of Baltimore's most vulnerable citizens to ensure affordable wages, paid sick leave, fair hiring practices and more.

"I feel very lucky because I am one of those rare people who can truly say I absolutely love my job," she said. "I love that I get to work on issues that are so personally important to me and that I wholeheartedly believe in. Anyone who works in public policy knows how frustrating it can be and how long it often takes to get things done."

Her proudest moment came when she watched Gov. Martin O'Malley sign the Flexible Leave Act into law in 2008. The law allows workers with paid sick leave to use their time to care for an ailing parent, child or spouse. She had lobbied on behalf of the bill for several years.

Broome also has volunteered for leadership positions in several groups including the Maryland Alliance for the Poor and Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women. By working with these different partners, she believes she is able to tell a stronger story when she goes to Annapolis. "Change would never happen without so many different people and perspectives coming together to really help educate legislators on a why a policy is so needed," she said.



**INGRID M. LOFGREN**  
Skadden Fellow/Attorney  
Homeless Persons Representation Project

Ingrid M. Lofgren is lucky — when she goes to work, it's at her dream job.

Lofgren, 33, is an attorney and Skadden Fellow with the Homeless Youth Law Project, part of the Homeless Persons Representation Project. The organization pairs homeless youth and young adults with the services and people they need to be successful and provides support for families in need.

She is a 2012 Skadden Fellow, an honor given by the Skadden Fellowship Foundation, providing financial support for law students who provide legal services to the under-represented and unrepresented.

Lofgren said she studied family studies and social work in addition to law, and the background in her study helps her provide better support.

"There had been an unmet need for services for this group — they had been an invisible population," she said. "I think it's important to connect young people in a vulnerable time when they need help transitioning to adulthood. And I also do that work because I think family is really critically important. Family breakdown is at the root of homelessness for many young people."



**JEFFREY S. ROSEN, CPA**  
Director  
RS&F, Chartered

Jeffrey S. Rosen is a certified public accountant, but for years he resisted accounting in favor of working in development and for startup companies.

Now, the 37-year-old is the director of Rosen, Sapperstein & Friedlander Chartered, a business consulting, auditing and accounting services firm.

"I work with a number of clients in a consulting capacity," he said. "I'll go behind the numbers and am helping put proper processes in place, helping with technology needs and really helping to optimize the business of our clients."

Additionally, Rosen is the treasurer for Comprehensive Housing Assistance Inc., which owns, develops and manages properties for seniors and low-income housing programs. Rosen is also the group's first vice president.

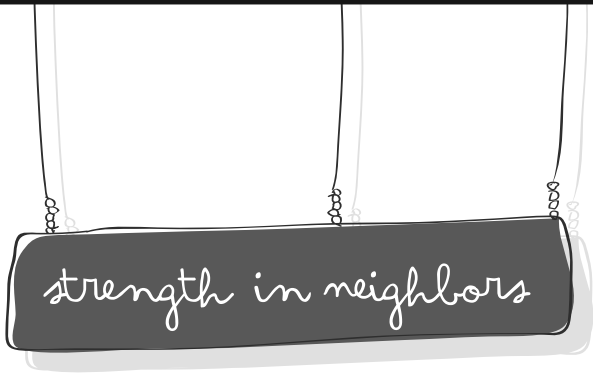
"I don't see it as volunteer, I just see it as part of what I do," he said. "I almost feel like I'm doing something wrong if I haven't had a meeting for them in a week."

He also serves as treasurer for the Maryland Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth, which supports middle market businesses in Baltimore.



**The Daily Record** brings you **breaking news** in our fastest method yet – **text messaging** to your **cell phone!** Text **tdrnews** to **444888**.  
(Standard text messaging rates apply.)





**BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP**

**CONGRATULATIONS MINDI B. LEVIN**

---

on being named to the

**Very Important Professionals List for 2014**







MAXIMILIAN FRANZ

Photo taken at Federal Hill, Baltimore



**CARLA N. MURPHY**

Principal  
Ober|Kaler

As a lawyer, Carla N. Murphy has worked extensively in law related to employment issues, from discrimination and harassment claims to contract disputes and everything in between.

Her experience in employment law led to her co-authoring “Maryland Employment Law: Forms and Practice Manual,” one of two employment law books recommended by the Maryland State Law Library to be included in county law libraries.

She started working for Ober|Kaler 14 years ago as a summer associate while in law school and eventually made partner at the firm.

Murphy, 39, is a Maryland native, and when not involved in the firm, spends a lot of time volunteering with The Arc Baltimore, where she’s president of the board. The organization provides a variety of services for people with developmental disabilities.

She also is a hearing officer with the Baltimore City Civil Service Commission, where she acts as a judge for employment, disciplinary and post-termination cases involving city employees.

“It’s something I really enjoy,” she said. “It’s great experience to actually be the judge and sit on the other side. For my practice, I do litigate, so it’s been an amazing experience.”



**KIMBERLY FUSCO**

Manager  
Ellin & Tucker

Kimberly Fusco, a manager at Ellin & Tucker, has carved out a successful niche serving nonprofits — allowing her to use her professional services to further good and charitable causes.

And, even at 34 years old, she already has earned a reputation in her industry, recently being appointed to the board of directors for the Maryland Disability Law Center.

She also launched the Giving Back Committee at Ellin & Tucker — a group of young company leaders that organizes volunteer community service efforts and fundraising events to support local nonprofits. Since the group’s inception in 2009, employees have donated more than 1,000 hours and helped in 30 events.

“It’s really important to give back to your community,” Fusco said.

As a manager, she supervises multiple teams of audit and tax staff. Specializing in audits of nonprofit organizations, she finds it rewarding to “be able to help them reach their financial goals so that they can then carry out their mission successfully,” she said.

Check out  
PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT!

View and order event photos!  
Visit [TheDailyRecord.com/vip-list/photos](http://TheDailyRecord.com/vip-list/photos).







**AWAIS AKBAR**  
Senior Associate  
Johns Hopkins Medicine

Awais Akbar has been an agent of Johns Hopkins Medicine's highly visible global endeavors since his 20s, with his work bringing new business to the Johns Hopkins institutions.

Now 34, the senior associate for Johns Hopkins Medicine's Business Development and Strategic Alliances helps faculty members commercialize their business ideas and aids in establishing partnerships with corporations and individual investors. If the individual would like to partner with Johns Hopkins, he helps to structure relationships that engage the organization's various departments.

Since graduating with a master's in business administration from Loyola University Maryland in 2008, Akbar continues to give back to his alma mater by serving as president of the Sellinger Graduate Alumni Association and chairman of the mentorship program that pairs recent graduates with senior business leaders in the Baltimore area.

Since 2013, he also has worked with the United Way of Central Maryland's Emerging Leaders United program for volunteers under 40.

"I think it's important to give back," he said. "It's important to be involved in the communities that we live in."



**MEIGHAN G. BURTON**  
Senior Associate  
Wright, Constable, & Skeen LLP

Meighan G. Burton, senior associate for Wright, Constable, & Skeen LLP in Baltimore, says being one of few women practicing maritime law gives her a sense of pride.

She first began working on maritime issues about a decade ago while serving as a law clerk at her current firm.

Burton, 33, now a highly respected attorney in Baltimore, also manages to balance her commitment to her local city bar chapter, meeting the needs of her active client load and maritime commitments. That includes her work as a board member for maritime organizations and boards, including Sail Baltimore.

The organization brings tall ships, high-tech naval warships and other ships of historic, environmental and educational interest from around the world to Baltimore.

"I thought it was a great opportunity to just be involved in the port and get to know more professionals in the local maritime industry in Baltimore," she said.

Burton also has taken on leadership roles with the Maryland State Bar Association and the Bar Association of Baltimore City. She is serving as committee chair for both associations' young lawyers groups.

"I've always thought it was important to be active in the bar association," she said.



**EMILY M. CHIARIZIA**  
Associate  
The Steve Peroutka Law Group PA

Some people may consider being a contracts attorney to be an extremely dry occupation. Emily M. Chiarizia loves it.

As an associate at The Steve Peroutka Law Group PA, Chiarizia handles contract litigation and defends businesses, hospitals, financial institutions, solo practitioners and small business owners.

The 29-year-old is described by her employer as a "true team player," and she said she has helped to rebrand her firm through networking and marketing.

"Basically we are just showing people that collections isn't a dirty word," she said. "It's just a part of business."

Chiarizia also is passionate about donating her time to several organizations including the Maryland State Bar Association's Wills for Heroes program, which offers first responders the opportunity to have a will completed for free.

"When I moved to Baltimore I really did not know anybody, and I found the city just really energized me," she said. "I wanted to be a part of things. I wanted to get to know people. I wanted to tell people about my firm. ... I have a very flexible schedule for an attorney. The people that I work for encourage me to do as much volunteer work as I can."

TWEET IT

#TDRVIP

THE DAILY RECORD

Miles & Stockbridge congratulates  
Angela Whittaker-Pion on being named to  
*The Daily Record's* "VIP" List for her accomplishments  
as a lawyer and litigator, non-profit board member, and  
mentor. Angi joins an impressive group of honorees.  
Congratulations to all!



MILES &  
STOCKBRIDGE  
We Speak Fluent Client™

MILESSTOCKBRIDGE.COM

AUTHORIZED BY JOHN B. FRISCH, CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT





Photo taken at M&T Bank Stadium, Baltimore



**ASHLEY VALIS, MSW**  
Executive Director of Community Initiatives and Engagement  
University of Maryland, Baltimore

Ashley Valis, MSW, is not your typical social worker. She does not spend her days working in a clinical environment or managing a nonprofit, as many social workers do. Rather, she works from a macro level, bringing positive change in communities through engagement and community organizing.

In June, Valis became executive director of community initiatives and engagement for the University of Maryland, Baltimore, where she works to align the needs of the community with those of the university and the work of students, faculty and staff.

As a volunteer with Gov. Martin O’Malley’s campaign for governor and later as a staffer in his office, Valis said the skills she developed in social work perfectly complemented her work on the campaign trail and in the state house as deputy director of intergovernmental affairs and an assistant chief of staff to O’Malley.

In addition to her work with the university, Valis helps train, encourage and mentor women interested in holding elected office as vice chair of Emerge Maryland. She also participates in fundraisers for Susan G. Komen — a charity close to Valis’ heart as the daughter of a breast cancer survivor — and various equestrian charities like the Retired Racehorse Project.



**JONATHAN RONDEAU**  
President & CEO  
Family League of Baltimore

Growing up in poverty, Jonathan Rondeau knows what it’s like to be in need. As the president and chief executive officer of the Family League of Baltimore, he works to help youth in Baltimore overcome the same struggles.

“The Family League’s work is to level the playing field for all kids in the city,” he said. “I have a personal connection to that mission.”

The organization uses state and city funds and collaborates with other charities to reduce infant mortality rates, improve academics and provide summer meals to children in need.

The 33-year-old Rondeau said the organization helps about 15,000 children annually.

In addition to his work with the Family League, Rondeau is a member of Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake’s cabinet, a Baltimore partnership board member for the United Way of Central Maryland, an executive committee member for the Baltimore Education Research Consortium and a member of the Johns Hopkins School of Engineering National STEM Advisory Commission.

“I’m a firm believer in servant leadership,” he said. “And my core belief is if you want to effect change in your community, you have to stand up and do something about it.”





MAXIMILIAN FRANZ



**JANINE DiPAULA STEVENS**  
CEO  
Vircity

Janine DiPaula Stevens started her own business in 2005 — and now helps others do the same.

The 38-year-old is the CEO of Vircity, which provides back-office support for entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations, filling in whatever capacity the organization needs — from bookkeeping to event planning and everything in between.

“I enjoy working with those starting out their own businesses,” she said. “I’ve always been passionate about working with entrepreneurs. It’s rewarding because you’re able to see someone start their dream and be able to take that forward to another level.”

She also uses her knowledge to help as a volunteer. She is on the board of directors of the Tyanna Foundation, a breast cancer charity, and serves as chairperson of its annual BreastFest Event, which benefits the Hoffberger Breast Center at Mercy Medical Center.

“I can provide back-office work for them as being part of the board and use my business to help their business move ahead,” she said. “And all of the money that’s raised stays in the city that it’s raised in.”



**DeWITT BAUER**  
Director of Business Development and Marketing  
Wilmot Modular Structures

DeWitt Bauer began working at Wilmot Modular Structures 14 years ago as a college intern. After graduating, he joined the organization full-time and eventually worked his way up to director of business development and marketing, a role he serves in today.

Bauer, 32, said he cherishes the small, family-oriented business based in White Marsh, calling it a “fantastic” place to work.

Bauer also is active in the Baltimore chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors group. As a founding member of its Young Leaders Committee, he currently serves as its chair.

In 2008, Bauer’s brother passed away. To honor his love of learning and running, he founded the Dustin M. Bauer Foundation, which makes contributions to students, athletic programs, facility improvements and grant programs for tuition assistance at Calvert Hall College High School, Mount St. Mary’s University and the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes.

The nonprofit hosts an annual 5K race and held a basketball tournament and bull roast to raise funds.

“(The foundation) became a passion,” Bauer said. “Now it’s something I live every single day.”





**BRENDAN GILL**  
President  
MacKenzie Management Co. LLC

There are few people in the commercial property management industry who have accomplished as much as Brendan Gill has at such a young age.

At 31, Gill is president of the MacKenzie Management Co. LLC in Lutherville, where he oversees the property management arm of the firm, which manages more than 6 million square feet of commercial space in the Greater Baltimore area – more than doubling its size in just three years.

Gill also is a board member of Chesapeake Bay Savers and NAIOP Maryland, a trade association for commercial real estate development, where he also is president-elect.

He also helped to found the Building Traditions Society of the Anne Arundel Medical Center and has served as chair since its inception in 2010.

“We had such a great experience [when my daughter was born there] that we wanted to figure out a way to get involved with the hospital in a more meaningful way,” he said.

The group provides financial commitments to the facility and has raised more than \$350,000.



**BILLY APOSTOLOU**  
Director of Business Development and Marketing  
Universal Title, Maryland Region

As Universal Title’s director of business development and marketing, Billy Apostolou treasures the relationships he has with clients.

“Being able to see their businesses grow along with ours is pretty rewarding,” he said.

Apostolou works for the title and settlement company’s Maryland region, which includes eight locations across the state, including Annapolis and Baltimore.

The 34-year-old said he has always had a passion for business. While in high school, he was president of its Business Leaders of America group. The teacher who sponsored the program encouraged him to pursue business as a career.

Apostolou donates his time to several organizations including Urban Alliance, Business Volunteers Maryland and The Kamryn Lambert Foundation.

“It’s crazy the small things that you can do can make such a big impact in the community,” he said. “Everyone does really have a couple hours a month that they can make a really big impact for the next generation and for the local communities. You do it once, and you have to do it again. You get so much out of it. It’s such a reward to be able to help organizations and people in your community.”



**MICHELLE N. MENDEZ, ESQ.**  
Senior Managing Attorney  
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington

Michelle N. Mendez, Esq., was born in Colombia and has seen the struggle that other immigrants face first-hand.

As senior managing attorney for the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Mendez has defended hundreds of noncitizens against deportation. Her proudest achievement, she said, was helping to change a Maryland law regarding the age requirements for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status from 18 to 21 — in line with the federal law, which defines a juvenile as 21 and not married. The state law passed in April and will take effect Oct. 1.

“That particular form of status is a special status for minors who have been abused or neglected or abandoned,” she said. “It’s not in their best interest to be returned to their country of origin.”

The law helped a Haitian immigrant and U.S. Marine Corps sergeant, who had been stationed in Afghanistan, bring his orphaned sisters to Maryland after the devastating earthquake in Haiti in 2010.

“[I was] very honored and lucky to be able to have spearheaded an advocacy project,” she said. “That was a pet project of mine, to change the law in Maryland.”



**LAURIE M. WASSERMAN**  
Partner  
Tydings & Rosenberg LLP

Laurie M. Wasserman knew after taking a class in college that she was interested in practicing family law.

Today, as a partner at Tydings & Rosenberg LLP in Baltimore, Wasserman not only represents moms and dads, husbands and wives, but she is also certified to represent children in contested custody proceedings.

Children often lack a voice in their parents’ litigation, especially children who are disabled or who are very young. Wasserman gives them that voice.

Wasserman, who was born and raised in Baltimore, also serves as her firm’s pro bono coordinator and believes in treating all of her clients — adult or child, pro bono or paying — with the same level of respect.

“I think that as lawyers we all have a responsibility to help those less fortunate,” she said.

Outside the office, she volunteers her time with The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore as the family initiative chair for the IMPACT Board and with the Bar Association of Baltimore City as a member of the family law committee and as volunteer domestic case settlement facilitator.

OBER | KALER  
Attorneys at Law



Congratulations to Carla N. Murphy  
on being named a 2014 VIP.

Carla’s dedication to the legal profession and to the community embodies Ober|Kaler’s commitment to making a difference in the profession and in the lives of those around us. We are proud of her accomplishments and happy that she is able to serve as a role model for other aspiring lawyers.



# CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR 2014 VERY IMPORTANT PROFESSIONALS, SUCCESSFUL BY 40 AWARDEES

*Thank you for your service and leadership  
in our Maryland communities!*

## Dr. Calvin Ball

*Council Chairperson, Howard County Council, District 2*



Authority: The Calvin Ball Team, Nina Basu, Treasurer, 9512 Wandering Way, Columbia, MD 21045

The UNIVERSITY of  
MARYLAND, BALTIMORE  
congratulates and celebrates

## Ashley Valis

UMB's Executive Director,  
Community Initiatives & Engagement

and all of the 2014 VIP List honorees.

*Congratulations*

[umaryland.edu](http://umaryland.edu)



## When Excellence is Essential ...

For Your Next Meeting or Conference.



### Epsilon Registration offers:

- Online Registration
- e-Commerce
- Real-time Reporting
- e-Marketing
- Badge Printing
- On-site Services
- Follow Up Surveys
- Charity Auctions



Find out why The Daily  
Record chose Epsilon



[www.EpsilonRegistration.com](http://www.EpsilonRegistration.com)  
410.276.4016



Follow us on **twitter**   
@EpsilonReg







Photo taken at Boordy Vineyards, Hydes

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ





**MAUREEN VAN STONE, Esq., M.S.**  
Associate Director, Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities  
Director, Project HEAL, Kennedy Krieger Institute

When Maureen van Stone, Esq., M.S., worked at the Kennedy Krieger Institute after college, she noticed a void in its clinical setting: it lacked advocates or attorneys to work with the families.

Inspired by the passion of the health care professionals at the Kennedy Krieger Institute, van Stone said she enrolled in Whittier Law School to pursue a law degree with an emphasis on children’s legal issues.

Upon returning to the institute after law school, van Stone created Project HEAL — health, education, advocacy and law — Maryland’s only comprehensive medical-legal partnership, to provide low-cost advocacy and legal services to the institute’s patients and their families.

Today, van Stone splits her time at Kennedy Krieger Institute between serving as director of Project HEAL, as associate director of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities and core director of the Center for Innovation and Leadership in Special Education.

“I love all of my current positions,” van Stone said. “Every day is different — each position, each case, each patient and each family. I also love mentoring the next generation of attorneys and training our health care professionals, trainees and educators on how to be better advocates for their patients and families.”



**ADRIENNE BREIDENSTINE**  
Executive Director of The Journey Home  
Mayor’s Office of Human Services

For almost a decade, Adrienne Breidenstine has worked in a strategic planning and policy role to address homelessness.

In 2013, she joined Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake’s Office of Human Services as the executive director of The Journey Home, an ambitious city plan to end homelessness.

She works with public, private and nonprofit stakeholders to foster collaboration and establish strategic approaches for maximizing public and private resources to make homelessness in the city rare and brief.

“I always knew that I wanted to go into a profession where I felt that I was making a difference in the community I was living in,” said Breidenstine, 31. “Throughout my career, I’ve remained committed to my passion for serving the most vulnerable people in our community, and I believe my passion has enabled me to move into a leadership role at a young age.”

She also volunteers for multiple organizations that also partner with The Journey Home.

“Giving some of my time to these organizations is a way for me to connect with people who are experiencing homelessness and have conversations with them that I normally wouldn’t get to do in my day job,” she said.



**TIM BOJANOWSKI**  
Principal  
Zest Social Media Solutions

Tim Bojanowski, 25, was a 19-year-old college student when he started his company, Zest Social Media Solutions, in a basement with his now wife, Ali.

The two-person, full-scale marketing and brand development firm reported \$12,000 in gross revenue its first year. Now, the company is projecting about \$1 million in gross revenue for the current fiscal year, and Zest has become recognized as an area leader in digital marketing.

His 12-person staff is young, with the oldest employee just over 30. Many are fresh out of college.

“It’s a neat dynamic because we are learning and doing [business] in a really unconventional way,” he said.

That includes a unique approach to business development, which Bojanowski oversees.

Last year, Zest gave \$150,000 of in-kind donations and sponsorships to area nonprofit organizations. In turn, when business people involved in those organizations needed a marketing firm, they turned to Zest. Bojanowski sits on several boards including Towson Chamber of Commerce and Purple Tie Foundation.



**CRAIG R. HAUGHTON**  
Litigation Associate  
McGuireWoods LLP

Craig R. Haughton applies the same competitive spirit he developed as a collegiate tennis player at Georgia Tech to his busy litigation practice at McGuireWoods LLP in Baltimore.


At the international full-service law firm, Haughton, 32, has developed a reputation as a rising star as he manages a caseload that includes work for large banks, construction companies and other businesses.

“I enjoy the fact that, on a regular basis, I am in court, I’m on my feet and having to think quickly. It requires a good amount of preparation,” he said.

Haughton balances his workload with his desire to give back to his community, including through pro bono service. He has assisted veterans in obtaining service-related benefits and represented others in the Baltimore community on his own time.

“I find it gratifying to help people through their business disputes and what is often times someone’s lowest point in their life if they are in the middle of a relatively nasty litigation,” he said.

He also has been involved with the Maryland Defense Counsel Inc. since 2011, currently serving as co-chair of the sponsorship committee.




CAPTIVATING YOUR AUDIENCE

# CAPTIVATING YOUR AUDIENCE


Live Event Production  
Multimedia Creation  
System Design & Consulting  
A/V Integration


[www.vpcinc.net](http://www.vpcinc.net) 410.526.9100


Connect with



[www.facebook.com/mddailyrecord](http://www.facebook.com/mddailyrecord)

[www.twitter.com/MDdailyrecord](http://www.twitter.com/MDdailyrecord)

[www.linkedin.com/company/the-daily-record](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-daily-record)

[www.instagram.com/mddailyrecord](http://www.instagram.com/mddailyrecord)








Photo taken at the Inner Harbor, Baltimore

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ





**KATRINA J. DENNIS, ESQ.**  
Principal  
Kramon & Graham P.A.

At 34 years old, Katrina J. Dennis, Esq., made partner at her law firm, Kramon & Graham P.A.

Dennis now is one of just 13 African-American female partners in majority law firms in Maryland.

“Although the statistics are bleak, I am extremely proud of this accomplishment because I know that my promotion was not the result of a need to ‘increase diversity,’ but was the result of extremely hard work and diligence.”

Dennis, 35, focuses her practice on commercial litigation in employment matters.

“I have found that since becoming a partner, it is my responsibility to ensure that other minority female attorneys are able to achieve the same level of success,” she said. She works to give up-and-coming attorneys the same type of mentoring that Dennis said she benefited from in her own career.

In June, Gov. Martin O’Malley appointed Dennis to the board for the Maryland Transportation Authority.

Highly active in the community, Dennis also serves a number of organizations, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Special Olympics Maryland and others.



**DR. JOHN C. LAMATTINA**  
Assistant Professor of Surgery  
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Director, Living Donor Liver Transplant  
University of Maryland Medical Center

For Dr. John C. LaMattina, a ringing phone means more than just a friend getting in touch — it can mean that it’s time to save a life.

LaMattina, 37, assistant professor of surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, said he and his two fellow surgeons are typically notified in a three- to four-hour window for transplants. He works for the University of Maryland Medical Center, overseeing the largest adult living donor program in the state. The program allows for a healthy donor to give part of the liver to a recipient in need. Previously, he trained in Istanbul, Turkey, receiving specialized training in liver transplants.

The living donor program is a highly specialized form of transplant, and is possible because of the liver’s ability to regenerate after donation — a process that takes about three weeks, he said. Because the procedure is more complicated than donations from the deceased, living donor programs aren’t as prevalent.

LaMattina credits the success of the program to the team of surgeons he works with.



**AMY EVA RAEHSE**  
Executive Director and Curator  
Goya Contemporary Gallery & Goya-Girl Press

Amy Eva Raehse has been living in Baltimore for about 13 years, but she came to the city from Massachusetts after randomly pointing at a map.

She and her husband first lived in Washington, D.C., for a year, but relocated to Baltimore soon after.

“We literally pointed on a map with the idea of re-pointing if we found something we didn’t like,” she said. “We pointed to this area, and we moved. ... Sometimes you need to make a bold decision.”

Raehse is the executive director and curator of Goya Contemporary Gallery and Goya-Girl Press. She works with contemporary artists and also lectures students at institutions like the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore.

“Through that I have an opportunity to engage with students,” she said. “That affords me the ability to work with students ... the opportunity to work with myriad artists of different skill levels.”

She is involved with a number of civic art organizations, including the board of trustees for the Creative Alliance at the Patterson, the 100-year celebration committee at the Baltimore Museum of Art and the program advisory committee for Maryland Art Place, among others.

**KNOW SOMEONE WHO’S CLIMBING  
UP THE CORPORATE LADDER?  
SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!**








*Movers & Shakers* in  
The Daily Record.

Submit your info to

<http://thedailyrecord.com/movers/>



I



We ♥ our distinguished Alumna! Congratulations Ashley Valis '00

**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL**

*Personal Focus. Global Perspective.*

1300 E. NORTHERN PKWY., BALTO., MD 21239 ♥ [WWW.MERCYHIGHSCHOOL.COM](http://WWW.MERCYHIGHSCHOOL.COM)

Celebrate.

ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY

Connect.



Chic. Fun. Intellectual. Become a Pratt Contemporary.

FOR MORE INFORMATION [prattcontemporaries.org](http://prattcontemporaries.org)

**PRATT CONTEMPORARIES**

 ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY

Your *Pratt* journey begins at [prattlibrary.org](http://prattlibrary.org)





Photo taken at State Circle, Annapolis

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ





**LAURA PIERSON-SCHEINBERG**  
Shareholder  
Jackson Lewis PC

Laura Pierson-Scheinberg is a labor and employment attorney with Jackson Lewis PC, and while she enjoys her work, she's also passionate about her charitable efforts.

"I've been in Baltimore my whole life and feel very strongly about giving back to the community and have been involved in many ways to do that, focusing on women's and children's issues," she said.

Pierson-Scheinberg, 37, said she's recently been most involved with the United Way, an organization her family has volunteered with for years.

She is a member of the United Way Women's Leadership Society and heavily involved in the Read, Learn and Succeed and Healthy Food Initiative programs, she said.

"It's something I was raised in, to believe in giving back," she said. "I believe we all have an obligation, and it's a privilege to help people that aren't as fortunate as you are."

She also is a board member with United Way's Higher Achievement, which provides tutoring and after-school care for students in Baltimore.



**ELIZABETH L. ADAMS**  
Assistant Attorney General Tort Litigation Supervisor  
Maryland Office of the Attorney General

As assistant attorney general tort litigation supervisor for the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Elizabeth L. Adams protects and defends the state's Insurance Trust Fund.

Adams, 37, supervises about 250 tort cases annually, giving advice, making difficult decisions and balancing the public interest in protecting the fund and protecting Maryland citizens.

Adams, who began her legal career as a law clerk, also is on the faculty at the National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute in Washington and has spoken on trial advocacy, deposition skills, expert witnesses and more.

The lifelong Maryland resident also gives back to her community. In addition to helping with several nonprofit fundraising efforts, she participates in the Anne Arundel County Bar Association's Law Day and the Women's Bar Association outreach program. Adams said giving back to her community is a priority, and she is fortunate to be able to mentor younger attorneys as well.

"Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and inspiration and to know that someone believes in them," she said. "I am happy to help them and support them in this journey."



**DAVID POSIN**  
Founder/Chief Financial and Operating Officer  
Soldierfit LLC; DDT Fitness; Soldierfit Franchise LLC

If you're into intense exercise, you might already know David Posin — or at least his Soldierfit program, which offers boot camp-inspired workouts.

Posin, 32, is the chief financial and operating officer of Soldierfit LLC, DDT Fitness and the Soldierfit Franchise LLC. He grew up in Maryland, and he and his business partner, Danny Farrar, started Soldierfit in 2007 and morphed their idea from online training, to one-on-one training to group training — where it currently stands.

"We put everybody in uniforms — we're more of a themed program," he said. "We want that military feel to it, but more importantly we do it for that camaraderie. Nobody's different. Every team they all wear the same uniforms. We create that cohesiveness that way."

The program has grown from a couple of classes in a field outside to an indoor facility, where classes really took off, training hundreds of people. He said the camaraderie is what sets Soldierfit apart. The company now has sites in Frederick, Gaithersburg and Owings Mills, with plans to open a fourth site in Columbia later this year. Posin and Farrar's success was recognized this year when the pair received the Entrepreneurial Success of the Year Award at the 30th Annual Maryland Small Business Week Awards.



**MARK A. YOST JR., ESQ.**  
General Counsel  
NMS Healthcare

Most attorneys named as a company's general counsel reach that milestone later in their legal careers.

Not Mark A. Yost Jr., Esq.

Hired out of law school in 2012 by Hyattsville-based NMS Healthcare, Yost became the company's general counsel within his first two years as an attorney.

Law is a second career for Yost, who previously studied policy and worked as a lobbyist in Annapolis. He credits his political expertise and experience in regulatory affairs — as well as the support of his parents and family — for helping him rise so quickly in his legal career.

As a past board member and long-time volunteer with Equality Maryland, Yost was a key player in the organization's work for the passage and later voter approval of the state's gay marriage law. He continues to give his time to help Equality Maryland on its initiatives.

While Yost enjoyed working as lobbyist, he said he pursued law to expand his skills and his career prospects.

"I enjoyed being a lobbyist, but I thought I could do more if I was able, not only to help influence the laws that went into effect, but also defend folks that were having problems with the law," he said.

# When it happens in Business, it's...

★ ON THE ★  
RECORD

**Lizzy McLellan**  
Business Reporter

Lizzy McLellan covers the technological, financial and small business sectors in Maryland. She'll shine a spotlight on quarterly earnings reports, SEC filings, major corporate initiatives and draw-downs, key position changes and business trends and analysis.

**Daily. In Print. Online.**

## When business happens in Maryland, It's...

★ ON THE ★  
RECORD

**TheDailyRecord.com**

**Sign up for Daily News Alerts.**





Photo taken at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore

MAXIMILIAN FRANZ



**HAREL TURKEL**  
President  
SOS Technology Group

Ten years ago, on the heels of a backpacking trip to Southeast Asia, Harel Turkel decided to go into business for himself. He started SOS Technology Group, a full-service IT consulting firm that offers help desk and network services and works with small to mid-sized businesses in 17 states.

For the first five years, SOS Technology Group experienced a nice, slow growth, Turkel said. But the last five years have been a whirlwind, he said.

In 2013, SOS Technology Group acquired a similarly-sized information technology company, Computerized Management Systems, which had been in business for about 35 years. Doubling the size of his business overnight, meshing two businesses together and meeting with each of the acquired company’s clients was quite a task, Turkel said. However, it was one that the company met head on, and months later, his business continues to run smoothly.

In addition to his work, Turkel has been volunteering and donating to the Baltimore community for the past decade. Owning a business allows Turkel the flexibility to give about half his time each week to volunteering. He works with The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, the Baltimore Child Abuse Center and more.



**NILESH KALYANARAMAN, M.D.**  
Chief Medical Officer  
Health Care for the Homeless

Niles Kalyanaraman, M.D., has earned a reputation as a transformative team-oriented leader, who in the span of two years unified the clinical teams of Maryland’s leading provider of comprehensive health services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, dramatically expanded access to care and achieved agency certification as a Patient-Centered Medical Home.

Since 2012, he has served as chief medical officer for Health Care for the Homeless, where he oversees the group’s programs related to health, including medical, pediatric and dental.

“For most people who are homeless, they tend to present later and with more severe disease than if they weren’t homeless,” Kalyanaraman, 38, said. “Oftentimes, they are struggling to manage other aspects of their life, and their health goes by the wayside.”

He previously worked as assistant medical director for the Washington, D.C., Department of Corrections and as medical director for the People’s Community Health Center.



**DR. NIA DANIELLE BANKS**  
Doctor/Owner  
Beaux Arts Institute of Plastic Surgery

Dr. Nia Danielle Banks is a board-certified plastic surgeon who treats patients in Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Prince George’s County. She is the only African-American woman trained in the Johns Hopkins Hospital Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery residency program.

After completing medical school, Banks, 39, opted to open her own practice, The Beaux Arts Institute of Plastic Surgery, in 2009.

Five years later, her practice is thriving, and Banks has developed full-breast reconstructive services for the women of Prince George’s County, providing the services for women seen with in the Center for Comprehensive Breast Care at Doctors Community Hospital in Lanham.

Banks also is chief of plastic surgery at Doctor’s Community Hospital and an active staff member at Prince George’s Hospital Center in Cheverly and Dimensions Surgery Center in Bowie.

However, she is especially proud of her work to provide plastic surgery services that help with the recovery and well-being of cancer patients. In addition, she regularly speaks at a local breast cancer support group and educates women about breast reconstruction.

Order a special commemorative frame and display your accomplishment with pride.



3 packages to choose from, starting at \$225.

Contact Morgan Cook at [Morgan.Cook@TheDailyRecord.com](mailto:Morgan.Cook@TheDailyRecord.com) or 443.524.8181 for more information.

**THE DAILY RECORD**



Awards Sponsor



Chimes

Chimes International, Ltd. and Subsidiaries, known as the Chimes Family of Services, offer a wide range of opportunities for people with disabilities and other special needs. Chimes International as the parent organization, leads and supports our subsidiaries, which provide services to over 17,000 people in 6 states, the District of Columbia and Israel.

With a rich history spanning over 6 decades, the Chimes Family of Services represents three distinct business models or service compo-

nents: Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services, Employment for People with Disabilities, Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse Services.

The components are all recognized for innovative, flexible and responsive solutions that achieve results. Our network of services and supports emphasize and promote the unique abilities of each person, with a focus on achieving and sustaining each person's well-being and independence.

Reception Sponsor



CENTRAL MARYLAND

The Salvation Army of Central Maryland

The Salvation Army of Central Maryland (www.SalvationArmyCM.org) has been serving those in need in the Baltimore area since 1880. Today, The Salvation Army of Central Maryland serves residents of Baltimore City, as well as Baltimore, Howard, Carroll, and northern Anne Arundel counties, through a broad array of social services that include the following:

- emergency food, utilities, and rental assistance;
- homeless services such as a 24-hour emergency and transitional housing shelter for women, children, and families and FeedMore, the only evening feeding program in Baltimore City;
- relief for disaster victims;
- holiday assistance comprised of Thanksgiving meals and the

Christmas Angel Tree and Red Kettle programs;

- opportunities for underprivileged children through Boys & Girls Clubs, camp, and corps programs; and
- three community centers (or "corps") that act as both places of worship and service to their respective communities.

The Salvation Army assists nearly 30 million Americans nationwide each year and spends 82 cents of every dollar directly supporting services. An evangelical arm of the universal Christian church, The Salvation Army's ministry is motivated by the love of God. In fulfilling its mission to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination, The Salvation Army offers the world a lasting display of the love behind its belief.

Table Sponsors

- The Calvin Ball Team
- Johns Hopkins University
- Miles & Stockbridge
- Ober|Kaler
- Towson University

Celebration Sponsors

- Epsilon Registration, LLC
- Mercy High School
- University of Maryland, Baltimore
- VPC, Inc.

Exclusive Ride Sponsor

U B E R



COMPLETE LIST 2010-2014

Sam Abed ..... 2013  
Earl Adams Jr. .... 2011  
\*Elizabeth L. Adams ..... 2014  
Gabriel Adams ..... 2013  
\*Christopher A. Adebonojo .. 2014  
Lauren Ades ..... 2013  
Karla Aghajanian ..... 2013  
\*Awais Akbar ..... 2014  
\*Matthew D. Alegi, Esq. .... 2014  
Ahmedur Ali ..... 2011  
\*Billy Apostolou ..... 2014  
Mario Armstrong ..... 2010  
\*Calvin B. Ball, Ed. D. .... 2014  
\*Dr. Nia Danielle Banks .... 2014  
Tim Barnhill ..... 2012  
Erek Barron ..... 2012  
April Baer ..... 2011  
\*DeWitt Bauer ..... 2014  
James Benjamin ..... 2012  
Merrick Benn ..... 2012  
Dalliah Mashon Black, M.D. .. 2010  
\*Tim Bojanowski ..... 2014  
Thomas "Toby" Bozzuto .... 2010  
\*Adrienne Breidenstine .... 2014  
Robyn Brenza ..... 2013  
McKinley Broome ..... 2011  
\*Melissa Chalmers Broome .. 2014  
Eric Brotman ..... 2011  
Tammy Brown ..... 2013  
\*Meighan G. Burton ..... 2014  
Anthony Butler ..... 2011  
Robert Carpenter ..... 2010  
\*Emily M. Chiarizia ..... 2014  
Adam Sean Cohen ..... 2011  
Veronica Cool ..... 2010  
Naomi Cross ..... 2013  
Charles Curlett Jr. .... 2011  
Anna Custer ..... 2010  
Emily Datnoff ..... 2013  
\*Alicyn DelZoppo ..... 2014  
\*Katrina J. Dennis, Esq. .... 2014  
Gregory Derwart ..... 2011  
Michael Dodd ..... 2013  
Jim Dickinson ..... 2012  
Heather Dishopolsky ..... 2012

Devin J. Doolan Jr. .... 2012  
Dolores Dorsainvil ..... 2012  
Jessica duHoffmann ..... 2011  
Joseph Edwardsen ..... 2011  
Tim Elder ..... 2010  
David Ellin ..... 2013  
Chad English ..... 2010  
Katie Essing ..... 2012  
Matthew Esworthy ..... 2012  
Ron Fairchild ..... 2010  
Jason Farley ..... 2010  
Danny Farrar ..... 2013  
Lionel Foster Jr. .... 2011  
Jeremy Frederick ..... 2010  
Holly Freishtat ..... 2010  
Hon. Karen Chaya Friedman ... 2010  
Maria Fuster ..... 2011  
\*Kimberly Fusco ..... 2014  
Matthew D. Gallagher ..... 2010  
Sommer Gentry ..... 2010  
Michael Gibbs ..... 2011  
\*Brendan Gill ..... 2014  
Morgan Gilligan ..... 2011  
Matt Goddard ..... 2010  
Duff Goldman ..... 2010  
Eduardo González ..... 2012  
J. Steven Green ..... 2010  
Torbin Green ..... 2012  
Michael Hardy ..... 2013  
Monica Garcia Harms ..... 2012  
LaTara Harris ..... 2010  
Heather Harvison ..... 2011  
\*Craig R. Haughton ..... 2014  
Mary Ann Henker ..... 2011  
Quinton Herbert ..... 2013  
Ronna Hertzano ..... 2013  
Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb .. 2010  
David Hodnett ..... 2012  
W. Brett Hollander ..... 2011  
Michael Hood ..... 2013  
Danette Howard ..... 2013  
Kevin G. Hroblak ..... 2011  
Hughie Duvall Hunt ..... 2010  
Cheo Hurley ..... 2012  
Rafael Irizarry ..... 2010

Amy Ives ..... 2011  
J. Buck Jabaily ..... 2010  
Tonya Jackson ..... 2013  
Christopher Janian ..... 2010  
Alexandra Jellerette ..... 2010  
Christian Johansson ..... 2010  
Todd Johnson ..... 2010  
\*Nilesh Kalyanaraman, M.D. . 2014  
Jeff Kayce ..... 2011  
Toyja E. Kelley ..... 2010  
Jesse Ketterman ..... 2010  
\*Gregory K. Kirby ..... 2014  
Heidi Klotzman ..... 2012  
Sonia Kumar ..... 2011  
\*Dr. John C. LaMattina ..... 2014  
\*Bobbie Laur ..... 2014  
Lara Law ..... 2013  
Katherine Lawler ..... 2013  
W. Grace Lee ..... 2011  
Gary Leibowitz, Cole ..... 2010  
\*Mindi B. Levin ..... 2014  
Ira A. Levy ..... 2011  
Angie Lienert ..... 2013  
Michelle Lipkowitz ..... 2010  
\*Ingrid M. Lofgren ..... 2014  
Amy Luppens ..... 2013  
\*Thomas Maronick Jr., Esq. . 2014  
Todd Marks ..... 2013  
Stephen Martino ..... 2010  
Scott McCaskill ..... 2011  
Michael S. McDevitt ..... 2010  
Kristen Campbell McGuire ... 2011  
Martha McKenna ..... 2011  
Joe Mechlinski ..... 2010  
Edward Meister ..... 2012  
Monica Mitchell ..... 2011  
\*Michelle N. Mendez, Esq. ... 2014  
Jennifer Meyer ..... 2013  
Randal Mills ..... 2010  
Brian Minnich ..... 2012  
Brian Moffet ..... 2012  
Wes Moore ..... 2013  
Nick Mosby ..... 2012  
Michelle Mayer Motsko .... 2012  
\*Carla N. Murphy ..... 2014

John Murphy ..... 2011  
Patrick Murray ..... 2013  
Lena Nazarian ..... 2011  
Kimberly Neal ..... 2013  
Myra Norton ..... 2011  
Damian O'Doherty ..... 2011  
Erin O'Keefe ..... 2013  
Holly O'Shea ..... 2012  
Tracey Paliath ..... 2011  
Melinda Peters ..... 2010  
\*Laura Pierson-Scheinberg .. 2014  
Kevin Plank ..... 2010  
Keshia Pollack ..... 2011  
\*David Posin ..... 2014  
L. Terri Powell-Brown ..... 2012  
Hannah Powers ..... 2011  
Ajmel Quereshi ..... 2010  
\*Amy Eva Raehse ..... 2014  
Elliott Rauh ..... 2013  
Stephen D. Reidy ..... 2012  
Angelique Rewers ..... 2013  
Donna K. Rismiller ..... 2011  
Jennifer Roberts ..... 2012  
Dennis Robinson, Jr. .... 2013  
Nan Rohrer ..... 2013  
Brett Rogers ..... 2011  
Otis Rolley, III ..... 2010  
\*Jonathon Rondeau ..... 2014  
Beth Ronnenburg ..... 2011  
Jason Rose ..... 2011  
\*Jeffery S. Rosen, CPA ..... 2014  
Adam Rosenberg ..... 2011  
Julie Rubin ..... 2011  
Heather Sarkissian ..... 2010  
Michael Schiffer ..... 2011  
Angela Scott ..... 2013  
\*Dr. Samantha Scott ..... 2014  
Sarah Janowitz Sedlak ..... 2012  
Andrew Segall ..... 2013  
Dorry Segev ..... 2010  
Jamie Seward ..... 2013  
Mark Shaver ..... 2012  
Brian Shepter ..... 2011  
Nicole Sherry ..... 2010  
Jahantab Siddiqui ..... 2012

Jane Frankel Sims ..... 2012  
Meghan Simmons ..... 2010  
Michael Siri ..... 2011  
Michelle Siri ..... 2013  
Yolanda Sonnier ..... 2012  
Tracy Sorzano ..... 2013  
Francie Cohen Spahn ..... 2012  
Chris Spann ..... 2010  
Adam Spence ..... 2012  
Jennifer J. Stearman ..... 2011  
Jeremy Steinberg ..... 2012  
\*Janine DiPaula Stevens .... 2014  
Jason St. John ..... 2011  
\*Ian C. Taylor ..... 2014  
Thara Taylor ..... 2012  
Courtney Thomas ..... 2012  
Christopher Thomaskutty ... 2011  
J. MacGregor Tisdale ..... 2010  
\*Betsy Fox Tolentino ..... 2014  
Aaron N. Tomarchio ..... 2011  
Gordon Brooks Trimper .... 2010  
\*Chris Trumbauer ..... 2014  
Jessica Trzyna ..... 2012  
\*Harel Turkel ..... 2014  
Jessica Turrall ..... 2010  
Mark Tyler ..... 2012  
\*Ashley Valis, MSW ..... 2014  
\*Maureen van Stone, Esq. M.S. . 2014  
Christie Vera ..... 2012  
Thiru Vignarajah ..... 2011  
Lori A. Villegas ..... 2011  
Jaclyn Vincent ..... 2013  
Matthew Vocci ..... 2013  
David Warschawski ..... 2010  
Dina Wasmer ..... 2010  
\*Laurie M. Wasserman ..... 2014  
Dondi West ..... 2012  
Brian M. White ..... 2012  
\*Angela Whittaker-Pion .... 2014  
Rachel Yasser ..... 2013  
\*Mark A. Yost, Jr. Esq. .... 2014  
Tong Zhang ..... 2013

\*2014 Honoree



CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THE DAILY RECORD'S 2014  
VERY IMPORTANT PROFESSIONALS.



THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WAYS  
YOU ARE DOING THE MOST GOOD.



DOING THE  
MOST GOOD  
CENTRAL MARYLAND

JOIN US TO DONATE, VOLUNTEER, AND INSPIRE.



[www.SalvationArmyCM.org](http://www.SalvationArmyCM.org)

 @SalArmyCM |  SalArmyCM |  +SalvationArmyCMorg

The Salvation Army of Central Maryland  
814 Light Street | Baltimore, MD 21230 | 410.783.2920  
CMevents@uss.salvationarmy.org  
CFC #42921 | CCC #8062 | MCC #9074 | United Way #062

Food and Shelter   Human Trafficking Abolition   Youth Services   Emergency Response   Rehabilitation   Rent and Utility Assistance