

The women profiled here have distinguished themselves time and time and time again. That's three "times." During the seven years that The Daily Record has been honoring Maryland's Top 100 Women, literally thousands of nominations have been submitted. The 22 awardees seen here have been chosen an astounding three times from among their peers, earning themselves a spot in the Circle of Excellence.



Floraine B. Applefeld is proud — proud of her city and proud of her state. She has dedicated her life to volunteerism and nonprofit organizations, especially those that foster pride in the city of Baltimore and state of Maryland.



In 1976, Applefeld founded the "Baltimore Is Best" program, and during the 12 years she served as volunteer director, a renaissance swept the town. During her tenure, buildings and tourist attractions such as the World Trade Center and the National Aquarium helped breathe new life into the city's Inner Harbor.

Building on this success, she helped establish the "Maryland You Are Beautiful" program, a nonprofit endeavor that heralds the state's economic progress, recognizes community heroes and continues social services programs statewide.

One colleague has this to say of Applefeld's efforts: "She is highly dedicated to civic causes and has served the state of Maryland extraordinarily well."

The Hon. Helen Delich Bentley has given a voice to the U.S. transportation industry in Washington and internationally. In 1971, she refused when the Federal Maritime Commission offered her a seat — not because she wasn't up to the challenge, rather, she demanded to be chair.



When her demand was met, Bentley became the first woman ever to chair the commission and was the fourth-highest-ranking female appointee in U.S. government history. By breaking through the glass ceiling, she was able to make considerable, lasting contributions to the shipping industry.

Bentley now is using her decades of expertise to promote the maritime industry in Maryland. In her current position as president and CEO of Helen Bentley & Associates Inc., a lobbying and consulting firm specializing in maritime relations,

she assists the Maryland Port Authority in maintaining and increasing jobs. And from a wider scope, her efforts also ensure Maryland does not relinquish its reputation as a maritime leader.

Jane M. Brewer, CPA, has demonstrated some remarkable patience, and as a result, has seen well-deserved rewards.



For almost two decades, Brewer has worked as a certified public accountant with the same firm — Katz, Abosch, Windesheim, Gershman & Freedman P.A. in Baltimore. Six years into her career at the firm, at a time when there were very few accounting firms with women as top management, she patiently worked hard and was elected as shareholder.

Brewer also has dedicated years of service to the Executive Forum, a committee of the National Association of Women Business Owners' Baltimore chapter whose purpose is to assist and advise women on business issues. As a CPA, Brewer uses her knowledge and skills to advise these women on developing businesses that are able to sustain profitability and longevity.

Other proof of Brewer's patience? As her most significant accomplishment, she cites her seven grandchildren — but not without the addendum "and counting!"

Carolyn T. Burrig's professional career has a 40-year history of, as she describes it, "going up the down staircase."



In the '60s, much to the chagrin of her sorority sisters, she challenged her sorority to break the color barrier by agreeing to host social exchange dinners with black fraternities and sororities on campus.

In the '70s, she became the first woman radio news director/reporter in Wyoming. And in the '80s, she broke the barriers of a male-dominated profession and hung out her shingle to open her own lobby firm in Annapolis, CTB Government Relations LLC. Seventeen years

later, Burrig's firm is recognized as the top-grossing woman-owned lobby firm in Maryland.

In the '90s, because Maryland's two most prominent business trade associations had no women on their board of directors, Burrig co-founded Network 2000 Inc. and became its first president. Network 2000 is an organization for men and women whose mission is to promote qualified women in positions of leadership.

Shirley Burrill gets things done. Since its inception in 1985, Burrill has served as the executive director of Leadership Howard County, which serves to cultivate and prepare leaders to address the concerns and issues in the community. To date, the organization has graduated 579 men and women who now serve more than 236 community nonprofits, commissions and other organization. In this way, she has helped create a sort of trickle-down volunteerism.



Burrill also added an Executive Series and a Youth Leadership program while achieving 75 percent alumni membership — and she did all this not by adding extra staff, but because she works so tirelessly and so well with others.

For all her accomplishments, one colleague has this to say about Burrill: "Her energy, her focus, her commitment, her enthusiasm, her leadership and her sense of humor are now of legendary proportion in Howard County."

Eleanor M. Carey has a career history that runs the gamut — law clerk, campaign manager, reporter, attorney, governor's senior counselor.



Now, as president of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, Carey has dedicated her efforts to making Maryland a world leader in producing well-educated and well-trained employees. She works diligently with public and private-sector leaders to forge a work-force system that will produce workers with the skills employers need to succeed.

Turn the page

Maryland's TOP 100 WOMEN



Floraine B. Applefeld
*Director, "Maryland You Are Beautiful" Program
Chairwoman, People Pride Inc.*

217 E. Redwood St., Ninth Floor
Baltimore, Md. 21202
(410) 347-2270
(410) 347-2274 fax
E-mail: www.myab@mdbusiness.state.md.us

Education:

Bachelor of Arts, Art History,
The Johns Hopkins University
Continuing Education, College of
Notre Dame and Maryland Insti-
tute College of Art

Career History:

1987-Present: "Maryland You
Are Beautiful" Program, Volun-
teer Director
1984-1987: WCMB-Radio "Pro-
files" Interview Program, Radio
Moderator
1976-1988: "Baltimore Is Best"
Program, Volunteer Director
1970-1976: Baltimore Museum
of Art, Educator
1965-1975: Baltimore City Pub-
lic School System, Art Teacher

Significant Accomplishment:

As founder and director of the

"Baltimore Is Best" program, I spearheaded various volunteer programs and events to generate renewed interest in the city. As a result, strong neighborhoods emerged; new life was breathed into the Inner Harbor; and build-ings and tourist attractions such as the World Trade Center and the aquarium were built. When former Mayor Schaefer was elect-ed governor, we established the "Maryland You Are Beautiful" (MYAB) program. MYAB has continued to prosper and have a positive influence on the citizens of this state during subsequent administrations, e.g. recognizing community volunteers and encouraging volunteerism to per-petuate and continue social ser-vice programs. MYAB also has worked actively with government and civic organizations in pro-moting economic development by participating in statewide events and sale of "Maryland You Are Beautiful" merchandise.

Example of Mentoring:

Network 2000 — Chair of the Mentoring Committee (Mentees from middle management seek-ing upward mobility); Network 2000 — Participated in scripting and creating a video of sched-uled workshops to mentor young women; During the last 27 years, I have been a mentor to literally hundreds of interns and young women, one-on-one, developing their professional skills to faci-litate employment.

Officer/Board Membership in Professional/Business/Trade Organizations:

1997-Present: Vice President,
Women for Responsive Govern-
ment; 1996-Present: Chair-
woman, Coalition for Appoint-
ment of Women to State Boards
and Commissions; 1993-Present:
Founding Member, Past Chair of
Mentoring Committee and Cur-
rent Member, Chair Special
Events, Maryland Commission
for Women; 1992-Present:
Founding Member, Past Chair of
Mentoring, Chair Special Events,
Network 2000; 1992-Present:
Board Member, Advertising
Association of Baltimore

Officer/Board Membership in Civic/Nonprofit Organizations:

1995-Present: Board Member,
Girl Scouts of Central Maryland;
1991-Present: Board Member,
First Night Annapolis; 1989-Pre-
sent: Chair, People Pride Inc.
Foundation; 1985-Present: Advi-
sory Board Member, Maryland
Artists Equity Foundation; 1982-
Present: Board Member, Little
People's Research Fund

Awards/Honors:

Gov. Parris N. Glendening,
Proclamation and Numerous Ser-
vice Citations; "Women of
Achievement in Maryland Histo-
ry," Listed; Maryland Coalition of
Women for Responsive Govern-
ment, "Sheroe" Award; WJZ-TV,
Hero Award; American Business
Women's Association, Citation of
Appreciation; J.C. Penney Co.,
Golden Rule Award; The Daily
Record, Maryland's Top 100
Women 1998 and 2000; Girl
Scouts of Central Maryland, Dis-
tinguished Woman Award; Miles
W. Connor Distinguished Service
Award; YMCA Community Ser-
vice Award; Mayor William Don-
ald Schaefer, Unsung Heroine
Award; Jewish Community Cen-
ter of Greater Baltimore, Citation
of Honor

Personal Accomplishment:

I have contributed to my commu-
nity by managing political volun-
teer offices, fund-raising for vari-
ous causes, coordinating the
Holocaust Memorial site, and
raising, with my late husband,

two intelligent and successful
daughters, both of whom have
provided me with wonderful
grandsons.

Birth Date/Place:
8/25/36 Baltimore

Spouse:

Leroy S. Applefeld, deceased

Children:

Lynn Carol Henderson; Laurie
Applefeld Segall



The Hon. Helen Delich Bentley
*President and CEO
Helen Bentley & Associates Inc.*

1925 York Road
Lutherville, Md. 21093-4225
(410) 561-2070
(410) 561-3486 fax
E-mail: HBA1925@AOL.COM

Education:

Bachelor of Arts, Journalism,
University of Missouri, 1944

Career History:

1995-Present: Helen Bentley &
Associates Inc., President and
CEO
1985-1995: U.S. House of Rep-
resentatives
1975-1985: HDB International,
International Consultant and CEO
1971-1975: World Port Maga-
zine, Columnist and Editor
1969-1975: Federal Maritime
Commission, Chairman
1945-1969: The Baltimore Sun,
Reporter and Maritime Editor

Corporate Board Seats Held:

1995-Present: Monarch-Avalon
Inc.; 1996-1999: Capitol Strate-
gic International Inc.; 1996-
1998: Ukraine American Lines;
1995-Present: ABCOV Inc.;
1996-1997 Bentley, Adams, Har-
gett & Riley Inc.

Significant Accomplishment:

I participated in high-level labor

management negotiations at request of both parties resulting in improved labor management relations in the maritime industry. This was instrumental in the creation of the Maryland Port Authority, allowing Maryland to compete aggressively for jobs and cargo. I gave voice to the U.S. transportation industry in Washington and at many international forums.

Example of Mentoring:

Michael Kosmas, Esq., came to work in my congressional office at age 16. He worked with me in my office and on my campaigns while attending college and law school. Today, he is a full partner at Venable Attorneys at Law and provides me with legal advice.

Officer/Board Membership in Civic/Nonprofit Organizations:

1971-Present: Villa Julie College; 1995-Present: Center for International and Comparative Law, University of Baltimore School of Law; 1997-Present: Italy American Chamber of Commerce; 1995-Present: Pride of Baltimore Inc.; 1999-Present: Sail Baltimore

Awards/Honors:

Honorary doctorate degrees from University of Maryland, University of Michigan, University of Alaska, University of Portland (Oregon), Long Island University, Goucher College, Bryant College of Business Administration, Villa Julia College; 1996: Seamen's House Honoree, 1996: Leamon McCoy Memorial Award; 1999: Lifetime of Kings Point Merchant Marine Alumni Association.

Personal Accomplishment:

I am very proud to have broken the glass ceiling for women in the federal government by demanding to be the first woman chair of the Federal Maritime Commission, rather than just accepting a commission seat. I was able to make major contributions to the shipping industry, and the appointment resulted in my being the fourth-highest ranking woman in U.S. government history.

Birth D

1923 Ruth, Nev.

Spouse:

William Roy Bentley



Kathleen A. Birrane, Esq.
Shareholder/Esquire
Kramon & Graham P.A.

One South St., Suite 2600
Baltimore, Md. 21202
(410) 752-6030
(410) 539-1269 fax
E-mail: kbirrane@kg-law.com

Education:

Juris Doctor, University of Maryland School of Law, 1986
Bachelor of Arts, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, 1982

Career History:

1984-Present: Kramon & Graham P.A., Law Clerk/Associate/Shareholder
1980-1983: The Sheppard & Enoch Pratt Hospital, Mental Health Worker

Corporate Board Seats Held:

1996-Present: Mr. E. Parties Inc.

Significant Accomplishment:

While I have won what some might consider "bigger" cases, I was most personally gratified by my successful *pro bono* representation of the "pepper spray" student who was expelled from Baltimore County public schools because another student used my client's pepper spray. At the request of Advocates for Children & Youth, I challenged the "zero tolerance" expulsion of this straight-A senior and secured an injunction returning her to class.

Example of Mentoring:

I mentor law clerks and students every day, but my most significant contribution in this area is my participation in the life of David, a bright 12-year-old whose family has decompensated

as a result of violence and substance abuse. For three years, I have paid for David's private-school tuition, clothing and other education necessities, have taken him on outings, and have tried to help him develop a dream and the skills/self-esteem to realize that dream.

Officer/Board Membership in Professional/Business/Trade Organizations:

1998-Present: Various Positions, Self-Insurance Institute of America; 1994-1996: Trustee, Maryland Law Review; 1992-Present: Member, Maryland Association of Defense Counsel; 1992-Present: Member, Defense Research Institute; 1986-Present: Chair Young Lawyers, Bar Association of Baltimore City; 1986-Present: Board of Governors, Maryland State Bar Association; 1986-Present: Vice-Chair TIPS/SIRM, American Bar Association

Officer/Board Membership in Civic/Nonprofit Organizations:

1996-Present: Member, Fellow, Maryland Bar Foundation; 1996: Researcher, Governor's Commission on Future of Maryland Courts; 1995-1998: Member, Literacy Works/Lawyers for Literacy; 1994-Present: Officer, Trustee, Fellow, Baltimore Bar Foundation; 1994-1998: Advisory Council Member, School House Legal Services/ACY

Awards/Honors:

2000: Baltimore Bar Foundation, Elected as Fellow; 1996: Maryland State Bar Association, Elected as Fellow; 1995: Bar Association of Baltimore City Certificate of Appreciation (Chair Young Lawyers' Division); 1995: American Bar Association Award of Achievement Appreciation (Chair Young Lawyers' Division)

Personal Accomplishment:

My practice, my "victories," my oil portraits are all external and temporary. What is significant is what we leave in the hearts and the lives of others and what they leave in our hearts and lives. What are our truths? How do we live them? In that sense, my most significant accomplishment was the profound and intimate jour-

ney into death that I shared with my father during his battle with pancreatic cancer. My goal was to walk with him as far as I could go, to do all that I could do, to say at the end that I had spared nothing of myself and that I had given back to him in his dying as much as he had given to me in his living. The process was shattering, deepening and humbling. And I am a stronger, better person for it.

Birth Date/Place:

6/19/59 Baltimore



The Hon. Elizabeth Bobo
Delegate, District 12B
Maryland General Assembly

5561 Suffield Court
Columbia, Md. 21044
(410) 997-2626
(410) 997-2545 fax
E-mail:
elizabeth_bobo@house.state.md.us

Education:

Juris Doctor, University of Maryland, 1981
Bachelor of Arts, University of Maryland, 1971

Career History:

1994-Present: Maryland House of Delegates, Delegate
1990-1993: Maryland Department of Human Resources, Deputy Secretary
1986-1990: Howard County Executive
1982-1986, Bounds, Short, and Eagan, Attorney

Significant Accomplishment:

Being the first woman in Maryland elected to the office of county executive and obtaining Howard County's first AAA bond rating during my term in office.

Example of Mentoring:

In the 1994 campaign, I knocked on Vivian Steven's door. She said