

**BLACK**  
*History*  
**MONTH**



"THE MONTHLY "

FEB.2023 WK.2-3

599\$

699\$

499\$

MARGARET E. MORTON  
1924-2012

Margaret Morton was a trailblazer for African-American women in the Connecticut General Assembly. In fact, she was the first African-American woman elected to serve in the state legislature. Born in Pocahontas, Virginia in 1924, she was the granddaughter of a former slave. After marrying James Morton (a Tuskegee Airman) the two moved to Bridgeport. In the 1950s the couple started what became a very successful small business, Morton's Mortuary, which Margaret managed in its formative years. In 1957, she organized a protest in Bridgeport against F.W. Woolworth's segregated lunch counters in the South. In 1972, at the age of 48, Margaret pursued a run for the state House of Representatives. She won that seat, becoming the first African-American woman to serve in the Connecticut General Assembly. She served in the House for four terms. In 1980, she challenged the established Bridgeport Democratic party by running against the incumbent state senator in a primary. She won that primary by eight votes, and after a lengthy court battle with city Democrats, Margaret went on to win the general election to become the first African-American woman elected to the Connecticut State Senate. Margaret served six terms in the Senate and ascended to the position of Deputy President Pro Tempore in 1990. She was the highest-ranking black woman in legislative history when she retired from the Senate in 1992.



**Celebrating**  
**Bridgeport's**  
**Black History**



A woman's place is in the House and the Senate too.

~M. MORTON

Dancer's Price  
DC & J's Trustworthy Cleaning Svce  
Djess Jacques  
East End NRZ Pop Up Market & Café LLC  
Eveready Home Improvement LLC  
Fancy J's Clothing Boutique  
Fancy Kutz  
Four Star Movers  
Full Circle Youth Empowerment Inc.  
Grab Money Entertainment  
Grace of God I&E Express LLC  
H&A Home Improvement LLC  
Hall Consulting Services LLC.  
Harvey's Kitchen  
Heart & Hand Cleaning Co  
Home First Healthcare LLC  
Hook Property Management  
Horelly Home Stays & Rentals  
IEN Home Improvements LLC  
Jacques Osman  
Jimvon Moving LLC  
Jones & Jones Construction  
Just Breathe CT LLC  
Kafa Group  
Karoray LLC  
Landscape Architecture  
Laurent Agency LLC.  
Layne Lubrications LLC  
LEAD Development LLC.  
Little Rainbow Daycare  
Lovely's Boutique & Beauty LLC

Magnacon7  
McBride Safety & Security Consultants, LLC  
Merville LLC dba QWIKPACK  
MFXA Construction and Management  
Million Dollar Cleaning LLC  
Miss Thelma's (Carmen's Restaurant LLC)  
Mobile Registration Services of Connecticut LLC  
Monitor My Health, INC  
Morgan Taxservices LLC  
Mowatt Painting & Home Improvement LLC  
Ms. Mona's Childcare  
Muck Mudd Inc.  
My Way Mentoring  
Newton's Elite Services LLC  
O & Co. Media  
PC Repair Center  
Poe's Kitchen LLC  
Precious Gifts Preschool  
Premier Construction MAC, LLC  
PrintabiliTees, LLC.  
PTY Tech LLC  
Purpose Powerhouse LLC  
Right Away! Roadside Service LLC  
RJAM Sound & Technology  
Rum & Tequila Fusion  
Salon Jada  
Salon Lavoughn  
Scotch Bonnett Studio LLC  
Simply Electric LLC  
Sit, Sip and Chat LLC  
Soaring LLC  
Solomons House LLC  
Sonia's Kitchen  
Sunset Services LLC  
T&T Fashion LLC  
Team Focus Enterprise LLC  
The Fresh Factory LLC  
Tip Top Cleaning LLC.  
Tip Top Cleaning LLC.  
TLC Service LLC  
Trace & Craft LLC  
Turning Point Coaching LLC  
United Transpo Depo LLC  
Victory Productions LLC  
WC McBride Electrical Contractors LLC.  
Yapp Trucking LLC  
Yard Doctor LLC  
Z Licious Caribbean Kitchen LLC

**Celebrating Bridgeport-Based  
Black-Owned  
Businesses  
2023**

# Black History Month

## Supporting City-Based Black-Owned Businesses

CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL PROMOTIONS BEING OFFERED BY LOCAL BLACK- OWNED BUSINESSES

### **Dancer's Price**

[dancersprice@gmail.com](mailto:dancersprice@gmail.com)  
Lurine Campbell 203-  
362-5933

Dance apparel retail  
store. 1001 Main St.  
\$20 off \$100 or more

### **Grace of God I&E Express LLC**

[uisnada@yahoo.com](mailto:uisnada@yahoo.com)

Unelus Isnada  
718-415-7185

Selling clothing, shoes, jewelry,  
perfumes

**20% with code 'GRACE'**

### **Lovely's Boutique & Beauty LLC LLC**

[nasshonchambers@gmail.com](mailto:nasshonchambers@gmail.com)

Nasshon Thompson  
2068 Main St

Retail boutique. Clothing, wigs, hair extensions  
& shoes for both males and females.

**30-50 % on clothing items**

# Black History Month

## Supporting City-Based Black-Owned Businesses

IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL PROMOTIONS BEING OFFERED BY LOCAL BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES

### Mobile Registration Services of Connecticut LLC

andre@mobileregservices.com

Andre Whaley

203-685-4531

52 Fairfield Ave

We are a title processing service located Downtown Bridgeport CT. We issue registrations with hard plates at the time of service, eliminating the need for people to go to the DMV.

Contact for discount!

### O & Co . Media

okpognon@gmail.com

Oliver Kpognon

203-722-7123

339 Broad St

Creative agency and communications consultants for small businesses and Fortune 500 retailers. Multimedia services and corporate communications.

50% Off

### Precious Gifts Preschool

Julian Gordon 203-726-7304

1666 Fairfield Ave

Childcare Services. 10% -

15% (families with multiple children needing enrollment) discount to new families. This discount will ONLY be offered in the month of February for a start date in May of 2023 when we expand our services.

# Black History Month

Supporting City-Based Black Owned Businesses  
IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL  
PROMOTIONS

BEING OFFERED BY LOCAL BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES

Arrington Financial Services  
203-212-4947  
Janet.arrington51@gmail.com  
Savings and Spending plans.  
Healthcare and Medicare insurance  
20% Off tax prep. Free plan  
guidance for those eligible for  
Medicare and Medicaid.

Auntie's Puff Palace  
auntiespuffpalace@gmail.com  
203-800-2597  
All natural smoke suppliers, organic herbs,  
CBD products, and  
handmade goods by local  
artisans.  
Contact for discount!

Creative Venue & Rentals LLC ~ 10% OFF

creativerentals@hotmail.com

Banquet Hall as well as rental equipment for events.

Shauna-Marie Lopes 860-671-8727 40 Logan St

**RJAM Sound & Technology**  
Rommel@rjamsoundtechnology.com  
Rommel Donovan

**203-275-7195**

**A sound reinforcement, media production and digital optimization and audio engineering company. Audio media, stage production, lighting, sound and video. Recording, computer training, microphone and stage monitoring.**

**20% Off**

**Sit, Sip and Chat LLC**  
coachportia@sitsipchat.com  
Portia Brantley

**203-727-5368**

**Parts work coaching sessions. Unburdening meditations, public speaking, books, teaching**

**20% discounts on services for Bridgeport residents or workers**

**Turning Point Coaching LLC**  
arlene@turningpointcoaching1.com  
Arlene Donovan

**203-685-5932**

**Workforce development, leadership training, executive + career coaching, facilitator and computer education services.**

**Up to 50%**



**PrintabiliTees, LLC.**  
jere@printabilitees.com  
Jere C. Easton

**203-322-3390**

**Established in 2004, is a custom apparel full service branding company with a focus on, screen printing embroidery and large format printing. We offer promotional items, cooperate and personal gifts, team and work uniforms, tee-shirts, sport shirts, hoodies, coats, banners, signs, trophies, and so much more. Printibilities is located in a Bridgeport hub zone and hires locally.**

**15% off all orders \$200 or more placed by February 28. Excludes: set-up fees, taxes, and applicable shipping. Some items may not apply to this offer.**

**IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL PROMOTIONS**

**BEING OFFERED BY LOCAL BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES**

# News To Know

## **Governor Calls for Connecticut's First Income Tax Rate Reduction in Almost Thirty Years and the Largest Rate Reduction in State History**

Governor Ned Lamont held a news conference in East Hartford to announce that the fiscal years 2024 and 2025 biennial state budget proposal that he will present to the General Assembly later this week calls for a broad-based reduction in income tax rates for middle-class workers in Connecticut.

Currently, single (joint) filers pay a 3% state personal income tax on their first \$10,000 (\$20,000) of adjusted gross income and a 5% tax on income up to \$50,000 (\$100,000). Governor Lamont is proposing to permanently lower the 5% rate to 4.5% and the 3% rate to 2% beginning with income year 2024. This is expected to save taxpayers \$440 million annually. Depending on adjusted gross income, some joint filers could receive almost \$600 in income tax relief and single filers could save almost \$300. In total, about 1.1 million of the state's 1.7 million tax filers will see some amount of relief under the plan.

If approved by the legislature, this will become Connecticut's first income tax rate reduction since 1996 and the largest rate reduction since the income tax was implemented in 1991.

## **Governor Lamont Announces 2023 Legislative Proposal: Cancel Medical Debt for Connecticut Residents**

Based on a model that other governments throughout the United States have used recently, the governor's proposal calls for the state to invest \$20 million in federal COVID-19 recovery funding it received from the American Rescue Plan Act and use those dollars to contract with a nonprofit organization that buys medical debt and eliminates it at a fraction of the original cost. The nonprofit will contact local hospitals and hospital systems directly, purchase entire portfolios of debt owed by eligible households, and negotiate with the hospitals to cancel that debt. There is no application process for eligible households to have their debt canceled. In other jurisdictions that have pursued this strategy, the amount of medical debt canceled for households has ranged from \$25 to six-figure amounts. Two-thirds of personal bankruptcies are caused by medical debt.

One nonprofit working under this model states that they have been able to generate more than a one-to-100 return on investment of government dollars. This is because hospitals often sell medical debt for pennies on the dollar.

The Lamont administration estimates that this \$20 million investment has the potential to eliminate about \$2 billion in medical debt for Connecticut residents – an astounding amount of financial relief for a relatively small investment. The investment will be included as a component of Governor Lamont's fiscal years 2024 and 2025 biennial state budget proposal, which he will present to the General Assembly next week.