



WOMEN — in — BUSINESS

Get to know these seasoned entrepreneurs, business owners, and leading women in the greater Charleston community

Photos by LEA AUSTEN

Intro photo for illustration by CECE BOYKIN

A portrait of Sharon Campbell, a woman with short, wavy blonde hair, smiling. She is wearing a purple long-sleeved top with cutouts on the shoulders and a necklace with two overlapping circles, one silver and one gold. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a wooden fence.

SHARON CAMPBELL

BACKYARD RETREATS • 843-856-0049
BACKYARDRETREATSINC.COM

My Business: We are located behind the colorful row of Adirondack chairs on Highway 17 North in Mt. Pleasant. We love to work with customers and help them create their own backyard retreat, by helping them purchase the best outdoor furniture in the industry. We purchase our products from great American companies, and our products give customers many years of enjoyment. We believe quality, honesty, integrity, and dedication is the key reason we have been in business in the same location for over 20 years. We thank our loyal customers for their continued support.

I Hope More Women Will: Inspire family, friends and the world, making it a better place to live regardless of age, creed or culture.

You'd Never Guess That: I am a silver ballroom dancer and do competitive ballroom dancing.

Words of Wisdom: Always think positive we encounter so many negative issues daily in this world, so do something positive for yourself and others. It will make your life so much happier.

My Heroine Is: My Mother. She always taught me that hard work, integrity, and honesty is the way to succeed in life. She also taught me to put God first and all else would work out.

WOMEN
in
BUSINESS

STEVEN SHELL LIVING

843-216-3900

STEVENSHELL.COM

L-R: Cindy Wilson, Elizabeth Tinkler, Holly Brown, Blair Powell, Ellen Conde, Rebecca Morton, Maureen Marr(not pictured), Julie Larkin

We're Thankful For: Working with a wonderful team that has become like family.

We Hope More Women Will: Strive for excellence, not perfection.

You'd Never Guess That: We doubled in size in less than 3 years of being open.

Three Things We Can't Live Without: Color, a sense of humor and champagne.

Words of Wisdom: Always take setbacks as a time for spiritual growth.

We Admire Women Who: Pave their own way.

Our Business: Helps clients turn their house into a home with custom furniture and beautiful decor.

The Secret to Good Business Is: Having a unique selling point.

Our Business: Helps clients turn their house into a home with custom furniture and beautiful decor.

We're Proud Of: Seeing our products in local businesses and homes throughout Charleston. It's an honor for us that people choose our furniture.

SALLY CASTENGERA

DANIEL ISLAND REAL ESTATE

843-971-3501 • DANIELISLAND.COM

I'm Thankful For: Godly parents who taught me to love the Lord, treat everyone with dignity and respect and to work hard and achieve all that God has promised. I am thankful for my precious husband Philip, who is my inspiration "The Wind Beneath My Wings"!

Words of Wisdom: Be addicted to constant and never ending self-improvement.

I Admire Women Who: Help other women achieve their greatest potential.

My Business: I LOVE being a realtor! Just celebrated my 20th anniversary with Daniel Island Real Estate where I have consistently been the top sales associate! One of my greatest joys has been serving as the Chaplain of the East Cooper Top Producers Club since 2001, as well as getting to know so many realtors through my service on various committees at CTAR. I am thankful for and cherish the friendships of people from all over the world that I have been privileged to help find or sell their homes.



DR. VIRGINIA L. GREGORY

VIRGINIA L. GREGORY, D.M.D.

843-884-8884

VIRGINIAGREGORY.COM

I'm Thankful For: Having a wonderful family. My husband and daughter are the best and make life happy for me. I had terrific parents and my siblings and their families are all great people. I am blessed to have them all in my life.

I Hope More Women Will: Come to realize how powerful they can be in the workforce and society, and not be afraid to develop themselves and step up into positions of leadership.

The Secret to Good Business Is: To hire highly competent people, provide good training, and then don't micromanage them. Good team members will take you and your business way beyond what you can achieve by yourself

I'm Proud Of: The dental practice that my team and I have built together. I have been in practice for 30 years and I could not have done it without the help of my incredible staff and my husband. Together we strive to be a force for dental health in the Charleston community, changing the lives of our patients and hopefully making a significant impact on their total health.



CAROLINE WEST

GEDNEY M. HOWE, III, P.A.

843-722-8048

GEDNEYHOWE.COM

I'm Thankful For: The opportunity to help injured people and their families through my career each day.

You'd Never Guess That: Practicing law is not at all like it is portrayed on TV and in the movies.

Three Things I Can't Live Without: My family, cold bottled water and full-bodied wines.

I Admire Women Who: Think before they speak and aren't afraid to stand up for their beliefs.

Our Business: We're a boutique personal injury law firm handling all types of injury and death cases, including,

but not limited to, auto accidents, trucking accidents, products liability, medical negligence, traumatic brain injury, premises liability, admiralty/maritime accidents, and electrocution.

My Heroine Is: My paternal grandmother, Caroline McKee Welch, a noble and courageous woman of distinguished character.

I'm Proud Of: My 10 year old daughter, Caroline "Isabel" West. She works hard at all that she does, cares deeply about and has empathy for people with whom she comes in contact, and knows how to have fun.



CATHERINE MOOREHEAD

NEXT TO NEW • 843-606-2715

NEXTTONEWSC.COM

I'm Thankful For: Having had a wonderful woman (Cindy Clark) as my business partner for five years and our great staff of energetic, dedicated women who helped me negotiate the trials and tribulations of managing the store solo for the past months.

I Admire Women Who: Find something positive in any situation, keep a sense of humor and always see the glass as half full.

My Business: In an age when so many of us relocate, redecorate, and renovate, we are left with a collection of quality home furnishings that are no longer needed. Over the last 5 years, Next To New has become Mount Pleasant's award winning destination for the consignment and sale of these gently used quality home décorations.

My Heroine Is: Joan Benoit Samuelson - the American runner who won gold in the first ever women's Olympic marathon in Los Angeles in 1984. She held the women's record for the Boston marathon for 28 years, and still holds the record for the women's Olympic marathon, and the Chicago marathon.

FRANKIE LIADY, LAURA GASKINS, CELESTE IMBORNONE

MARIGOLDS • 843-851-2828

MARIGOLDSSUMMerville.COM

We're Thankful For: The enduring support of our customers as we approach our 10th year in business, most of whom we also call friends. We have not only assisted them in finding the perfect gift, accessory, outfit or home décor piece, we have become family and shared in the many milestones of their lives.

We Hope More Women Will: Discover their true potential and realize that they are enough. As women we tend to focus so greatly on our shortcomings and nurturing others to succeed, that we lose our own selves.

Our Business: We are a weathered blend of distinctive home décor, fine gifts, exquisite linens, exclusive apparel and statement lighting along with unique salvage finds. We are also an approved stockist of Chalk Paint® Decorative Paint by Annie Sloan. Marigolds is a family owned business of mother, Frankie, and her two daughters, Laura and Celeste, whom constantly collaborate, blending our tastes, ideas and attention to detail into an inimitable shopping experience.



ANNA CAMENS DINGER

CAMENS ARCHITECTURAL GROUP

843-768-3800

CAMENSARCHITECTURALGROUP.COM

I'm Thankful For: Where do I begin... my health and happiness, my incredible family, doing work I love, and the many, many great blessings in my life.

I Hope More Women Will: Embrace their talents, strength, and intelligence, and utilize their great capacity for love, compassion, and understanding.

You'd Never Guess That: I have a passion for cars and acquired my racing license this year. It's all green lights!

I Admire Women Who: Live their lives with joy, love in their hearts, and spark in their step!

Our Business: Client service, first and foremost. We offer full service architectural design: residential, renovation, and light commercial. We are listening architects.

The Secret to Good Business Is: Treat your clients like family: with honor, integrity, respect, and with love and kindness in your heart.

I'm Proud Of: How our company has grown and flourished, our incredible client relationships, and the beautiful work we do.

JAN SNOOK

JAN SNOOK & ASSOCIATES
CAROLINA ONE REAL ESTATE
843-437-3330

I'm Thankful For: An opportunity to provide excellent skills and service for clients that are selling or purchasing homes in the challenging real estate market in Mt. Pleasant and Charleston.

I Hope More Women Will: Enjoy and love the life they are given each and every day. Embrace the hardships as gifts as well as the glorious times. Each challenge gives us the opportunity to be better.

Words of Wisdom: No one cares what you know, until they know that you care.

My Business: We create good systems! It is a huge help to having a good business. Responding as quickly as possible to questions and issues is a key factor in getting the job done.

I'm Proud Of: Putting the client's needs and desires first, and helping them resolve issues and finding satisfactory solutions to problems. Seeing the smiles of happy clients!



WESLEY BLOOMFIELD

AVOCET HOSPITALITY GROUP

843-588-6699 • AVOCETHOSPITALITY.COM



I'm Thankful For: Each day that I can put two feet on the ground.

I Hope More Women Will: Not give in to societal pressures.

You'd Never Guess That: I consider a day fishing alone absolute perfection.

Three Things I Can't Live Without: Saltwater, fried chicken and family.

Words of Wisdom: No one ever cares as much as you think they do.

I Admire Women Who: Can balance work and family life gracefully.

My Business: Hospitality, aka "making people smile".

The Secret to Good Business Is: Remembering that God gave us two ears and one mouth for a reason.

My Heroine Is: My great grandmother. She was a dairy farmer with eleven children.

I'm Proud Of: How much I've accomplished at such a young age. Hard work really does get you ahead in life.

I'm Thankful For: My parents who taught me the meaning of loyalty and hard work and of course my family's support, plus my wonderful Clients who have been with me through thick and thin over the past 10 years since I opened Foxworth's.

You'd Never Guess That: I started in this business with my Father, Colonel Gene Foxworth, who opened the first Baldwin Hardware retail showroom in the United States over 30 years ago. I owe my success today to my Father based on the principles he instilled upon me at a very early age.

My Business: Is based on a cradle to grave philosophy. We work with the Client from the beginning until they

have moved into their new dream home. A Customer's satisfaction is the best advertising anyone could ever possibly hope for in retail.

The Secret to Good Business Is: Customer service second-to-none without a doubt. Price is always important, but service during and after a sale leaves a far more lasting impression.

I'm Proud Of: The way my business has grown. I grew up in a family business, and now I am a very proud business owner myself with the help of my husband Rob. Living the dream of a small business owner is something that I take great pride in my life.

CHRISTINE FOXWORTH REILLY

FOXWORTH DECORATIVE HARDWARE

843-881-0827 • FOXWORTH-HARDWARE.COM



RACHEL BURTON, AIA, OAA, ARCH

SWALLOWTAIL ARCHITECTURE

843-885-9400

SWALLOWTAILARCHITECTURE.COM

I'm Thankful For: When my husband was offered a job with Mead Westvaco, we moved to the U.S. from Canada without knowing very much about Charleston or SC. Fifteen years later, I'm so thankful to be able to live and work in this wonderful place!

My Business: As the sole owner and architect, I specialize in residential architecture in the Lowcountry and Charleston market. My familiarity with the Zoning Ordinances and proven experience with creating designs that win approval from the local Boards of Design Review, means you get the best advice and best design solution so you can build a beautiful and functional home, exactly as you dreamed.

My Heroine Is: Dame Zaha Mohammad Hadid. She was an Iraqi-born British architect who was the first woman star-architect, and the first woman to receive the International Pritzker Architecture Prize, winning it in 2004. She also received the Stirling Architecture Prize in 2010 and 2011. We lost a great architect when she died at 65 on March 31, 2016.

DR. LAUREN CALLISON

PLEASANT FAMILY DENTISTRY

843-654-1946

PLEASANTFAMILYDENTISTRY.COM

I'm Thankful For: Amazing patients, wonderful co-workers, and a great office space that is growing and increasing in technology and the ability to treat patients well.

I Hope More Women Will: Recognize that having a career and taking care of a family is possible with hard work and a lot of patience.

You'd Never Guess That: I was the class clown in high school.

Three Things I Can't Live Without: My husband, coffee and exercise.

Words of Wisdom: See beyond barriers, allow yourself to strive for things you thought impossible and always have goals.

My Business: Strives to take care of the patients to the best of our ability and go above and beyond their expectations, while delivering high quality dental treatment.

The Secret to Good Business Is: Communication, timeliness, and understanding people's needs and wants, what motivates them, and how to keep them happy.



LAJUAN KENNEDY

FRED HOLLAND REALTY • 843-588-2325
FREDHOLLANDREALTY.COM

My Business: I own and operate Fred Holland Realty. We specialize in resort properties, but also work the greater Charleston area. We have a large weekly management business that keeps everyone moving.

Why I Chose This Career: I was recruited by Fred Holland in the 70s and fell in love with the job. I have worked for 40 plus years, and still enjoy what I do.

Best Business Advice I Ever Received: Work hard and know your market.

How I Relax: With my grandchildren, I enjoy being with them and sharing in their lives.

Best Advice to Other Women: It is not always easy, but you must prove you can do the job as good as anyone.

One Thing on my Bucket List: To visit and see Scotland and Ireland.

My Greatest Strengths: Handling difficult situations, staying focused and helping others solve problems.

On a Typical Day: Check on properties listed. What activity am I seeing and how can I get more activity on my listings. Keep reservationist and vendors doing their jobs with the management side. Encourage others to work hard and be successful.

Why I Love Doing Business in Charleston: Charleston is a beautiful city and the coast where I do most of my business is the best on the East coast. Would not want to live anywhere else.

WOMEN in BUSINESS

I'm Thankful For: My family, loving what I do for a living and being able to pass on my life's mission to appreciate, love and heal the earth, and to have compassion for all animals and wildlife.

My Business: Offers daily nature adventures and overnight expeditions, providing kayak, canoe, paddleboard and eco-tour boat and hiking tours throughout the Lowcountry region.

My Heroine Is: Jane Goodall. Her life has been devoted to conservation and working on animal rights and environmental issues. She is truly a renowned world leader and she continues to do so in her life-long mission.

I'm Proud Of: Building a company that has been a true leader in environmental education and preservation by taking tens of thousands of paddlers out every year that include tourists, college students, school groups and kid's camps. People choose us because of our knowledge and expertise and want to help us with our mission to give back to the environment.



**KATHIE
LIVINGSTON**
NATURE ADVENTURES OUTFITTERS
843-568-3222
KAYAKCHARLESTONSC.COM



I'm Thankful For: The success of our business—we have worked very hard to obtain our loyal customers.

Three Things I Can't Live Without: Faith, family and friends.

You'd Never Guess That: I'm an extremely picky eater. I studied culinary arts so I could learn different ways to prepare food and substitute for my likes.

Words of Wisdom: Always try to improve and strive to be better. Never stop learning or growing.

The Secret to Good Business Is: Treat your customers like they are family.

I'm Proud Of: The lives we've touched over the years. My husband and I consider it a great responsibility to show what a loving, married relationship looks like. We work together every day. We are not perfect, but we sure have love.

LAURIE LANGFORD
WILLIE JEWELL'S OLD SCHOOL BAR-B-Q
843-789-3636 • WILLIEJEWELLS.COM