

Business Spotlight: Victoria's Beauty Salon



Victoria's pool table has become her laboratory



View of the inside of Victoria's Beauty Salon



“Meet Blackstone’s own “Doctor of Hair”

Victoria Walker is not your typical person and Victoria's Beauty Salon is not your typical hair salon.

When asked what distinguishes Victoria's from other salons, owner Victoria says, "We are always open and we use natural products with ingredients like honey, yogurt, eggs, and coconut, blended with essential oils and herbs for conditioners." She continues, "I also use profile cards for each customer and deal with their hair from an all-natural standpoint. Because I formulate my own shampoos, I can tailor products to the needs of my customers. Most other salons use manufactured products."

She continues enthusiastically, "If a customer is undergoing chemo therapy, thyroid treatments or has high blood pressure or high cholesterol and the treatments affect their hair, I can formula a chemical free product that will be tailored to the texture of their hair. The natural ingredients work very well for hair that is weakened or damaged by medical treatments."

But the unique hair products are not the only reason that customers come back to Victoria's over and over again. "They can tell I am concerned about their hair and how it relates to their overall well-being," she says. She describes herself as a "Doctor for hair" and most would say she is right on target. She is always studying and gathering knowledge about hair and using it to help her customers.

So how did the good hair doctor get to this point in her life?

After a 4 year stint in the Army where she was the military equivalent of a USDA inspector, Victoria returned to her native Seattle and went to Cosmetology school. She then spent the next 15 years in Alexandria, Virginia working with various business partners, one of which was less than scrupulous and landed them on very thin ice, so to speak. So she decided to go to work for someone else, a well-known, well-run local hair salon. During her time there, she met R&B singer Angela Stone who asked Victoria to travel with her as a personal hair dresser. She did 7 tours with Stone.

Family problems forced Victoria to eventually leave Alexandria. She came to Lawrenceville, the home of her friend. Unfortunately, the problems followed. Domestic violence landed her at Madeline’s House for 3 months. But she did not let that defeat her.

And she spoke out about domestic violence. She even got invited to speak before Congress in Lynchburg, encouraging them to keep

shelters like Madeline's House open.

Today, she is happily married to Frank Walker III and they have 5 children, 4 sons and a daughter!

Victoria was determined to turn her life around after leaving Madeline's House so she rented a house from Jerry Coles who was happy to help her get back on her feet. Eventually, after deciding to open a salon, Victoria naturally went to Mr. Coles again and this time she rented the back of the Old Coles Department store in Blackstone where she ran her salon for 3 years before expanding her business to the front. She has occupied the entire building for the last two years.

Victoria describes herself as having the ability to envision success and the drive to act on her inclinations. But it is her faith that keeps her moving forward, she says. Victoria is deeply spiritual and despite the tough times she has experienced, has a positive outlook on life. These attributes have served her well, especially since she's been in Blackstone. The Beauty Salon has gone from 3 stations to 13 stations, they now offer unisex services, and she is looking for a nail technician. She is also launching her own line of head to toe care products for all hair, scalp, and skin care issues.

Should you decide to visit Victoria's Beauty Salon, which now fronts Main Street, expect the unexpected. The sidewalk outside the entrance displays children's clothing hanging from a couple of large shutters, a result of Victoria's big heart. She does this for a friend who sells the clothing. Inside the salon, the sound of contemporary Gospel music fills the air. A pleasant aroma of incense intermingles with the smell of hair care products. In the middle of the room sits a pool table laden with little bottles of various containers of the natural ingredients she uses. Her laboratory, she calls it.

A visit to Victoria's Beauty Salon promises to be an experience as unique as the individual who owns it. Both will leave you with a warm and wonderful feeling of being well cared for. We highly recommend Blackstone's one and only Doctor of Hair.