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NEWS

MARIA T. BERNARDO BRADY Age: 47 President Marakae Marketing, Inc. (asi/260725)

→ I attended Penn State University and Robert Morris University earning a degree in Marketing Communications, graduating with honors.

→ My childhood ambition was to own a business. When my friends wanted to "play school," I wanted to "play business." I would set up a store front to sell my dolls and stuffed animals. I also set up an office using a typewriter (with the right-handle return).

→ I launched my marketing company in 1996 after my first daughter was born so I could enjoy being a mom and still have a rewarding career. When coordinating directmail campaigns and trade shows, I realized the importance of promotional products and decided to join ASI.

→ You may be surprised to know that I row 3-4 miles virtually every morning on a Concept II indoor rower and recently ran my first 5K!

→ The best advice anyone has given me is: Always make sure your job aligns with your personal values which will provide an internal balance.

→ The most unique product I have sold is a very stylish, custom cell phone case that incorporated recycled leather to hit the mark for a "women in business" campaign. I partnered with Leeman Designs.

→ My proudest recent achievement is composing the first few sections of an inspirational book I hope to publish.

→ My favorite part about being in sales is truly listening to clients, developing solutions and helping them succeed.

→ I believe the greatest gifts you can possess are faith in God and confidence in yourself! That amazing combination will help you overcome trials and achieve your goals.

 \rightarrow On my days off, you will find me cooking - an activity I really enjoy, along with gardening and soaking up the sun - weather permitting of course.

→ This morning on my way to work, I listened to country music - Luke Bryan!

→ My favorite website is *Ideeli*. com - awesome, stylish clothes and accessories.

Five things I'm loving now:

Spending time with my teenage daughters. We share shoes!

Providing exemplary service to Clients every day.

B Working with great suppliers who consistently exceed expectations.

4 Reading Being Tremendous - the Life, Lessons and Legacy of Charlie 'Tremendous' Jones

•CHARLES

Shopping in NYC for fabulous fashions and sipping Cosmos with a city view.

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