

THE 2020 ACCOUNTING **POVVER 50**

The most influential men and women in the profession that keep the state's businesses on track

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Also inside

Startups took a hit at the outset of the pandemic, but investors and entrepreneurs say the climate has improved in recent weeks. **Page 4**

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HOW TO REACH US

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CIRCULATION

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Joshua Suggs – DELTA'S RESTAURANT

David Burke – DAVID BURKE HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT



Tim McLoone – MCLOONE'S RESTAURANTS

TAKEN OUT

In an NJBIZ webinar, three restaurateurs describe their efforts to keep going during the pandemic shutdown and how they hope to recover

BY JEFFREY KANIGE @IKANIGE

Joshua Suggs took two hits from the COVID-19 pandemic. First, he contracted the disease early in the outbreak, suffering from shortness of breath and spending time in a hospital. "I've never been that tired in my life," Suggs said.

At the same time, the restrictions Gov. Phil Murphy imposed on businesses to halt the spread of the virus closed his business, Delta's Restaurant in New Brunswick. "I didn't believe the cash flow [from takeout orders] would be worth the risk" to his employees, Suggs said during a July 13 NJBIZ webinar on how the state's hospitality industry is coping with the pandemic.

Suggs was joined on the panel by David Burke, president of David Burke Hospitality Management which operates 14 restaurants, including four in New Jersey; and Tim McLoone, president of McLoone's Restaurants, which operates 10 eateries around the state.

While McLoone and Burke have been offering takeout and, more recently, outdoor dining, Suggs said he was planning to reopen for the first time on July 14. But operating at reduced capacity has not been easy. McLoone likened the effect of the pandemic to the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in 2012. "It was as if all of our restaurants burned to

ground and we had no insurance," he said of the catastrophe. "It took five to seven years to recover after Sandy."

At the outset of the state's shutdown. McLoone said his restaurants "weren't remotely set up" to provide takeout service. "We did it to get rid of our perishables." Then the company closed all of its restaurants and laid off 700 people. "Then we decided to tiptoe our way back into to-go," he said. Takeout had accounted for about 2 percent of McLoone's revenues before the pandemic. "And yet I would look across the street from our office and see the neighborhood Dunkin' Donuts with a line of 25 cars waiting to go through their drive-through."

While the restaurateurs welcomed the advent of outdoor dining, they said the capacity reductions might only be sustainable if indoor service is permitted by the fall. "Our goal was we wanted to still be standing on June 1 of next year," McLoone said.

Suggs credited federal Paycheck Protection Program loans with helping keep Delta's afloat. And he looks forward to having the loans forgiven. "If they really are all forgiven," he said, "then maybe we can see some profits."

Burke noted that restaurants face additional expenses to ensure and enforce social distancing. "You can't expect a waiter or a manager to police the customers," he said, because of the staff's reliance on tips.

He is skeptical that changes to heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems would be worthwhile. "We can't rebuild our restaurants," he said. Hair salons, Burke added, had been allowed to welcome customers back inside. "Do you think they have upgraded their air conditioning," he asked. "I don't think so."

Nonetheless, he noted, "people are watching" to make sure restaurant owners are doing everything they can to keep patrons safe. Suggs said he had installed a contactless payment system and is upgrading Delta's restrooms with touchless faucets and soap dispensers.

McLoone said he believes his efforts are paying off, with customers filling the seats at his places. "There's a feeling in the community that you better call ahead and make reservations," he said. One of his restaurants, Rum Runner in Sea Bright, is "doing better than before," after adding outdoor seats under a carport.

And the industry right now is benefiting from goodwill among the public, McLoone added. People understand what the restaurant business is going through and want their favorite places to survive. "The customer is rooting for us right now," he said.

A recording of the event, NJBIZ Conversations Presents: Restaurant Renaissance, is available on NIBIZ.com.

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HERE'S TO THOSE WHO IMAGINE MORE.

Congratulations to Steven Schinella, Office Managing Partner -Roseland, and Kim Brandley, Assurance Partner, on making the NJBIZ Power 50: Accounting for 2020!

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ENTREPRENEURIAL ENDURANCE

With an assist from the state, startups keep moving during the pandemic

BY DANIEL J. MUNOZ @DANIELMUNOZ100

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority on July 14 unveiled the first two recipients for the expanded version of Angel Investor Tax Credits, which helps investors recoup some of the financial losses incurred from investments in budding technology and life-sciences start-ups.

Under the \$25 million program, investors can sell tax credits for up to 20 percent of investments into certain startups in the state, or 25 percent for investments in lowincome communities, federal opportunity zones or businesses owned by women or people of color.

"Keeping money flowing to the innovation sector during the coronavirus pandemic is critical to the fiscal strength of our economy," Rachel Goemaat, a spokesperson for the EDA, said in a statement. "We anticipate that businesses will continue using this program as a tool to attract capital as they navigate this new, post-COVID economy."

The total amount is capped at \$500,000, and the money investors receive by selling credits is a guaranteed amount they will recoup in the event that the investment fails.

In April, the EDA rolled out a CO-VID-19 relief program called the Entrepreneur Guarantee Program. Under this scheme, the agency is setting aside \$5 million to provide loan guarantees – or collateral – for investments made as of March 9 when Gov. Phil Murphy declared the state's public health emergency.

"What the EDA has done is said 'we'll provide a backstop on your risk because we know times are shaky ... we'll guarantee an investment up to a certain amount' and on the flipside they're saying 'we'll award you, by giving you a tax credit so you can have an additional rate on your return," Aaron Price, president and chief executive officer of TechUnitedNJ, formerly the NJ Tech Council, said in an interview.

"They're trying to de-risk on the downside and provide greater incentives on the upside."

Bark Biome - which does business as DIG Labs and produces pet health technology, and produces and sells canine supplements - received \$150,000 in private investments, and was approved for a \$37,500 tax credit. "We were really lucky, because our investments were committed before COV-ID-19," Tara Zedayko, DIG's chief executive officer, said in an interview. The company is one of the first two participants in the expanded Angel Investor program.



Coviello - AARON HOUSTON

Had there not been a pandemic, Zedayko said, "the biggest difference would be access to additional funding... just given the tightening of cash flows."

She noted that the pet care market is booming now with workers at home fostering and adopting pets. "The pandemic has allowed us to grow our business in a scalable, sustainable fashion. So it's allowed us to really take a pause and rethink our beckend architecture, our infrastructure, so that we are set up to a sustainable scale."

The second company, biotechnology firm Elucida Oncology, had received a \$140 investment, and was approved for a \$28 tax credit.

OTHER AVENUES

Similar programs meant to attract investors - like the state's decades -old Net Operating Loss credit program - are meant to help companies offset the financial losses that come with research and development.

Under the NOL program - capped at \$60 million a year - technology and life sciences businesses can acquire tax breaks for research and development that can be sold for at least 80 percent of their value, capped at \$15 million per business.

"Some investors are sort of sitting by the sidelines and watching. Some are focused on their existing profits and making sure those companies survive," Debbie Hart, chief executive officer and founding



art

president of the state's life science and biotech trade group BioNJ, said in an interview. "That's why they want to encourage it, because it's far too infrequent."

An executive at one of the frequent buyers of NOL tax credits, Nutra-Med Packaging, lamented that investment dollars have been scarce lately.

"Generally, I see businesses conserving cash where they can," said Kunal Gupta, Nutra-Med's vice president of operations.



"As such, while buying NOLs may be tax-efficient, it does tie up cash for a period of time. And during this period of uncertainty, a strong cash reserve can mean the difference between a business's survival or demise."

Goemaat pointed out that the program "has always been one of our most popular innovation-focused programs" at the EDA. Gov. Phil Murphy has extended the application deadline by three months, from June 30 to Sept. 30. The EDA also approved a waiver of the physical meeting requirement for another incentive program, NJ Accelerate, which will set aside \$2.5 million to attract accelerators, or the businesses that use them, to New Jersey.

An accelerator is a type of fixedterm "cohort program," spanning 15 to 20 weeks, where entrepreneurs are given access to seed funding, mentoring and technical assistance to prepare and refine their business plans, which they then eventually pitch to investors, according to NJEDA Executive Vice President Kathleen Coviello, who is running the program.

Other programs rolled out under the Murphy administration, such as NJ Ignite, were showing promise during the pandemic, EDA officials suggested. Under NJ Ignite, tech and life science startups are eligible for up to nine months' rent from the state if the businesses move into one of the 21 collaborative workspaces taking part in the program.

The workspace and EDA split the costs on a 1:2 basis under the program, meaning that if the EDA pays for two months of rent, the workspace would be on the hook for just one month.

Unlike traditional office space, collaborative workspaces are typically designed for startup tenants, which might have fewer than a half-dozen employees, and have limited funds to pay for office space and utilities.

Instead, they share the workspace with other startups, where they can network and share ideas. Many of these office spaces have labs, lounges, showers, and ample free coffee.

The EDA's NJ Bioscience Center -Incubator in North Brunswick recently reached 100 percent occupancy, according to Goemaat.

Many of the participating incubators contacted by NJBIZ reported varying degrees of success in attracting tenants during the pandemic, with or without the aid from NJ Ignite.

Leaders at the Princeton Innovation Center BioLabs, just off Route 1 in Plainsboro, and the 1776 workspace at the Cherry Hill Mall, said they saw a notable drop in interest when the pandemic hit the state in mid-March, but that trend has gradually reversed.

"While interest in the Cherry Hill Mall location took an initial hit, the second half of [the second quarter] saw an uptick in renewed interest for desk and office space, on par with the number of weekly inquiry requests seen prior to the pandemic," 1776 Cherry Hill Mall Campus Director Scott Poris said in a statement.

Ever since malls were allowed to reopen on June 29, "[p]revious members have been returning" and "we've seen interest in the space increasing, and we've welcomed at least one new member since July 1st," Poris added.

"Once the initial shock wore off" people were less hesitant to work at the Princeton Innovation Center, said Director of Operations Beth Rowley. At this point, interest in the center has soared, but the number of new leases actually being signed is roughly the same as pre-pandemic levels, Rowley said.

"It seems like biotech... is a little bit of a bright spot."

Bret Morgan, co-founder of another

approved incubator, the Asbury Parkbased Cowerks, said that much of the heightened summer interest has been the result of an exodus of entrepreneurs from New York City. "We generally get very busy during the summer months but this year has been unprecedented with the demand for office space in the area," Morgan said. "I would attribute this to the pandemic and people leaving NYC."

Up north, just across the Hudson River in Jersey City, IndieGrove owner Zahra Amanpour admitted that attracting new tenants, especially participants in the NJ Ignite program, has been an uphill battle during the pandemic.

"Indiegrove had the best year it's ever had in 2019 and 2020 started strong. The overall lack of interest is all due to the pandemic," she said in an email, saying just one tenant - in March - had shown interest in moving in while participating in NJ Ignite, "but nothing has happened."

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Presenting the 2020 NJBIZ Accounting Power 50

BY JEFFREY KANIGE @JKANIGE

"Let's run the numbers." It's a direction that precedes a lot of important business decisions. Leaders want to know, to greatest extent possible, the potential costs and benefits of their actions. Later, they want to know exactly how their decisions affected the bottom line. And the professionals who deliver the data are usually accountants.

The profiles on these pages demonstrate that accountants are, in fact, skilled numbers crunchers. But the best – the individuals listed here – are more than that. They are trusted advisors who are counted upon to provide sound guidance on every facet of an organization's operations. They are experts on valuation issues, mergers and acquisitions, state and federal taxation, bankruptcy and restructuring, employee benefits, corporate finance and many other subjects. A good accountant can help save a company in trouble and propel a healthy business to greater success.

Not all of the individuals listed here work at accounting firms. Some are corporate executives, key members of their companies' leadership teams. Others are educators, training the next generation of professionals and helping experienced accountants hone and expand their skills. And some serve in nonprofit organizations, working to influence public policy for the benefit of the profession and the clients its members serve.

So as you read through the profiles, take note of the variety of expertise represented. And let us know what you think of our choices and rationale.

As always, the top ten individuals are ranked numerically, the rest are listed alphabetically.

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1 Ralph Albert Thomas

A s chief executive officer/executive director of the NJ Society of CPAs, Thomas is the face of the accounting business in the state. The trade group represents 14,000 certified public accountants, and Thomas has been a key voice for the needs of businesses and the professionals who do work for them. In April, Thomas was particularly vocal about pushing the state's income and corporate business tax filing deadlines from April 15 to July 15, to match the same move at the federal level.

"It is impractical, if not impossible, for taxpayers and their advisers to operate under different sets of deadlines for federal and state filings, and no one's life should be risked to meet tax filing obligations," he said.

Complex tax legislation that will pro-

foundly affect businesses — from obscure budget language, to the 2017 federal tax cuts, to the federal COVID-19 relief aid — have all been broken down and analyzed by NJCPA under Thomas's watch.

With the state Legislature and Murphy administration planning to borrow nearly \$10 billion to plug gaping holes in the state's budget left by the COVID-19 pandemic, Thomas is bound to be a major, oft-cited voice in the public debate.

And with talks of tax increases, or "revenue raisers" as Murphy calls them, organizations like NJCPA could be among the first to flag those revenue generating ideas in budget proposals that will likely run hundreds of pages long. Thomas's voice will only grow in importance.



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James Blake Chief Operating Officer



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2 Miklos A. Vasarhelyi

A lbert Einstein changed the study of physics with his theory of relativity. As the director of Rutgers University's Accounting Research Center, Miklos A. Vasarhelyi is doing something similar for accounting with his development of continuous auditing and reporting.

Historically, accounting has provided a rearview mirror approach to audits, looking back at historical records to gauge their validity. But Vasarhelyi — who began developing his ground-breaking approach in the 1980s when he was at Bell Labs — has helped to push the profession into a real-time approach by utilizing artificial intelligence and digital tools to analyze transactions and streaming data as they occur.

One example, "[u]nusual or fraudulent insurance payments," he said. Under the continuous audit model, "you can examine transactions as they're being processed and can consider the validity. If it's outside certain boundaries, it can be stopped," before a check is cut. The next horizon: using his analytic methods to predict events.

3 Kathleen Winters

S ince 2019, when Winters was appointed chief financial officer at ADP, she has been responsible for leading global financial operations for the top paycheck processing giant. The company, provides human resources, benefits administration and other services to more than 800,000 clients.

She oversees a diverse number of functions, including financial and accounting reporting, cash management, treasury, internal audit and tax. Winters is also constantly expanding her own expertise in IT and related areas, since "we're always finding ways to do more with technology, including robotics and artificial intelligence for analytical and other purposes."

Her resume reads like Who's Who of companies, and includes positions at a Morgan Stanley spinoff and at Honeywell International, where her posts included CFO of Performance Materials & Technologies, a \$10 billion materials and services company, and corporate controller and global leader of Financial Planning & Analysis. Before that, she worked at the Big Four CPA firm PwC.

Winters thrives on challenges and learning opportunities. "Things always change," she said. "I have to stay fresh and current to keep up."



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!



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4 Timothy F. Gearty

ach year, more than 90,000 people sit for the white-knuckle CPA examination. Of the few who pass, many can thank Timothy F. Gearty, editor-in-chief and national lead instructor for Becker, a global CPA exam-prep leader.

Before Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Mick Jagger co-founded the Rolling Stones, he reportedly studied accounting at the London School of Economics. One has to wonder if Jagger would have been mobbed by fans if he had stayed with accounting.

But Tim Gearty, managing partner of the boutique CPA firm Gearty & Mcintyre LLP, has his own national fan base even though he never abandoned debits and credits. That's because his side gig — at the Becker CPA exam review course — has made him a rock star for the tens of thousands of wannabe CPAs who sign up each year for the course. Many candidates consider the review a necessity, since the CPA exam is regarded as one of the toughest of all licensing tests.

"People sometimes recognize me on the street," he said. "Sometimes they'll shout 'OMG it's Tim Gearty and [another Becker leader] Peter Olinto!' A number of times I've been with my family at a nice restaurant and people will approach me for an autograph or ask to take a selfie with me. My family's been very understanding."

5 Sally Glick

M ost people are born in a hospital or at home. Based on her connectivity, Glick must have made her debut at a networking event. Glick — the first woman principal and chief growth strategist at SobelCo — was previously recognized by NJBIZ with a Lifetime Achievement Award; made it to the Top 100 list of Most Influential People in Accounting by Accounting Today; was selected for the Association of Accounting Marketing's hall of fame; and was named as one of the Most Powerful Women in Public Accounting by CPA Practice Advisor.

"It's all about establishing person-to-person relationships," she said. "I am fulfilled by being able to be a resource for someone."

That's an understatement. Glick's like a flesh-and-blood version of Google: reporters on deadline can call her on a Friday night and in minutes she'll connect them with a source, while businesspeople who need a connection, regardless of the industry, know she'll come through with someone.



Her efforts — along with the firm's high-quality services — have helped SobelCo expand its reputation across the state and beyond while growing its business. The firm's gross revenue increased by about 36 percent from 2017 to more than \$28 million by the end of 2019.

Glick is also the president of the Association for Corporate Growth NJ and an advisory board member for the Feliciano Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation at Montclair State University.

6 Bill Hagaman

agaman has been a member of Withum's management for more than 35 years. He specializes in merger and acquisition services and international business. During his tenure as CEO, the firm has tripled in size and expanded into non-traditional advisory services. Withum is known nationally for its unique culture and strong team member retention rates.

A graduate of Richard Stockton College of New Jersey with a bachelor's degree in accounting, Hagaman joined Withum in 1980. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants. He has also demonstrated a leadership role in expanding the firm's global capabilities, serving as a current executive committee member and vice chair of HLB, and as the former chairman of Nexia International USA -- both of which are worldwide networks of independent accounting firms and business advisors.

Hagaman's professional and philanthropic

activities at both the local and state levels are also model. He is the former chairman and current treasurer of the New Brunswick Cultural Center Inc., and former chairman of the George Street Playhouse. In 2010, he received the Thomas H. Kean Arts Advocacy Award, honoring him for his dedication to the arts. In 2002, he was appointed to serve on the BEST Commission (Budget Efficiency Savings Team) for the state of New Jersey. He is a longtime treasurer and former chairman of the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Hagaman is a sought-after thought leader, appearing on television and radio programs discussing topics related to leadership and business management. He is frequently quoted in accounting and business publications, and has authored many articles over the years on topics ranging from fixed asset management to mergers and acquisitions to leadership within the profession.





Friedman LLP applauds all of the NJBIZ Power 50: Accounting finalists, especially our esteemed partners and managers.



Michael Saccomanno CPA, ABV, CFF, CVA, CDFA, Partner Marlton, NJ

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7 Lori Roth

Ridge office – it has three in New Jersey and expanded the Hackensack location into a new office last year. Prager has announced two mergers with other New Jersey-based firms in the past year.

Roth oversees all of the day-to-day operations for the entire firm and providing guidance and oversight to each region and office managing partners and service line leaders. She has been in the accounting industry since 1984.

Roth specializes in audit and assurance services, litigation support, and business valuations. She has worked with clients in a variety of industries including closely held businesses, real estate and the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign banks and corporations. She has international expertise, particularly with companies headquartered in Israel.

Roth's expertise includes working as a neutral accountant -- either court-appointed or hired as a joint expert by either parties or their attorneys. She works as a business valuator and also as an impartial financial consultant when issues pertain to support and equitable distribution. She has been involved in shareholder disputes, corporate dissolutions, estate situations, and business acquisitions.

MARKS PANETH

Congratulations

On your selection as one of the NJBIZ Power 50 in Accounting



JOHN EVANS Partner-in-Charge, New Jersey Office

We applaud your remarkable achievements and dedication to serving our clients.

8 Frank Haines

A s legislative budget and finance officer in the New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, Haines is one of the top officials in the Legislature's non-partisan office tasked with gauging the price tag of legislation passing through the statehouse halls in Trenton. The costs to the state could range from just a few thousand to tens of millions of dollars a year. And it comes from business and residential taxpayers via existing or new taxes, or a variety of new fees.

And so OLS assessments provide critical data to lawmakers on how proceed on legislation, despite the agency lacking key tax numbers available to the state treasury.

As budget talks pick up over the course of the summer – for a spending plan that will include a revenue shortfall measured in billions of dollars - Haines will be one of the key officials offering numbercrunching and analyses sought by elected officials and policymakers.



His numbers, and those from State Treasurer Elizabeth Maher Muoio within the Murphy administration, will offer the clearest picture of just how much money the state has, and just how much has disappeared amid the COVID-19 global pandemic and historic economic recession.

Congratulations RALPH ALBERT THOMAS, CPA, CGMA

and all the members of the New Jersey Society of CPAs and other professionals on the Power 50 Accounting List who help advance the accounting profession.

We applaud the impact you've made on your organization, community and businesses in New Jersey.



14 July 20, 2020 NJBIZ

POWER 50

9 Gil Medina

CPA who's a former New Jersey Secretary of Commerce, now an executive vice president at CBRE, Medina has worked as an attorney and an accountant. He has also developed extensive expertise in management, sales, business development, technology and regulatory matters. He participated in the formulation of technology policy in various capacities as the Secretary of Commerce for the State of New Jersey. Medina has served on boards in various industry sectors including government, non-profits, health care, life sciences, medical devices, law, accounting, business process outsourcing, media, business services and information technology.

Medina joined CBRE's Saddle Brook office in June 2013. Applying his extensive real estate and business experience, he is focused on providing and coordinating integrated real estate solutions for corporate, governmental and academic research orga-

nizations. He is also responsible for local and global business development across all CBRE service lines. Leading the Commerce Department under Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, Medina was the point-person in the creation of incentive, finance and regulatory programs that today constitute the state's core economic growth policies. He remains a key voice in the New Jersey commercial real estate industry, the larger business community and public-private sector efforts that are guiding the state's economic growth.

10 Sandy Suchoff

N ot just a local player, Suchoff is a frequent speaker in cannabis industry events across the nation. She's the founder and principal at The Canna CPAs (Lefstein-Suchoff CPA & Associates), focusing all her efforts on the world of cannabusiness accounting—a tricky one, when you consider the tax code, which prohibits deducting normal business expenses against taxable income earned from the sale of Schedule 1 drugs.

Cannabis, although legal for adult recreational use in 11 states and legal for medicinal use in 33—even recognized as essential by governments like New Jersey in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic—is still scheduled by the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Suchoff has been invited onto Fox News, Snoop Dog's cannabis website Merry Jane, and other outlets to share her expertise.





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Henry Amoroso

moroso has a hand in some of the big-A gest and most influential businesses in the state. He became a member of the law firm Chiesa, Shahinian & Giantomasi in 2015, where he practices corporate and securities law, handling commercial transactions and contract disputes. He's the principal and founder of HJA Strategies, a consulting firm which has done legal work for the state's intervention in some of the largest municipal financial emergencies, like in Atlantic City. And he's done budget work for Newark's local government, and its public school district, even hammering out a revenue-sharing deal years in the making between the city and the Jersey Devils, according to The Star Ledger. Amoroso headed budget and finance in the 2013 transition team of Jersey City then Mayor-elect Steven Fulop, and represented the Jersey City Redevelopment Authority in a political struggle with the local school district.

Karen Artasanchez

rtasanchez is a shareholder at WilkinG-A uttenplan, where she is described as an inspirational leader, having the ability to connect with all levels. She has also been invaluable in her role on the NJCPA State Taxation Task Force and has provided recommendations for various legislative initiatives, including helping to review and draft the pass-through entity bill proposed by Alan Sobel. Artasanchez's clients include emerging and established businesses in the manufacturing, life sciences and pharma, professional service, real estate, technology, and food service industries, according to her firm. As part of WilkinGuttenplan's International Tax Group she deals with multi-national businesses in Asia, Latin America and Europe and has helped clients manage the complex tax compliance requirements that stem from having a foreign affiliate.



Glenn Bellomy

As practice leader of the Withum's Consumer Products Services Group, Bellomy is responsible for leading the firm's strategy and growth within this market sector. He brings more than 25 years of experience in working with restaurants, food and beverage,

and retail businesses to tackle a variety of business challenges. Local, regional and national companies seek Bellomy's help to secure financing, maximize tax benefits, understand the con-

tinually changing regulations and code, and get their ducks in a row for mergers or acquisitions when business life cycles allow. As practice leader of Withum's consumer products services group, he's a go-to guy for restaurants, food and beverage companies, and retail businesses to tackle challenges head-on, like the current COVID-19 crisis. Nominated by an industry insider, he also brings added insight to his client's with relevant business principles from his work in the construction, manufacturing, nonprofits and education industries. New Jersey Food Council President Linda Doherty called him an active leader on food insecurity issues and a support of the food association community.

James Blake

M azars USA's 2019 "yearbook" was titled "Striking the balance," and COO James Blake certainly exemplifies that concept. An accounting veteran with more than 25 years of experience, Blake is a member of the firm's executive board and a business board member

of Mazars Group. He is also chairman of the Praxity North America accounting and consulting alliance. He focuses on the middle market with a balanced set of clients that include domestic



companies and global importers and exporters. Blake carries that balance over to his own management style, as he demonstrated in a 2019 interview with the Journal of Accountancy on promoting a culture of open communication and collaboration. "The tone starts at the top, and if we want our people to be open and receptive to feedback, leaders must embrace and be open to receiving feedback, too," Blake noted. "We hre bright, smart staff who are used to having a voice, providing suggestions for new ideas, and sharing their views for how to get better. That means we have to learn to really listen to their feedback and, as much as possible, implement their feedback, too ---just like we expect them to do."



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spent several more at the U.S. Securities and

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James Bourke Jr.

B ourke is managing director for Advisory Services at Withum. He is recognized for advances in the technological and digital space. In 2019, he won the NJBIZ Digi-Tech Innovator Award for enhancing overall productivity and performance at his firm. Bourke is said to be an invaluable member of the NJCPA since 1988, having been a past president and a former Monmouth/Ocean Chapter president. According to Withum, he is a sought-after speaker on issues involving technology, the profession and business advice. Bourke has keynoted and presented at conferences around the world to a variety of industry groups.

Kimberly Brandley

C ohnReznick has established itself in the state for a com-

C state for a complex and seemingly neverending cascade of changes that businesses have been forced to adapt to amidst a COVID-19, social distancing and tech-heavy workplace.

And Brandley, who joined the firm more than 20 years ago, becoming a partner in 2007 at the Holmdel office, has been at the center of the accounting firm's work around New Jersey. CohnReznick has been involved in a slew of issues playing out across the state, including economic development in downtown Newark. income tax reciprocity between New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and the federal opportunity zone tax break program. Brandley sits in a key position on the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey - one of the largest in the state - and is part of a majority-women leadership team. The chamber has been one of the major advocates for businesses, be it the ways in which federal and state legislation could impact businesses - for better or for worse - how employers can navigate a COVID-19 workplace, and an array of other headaches that come with running a business.

Harry Carpenter

Carpenter is a partner in the Livingston of Citrin

Cooperman where he serves as the New Jersey practice leader and co-chairman of the firm's Cannabis Advisory Services Practice. One insider notes that while ordi-

nary accountants are a dime a dozen, "Harry is a sought-after speaker." This person says that Carpenter has helped develop business plans and strategy, and mastered the art of doing the taxes and books. "The other part is helping build the financial plan of a new busines," the insider adds. "That's where you become more of a power player. It's not just an establishment company that does tax, but someone who is going to take a looseknit group of partners and organizes their money properly and progressively so they can deal with all their state contradictions."

Anthony Castellano

C astellano took the top leadership role at BDO USA's Woodbridge office in 2018, where he handles business growth and development. Before his 17 years at the firm, he

sion, and brings with him the ins and outs of how to properly navigate government scrutiny and reporting. The professional services firm also works in retail and ecommerce - increas



ecommerce - increasingly important fields as the COVID-19 pandemic and trends toward internet shopping puts further strain on big box retail chains, as well as mom and pop shops. BDO was particularly vocal on the nuances and challenges the minimum wage increase to \$15 an hour could mean for the state for restaurant owners, and it could be influential as many employers struggle to stay open as the pandemic drags on.

Nina Chmura

hmura is the market leader for Withum's

Counting systems and solutions (OA-SyS) practice. Whether a company is looking for help selecting a new accounting system or requires a





full suite of accounting resources from the CFO to the bookkeeper, her team assists businesses of all types with their internal accounting processes, and Chmura's the one to make sure it goes smooths enough to keep the back office workflow running efficiently and effectively. One insider characterized her as "an engaged professional [and] a builder of relationships." Additionally, Chmura works with startup and emerging growth companies to grow them into mature, national brands.

Jeffrey Christakos

hristakos chairs the Accounting Depart-

L ment at Monmouth University. As a college professor, he encourages students to be their best and works to continually make improvements to the school's accounting program.



He created a Financial Planning Club and started the school on the path to having a Certified Financial Planning Board-approved program. Christakos also was selected to be the first non-Ph.D. department chair in recent history of the Leon Hess Business School.



Joseph Damiano

amiano haskept SaxLLP growing by maintaining a laser focus on a select market segment: closely held, family-run businesses. "We'd rather be really good in one segment," according to Damiano, who's been Sax's managing partner since May 2015. The firm has about doubled its revenue under his guidance, pursuing a two-track growth model made up of organic expansion and M&A. Within its private-company niche, Damiano has pushed the firm to expand from core accounting services, diversifying into technology and other consulting, and wealth management, where Sax currently has more than \$1 billion of assets under management. "We're looking to achieve a balance where about half our revenue will come from core accounting, and the other 50 percent will come from advisory services," he said. "Nothing stays the same, so we always need to prepare for change."

Nicole M. DeRosa

DeRosa is tax manager at Withum and since being an

NJCPA Scholarship winner in 2008, her contribution to the profession has been extensive. She was an NJCPA "30 Under 30" award winner in 2015, is the chair of

the Emerging Leaders Council and is on the Content Advisory Board. In addition, she was an adjunct professor at Raritan Valley Community College and is a frequent speaker on tax issues. During the COVID-19 shutdown, Nicole hosted a free weekly dance fitness class on Zoom, providing an outlet for more than 120 of her team members and fellow CPAs.

Andrea Diaz

A s a manager at SKC & Co. CPAs, Diaz is said to continually inspire her staff, clients, coworkers and members of the community at large. She serves



on the executive committee of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce's Women in Business program and was selected as the accounting/tax expert for the organization's "Ask the Expert" panel. Diaz was also recognized as an "Outstanding Coach" for the Girls on the Run charity program.

Howard Dorman

W ith 40 years in the industry and a decade focused on food and beverage

clients, accounting is more about being a business advisor than anything else for Dorman. He runs the food and beverage practice at Mazars, looking at emerging concepts and helping clients



grow their brands and connecting them to other professionals who would suit them buyers, stores, marketing folks. Dorman is both well-connected and well-respected. He's got a penchant for cultivating talent from below at Mazars, and told NJBIZ his legacy is the young accountants he brought into the practice when his smaller firm merged with Mazars 13 years ago. "It's the seeds you sow," Dorman said. "It was never about me." At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, he started a podcast

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called Food for Talk, a 30-minute weekly show during which he interviews New Jersey food industry hotshots like Food Council President Linda Doherty and Hoboken Farms owner Brad Finkel. Dorman is "emerging as leading role in all food matters, and his new podcast highlights the powerful voices of the industry as he tells their stories," Doherty said.



Danielle Dvorak

D vorak is senior tax manager at Friedman LLP. As a member of the NJCPA's Emerging Leaders Council, a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and a director of the Bergen Chapter, she is evidently dedicated to the NJCPA and the accounting profession. Dvorak also gives back through volunteering at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) project, Habitat for Humanity, Community Food Bank and others.



Travis Epp

E pp runs a large foodspace practice at EisnerAmper in Iselin with another NJBIZ Power 50 honoree, Howard Klein. He is a "skilled collaborator and engaged marketer at all levels for food business," one insider noted. Epp is an audit partner and the partner-in-charge of EisnerAmper's manufacturing and distribution group. He focuses on private companies in the middle market. Epp's three decades of experience included the role of senior financial officer at a family enterprise, where he was the certifying financial officer for two publicly traded companies.

John Evans

vans brings more than 42 years of experience in cor-

porate tax to his role as the partnerin-charge of Marks Paneth's Parsippany office, specializing in tax issues affecting closely held businesses and

and their owners. He has served both public and private multinational companies in a wide range of industries including consumer business, technology, professional services firms, manufacturing, distribution, wholesale and retail. And Evans has assisted businesses with structuring and restructuring their operations through mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and expansion into both domestic and foreign markets. He is recognized for his expertise on tax matters and has written for and been interviewed by publications such as The Wall Street Journal. Forbes. Fortune. USA Today Inc., Bottom Line for Business and Crain's New York Business. Evans has been a featured guest on radio and television broadcasts including CNBC, CNN, Fox Business Cable Network and Smart Money TV's Small Business webcast.



Roseland and

Roseland and is a member of the Real Estate Group. Her extensive experience in the real estate industry encompasses a full range of audit and consulting services to real estate own-



ers, operators and developers, including financial statement audits, reviews, compilations for office, residential, retail, hotel, industrial properties, and investment companies. Filippelli also handles acquisition due diligence, special-purpose audits including operating expenses, certiorari and agreed-upon procedures reports. Before joining Marcum, Filippelli was a partner with Cornerstone Accounting Group LLP when the two firms merged in 2013. She is an active member of both the New Jersey State Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and is also a member of the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries (NCREIF).



Congratulations to Michael Hochman and the 2020 NJBIZ Accounting Power 50



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Michael Hochman, CPA, CCIFP Partner, NJ Office Market Leader

STRENGTH IN CERTAINTY

Glenn Friedman

s Prager Metis CEO, Friedman became

A the go-to guy for M&A because he knows how to listen. "It's all about how the parts of an M&A will fit in," he said. "An M&A is like an iceberg, where the agreement itself only



represents one-third of the whole thing. The remainder is how to transition together and move forward. You find that out by listening and understanding everyone's needs." Friedman - who's also a partner in the firm's Advisory Services and Tax departments - follows his own advice when it comes to the multiple M&As that Prager Metis itself has engaged in. Those moves helped propel the firm's revenues more than fourfold since 2013, when Friedman moved into the top spot. He's also adept at establishing a consensus among more than 100 Prager Metis partners and more than 500 employees across the world. "I help to establish a vision," he noted, and then works diligently to get buy-in from everyone involved. "There's a lot of moving parts involved with growing the firm."

Phillip Goldstein

• oldstein is said to be a hands-on leader

Goustern activities in audit and accounting spans industries such as construction, manufacturing, real estate, professional organizations, medical, retail, electrical

contracting, publish-

ing, advertising, and banking. As the managing partner and Audit and Accounting Department chairman at Goldstein Lieberman & Co., Goldstein is responsible for issuing interpretations on Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. He heads the firm's Construction Services Group providing financial and consulting services to the construction industry. In addition, he is a member of the firm's Law Firm Services Group, responsible for the planning and coordination of financial reporting services for lawyers and law firms. He has served as chairman of the cooperation with the Bankers and Bar Association Committee for the New York State Society of CPAs for over a decade. His articles appear regularly in international, national and local publications.



Michael Hochman

ochman is the New Jersey office mar- \square ket leader and executive committee member at Grassi. He brings more than 30 years of experience to the firm in tax planning and return preparation for corporations, individuals, and partnerships and represents clients before both federal and state taxing authorities. Hochman maintains a vast client base reflecting a wide spectrum of industries, including construction, manufacturing and distribution, and real estate. Working closely with the construction practice at Grassi, Hochman is said to have a clear understanding of the in-depth knowledge required for the unique accounting and tax requirements of the construction industry.

Michael Karu

aru led Levine, Jacobs & Co. from a firm of eight

Firm of eight and a gross of under \$1 million to a total of 27 employees and a gross of over \$5 million. He is also civic-minded, having served as a board member on



the New Jersey Ballet Company and was a trustee, officer and audit chairman of Oheb Shalom Congregation. And Karu is an active member of the Rotary Club of West Orange.

Howard Klein

A longside Travis Epp, Klein runs a major foodspace prac-

tice at EisnerAmper. If it's a big grocery firm, Klein might be its go-to accounting guy, according to one insider. Klien is a "strong leader in a top agency with a



hands on approach to developing partnerships and advising clients on new economy

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and impact to bottom line issues," said NJFC President Linda Doherty. He specializes in domestic and international tax planning and compliance for closely held businesses and domestic and foreign high net worth individuals. The full-time supervision and servicing of many clients in the manufacturing, distribution, food and beverage industries falls on his shoulders.

Paul Krieger

K rieger is the managing partner for Deloitte & Touche

LLP's Parsippany practice and leads more than 2,000 employees. He also serves as lead client service partner and advisory partner for a variety of global



clients. Krieger has more than 27 years of audit and advisory experience at Deloitte serving large global clients in a variety of industries, with a focus on life sciences. He has extensive experience in leading audit and advisory services related to internal controls, business combinations, strategic alliances, global acquisitions and, complex revenue recognition matters.

Evelyn A. McDowell

n associate professor at Rider Univer-

A sity, McDowell as faculty liaison to the school's Aspiring Accounting Professional Program, which helps promote diversity in the business. She also is president and founding board

member of the Sons & Daughters of the United States Middle Passage, a lineage society dedicated to preserving the memory and history of the artifacts and landmarks of slavery.

Bryan Merrigan

 ${\ensuremath{\mathsf{E}}}$ veryone was already working from home for a month due to COVID-19

when Merrigan was elevated from partner of Grant Thornton's audit practice to managing partner of its MetroPark office, but it was a natural transition. After years of servicing some of

the state's biggest industries--think pharma, life sciences, professional services, and technology--his main focus now is engaging the 120 people in the MetroPark office to be energized and therefore better at their jobs. It's a tricky job to pick up in today's work-from-home world. "That's been my focus now, just engaging with our younger people, getting them out in the market, having as many touch points as i can. If you treat your people well, it translates well to client service," Merrigan told NJBIZ. "In this virtual environment, it's hard to find these touchpoints," but "whether you form small advisory groups, have virtual happy hours, anything to engage with people" it can be done.

Michael Saccomanno

W hen a business needs to be valued — for buy-sell agreements, litigation or other reasons — Michael Saccomanno is often at the top of the contact list. A partner in the Forensic Accounting, Litigation Support & Valuation Services Group at Friedman LLP, Saccoman-

no provides expert testimony in courts throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania — mostly online now — and has been asked to speak at numerous inductry grapts



Thanks to COVID-19, valuing a business is even more challenging, "because at this point no one knows if the pandemic is temporary, permanent, or something else," he said. Saccomanno's advice: "We're cautious and we dig, but we also tell people that for now, they've got to be flexible about the numbers.

Steven Schinella

C ohnReznick has established itself as a known quantity in the state for a seem-ingly complex and neverending cascade of

changes that businesses have been forced to adapt to amid a COVID-19, social distancing and tech-heavy workplace. And Schinella, managing partner of the Roseland office,



has been part of the core of the accounting firm's insight on the lay of the land in New Jersey. He handles the firm's consumer industry, manufacturing and distribution and public company audit practices. His work has focused on technology in the workplace, using it to transition away from the physical office and the 9-5 mindset - a key component of the COVID-19 workplace.

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Kyle Sell

S ell has been a partner at the Parsippany office of global ac-

J office of global accounting gian Deloitte for more than 25 years, and his focus has been on life science and industrial companies: all key industries in a world racing to find a vaccine, or effective



therapeutic, against the COVID-19 virus. Deloitte has produced several figures that have made their way into previous NJBIZ power lists. He's also the outgoing president at the New Jersey Society of CPAs - the state's trade group for 14,000 accountants - where he's been active since 2004. With a heavy focus on the health care sector, they could play a key part in advising businesses on how to navigate and respond to the pandemic and stay afloat, and the race for biotechnology companies to in some way treat the virus and return New Jersey to some semblance of normalcy.

Alex Serrano

S errano is the office managing partner of Citrin Cooperman's Livingston office

where he oversees office operations, promoting operational excellence and managing the culture and organizational effectiveness. Serrano is also a member of the



firm's Executive Committee. He is a strategic business consultant and tax advisor, and works with a wide range of industry clients to help them achieve their personal and professional goals. Serrano has spent more than 30 years solving the tax planning and strategic problems of both closely held businesses and individuals, including representing their interests before the IRS and the state. As a business consultant, Serrano provides innovative advisory solutions for a range of strategic issues relating to structuring, growth, profitability, and tax planning.

Anthony Sgammato

S gammato, managing partner at Ernst & Young's Me-

■ & Young's MetroPark office, is no stranger to NJBIZ. He became a partner at the Iselin office in 2013 - one of EY's youngest in the state. The next year, Sgammato was named to the 2014



NJBIZ Forty Under 40 award list for his work at EY. And he co-directs EY's Entrepreneur of the Year New Jersey Program, which identifies up and coming businesses across the state. He also serves on the board of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, one of the largest business and industry trade groups in the state, which advocates on behalf of employers - and the accountants they use - as the state's economy evolves and grows more complex.



Alan Sobel

obel's ascension to head the New Jersey Society of CPA's board of trustees is the latest role he's held with the trade group since joining in 1987. He became managing partner at SobelCo nearly a decade later, where he's been ever since. Most recently, Sobel and NJC-PA helped craft a law, signed by Gov. Phil Murphy in January, that allows business owners to bypass the \$10,000 federal cap on state and local property tax deductions. Given his experience handling the bookkeeping and finances for mom and pop shops, his insight will no doubt be sought by business owners unsure of how they'll navigate a once-in-a-century global pandemic, and some of the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression.



Chris Smith

ost people wouldn't associate CPAs W with outer space, but those folks don't know Friedman LLP partner Chris Smith. He helped a satellite wireless communications company structure a half-billiondollar debt offering — and a subsequent 2billion-dollar capital raise — to get its satellite launched. As co-leader of Friedman's Public Company Services and Technology and Telecommunications practices, Smith provides audit, compliance and advisory services to publicly traded companies, working with and advising clients on matters like initial and secondary public offerings, reverse mergers, private investments in public equity and private placements. He still finds time to be heavily involved with the firm's China practice and serves on the AICPA's National Professional Liability Insurance program committee.

Bernard Stubofsky

S tubobsky, a partner at Buchbinder, has five decades of

experience dealing with client accounting and auditing issues in such diverse industries as manufacturing, employee benefit plans, government, nonprofits

and SEC engagements. In addition, he is a qualified team captain for peer reviews of other accounting firms.

Corey Temple

K PMG has established itself as one of the must-have firms for businesses on a whirlwind of highly complex financial transactions - like the federal CO-VID-19 relief loans and the federal op-

portunity zone tax breaks. Temple, took over as managing partner of the Short Hills office in July 2015, managing more than 1,000 people. The work includes helping



clients apply for federal loans under the Paycheck Protection Program, meant to offer a lifeline to businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the federal opportunity zone tax breaks, and what the post-COVID-19 workplace can look like once more workers transition from telecommuting and back to their physical offices.

Jeffrey C. Thomson

Thomson is a mainstay on accounting power lists

nationwide, including 11 years on Accounting Today's annual Top 100 Most Influential People list, eight years on Trust Across America's



Top 100 Thought Leaders in Trustworthy Business Behavior list, and International Accounting Bulletin's Global Accountancy Power 50 list. Thomson is the CEO of Montvale-based Institute of Management Accountants Inc., which has additional offices in China, the Middle East, Europe, and Southeast Asia. He's been at the post since 2008 and has built IMA into one of the fastest growing accounting associations in the world, with over 100,000 members, a mark it crossed for the first time in the organization's history in 2018.



Jay Weinstein

ntil recently, Weinstein served as Eisner-

Amper's New Jersey partner-in-charge but in February he was promoted to vice chair - Industries and Markets. The newly created position gives him responsibility for executing business



strategies in existing markets and segments, and identifying emerging opportunities.a He also leads the firm's innovation and technology initiatives. "I used to be responsible for growing our New Jersey activities, but now I'm covering the entire firm," he said, noting it's active in New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Florida, California Pennsylvania and Texas, and internationally. Of course, just as he was getting settled into the new position, the COV-ID-19 pandemic struck. "As a firm, we've been introducing new services almost every month, including a software platform that helps banks to process PPP [Paycheck Protection Program] loans," he said. "As businesses began to reopen, we were helping clients with a workplace-based social distancing program." With some 30 years of experience under the belt. Weinstein's prepared to continue expanding EisnerAmper through just about anything.



June Toth

oth is the managing member at ZBT Certified Public Accounting & Consulting LLC in Clark. In addition to auditing, financial statement analysis, and reporting and consulting for her clients, she's provided expert reports related to economic damages and litigation matters in her more than 25 years of practice. According to one insider, June has become a resource for many New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants members, who "consider her a sounding board on topics from accounting to overall life decision-making. Her involvement in various NJCPA committees and groups, and her ability to encourage others to be involved (and have fun while doing it), is a quality that everyone should aspire to have.

Stacey Udell

also helped her

to develop the

confidence to be

would have been

by her crowded

relatives. "I was

the first woman

appointed to the

EisnerAmper ex-

since

she

out

ecutive committee, back in 2014," she said.

"Very early on I had to gently but firmly re-

mind other committee members that, 'you

need to let me finish my sentence." Wasser

is now the partner in charge of the firm's

New Jersey region and she still doesn't hes-

itate to carve out a space for herself. Wasser

has been a repeat instructor at the AICPA's

national conferences; and she frequently

presents through conference calls and oth-

er remote methods during the COVID-19

pandemic on employee benefit plan au-

dit issues for CPA and ERISA conferences,

and for plan sponsors. EisnerAmper didn't

even have a benefit plans audit practice un-

til Wasser launched the firm's pension ser-

vices group around 1992 - today it's about

assertive.

otherwise

drowned

dell is the director of valuation, litigation and forensics for the mid-Atlantic

ation Group, based in Cherry Hill. She's a core member of HBK's cannabis group, helping cannabis businesses strategies develop to maximize value.



"She's very competent and very talented," said one cannabis industry insider who noted her publishing successes. Most notably, she's the co-author of "The Cannabis Industry Accounting and Appraisal Guide" (July 2018) and the primary author of "Cannabis: A Budding Opportunity, Valuation Strategies" (March 2016). In addition. Udell has been qualified as an expert in the State of New Jersey and has received extensive training on providing expert witness testimony and litigation support for business valuations.

Diane Wasser

rowing up in Haddonfield, Wasser U was an only child—but having 28 first cousins meant she was never lonely. It



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6 7	Fairleigh Dickinson University — Metropolitan Campus www.fdu.edu 1942	1000 River Road Teaneck, 07666 (201) 692-2000 NA	Christopher A. Capuano	James Almeida Silberman College of Business	122 16 106
7 4	Rider University www.rider.edu 1865	2083 Lawrenceville Road Lawrenceville, 08648-3099 (609) 896-5000 (609) 895-5440	Gregory G. Dell'Omo	Eugene Kutcher Rider University, Norm Brodsky College of Business	105 67 38
8 11	William Paterson University www.wpunj.edu 1855	300 Pompton Road Wayne, 07470 (973) 720-2000 (973) 720-2418	Richard J. Helldobler, Joshua Powers	Anthony Bowrin NA	95 95 0
9 12	Ramapo College of New Jersey www.ramapo.edu 1969	505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, 07430-1623 (201) 684-7500 NA	Peter P. Mercer(2)	Edward Petkus The Anisfield School of Business	85 64 21
10 13	Rutgers University-Camden www.camden.rutgers.edu 1926	406 Penn St. Camden, 08102 (856) 225-6104 NA	Jonathan Holloway(1)	Monica Adya NA	73 73 0
11 17	Fairleigh Dickinson University — Florham Campus www.fdu.edu 1942	285 Madison Ave. Madison, 07940 (973) 443-8500 NA	Christopher A. Capuano	James Almeida Silberman College of Business	72 43 29
12 15	Monmouth University www.monmouth.edu 1933	400 Cedar Ave. West Long Branch, 07764-1898 (732) 571-3400 (732) 263-5166	Patrick F. Leahy	Donald Moliver Leon Hess School of Business	68 58 10
13 16	Thomas Edison State University www.tesu.edu 1972	111 W. State St. Trenton, 08608 (609) 777-5680 (609) 984-8447	Merodie A. Hancock	Michael Williams School of Business and Management	46 45 1
14 14	Berkeley College www.BerkeleyCollege.edu 1931	44 Rifle Camp Road Woodland Park, 07424 (973) 278-5400 (973) 278-2242	Michael J. Smith, Marsha Pollard	Elana Zolfo Larry L. Luing School of Business	40 40 NA
15 18	Saint Peter's University www.saintpeters.edu 1872	2641 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Jersey City, 07306 (201) 761-6000 NA	Eugene J. Cornacchia	Mary Kate Naatus Saint Peter's University	31 19 12
16 19	Caldwell University www.caldwell.edu 1939	120 Bloomfield Ave. Caldwell, 07006-6195 (973) 618-3000 (973) 618-3600	Matthew Whelan(3), Nancy H. Blattner(3)	Virginia Rich School of Business and Computer Science	19 13 6
17 21	Centenary University www.centenaryuniversity.edu 1867	400 Jefferson St. Hackettstown, 07840 (908) 852-1400 (908) 813-8630	Bruce Murphy	Lisa Plantamura Centenary University School of Professional Studies	4 4 0

Source: The schools. (1) Jonathan Holloway was named as the president of Rutgers University in January 2020 and assumed the position on July 1, 2020. He succeeded former president Robert Barchi who retired on June 30, 2020, when his contract expired. (2) In September 2019, Ramapo College announced Peter P. Mercer will step down as president at the end of his current contract in June 2021. (3) In September 2019, Caldwell University announced Nancy Blattner would be stepping down as president in June 2020. On Feb. 11, 2020, the board of trustees announced Matthew Whelan as the next president of the Catholic Dominican University in Caldwell. Whelan's appointment as president began on July 1, 2020. NA: Not Available. NR: Not Ranked. There is no charge to be included in NJBIZ lists. We assume that information provided by representatives is accurate and truthful. We are not responsible for the omission of organizations that do not respond to our requests for information. Information received after press deadline cannot be included. If you wish to be included in future lists visit www.njbiz.com/lists and click on "Complete Survey" or e-mail lists@njbiz.com. The lists, or any parts of them, cannot be reproduced without written permission from NJBIZ. For more information on NJBIZ, please visit www.njbiz.com.

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From left, Old Bridge Mayor Owen Henry; William DiStanislao, vice president, Operations and executive site director, Raritan Bay Medical Center; and Thomas Shanahan, chief hospital executive, Raritan Bay Medical Center, gather around the findings of a time capsule from 1997 unveiled in June at the Old Bridge hospital during construction to add a fourth level to the facility. Inside: newspaper articles, brick from the building, a construction hat, a bible and a 1995 NJ Devils hat.







LogistiCare Senior Vice President and General Counsel Kathryn Stalmack, center, and First Lady Tammy Murphy, right, distribute food to Atlantic City residents. LogistiCare, the nation's largest nonemergency medical transportation company and the contracted transportation vendor for New Jersey Medicaid participants, is partnering with nonprofit Friends In Action Inc. to delivery emergency food supplies to city residents. Since mid-March, with approval and help from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, LogistiCare has delivered more than 7,500 meals throughout the state.



Englewood Cliffs-based LG Electronics USA celebrated 2020 grads at the beginning of July with an electronic billboard display in the heart of Times Square in New York City that showed off photos of New Jersey and New York graduates.





Please join NJBIZ as we host a panel of industry experts that will explore these topics and many more:

- In the current cultural climate, companies are increasingly expected to show a real commitment to diversity. What approaches can ensure that such efforts are recognized as sincere and lasting?
- Beyond cultural imperatives, research has consistently shown that companies with diverse leadership perform better financially than others. How can executives promote diversity at the upper levels of management?
- While much progress has been made, business leaders might still encounter resistance to diversity programs. What can be done to head off or overcome that impediment?
- Small businesses often face different challenges than large corporations. Where can proprietors who want to pursue diversity on a smaller scale find help?
- Given the demands for diversity, resources and training have become more widely available. What are the best sources of assistance for owners and executives?
- Diversity programs should be clearly communicated throughout the organization. What are the current best practices for making sure that all employees understand what is happening.

The panel discussion will run from 1-2pm immediately followed by $\ensuremath{\textbf{Q\&A}}$

Panelists:

Amy Flynn, Human Resources Specailst, Insperity
Rajiv D. Parikh, Partner, Genova Burns LLC
Claude Richardson, Senior Vice President, Human Resources, Delta Dental of New Jersey and Delta Dental of Connecticut
Avonia Richardson-Miller, EdD, MA, BS, Director Diversity and Inclusion, Hackensack Meridian *Health*

Moderator:

Hester Agudosi, Chief Diversity Officer, New Jersey Office of Diversity and Inclusion

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