

focused on international expansion at this point — we’re going to move into somewhere between 50 and 70 countries.”

JOHN FITZGERALD

A century ago, a group of Hungarian business leaders opened the Magyar Building & Loan Association in New Brunswick to support their community’s banking needs. In 2022, Fitzgerald leads that institution, Magyar Bank, which turns 100 in August. He joined the bank in 2001, served as COO, established its Commercial Lending Department, and took on his current role in 2010. Magyar reported net income of \$6.12 million for fiscal 2021, besting the prior year’s \$2.19 million. Then the company reported a 27% increase for the first quarter of 2022, which ended on Dec. 31, 2021, to \$1.69 million. “Our fiscal year 2022 is off to a very strong start,” Fitzgerald said in a statement. “Continuing on the momentum that was generated in 2021, we increased our net interest margin over the same period last year despite the continued low-rate environment and continued to improve our balance sheet with a 22% reduction in non-performing assets. We expect to continue the positive earnings momentum through the rest of the year.” Last June, Fitzgerald was installed as chair of NJBankers, a trade association that represents 72 banks and 172 service providers. He also serves as chair of the board of trustees for State Theatre NJ.



DALE FLORIO

Florio has occupied a central place in New Jersey politics dating back to his early days as a novice Republican sitting on the Somerville Borough Council. As managing partner at the lobbying firm Princeton Public Affairs Group, Florio brings three decades of government affairs expertise to his clients. The firm has consistently scored around \$10 million of receipts from big-name clients over the years. Those have ranged from Google to AT&T Solutions, and BP America Inc. to Ernst & Young. One Trenton insider previously described Florio as a “force to be reckoned with” and a “go-to lobbyist” in New Jersey politics. “There are so many things that are active that aren’t necessarily in the news, and he’s in the middle of [them].” As a longtime



heavy hitter in Somerset County’s Republican circles, Florio has been a close ally for years to former state Assemblyman and gubernatorial candidate Jack Ciattarelli, who nearly unseated Murphy in November. Ciattarelli said he plans to have another go at governor in 2025, and many Trenton insiders have kept an eye on the relationship between the two.

STEVE FULOP

Jersey City has a lot going for it. A waterfront location with fast, one-seat access to Manhattan and, after years of decline, the city is now a hot residential destination, with towers along the Hudson drawing critical raves and throngs of buyers and renters. Acclaimed and trendy restaurants and other nightspots followed the throngs. That put Fulop in a strong position when he clinched his third term as mayor, a first in the city’s history. And the Fulop-allied Coalition for Progress Super PAC has raised millions of dollars in recent weeks, fueling speculation in Hudson County’s political circles that Fulop might be eyeing another bid for governor in 2025. He dropped out of the Democratic primaries in 2016, ultimately clearing the way for Murphy - a fellow Goldman Sachs and Ivy League alum - to secure the Democratic nomination. “For someone who is not a team player when it comes to politics, he has built an unbeatable coalition,” one insider said. “He’s certainly learned how to play the game.”



FRANK GIANTOMASI

Giantomasi is one of the most prominent real estate players in the Newark-Elizabeth corridor, serving as redevelopment counsel to several notable mixed-use projects in the area. His work includes the New Jersey Performing Arts Center’s signature master plan for a mixed-use redevelopment on 6.1 acres surrounding the cultural institution that would create a new arts neighborhood, along with several marquee projects in the industrial marketplace in the region. Giantomasi has represented developers on projects including Panasonic Corp.’s North American headquarters and its eventual sale to KFH Capital Investment Co. for \$165 million; the \$35 million Newark Courtyard by Marriott



hotel; the Newark Hotel Indigo; seven historic building conversions on Market Street developed into 35,000 square feet of retail with over 80 residential units in a \$35 million mixed-use project; and much more. Giantomasi chairs the board of trustees of Newark Beth Israel Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of New Jersey, and he also sits on the board of advisors for Saint Peter’s University’s Guarini School of Business in Jersey City.

CARL GOLDBERG

Goldberg is the founder and managing member of family-owned real estate consulting and development firm Canoe Brook Associates. He was also a founding partner of Roseland Property Co., which was sold to Mack-Cali - now Veris Residential - in 2012. Since helping to establish Roseland, Goldberg has been involved in the development of communities throughout the Northeast with a special emphasis on the state’s urban waterfronts. With Roseland, he directed production of more than 1,500 homes annually and oversaw the company’s flagship endeavor, Port Imperial. To date, approximately 4,500 rentals - apartments, townhomes and condos - have been completed or are under construction there, along with more than 150,000 square feet of retail. In 2021, Harrison’s Dey & Bergen - developed by Canoe Brook with partner Hornrock Properties - hit the 90% leased level just three months after its debut along the waterfront. Goldberg has a long history of political and industry-wide activism in New Jersey, with relationships with leaders throughout the state. He served as chairman of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority under four governors and is the current co-chair of the Rutgers School of Business Center for Real Estate Studies, where he is also a professor of real estate development. He is the chairman of the New Jersey Builders Political Action Committee and a former president of the Community Builders Association. In addition, he has been at the forefront of transit-oriented development, a movement many experts see as critical to smart, sustainable economic development that has picked up steam in the aftermath of COVID-19 as people opt for optionality in their living arrangements. In the sharp-elbowed New Jersey real estate community Goldberg is recognized for his low-key approach -- but his success suggests that he’s no pushover.



BRIAN GRAGNOLATI

To close out 2021, Atlantic Health System - where Gragnolati serves as president and CEO - and CentraState cleared the last regulatory roadblock on their way toward an expanded partnership. Under the unique agreement, a model Gragnolati helped to create, Atlantic Health will become the majority corporate member in CentraState, which will join the former’s network. With \$3.3 billion in revenue, that network includes an 18,000-member team serving 11 counties and a region covering 4.9 million New Jerseyans. A recognized voice in the national health care conversation, Gragnolati is one of the most influential executives in the state. The former chair of the American Hospital Association still exerts influence, currently serving on the organization’s nominating committee, which helps to identify future leaders. In 2021, AHS’s Morristown Medical Center was ranked as the No. 1 hospital in New Jersey on US News & World Report’s Best Hospitals list for the fourth year in a row. In the beginning of 2022, Morristown and Overlook Medical Center were the only Garden State hospitals to make Healthgrades 2022 America’s Best 50 Hospitals list, placing the system in the top 1% of nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide. Gragnolati’s influence has also made him one of the faces of New Jersey’s response to the pandemic. AHS said in April it was among the first in the region to be able to quickly screen for COVID-19 variants. “You know I think we’re clearly at a good point right now, particularly relative to the journey that we’ve been on for the last 16 months,” he told NJBIZ last spring, anticipating what played out in the fall with the spread of omicron. “I’m not sure I describe it as close to the end because I have this very suspicious nature about these variants and the fact that we still need to be careful because we don’t have enough of the population vaccinated yet.”



PERRY HALKITIS

In the early days of the pandemic, Halkitis, the dean of the Rutgers School of Public Health was handpicked by the Murphy administration — along with his colleague Brian Strom, the chancellor of the Rutgers School of Biomedical and Health Sciences — to lead the effort to trace the spread of the virus. In the months since, Halkitis has

