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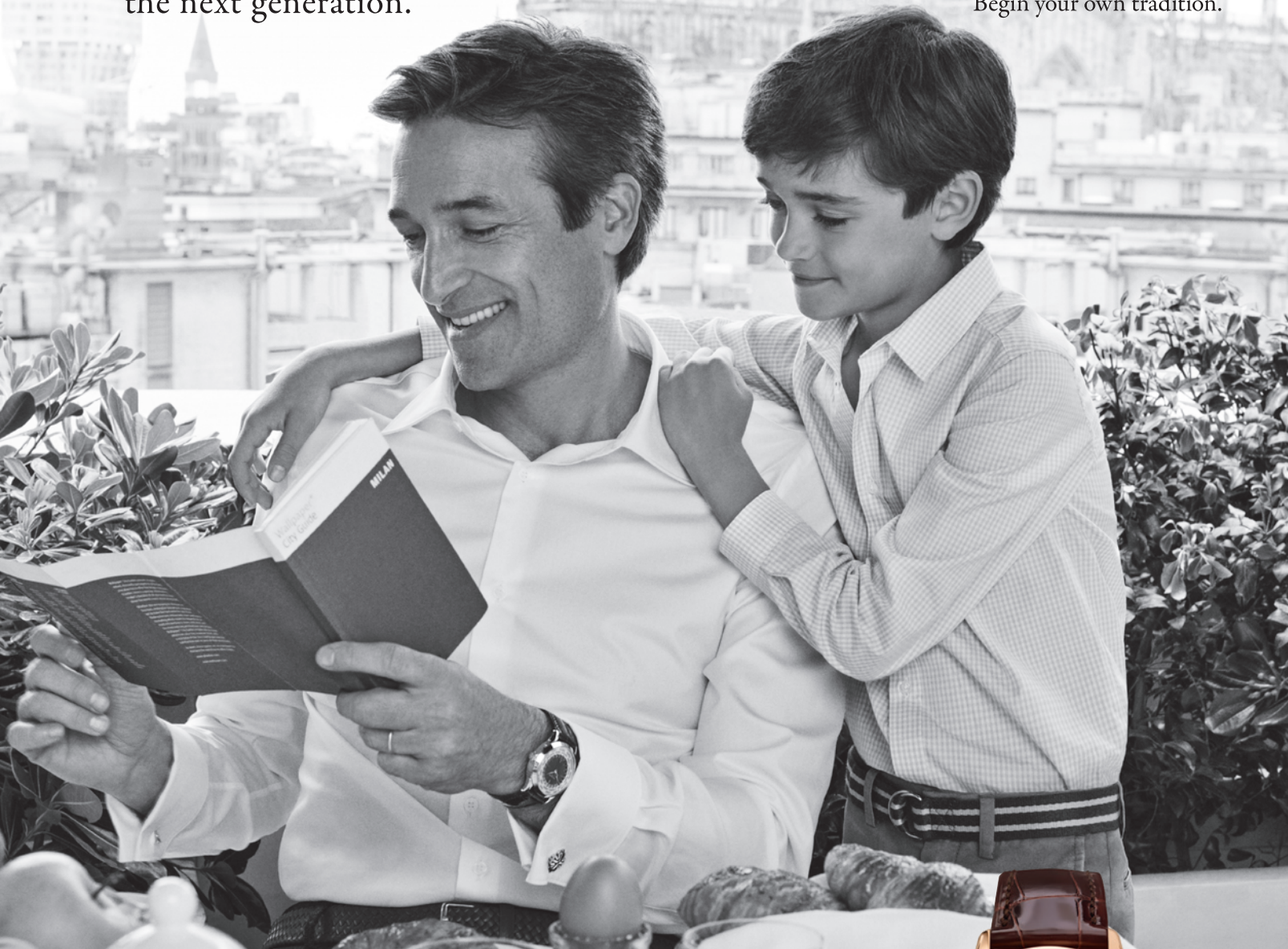
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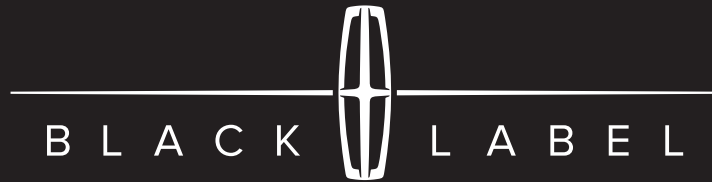
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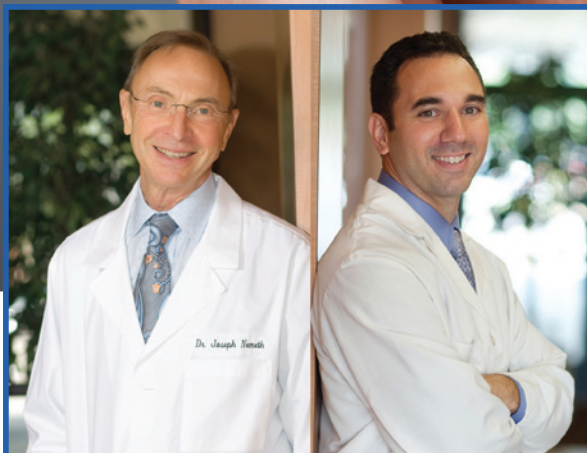
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# The Detroit 500

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**DISTRIBUTION** Target Distribution, Troy

Postmaster: Send address changes to *DBusiness*, 5750 New King Drive, Ste. 100, Troy, MI 48098

For advertising inquiries: 248-691-1800, ext. 126

To sell *DBusiness* magazine or for subscription inquiries: 248-588-1851

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# Winner's Circle

Starting a new brand is never easy. A strong marketing campaign to support the launch is always a good idea, and there's value in providing clues along the way to stoke interest and generate enthusiasm.

Still, building brand equity, especially at the outset, can have unintended consequences. When we set out to publish *Detroit 500*, our goal was to produce an annual resource guide of the most powerful executives in metro Detroit, and, in some cases, around the state.

On that front, mission accomplished. The criterion was straightforward: Research the largest companies, identify the top leaders, arrange the executives into specific business categories, and profile the secrets to their success.

As we delved deeper, "powerful" became an overarching theme. Many of the people profiled on the following pages oversee large corporations that generate billions of dollars in annual revenue, employ thousands of people, and produce products or services that reach nearly every country or region in the world.

But power comes in many forms. The oft-stated principle that, on average, there are six degrees of separation between any given person and the pope was one of our guiding doctrines. When confronted with a major problem, knowing that key person in a business or an organization can lead to amazing results.

Consider the case of Mike and Marian Ilitch, who years ago traveled with another couple to Rome for a vacation. Upon their arrival, their male traveling companion realized he had mistakenly brought his daughter's passport rather than his own. From that point, he was placed in confinement until the matter could be resolved.

Unable to appeal to the local authorities for relief, Mike called his longtime friend, Frank Stella, owner of a restaurant kitchen supply business on Detroit's west side that had helped Little Caesars set up its first 200 pizza restaurants.

Stella, who ran a successful company that served the regional marketplace, didn't run the largest enterprise in the world, but he was an icon in the Italian community, and a close friend of Pope John Paul II. After Ilitch described the problem, Stella commented that although it was

late at night, but he would make a call.

As Stella explained the issue to the Pope's secretary, there was a click on the line and then a voice. "Frank, is that you?" Within an hour, the Swiss Guard arrived at the airport, Ilitch's friend was released, and the vacation was back on track.

For every fork in the road, it always pays to have access to wise counsel. And that's the spirit of *Detroit 500*. This first-of-its-kind publication is the ultimate resource guide for navigating a city and state that's home to some of the world's largest corporations, a vast array of middle-market companies, and thousands upon thousands of small businesses.

Standing out and making a mark amid the sheer number of enterprises is a challenge, but the more people you know, the chances for success are that much greater.

Now, about those unintended consequences: After we launched a series of print and digital ads to support the debut of *Detroit 500*, we had some interesting feedback.

Quite a few people thought we were hosting an auto race — where, I'm not sure. We heard from event planners, florists, restaurants, tire suppliers, and one woman who volunteered to wave the checkered flag. While we're not hosting a race, if we ever did, *Detroit 500* is where we would start.

R.J. King

RJ.KING@DBUSINESS.COM



# VAN CONWAY & PARTNERS

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**VAN E. CONWAY**  
CEO OF VAN CONWAY  
& PARTNERS

Van Conway left Deloitte as a partner in 1987 and founded Conway MacKenzie headquartered in Detroit with offices around the country and affiliated offices in Europe. He was the CEO for close to 30 years. Such firm specialized in restructurings, capital raise, mergers and acquisitions, litigation support, profit enhancement services and fiduciary services. Conway MacKenzie was the largest middle market advisory firm in the country and won virtually every award possible in the industry. Mr. Conway was elected to his industry's hall of fame in 2014. In 2016 Van founded Van Conway & Partners to offer similar services in addition to taking ownership in clients as part of a capital raise.

# Accounting



**CHAD  
ANSCHUETZ**  
Managing Shareholder,  
Chairman  
Doeren Mayhew, Troy

Anschuetz leads Doeren Mayhew's client service, growth, cultural, and strategic direction. Founded in 1932, the firm is a top-60 certified public accounting and advisory firm with offices in Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, and Zürich. Beyond his leadership role, Anschuetz provides public accounting services to closely held corporations and offers assistance to manufacturers, engineers, specialty contractors, equipment lessors, and other businesses.

**EDUCATION:** Adrian College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Auditor at Doeren Mayhew

**SPECIALTIES:** Assists clients through M&A on both buy- and sell-side, and provides litigation support as needed

**FIRM SERVICES:** Accounting, audit, tax, M&A, and business advisory

**ASSET:** Help middle-market companies grow

**INDUSTRIES SERVED:** Manufacturing, construction, energy, dental, retail, restaurants, wholesale, and distribution, among others

**ADJUNCT GRADUATE PROFESSOR:** Lawrence Technological University



**THOMAS  
CALLAN**  
CEO, Managing Director  
UHY, Detroit

In addition to overseeing UHY Advisors MI Inc., Callan is a partner of UHY, a member of the firm's national executive committee, national board of directors, and Michigan Executive Committee. He's also managing partner in charge of the Farmington Hills office. He was a former leader of the firm's national construction practice, where he played a key role in developing practices and procedures to improve the delivery of professional services to construction companies.

**EDUCATION:** Walsh College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Joined UHY in 1992

**INDUSTRY EXPERTISE:** Construction, manufacturing, distribution

**EXPERIENCE:** Guidance on tax compliance issues, state and local tax planning, consulting services, business forecasts and projections, business valuations, and litigation support

**LICENSED CPA:** Michigan and Georgia

**MEMBER:** Construction Association of Michigan, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and Michigan Hispanic Chamber, among others

**PAST LIFE:** Former president of Gilda's Club Metro Detroit



**MARK  
DAVIDOFF**  
Michigan  
Managing Partner  
Deloitte, Detroit

As Deloitte's top leader in the state, Davidoff oversees more than 1,200 professionals based in Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Midland. In addition to serving clients, he is responsible for the strategy, operations, talent, and business development of the statewide practice. Davidoff also collaborates with Deloitte U.S. firms and the global organization — Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd. — to bring the best Deloitte resources and talent to help Michigan companies.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Cutting lawns

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Why are things so heavy in the future?" — Doc Brown

**BEST BOOK:** *Goodnight Moon*, the last book I read to my grandson

**FAVORITE DESTINATION:** Israel

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**ADVOCATE:** Has visited Israel multiple times, and looks to pair the country's high-tech businesses and research with automotive, mobility, and technology firms in metro Detroit



**RYAN  
KRAUSE**  
Regional  
Managing Partner  
Rehmann, Troy

Krause joined Rehmann as an intern in 1998 and has held roles of increasing responsibility throughout his career. He is a regional managing principal with Rehmann and is a member of the firm's assurance executive committee, commercial assurance committee, transactional services committee, and SEC committee. He is a board member and treasurer of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and a board member of the Judson Center.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Cleaning golf clubs at the Verona Hills Golf Club

**BEST ADVICE:** Treat people the same regardless of who they are or what they could do for you

**HOBBIES:** I enjoy anything I can do outside; mainly golfing, hunting, and fishing

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Caddyshack"

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Enjoy every moment of the college experience. Learn to embrace differences in others. You and only you control your destiny

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Remembering numbers, even from years ago. Not a bad thing when you're a CPA.



**GEORGE  
LENYO**  
Detroit Office  
Managing Partner  
Ernst & Young, Detroit

Lenyo leads Ernst & Young's Detroit office and has served as the global coordinating service partner for multiple Fortune 500 clients throughout the Midwest. He has worked at Ernst & Young for more than 20 years, and has expertise in providing client services, developing talent, and making an impact in the Detroit community. He is passionate about innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership. Last year, the office underwent a major renovation.

**EDUCATION:** John Carroll University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** I was a paper boy for the *Sandusky Register*

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Amalfi Coast in Italy

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Be open to all ideas, as you never know which ones might change your life.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Campus Martius; it's where the city lives

**BUCKET LIST:** A family trip to Africa

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Al Pacino

**HOBBIES:** Golfing, skiing, boating, and spending time with my family



**BETSY  
METER**  
Michigan  
Managing Partner  
KPMG, Detroit

Meter is the managing partner for KPMG in Michigan, where she is responsible for the strategic direction and growth of the company's Detroit and Grand Rapids offices. She has 35 years of audit experience serving clients in the automotive, chemicals, and diversified industrial industries. She also serves as KPMG's U.S. accounting change leader, providing support to the audit practice on addressing implementation of new accounting standards.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**YOUR FIRST JOB:** Working as a switchboard operator with the old-fashioned switchboard phone system

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "In matters of style, swim with the current. In matters of principle, stand like a rock."

— Thomas Jefferson

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Amalfi Coast (Italy) or our family home at John's Island in Vero Beach, Fla.

**PET CHARITIES:** Organizations that support children and early education are a passion of mine

**BUCKET LIST:** An African safari

# Accounting | Automotive

• ACCOUNTING | • AUTOMAKER



**JIM  
PROPPE**

Managing Partner  
Plante Moran, Southfield

As managing partner of Plante Moran, Proppe leads one of the nation's largest public accounting and business advisory firms. In his position, he helps to expand the firm's capabilities by increasing service offerings, investing in top talent, and striving to make Plante Moran competitive in a digital world. Proppe joined the team at Plante Moran in 1984 and has spent the last 13 years acting as a group managing partner. The company opened an office in Detroit in 2013.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Working at a gas station. That's where I learned to go the extra mile when taking care of customers.

**LESSON LEARNED:** When implementing change, at first things will get worse. This is where having a vision of where you are headed becomes of utmost importance.

**HOBBIES:** Anything outdoors, especially hiking, biking, and waterskiing.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anyplace that has mountains or a beach.

**BEST ADVICE:** Bill Hermann, former Plante Moran managing partner, taught me to always build your successor.



**RAMESH  
"RAY"  
TELANG**

Market Managing Partner  
PwC, Detroit

With more than 25 years of accounting and business consulting experience, Telang joined PwC's Detroit office in 1988. He was named managing partner in 2012 and is responsible for the Greater Michigan Market, which includes Michigan and northwest Ohio. He also is the U.S. automotive leader, where he works with an array of OEMs and suppliers. Previously, he served as the Greater Michigan market assurance leader, and led more than 350 partners and staff.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Joined PwC in 1988, previously known as Coopers & Lybrand

**WORKFORCE:** More than 60 partners and 750 employees

**NOTABLE:** Chair of the Detroit Regional Chamber's 2018 Mackinac Policy Conference

**CHAMBER:** Served on the board of directors as well as the finance and audit committee, executive committee, and CEO advisory group

**MEMBER:** American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants

**HOBBY:** Wine collecting



**ALAN  
WHITMAN**

Chairman and CEO  
Baker Tilly, Southfield

Whitman is the chairman and CEO of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause. He leads business, operational, cultural, and other strategic activities designed to build Baker Tilly's position of leadership within the industry. He has held various leadership roles with the firm, including leading international services and serving as regional managing partner for Baker Tilly Michigan. He joined the firm in 2003 after spending 15 years with a national CPA firm.

**EDUCATION:** Indiana University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Long John Silver's line cook.

**BEST ADVICE:** As a leader, it's not about you anymore

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** During tax season, hiding a coworker's shoes so he had to go home in his socks

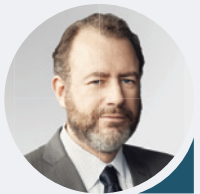
**HOBBY:** I never miss a workout.

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *What Got You Here Won't Get You There*, by Marshall Goldsmith

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Find your passion and build your career around it

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle

**BUCKET LIST:** Become a sommelier



**DAN  
AMMANN**

President  
General Motors Co.,  
Detroit

Ammann was named president of General Motors in early 2014, and is responsible for managing the company's business operations around the world, the global Chevrolet and Cadillac brand organizations, global product planning, new business development, and GM Financial. He was previously executive vice president and CFO, where he led the transformation of GM's finance operations. Before joining GM, Ammann was with Morgan Stanley, where he advised.

**EDUCATION:** University of Waikato (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Press operator

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** In the long run, the good guys always win

**BOARD MEMBER:** Hewlett Packard Enterprise

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Certified industry pool test driver at the Nürburgring Nordschleife racetrack in Germany

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Show initiative — don't wait to be asked

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The resurgence of downtown

**CAREER:** At Morgan Stanley, advised GM on its 2009 restructuring



**MARY  
BARRA**

Chairman and CEO  
General Motors Co.,  
Detroit

Barra was elected GM's chairman in early 2016 and has served as CEO since 2014. Under her leadership, the automaker is driving toward a future with zero crashes, zero emissions, and zero congestion. In addition to strengthening GM's core business of building high-quality cars, trucks, and crossovers, she is leading the company's transformation of personal mobility via connectivity, electrification, autonomous driving, and car-sharing. She began her career with GM in 1980.

**EDUCATION:** Kettering University (B), Stanford Graduate School of Business (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at a local grocery store in the snack bar

**CAREER START:** Kettering University co-op student at Pontiac Motor Division

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Hard work beats talent if talent doesn't work hard." —Tim Notke

**BOARD MEMBER:** Walt Disney Co., Business Roundtable, and Detroit Economic Club

**LESSON LEARNED:** Do the right thing, even when it's hard

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with my family

**SUPPORTS:** STEM programs, especially among girls



**ALAN S.  
BATEY**

President,  
GM North America  
General Motors Co.,  
Detroit

Batey was appointed executive vice president and president, North America, of General Motors in 2014. He also serves on the board of GM China's joint venture, Shanghai General Motors Co. Ltd., and the GM Foundation. Batey has led Global Chevrolet since July 2013. Throughout his career he has held several senior management positions of increasing responsibility for GM in the U.K., Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, The Netherlands, Germany, Korea, and Australia.

**EDUCATION:** City and Guilds Parts 1, 2, and 3 degrees in mechanical engineering

**FIRST JOB:** Mechanical engineering apprentice, GM's

Vauxhall operation

**NATIVE COUNTRY:** United Kingdom

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results." — Winston Churchill

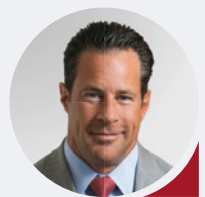
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Darkest Hour"; I am a huge Winston Churchill fan

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Do what you love and you will never work a day in your life

**PET CHARITY:** American Cancer Society

# Automotive

## AUTOMAKERS



**REID  
BIGLAND**

Head of U.S. Sales  
FCA Group, Auburn Hills

Bigland was appointed FCA Group's head of U.S. sales and a member of the Group Executive Council in 2011. He is responsible for sales strategy, dealer relations and operations, order facilitation, incentives, fleet, and field operations. He also serves as chairman, president, and CEO of FCA Canada, a position he has held since 2006. Prior to that, Bigland was head of Alfa Romeo and Maserati, the NAFTA head of Alfa Romeo, and president and CEO of the Ram brand.

**EDUCATION:** University of British Columbia (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Various management positions at Canadian Airlines International, which operated from 1987 to 2001. At the time, the airline was the second largest carrier in Canada.

**PAST WORK:** Former president of Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp. in S.C., was director of U.S. sales and director of human resources at Western Star Trucks, a manufacturer of heavy duty trucks and related parts.

**HOLDS:** American and Canadian citizenship

**REVENUE:** \$133.2 billion

**NET INCOME:** \$4.2 billion

**WORKFORCE:** More than 235,900 employees



**JAMES D.  
"JIM"  
FARLEY JR.**

Executive Vice  
President and President,  
Global Markets  
Ford Motor Co., Dearborn

In his current position, Farley is responsible for Ford's business units in the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia Pacific. He also oversees The Lincoln Motor Co., global marketing sales, service, and strategy and business model development for electrified vehicles and autonomous vehicles. Previously, Farley served as executive vice president and president of Ford Europe, Middle East, and Africa, leading the company's transformation in Europe.

**EDUCATION:** Georgetown University (B), University of California, Los Angeles (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Rebuilding Ford engines in a factory

**BEST ADVICE:** Follow your passion

**HOBBY:** Racing

**FAVORITE BOOK:** Anything by Jack London

**BUCKET LIST:** Hike the Pacific Crest Trail

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park

**CAREER:** Instrumental in leading the reinvention of the Lincoln brand, setting it on a path for growth as a world-class luxury brand as well as launching the all-new Lincoln MKC and Continental. He also oversaw Lincoln's introduction in China.



**EDEL B.  
FORD II**

Board Member  
Ford Motor Co., Dearborn

In addition to sitting on Ford's board, Ford is a company consultant for dealer relations, customer advocacy, motorsports, and corporate history. He began his career at Ford in 1974, was named president and COO of Ford Motor Credit Co. in 1991, and was elected a company vice president in 1993. He also is owner and chairman of Pentastar Aviation, an aviation services provider headquartered at Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township.

**EDUCATION:** Babson College (B)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Our children are the living messages we will send to a time we will never see."

— Neil Postman

**LESSON LEARNED:** Always perform prudent due diligence before making important decisions

**HOBBIES:** Time with my family and attending motorsports events

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Get involved. Better yet, fight for a seat at the head of the table.

**FAMILY:** Great-grandson of Henry Ford

**CHAIRMAN:** Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, and Fair Lane Estate (home of Henry and Clara Ford)



**WILLIAM  
CLAY "BILL"  
FORD JR.**

Executive Chairman  
Ford Motor Co., Dearborn

Ford is the executive chairman at Ford Motor Co., a position he's held since 1999. Ford is the great-grandson of company founder Henry Ford. He joined the family business after graduating from Princeton University in 1979. Ford held a variety of positions within the company, including jobs in product development and with the financial staff. He joined the company's board in 1988, and has served as president, CEO, and COO.

**EDUCATION:** Princeton University (B), MIT Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Production planning analyst and manager of Ford's New York division

**SOMETHING PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU:** I've been a vegan since 2010

**MICHIGAN GETAWAY:** Mackinac Island

**NOTABLE:** Vice chairman of the Detroit Lions and chairman of the United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce.

**DOWNTIME:** Watching football and spending time with my family

**PASSION:** A longtime environmental advocate

**PLAYS:** Ice pond hockey



**JIM  
HACKETT**

President and CEO  
Ford Motor Co., Dearborn

Hackett is the president and CEO of Ford Motor Co., as well as a member of the company's board of directors. Hackett took over the top spot at Ford in May 2017. Prior to starting his role as CEO, Hackett was chairman of Ford Smart Mobility LLC, a subsidiary of Ford. Before working with Ford, Hackett spent 30 years with Steelcase, holding the positions of chairman and CEO for the Grand Rapids-based office furniture and products company.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**BEST ADVICE:** From former Steelcase Chairman Bob Pew: The reason integrity is important is because if you want your people to follow you, they have to trust you, and they won't trust you if you don't operate with integrity.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** When Steelcase reduced its white collar workforce, one of the layoffs was my best man from my wedding. "While he didn't work for me directly, I reasoned that I had to be the one to tell him," Hackett says. "I couldn't leave this to someone else. It was the most difficult thing I ever had to do in business."

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding. It taught me about human nature.



**JOE  
HINRICHS**

President,  
Global Operations  
Ford Motor Co., Dearborn

Hinrichs, an executive vice president at Ford, is responsible for overseeing the automaker's global product development; manufacturing and labor affairs; quality; purchasing; and sustainability, environmental, and safety engineering. He reports to Jim Hackett, Ford president and CEO. Previously, Hinrichs served as executive vice president and president, The Americas, where he was responsible for leading Ford's North American and South American business units.

**EDUCATION:** University of Dayton (B), Harvard Business School (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering the morning newspaper before school

**CAREER:** Earlier, he served as Ford's group vice president and president of Asia Pacific

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Performing several skits as part of the Chinese New Year celebration with the Ford China leadership team (including leading a dragon dance)

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I spend a lot of time working in the gardens at our lake home

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** South African safari with my family

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Michigan Central Depot (circa 2022)

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# Automotive

•AUTOMAKERS I •DEALER GROUP



**MICHAEL  
"MIKE"  
MANLEY**  
CEO  
Fiat Chrysler  
Automobiles N.V.,  
Auburn Hills

Manley took over the CEO role in July after Sergio Marchionne stepped down from the automaker due to health reasons. Marchionne subsequently passed away. As part of the reorganization, Manley was named COO of FCA's NAFTA Region. He has been head of the Jeep brand since 2009, and head of the Ram brand since 2015. Prior to those roles, Manley was COO for the APAC region and led global activities of Chrysler outside of NAFTA.

**EDUCATION:** Southbank University (B), Ashridge Management College (M)  
**NATIVE COUNTRY:** Great Britain  
**FIRST JOB:** Manley joined DaimlerChrysler in 2000 as director — network development at DaimlerChrysler United Kingdom, Ltd., bringing with him experience in the international automobile business at the distributor level  
**PRIOR CAREER:** Served as an operations director at Mercedes Benz Direct. He also served as an operations director of Lex Auto Sales RAC Plc and general manager of Wadham Kenning.



**JAY  
FELDMAN**  
President and CEO  
Feldman Automotive,  
New Hudson

Feldman grew up in an automotive dealership family, and after attending Northwood University and earning a dealer candidate certificate from the National Auto Dealers Association, he opened his first dealership in 1996. The Chevrolet dealership produced \$20 million in its first full year of operation. Today, he owns nine dealerships that collectively generate \$920 million in revenue, including the addition in July of Mark Wahlberg Chevrolet in Columbus, Ohio.

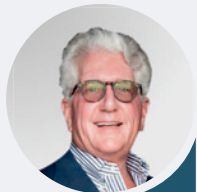
**EDUCATION:** Northwood University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** At age 15, started selling cars  
**WORKFORCE:** 800 employees  
**BRANDS:** Chevrolet, Hyundai, and Kia  
**LAUNCHED:** Recently started a new/used car concept called 1-800PreOwned.com  
**INVESTOR:** Feldman is a partner in Wahlburgers restaurants in Cleveland with actor Mark Wahlberg, and a partner in the master franchise to develop Wahlburgers in Georgia  
**HOBBIES:** Skiing and boating  
**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Greece and Italy  
**GOAL:** \$1 billion in annual sales



**MARK  
REUSS**  
GM Executive VP and  
President, Global Product  
Group and Cadillac  
General Motors Co.,  
Detroit

Reuss leads the design, engineering, safety, quality, research and development, advanced vehicle technology, and program management of GM's cars, trucks, and crossovers around the world. He also oversees the automaker's Global Purchasing and Supply Chain organization, and is a member of the GM Executive Leadership Team and the board of Shanghai General Motors. Outside of work, he is active in education, community, and philanthropy.

**EDUCATION:** Vanderbilt University (B), Duke University (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Motorcycle repair shop  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."  
— Martin Luther King Jr.  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Helping to rebuild GM and position the new company for long-term success following bankruptcy  
**HOBBIES:** Working on old cars, skiing, and baseball  
**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Florida and Germany  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park  
**PET CHARITY:** Detroit Children's Fund



**DAVID T.  
FISCHER**  
Chairman and CEO  
The Suburban Collection,  
Troy

The Suburban Collection is Michigan's largest privately held automotive group and 14th largest in the country. Under his direction, Fischer has successfully built the collection of dealerships to 37 brands at more than 51 locations throughout the Midwest and Southern California. Additionally, the automotive group operates state-of-the-art collision centers, accessories distribution centers, fleet management, and retrofitting services throughout the U.S. and Canada.

**EDUCATION:** Parsons College (B)  
**FIRST CAR:** Car washer at my dad's Oldsmobile dealership  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The 2008 global financial crisis, followed by the bankruptcies of General Motors and Chrysler  
**HOBBY:** Spending time with my grandchildren  
**DOWNTIME:** Being with my family and friends  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Keep your head down, work hard, and enjoy the moment  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Only the Paranoid Survive*, by Andy Grove  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts  
**PET CHARITIES:** Detroit-area charities for children and vocational schools



**TONY  
ELDER**  
President  
Elder Automotive Group,  
Troy

Elder oversees Elder Ford in Troy, Jaguar Land Rover Lakeside in Macomb Township, and Elder Hyundai in Macomb Township, and is vice president of the dealer's Florida operations — Fisker Tampa Bay, Elder Ford of Tampa, Jaguar of Tampa, and Spyker of Tampa Bay. His brother, Robert, is president of the Florida dealers and vice president in Michigan. Elder's late mother, Irma, became CEO of what was Troy Ford in 1983 after her husband, James, passed away.

**FOUNDED:** 1968  
**INVENTORY:** New and certified pre-owned vehicles  
**OPERATES:** Service centers at all of its locations  
**IRMA ELDER:** On taking over Troy Ford in 1983: "I did what had to be done," she said. "I contend that you cannot be married to a man for 20 years and not know anything about his business."  
**NOTABLE:** Irma Elder was the first woman to own a Ford dealership in metro Detroit, and one of the first in the nation  
**PHILANTHROPY:** The company contributes to more than 30 charities and nonprofit organizations, including College for Creative Studies, National Kidney Foundation, Gleaners Community Food Bank, and Habitat for Humanity



**DAVID  
FISCHER JR.**  
President and COO  
The Suburban Collection,  
Troy

Fischer manages the family-owned company in collaboration with his father, David. He started full-time as the company's first internet director before being named general manager of Suburban Toyota and Suburban Volvo. In 2013, Fischer Jr. transitioned into a senior management role, sharing leadership responsibilities with his father. In 2016, he was appointed as president and COO. In addition, he has served on multiple advisory boards.

**EDUCATION:** Colorado State University (B), University of Michigan Ross School of Business (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Porter at The Suburban Collection  
**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Your beliefs become your thoughts, your thoughts become your words, your words become your actions, your actions become your habits, your habits become your values, your values become your destiny." — Mahatma Gandhi  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The global financial crisis  
**AREA ATTRACTION:** The Henry Ford  
**FAVORITE CHARITY:** American Cancer Society  
**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Will Ferrell

# Automotive

• DEALER GROUP I • RACING



## GREGORY JACKSON

President and CEO  
Jackson Asset  
Management,  
St. Clair Shores

Jackson was the first African-American auto dealer group to obtain \$1 billion in annual sales. Prestige Automotive Group includes Prestige Cadillac in Warren; Mercedes-Benz in St. Clair Shores, which includes Sprinter vans; and Courtesy Ford in Okemos. Jackson, a CPA, served two terms as president of the General Motors Minority Dealers Association, and is a guest lecturer at Harvard University and the Clark Atlanta University Graduate School of Business.

**EDUCATION:** Morris Brown College (B), Clark Atlanta University Graduate School of Business (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for a tax and consulting firm, but left to open a gourmet cookie company

**ENJOY:** Interior and architectural design

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The ability to be patient

**DOWNTIME:** Golf, reading, and quiet time to reflect

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit River

**PET CHARITY:** Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Don Cheadle



## RYAN LAFONTAINE

COO  
LaFontaine  
Automotive Group,  
Highland Township

LaFontaine started selling cars when he was 15 years old, and worked in every department at the family dealership. In 2008, he was named COO, and today the company consists of 34 franchises, 20 retail locations, and five collision centers, and employs more than 1,500 workers. LaFontaine was chairman of the 2018 North American International Auto Show. In 2016, with his sister, Kelly, he founded the U CAN-CER VIVE Foundation.

**EDUCATION:** Northwood University (B)

**BEST ADVICE:** Excuses are the building blocks of nothingness, those who specialize in them seldom amount to anything.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Being diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma at 30 years old, in the same year General Motors was facing bankruptcy

**HOBBIES:** Boating, attending Detroit Lions games, and attending car shows

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Ten-year cancer survivor!

**ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Nothing in this life is given, it's earned, so be a hard worker

**ATTRACTION:** North American International Auto Show



## JIM RIEHL

President  
Jim Riehl Automotive  
Group, Warren

Riehl oversees Jim Riehl Automotive Group, which he launched in 1987. Today, the company has five dealerships in Lapeer, Clinton Township, and Warren. The company is one of the largest Chrysler, Cadillac, Dodge, Jeep, Ram, and Honda dealers in metro Detroit. The lineup includes Jim Riehl Commercial Trucks in Lapeer. Riehl also deals in a large volume of pre-owned cars and trucks. The company has undergone a large expansion over the past 10 years.

**FIRST JOB:** Working at his father's car dealership, which opened in 1967

**FAMILY:** Riehl's brother, Mike, owns Roseville Chrysler Jeep in Roseville

**REVENUE:** Jim Riehl's Friendly Automotive group saw a 54-percent increase in sales between 2013 and 2017

**TOTAL VEHICLE SALES:** 1,779 (2017)

**TOTAL NUMBER OF DEALERSHIPS:** Five at three locations, including Jim Riehl's Friendly Cadillac Honda in Clinton Township, Jim Riehl's Friendly Chrysler Jeep in Warren, and Jim Riehl's Friendly Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Commercial Truck in Lapeer

**FAMILY:** Riehl's son, Jim, is a general manager



## JOE SERRA

President  
Serra Automotive,  
Grand Blanc

Serra leads Serra Automotive, which owns 39 dealerships and 53 franchises throughout the United States. The enterprise ranks among the top-20 dealership groups in the nation. Serra began his career in 1982, and was named president of the organization in 1992. He is one of only six dealers in the nation to garner the GM Dealer of the Year award every year, and he has received the Chevrolet National Top 10 award from Chevrolet Motor Division 20 times.

**EDUCATION:** Albion College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at Harvey's Restaurant in Waterford Township

**BEST ADVICE:** Stay humble and hungry

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Navigating through and surviving the 2008 recession

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Wooden: A Lifetime of Observations and Reflections on and off the Court*, by John Wooden

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Zoo

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Chicago

**PET CHARITY:** Orcharde Children's Services

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Lead by example



## CONRAD "CONNIE" KALITTA

Owner  
Kalitta Motorsports,  
Ypsilanti Township

For more than six decades, Kalitta has been a professional drag racer and team owner. He has won multiple National Hot Rod Association titles. From his race winnings, he purchased a twin engine Cessna 310 in 1967 and began transporting parts for the automotive industry. He sold the company, saw it go bankrupt, repurchased the aircraft certificate, launched Kalitta Air, and secured contracts with the U.S. Postal Service, the Department of Defense, and others.

**PERSONAL:** Born in Michigan, grew up in Mount Clemens

**RECORD:** First driver to reach 200 mph at an NHRA-sanctioned event

**NICKNAME:** The Bounty Hunter

**HONOR:** First person to receive the NHRA's Lifetime Achievement Award

**HOLLYWOOD:** Was played by actor Beau Bridges in "Heart Like a Wheel," a biographical film about Shirley Muldowney, the "First Lady of Drag Racing."

**NOTABLE:** On 9/11, the only aircraft in the sky besides F-16 fighters was a Kalitta Air 747 transferring relief supplies to aid disaster workers



## KEN LINGENFELTER

Owner  
Lingenfelter  
Motorsports, Brighton

Finding success in the real estate settlement industry, Lingenfelter purchased his first Corvette in 1977. After selling the settlement company, he began acquiring significant race cars, muscle cars, Corvettes, and exotic European cars — today known as The Lingenfelter Collection. In 2008, he acquired Lingenfelter Performance Engineering, a company founded by his late cousin, John Lingenfelter. He also owns Lingenfelter Motor Sports in Wixom.

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at a Howard Johnson restaurant

**BEST ADVICE:** A plan isn't a plan unless it's written down

**HOBBIES:** Auto racing, collecting, and attending car auctions and shows

**NOTABLE:** Owns a large collection of early Corvettes

**LINGENFELTER MOTOR SPORTS:** A licensed dealer that buys and sells collector and performance cars.

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Jay Leno's Garage"

**BOARD:** Concours d'Elegance of America

**PET CHARITIES:** American Cancer Society, Ronald MacDonald House, and more

**BUCKET LIST:** Attend the Goodwood Festival of Speed

# Automotive

• RACING I • SUPPLIERS



## ROGER S. PENSKE

Chairman and CEO  
Penske Corp.,  
Bloomfield Township

Penske Corp. is a closely-held, diversified transportation services company that has subsidiaries operating in a variety of industrial segments, including retail automotive, retail commercial truck, truck leasing, transportation logistics, and professional motor-sports. The company manages businesses with annual consolidated revenues of more than \$30 billion, operates in more than 3,660 locations, and employs 60,000-plus people worldwide.

**EDUCATION:** Attended Lehigh University

**FIRST JOB:** Lot attendant

**BEST ADVICE:** Effort equals results

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** He couldn't be approved to buy his first car dealership until he gave up racing. His driver's test time slot for the Indianapolis 500 went to Mario Andretti.

**DOWNTIME:** Racing

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Ethics and integrity are two of the most important traits you can have. Be mindful that it takes a long time to build your reputation, but you can destroy that reputation with a few keystrokes.

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Belle Isle, DIA, and The Henry Ford



## JACK ROUSH

Chairman  
Roush Enterprises Inc.,  
Livonia

Roush Enterprises employs more than 4,000 people and operates facilities in North America, Europe, and Asia. Primarily known for providing engineering, management, and prototype services to the transportation sector, Roush also offers engineering and manufacturing services for the theme park, defense, aerospace, and oil and gas industries. Roush worked for Ford Motor Co. from 1964 to 1970, and in 1966 joined a group of Ford racing enthusiasts called The Fastbacks.

**EDUCATION:** Berea College (B), Eastern Michigan University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** College physics teacher

**RACE CAR CHAMPIONSHIPS:** NHRA, IHRA, AHRA, NASCAR, SCCA, and IMSA

**NICKNAME:** Cat in the Hat, for his trademark Panama hat he wears at races

**HOLLYWOOD CONNECTION:** Won 24 Hours of Daytona with Paul Newman

**SURVIVED:** Two plane crashes

**ROUGH PERFORMANCE:** Sells a variety of vehicles, parts, and high-performance crate engines



## DARYL ADAMS

President and CEO  
Spartan Motors Inc.,  
Charlotte

A 25-year automotive executive, Adams oversees Spartan Motors, which designs, engineers, and manufactures specialty chassis, specialty vehicles, truck bodies, and aftermarket parts for the recreational vehicle, emergency response, government services, defense, and delivery and service markets. He joined the automotive supplier as COO in 2014. Prior to that, Adams was CEO of Midway Products Group, and held multiple positions at Southfield-based Lear Corp.

**EDUCATION:** Lawrence Institute of Technology (B), Michigan State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Davis Tool & Engineering in Detroit

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "To improve is to change: to be perfect is to change often." — Winston Churchill

**REVENUE:** \$707.1 million

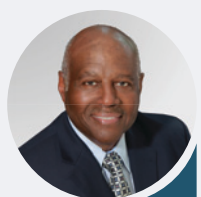
**ASSETS:** \$301.2 million

**EMPLOYEES:** 2,300

**FOUNDED:** Spartan Motors was founded in 1975

**PUBLICALLY TRADED:** NASDAQ (SPAR)

**OPERATIONS:** Michigan, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, South Dakota, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Mexico



## JOSEPH B. ANDERSON JR.

Chairman and CEO  
TAG Holdings, Wixom

Anderson oversees TAG Holdings, which owns several manufacturing service and technology-based entities that serve the automotive, heavy equipment, aerospace, and defense sectors. He started his career with General Motors in 1979 and served as a plant manager and business unit director. After 13 years of service, he resigned to become president and CEO of Composite Energy Management Systems Inc. Anderson is a graduate of the Harvard Advanced Management Program.

**EDUCATION:** West Point (B), UCLA (2M)

**MILITARY CAREER:** Commanded troops as an infantry officer in the 82nd Airborne Division and served two tours of duty with the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam

**HOLLYWOOD CONNECTION:** Anderson and the infantry platoon he commanded in Vietnam were subjects of the highly acclaimed documentary film "The Anderson Platoon," which won an Oscar and an Emmy

**AWARD:** In 2016, received the Distinguished Graduate Award from West Point

**DIRECTOR:** Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago-Detroit Branch (chairman), Rite Aid Corp., and Business Leaders for Michigan



## BO ANDERSSON

President and CEO  
Yazaki North and Central America,  
Canton Township

Andersson, a native of Sweden, was named president and CEO of Yazaki North and Central America in March. This is in addition to his position as president of Yazaki Europe, which he has held since July 2017. Yazaki is a global leader in the research, development, and delivery of vehicle power, data, and display products for automotive applications. In Andersson's new overall role, he is responsible for 129 locations in 28 countries and 140,000 employees.

**EDUCATION:** Stockholm University (B), Harvard Business School (M)

**SERVICE:** A former senior officer in the Swedish armed forces

**FIRST AUTO JOB:** Vice president of purchasing at SAAB AB

**LOCAL TIES:** Joined General Motors in 1993, and in 2001 was promoted to group vice president for global purchasing and supply chain

**NOTABLE:** As GM's group vice president, he cut \$2 billion from purchasing and supply chain costs every year

**OVERSEAS:** In 2009, he moved to Russia to take on the role of president and CEO of GAZ Group, a manufacturer of light commercial vehicles, buses, specialty vehicles, and heavy trucks



## MARTIN BRUDERMÜLLER

CEO  
BASF, Southfield

In May, Brudermüller took over the top job at BASF, replacing Kurt Bock, who stepped down to allow him to return to the world's largest chemical company in 2020 as chairman. Under German law, members of the executive board of a company can only join the supervisory board following a two-year cooling off period. Brudermüller was deputy CEO and chief technology officer. The company operates a large office in Southfield and a production facility in Wyandotte.

**EDUCATION:** University of Karlsruhe (B, M), University of California Berkeley (Ph.D.)

**OPERATIONS:** Basic chemicals, food chemicals, plastics, crop protection, and oil and gas exploration.

**ACQUISITION:** Last October, BASF purchased Bayer's seed and herbicide business

**MERGER:** BASF agreed late last year to merge its oil and gas business with LetterOne, the investment vehicle of Russian billionaire Mikhail Fridman

**MEMBER:** Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Science, National Academy of Science and Engineering, Fund of the Chemical Industry, and German Chemical Industry Association



# THE TEAM BEHIND THE TEAMS

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# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



**LIAM BUTTERWORTH**  
President and CEO  
Delphi Technologies, Troy

Butterworth previously served as senior vice president of Delphi Automotive, which is now Aptiv, and president of powertrain systems from 2014 to 2017. As the leader of Delphi Technologies, he oversees the supplier's portfolio of electronics and vehicle propulsion products. In February, the company announced \$4.8 billion in revenue, which included 22 percent growth in China, with new business that totaled \$7.1 billion. The company has focused on expanding its electrification offerings.

**EDUCATION:** Lancaster University (M)

**PREVIOUS WORK:** Positions in sales, marketing, purchasing, and general management at FCI Motorized Vehicles

**LANGUAGES:** English, French

**DELPHI SPINOFF:** December 2017

**WORKFORCE:** More than 20,000 employees, including 5,000 engineers

**HEADQUARTERS:** While the company conducts a large amount of work in Troy, it is headquartered in London for tax purposes

**FACILITIES:** Operates manufacturing sites, technical centers, and customer support services in 24 countries



**KEVIN CLARK**  
CEO  
Aptiv, Troy

Clark is CEO of Aptiv, a global technology company that develops safer, greener, and more connected solutions, which enable the future of mobility. It has 147,000 employees and operates 14 technical centers, as well as manufacturing sites and customer support centers in 45 countries. The company was spun off from Delphi Automotive earlier this year, and it focuses on high-tech electronics for advanced safety and self-driving applications.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for Chrysler Corp.

**APTIV:** Reflects knowledge, adaptiveness, and drive

**QUOTE:** Aptiv is a technology company that will usher in the next generation of active safety, autonomous vehicles, smart cities, and connectivity.

**PARTNER:** Liberty Lane Partners

**PAST LIFE:** Was CFO of Fisher Scientific International Inc.

**HEADQUARTERS:** The company has a sizeable presence in Troy, but is based in Dublin for tax purposes

**MISSION:** Looks to stave off incursions by Silicon Valley into the auto industry



**MICHAEL COLLINS**  
Managing Partner  
StreetCar Partners,  
Wixom

Collins co-founded StreetCar in 2006 with investor Michael Chetcuti, and the company acquired American Expedition Vehicles in conjunction with AEV founder David Harrington. AEV designs and markets automotive aftermarket products for Jeep Wrangler, Ram trucks, and Chevrolet Colorado. Last year, StreetCar acquired Arbor Brewing Co. and Farm + Ferment, which includes Michigan Hop Alliance, Baia Estate Winery, and Cloverleaf Fine Wine and Craft Beer.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** A subcontractor to a 12-year-old cutting lawns. I was 10 years old

**HOBBIES:** Traveling, cooking, hunting, biking, and golf

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italian countryside

**DOWNTIME:** Sleeping. Nothing else is downtime.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Do not be afraid of failure. Be afraid of not trying.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** University of Detroit Mercy's Callahan Hall, where I would watch basketball games with my dad

**STREETCAR:** Partnered with Chef Luciano Del Signore to grow Biglora Wood Fired Cucina



**FRANCOISE COLPRON**  
President  
Valeo North America,  
Bloomfield Hills

Colpron is president of Valeo North America, responsible for the automotive supplier's overall business health and success in the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Appointed to her role in 2008, Colpron successfully steered Valeo NA during the economic downturn and, later, helped the Paris-based company increase profits. In July of 2017, she was appointed to the board of Alstom, a publicly listed French transportation company.

**FIRST JOB:** Intern at a Canadian law firm, and after passing the Quebec Bar, she was put on a team to develop business in Latin America (she's also a member of the State Bar of Michigan)

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Fluent in French, Spanish, and English

**DIRECTOR:** Original Equipment Suppliers Association

**INDUCTED:** French Legion of Honor in 2015

**QUOTE:** Valeo's primary technology developments are designed to improve driver experiences and enhance energy efficiency, with a focus on reducing a vehicle's carbon footprint.

**EARLY CAREER:** When I arrived in Paris in the automotive world, all of a sudden I was a woman in a man's world — and the only woman on the staff



**JEFFREY "JAY" CRAIG**  
President and CEO  
Meritor, Troy

Craig is the president and CEO of Meritor, an aftermarket parts maker. Previously, he was president and CEO, with oversight of Meritor's business segments — Commercial Truck and Industrial and Aftermarket and Trailer. Craig has also been a member of the Meritor board since April 2015, and has served as a senior vice president and CFO for the company. Before joining Meritor, he held senior leadership positions at General Motors Acceptance Corp.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Duke University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Audit partner at Deloitte & Touche

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with family and friends

**LAUNCHED:** A more complete product portfolio with distinct aftermarket brands that includes multiple price points designed to meet customer requirements regardless of the vehicle lifecycle stage

**INVESTMENT:** Last December, invested in California-based TransPower, which specializes in electrification technologies for large commercial vehicles

**WORKFORCE:** More than 8,200 employees in 19 countries



**DAVID C. DAUCH**  
Chairman and CEO  
American Axle &  
Manufacturing Inc.,  
Detroit

Dauch was appointed CEO of American Axle in 2012, and became chairman a year later. Prior to 2012, he was president and COO (2008-12) and held several other positions of increasing responsibility since 1995 when the company was formed. Dauch serves on the boards of Business Leaders for Michigan, the Detroit Economic Club, the Detroit Regional Chamber, the Great Lakes Council Boy Scouts of America, Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Michigan, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Miami University (B),

Michigan State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Co-op with Chrysler Corp.

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

— Henry Ford

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** Watching my leadership team line up to dunk me in a dunk tank for a local charity

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Successfully navigating AAM through the global financial crisis

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit all seven Wonders of the World

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# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



**JEFFREY S. EDWARDS**

Chairman and CEO  
Cooper Standard, Novi

Edwards oversees Cooper Standard, a leading global supplier of systems and components for the automotive industry. Products include rubber and plastic sealing, fuel and brake lines, fluid transfer hoses, and anti-vibration systems. Last year, Edwards led the drive to establish an advanced technology group. He was appointed chairman and CEO in 2013, and joined the board in 2012. Prior to that, Edwards worked at Johnson Controls Inc., starting in 1984.

**EDUCATION:** Clarion University (B)

**COMPANY PROFILE:** Employs 32,000 people in 20 countries

**REVENUE:** \$3.6 billion

**OPERATIONS:** North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and South America

**HISTORY:** Cooper Tire established automotive division in 1960

**SALE:** In July, Cooper Standard acquired Lauren Manufacturing and Lauren Plastics

**BOARD MEMBER:** Standex International Corp., National Association of Manufacturers

**COOPER STANDARD FOUNDATION:** Since 2013, has provided \$10 million to more than 100 organizations



**TEL GANESAN**

Managing Director  
Kyyba Innovations,  
Farmington Hills

Ganesan came to Detroit in 1989 to study engineering at Wayne State University and, shortly after graduation, he got a job at Chrysler. By 2005, he realized his dream of starting his own company with the launch of Kyyba Inc., a service staffing company. Ganesan and his new company weathered the storm of the Great Recession, and he diversified his services into other industries. He recently launched Kyyba Innovations, Kyyba Ventures, and Kyyba Films.

**EDUCATION:** Anna University (B), Wayne State University (M), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Lead engineer at DaimlerChrysler

**BEST ADVICE:** "When we choose not to focus on what is missing from our lives, but are grateful for the abundance that's present, illusion falls away and we experience heaven on Earth."  
— Sarah Ben Breathnach

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Navigating the company through the Great Recession. The company was close to extinction, but I was able to set it on a growth trajectory.

**HOBBIES:** Travel, tennis, reading books, writing blogs, kayaking, and boating



**DAN GARCEAU**

President  
Autoliv Americas,  
Auburn Hills

Garceau started at Morton International in 1993, prior to the 1997 Autliv merger. He became vice president of passive safety — airbags Americas in 2011 and president of passive safety — Autoliv North America in 2014. He moved up to president of Autoliv Americas in April. Before Autoliv's merger, he held positions of increasing responsibility at Morton International in engineering and operations, including director of quality European airbags, as well as plant manager.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Utah State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**ADVICE RECEIVED:** This is a step in your career and not the final destination. Do this job well and learn as much as you can.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Reorganizing Autoliv Europe into a regional organization in Paris from 2003-2006. I had to establish standards, combine cultures, build teams, and learn a new language

**FAVORITE BOOKS:** *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Skiing in the Canadian Rockies



**MANFRED GINGL**

CEO  
International Automotive  
Components, Southfield

A Tier 1 automotive supplier, IAC was formed in 2006 and specializes in crafted interior components and systems for several OEMs. As CEO, Gingl is responsible for the overall strategic direction and management of the company. Prior to joining IAC, he spent several years exploring disruptive mobility technology, and prior to that was CEO of Magna Aftermarket from 2008 to 2010, after having served as executive vice chairman of Magna International from 2002 to 2007.

**FIRST JOB:** Tool and die maker with Multimatic Inc., forerunner of Magna International

**NATIVE COUNTRY:** Austria

**REPLACED:** Steve Miller

**MAJORITY OWNER:** W.L. Ross & Co., co-headed by U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross

**CONFIDANT:** Frank Stronach

**REVENUE:** \$4.4 billion

**EMPLOYEES:** More than 22,000 globally

**GLOBAL FOOTPRINT:** More than 50 manufacturing facilities in 19 countries

**CAREER:** Served as president and CEO of Tesma International



**JAMES "JIM" GOUIN**

CEO  
Tower International,  
Livonia

Gouin was appointed CEO of Tower International and became a member of Tower's board in early 2017. He also served as president of Tower International from Sept. 2016 until Jan. 2017. Gouin joined Tower in 2007 as an executive vice president and CFO. In that position, he helped establish Tower's Internal Control Quality Operating System and was integral in the successful completion of the company's IPO. Gouin has more than 30 years of experience in finance.

**EDUCATION:** Detroit Institute of Technology (B), University of Detroit (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Lumberyard attendant

**BEST ADVICE:** From my first boss at Ford Motor Co., Roy Novak. He said, "Jim, your biggest asset is your reputation, shine it every day."

**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE:** My first day at Ford I wore a three-piece suit. It was white, with white shoes, shirt, tie, and socks. Very John Travolta. I thought I was all that. It wasn't funny at the time, but looking back, I find it hilarious.

**PAST LIFE:** I sang in a cover band for 20 years while I was in senior executive positions



**RONALD E. HALL JR.**

President and CEO  
Bridgewater Interiors,  
Detroit

Hall has been with Bridgewater Interiors, a company that specializes in automotive interiors, since 2007. He succeeded his father, the company's founder, in 2015. Prior to his current role, Hall served as vice president and general counsel. From 2007-2010, he was responsible for the company's commercial management. Before working in the automotive industry, Hall was an attorney at Dykema in Detroit, where he practiced in the corporate transactions group.

**EDUCATION:** United States Military Academy (B), University of Michigan (JD)

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Decorated by the U.S. Army for meritorious service in the Persian Gulf War, attained the rank of Captain

**HOBBIES:** Little league baseball and running

**DOWNTIME:** Keeping up with politics, learning history

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Wayne County Airport Authority, sits on the audit and compliance committee

**DIRECTOR:** Skillman Foundation, Beaumont Health (audit and compliance committee), Detroit Police Athletic League (immediate past chairman), and New Center Stamping

# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



### FRITZ HENDERSON

Interim CEO  
Adient,  
Plymouth Township

Henderson was most recently CEO of SunCoke, and served as president and CEO of General Motors Co. before that. He worked for GM for 26 years, including more than two decades of general management and operating experience, eight of which were as CEO. He has served on the Adient board since the company was established as a public entity in 2016, though he relinquished his position on the governance committee after being named interim CEO in June.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), Harvard Business School (M)

**PAST LIFE:** Was a pitcher for the U-M baseball team

**FIRST JOB:** Started at General Motors in 1984

**OVERSEAS:** For a period, had direct involvement with the China and Asia Pacific markets at GM

**ADIANT:** Automotive seating supplier with 85,000 employees in 34 countries

**PORTFOLIO:** 238 manufacturing plants

**REVENUE:** \$17.5 billion (2018 FY)

**BOARD MEMBER:** Marriott International, Alfred B. Sloan Foundation



### SYLVESTER L. HESTER

President and CEO  
Global Automotive  
Alliance,  
Canton Township

Global Automotive Alliance, or GAA, is comprised of five companies — two light manufacturing operations and three logistics firms. Hester was named president and CEO in 2015. The company provides manufacturing and logistics management to aerospace, automotive, food and beverage, pharmaceutical, and government sectors. Hester serves as president of GAA's advisory board of directors and was appointed to the Tuskegee University board of trustees.

**EDUCATION:** Ferris State University (B), Central Michigan University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy

**HOBBY:** Photography

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Warmth of Other Suns*, by Isabel Wilkerson

**DOWNTIME:** Golf

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Appreciate the value of learning. It is a lifelong process, and you must take advantage of every opportunity

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** RiverWalk/Hart Plaza

**DIRECTOR:** Alabama Automotive Manufacturers Association and Southern Region Minority Supplier Development Council



### KENICHIRO "KEN" ITO

Chairman and CEO  
Denso North America,  
Southfield

Ito is chairman of Denso's North America board and CEO of Denso International America Inc. in Southfield. He joined the automotive supplier in 1985, and has worked at Denso Thermal Systems in Torino, Italy, where he was responsible for management of the supplier's thermal business in Europe. Ito was transferred to Denso Japan and became a general manager. He became executive director in 2012, and oversaw finance, accounting, and business innovation.

**EDUCATION:** Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Air conditioning planning department at Denso in 2008

**DENSO FOUNDED:** 1984 in the U.S.; 1949 in Japan

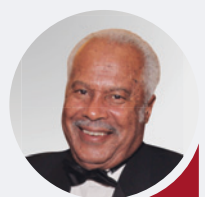
**EMPLOYEES:** More than 150,000 globally

**PRODUCTS:** Powertrain control systems, thermal systems, information and safety systems, electronic and electric systems, and small motors

**WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS:** 38 countries and regions

**REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS:** North America, Europe/Africa, Asia/Oceanic, and China

**GLOBAL REVENUE:** \$48.1 billion



### JOHN A. JAMES

Chairman  
James Group  
International, Detroit

In 1971, James founded his first enterprise in Detroit, and today James Group International is a group of companies that offers international supply chain services. In the 1970s, James fought against regulations that severely limited small transportation firms that wished to enter the job market. The Interstate Commerce Act all but monopolized the transportation industry. The U.S. Supreme Court struck down the act, against which James waged a 10-year legal battle.

**EDUCATION:** Mississippi Valley State University (B)

**MILITARY:** From 1966 to 1969, served in the U.S. Army

**HONOR:** As a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, James was awarded the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal Service

**BUSINESSES:** Renaissance Global Logistics, Magnolia Automotive Services, and TLX

**LOGISTICS:** Receives and consolidates more than 8,000 different part numbers from 750 different suppliers, and ships the product to 23 locations on five continents

**CAPABILITIES:** Trucking, indoor rail service, assembly/subassembly, inspection, inventory control, and more



### VINNIE JOHNSON

Founder and Chairman  
Piston Automotive,  
Redford Township

Since 1995, Piston Automotive has evolved from a small, corrugated pallet manufacturer to an automotive supplier of electric and hybrid vehicle battery systems, seat trim and headrest covers, armrests, console lids, sun visors, and more. In addition to operating joint ventures with Lear Corp., Continental Teves, and Sachs Automotive, in late 2016 the company acquired Irvin Automotive in Troy. Johnson launched the business after retiring from the NBA.

**EDUCATION:** Baylor University (B)

**BASKETBALL CAREER:** A shooting guard and sixth man for the Detroit Pistons from 1981 to 1991. Johnson was a key part of the team's 1989 and 1990 NBA championship seasons

**NICKNAME:** The Microwave, for his basketball scoring streaks

**COMPANIES:** Piston Automotive, Irvin Automotive Products, AIREA, and Detroit Thermal Systems

**CERTIFIED:** Michigan Minority Supplier Diversity Council

**LOCATIONS:** Detroit, Redford Township, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, and Mexico

**REVENUE:** Around \$1.9 billion

**WORKFORCE:** More than 7,500 employees



### RAINER JUECKSTOCK

Co-CEO  
Federal-Mogul  
Motorsports, Southfield

In addition to being co-chairman and co-CEO of Federal-Mogul, Jueckstock is CEO of Federal-Mogul Powertrain. The latter enterprise focuses on original equipment powertrain products for automotive, heavy-duty, and industrial applications. He has more than two decades in leadership positions with Federal-Mogul, and was senior vice president, powertrain energy, a member of the strategy board, and an officer. Jueckstock joined Federal-Mogul in 1990.

**EDUCATION:** Military College, Germany (B)

**EARLY LIFE:** Was a member of the German military

**BEST ADVICE:** The culture of an organization is forged by the behavior of the leadership in difficult times

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Massive restructuring and layoffs during the 2008 global financial crisis

**DOWNTIME:** Reading books and taking photos

**DETROIT DESTINATION:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be patient; a career is a marathon, not a sprint

**PET CHARITY:** United Way of Southeastern Michigan and other benevolent organizations

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# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



### ROBERT KAISER

Owner, CEO  
Gallagher-Kaiser Corp.,  
Troy

Kaiser is sole owner of Gallagher-Kaiser Corp., and under his leadership the company has become the world's top automotive paint shop supplier while maintaining award-winning safety standards. It builds General Motors Co.'s most technologically advanced paint shops around the world. The company purchased Universal Piping Industries in 2010. Gallagher-Kaiser Corp. was started in 1952 in Detroit, where its manufacturing facilities are still located.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B)

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** He was the National and World Champion for competitive offshore powerboat racing

**HONOR:** Four GM Supplier of the Year awards and a GM Customer of the Year award

**WORKFORCE:** More than 4,000 employees

**OWNED COMPANY SINCE:** 2015, when Kaiser purchased the remaining 50 percent of the company from his brother

**NOTABLE:** Participated in automotive round table discussions in Detroit with the White House in 2017

**MARKETS SERVED:** Automotive, aviation, aerospace, hospitality, government, manufacturing, and energy



### FRANZ KLEINER

CEO  
ZF North America Inc.,  
Livonia

Kleiner started his automotive career at Daimler Benz AG, where he held several prominent positions in finance between 1989 and 1997. He served as CFO for several companies, including Nortel Networks Germany, ZF Group NAO, and ZF Lemforder GmbH. Prior to his current role, Kleiner served as head of the industrial technology division at ZF Friedrichshafen AG in Germany. Since 2015, he has been a member of the board of management of ZF Friedrichshafen AG.

**EDUCATION:** University of Stuttgart (B, M, Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Personal assistant to the president of the University of Stuttgart in Germany

**CURRENT JOB:** Responsible for the company's business operations in North America, as well as corporate quality and active and passive safety technology

**EXPANSION:** Last year, ZF formally completed the integration process of its \$12.4 billion acquisition of TRW Automotive Inc.

**BEST ADVICE:** Celebrate small successes

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Do everything at a high quality level so you can always look at yourself in the mirror



### WILLIAM "BILL" KOZYRA

President and CEO  
TI Automotive  
(TI Fluid Systems),  
Auburn Hills

Kozyra has served as president and CEO at TI Automotive for 10 years. The company is a global supplier of automotive fluid storage, carrying, and delivery technology. Previously, he was president and CEO of Continental AG North America. He was also a member of the executive board, Continental AG, Hanover, Germany. Previously, he was at IIT Automotive and served as vice president and general manager, brake and chassis systems North America.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B), Michigan State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Sweeping the shop floor at my father's business

**BEST ADVICE:** Find a way to take a disadvantage and turn it around to be an advantage for yourself

**HOBBY:** Racing cars

**LESSON LEARNED:** When you are persistent, it's amazing what you can achieve.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Get a formal education, apply yourself fully, and expect and embrace change. Work hard, work intelligently, and work efficiently.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I love woodworking



### KEVIN LAMMERS

President, North America  
Faurecia, Auburn Hills

Lammers' career with Faurecia spans more than 20 years. He took the role of president of Faurecia USA Holdings Inc. in 2017. In this position, he is responsible for unifying the three business groups in the North America region to optimize results, capitalize on value creation and opportunities, and share best practices. Lammers started his career working for Ernst & Young in 1986, and then moved to AP Parts International in 1994 as a finance manager.

**EDUCATION:** University of Toledo (B)

**FIRST JOB:** My first job was delivering newspapers on my bike in third grade. It taught me responsibility and work ethic.

**LESSON LEARNED:** Be true to your values and have the strength to honor them

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Some challenges initially seem insurmountable, but you're not alone. I'm a firm believer that the right team members are paramount to success.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** I would say aim high. Don't be afraid to take chances. Most importantly, be willing to put in the effort to succeed.

**FAVORITE BOOK:** I love nonfiction books about World War II



### SACHIN LAWANDE

President and CEO  
Visteon Corp.,  
Van Buren Township

Lawande has been president and CEO of Visteon, a global supplier of vehicle cockpit electronics, since 2015. He also is a board member. Before joining Visteon, Lawande was president of the infotainment division of Harman International Industries, and held several other roles including executive vice president and co-president of the automotive division. He also develops embedded systems and software, and holds four patents in communications software.

**EDUCATION:** Bombay University (B), Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville (M)

**HOBBY:** Reading, as it is truly a window to the amazing thing we call the universe

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, by Bill Bryson

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Turks and Caicos

**AREA ATTRACTION:** The Henry Ford

**GIVING BACK:** I find the work of Winning Futures really impactful and uplifting

**BUCKET LIST:** Read and understand the Hindu philosophical texts of the Bhagavad Gita and the Upanishads



### FREDERIC LISSALDE

President, CEO  
BorgWarner, Auburn Hills

Lissalde was appointed president and CEO in August 2018, when he joined the board. He was president and general manager of BorgWarner Turbo Systems, vice president and general manager of BorgWarner Transmissions Systems, and vice president of global sales and marketing of BorgWarner Drivetrain Systems. His experience includes the integration of purchased companies, as well as the closing, opening, and restructuring of plants around the world.

**EDUCATION:** Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Métiers, Paris (M), HEC Paris (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Sales engineer

**LESSON LEARNED:** The first responsibility of a leader is to deliver results

**HOBBIES:** Yoga, tennis, golfing, boating, and reading historical books

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The beaches in southwest France

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work in teams and be an active participant and listener. Be yourself.

**PET CHARITIES:** Make-A-Wish Foundation, SOS Children's Villages

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# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



**EVAN D. LYALL**

CEO  
Roush Enterprises Inc.,  
Livonia

Lyall has held various positions in Roush's accounting, finance, operations, and motorsports activities, and was appointed CEO of Roush Enterprises in 2001. The Roush Enterprises companies include Roush Industries, a multinational firm engaged in engineering, product development, and manufacturing; Roush Performance, developer and manufacturer of performance vehicles and products for the automotive aftermarket; and Roush CleanTech.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan-Dearborn (B)

**STARTING OUT:** Summer intern for Jack Roush Performance Engineering

**DIVERSIFICATION:** Beyond automotive, oversaw expansion into theme parks, defense, aerospace, and oil and gas

**CUSTOMERS:** Ford, FCA, General Motors, Disney, Google, Bell Helicopter, among others

**NEXT GENERATION:** Roush Performance modifies factory-born Ford Mustangs on a limited-run basis

**LEADERSHIP:** Board member of Business Leaders for Michigan

**SUPPORT:** Cornerstone Schools in Detroit



**MIKE MANSUETTI**

President  
Bosch, Farmington Hills

Mansuetti, who was named president of Bosch North America in 2012, works closely with the automotive supplier's business units and sales organizations to guide the regional growth strategy, with a focus on cross-divisional business opportunities and new business areas. Beginning in 2009, Mansuetti served as senior vice president of the fuel injection business unit in the gasoline systems division in Schwiebeldingen, Germany. Prior to that, he was a senior vice president.

**EDUCATION:** Clemson University (B)

**LANGUAGES:** English and German

**JOINED BOSCH:** In 1988

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Kettering University

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Original Equipment Suppliers Organization

**PARENT COMPANY:** Bosch in Gerlingen, Germany

**BOSCH FOUNDED:** By Robert Bosch in 1886

**PRODUCTS:** Automotive parts, power tools, security systems, home appliances, electronics, and motorized bicycle motors

**EMPLOYEES:** 400,500

**NOTABLE:** The company is owned by Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH, a charitable foundation



**BRADLEY NORTON**

Co-chairman  
and Co-CEO  
Federal-Mogul,  
Southfield

In addition to being co-chairman and co-CEO of Federal-Mogul, Norton is CEO of Federal-Mogul Motorparts. Both companies are global suppliers to OEMs and aftermarket companies. In April, Tenneco, a designer, manufacturer, and distributor of ride performance and clean air products based in Lake Forest, Ill., announced it had signed a definitive agreement to acquire Federal-Mogul for \$5.4 billion. The deal is expected to close by year's end.

**EDUCATION:** University of Akron (B), Ashland University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy for both the morning and evening paper

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "It's not the critic who counts. It is the person in the arena who is marred by blood and sweat, who if they fail, at least they failed daring greatly." — Teddy Roosevelt

**LESSON LEARNED:** In a crisis, break down the elements into manageable bites, with clear leaders for each task

**HOBBIES:** Fishing and tailgating

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** A staycation, as I am never home enough

**FAVORITE AREA ATTRACTION:** M1 Concourse, also known as Champion Motor Speedway



**BRIAN POUR**

President and CEO  
Auria, Southfield

Pour is the president and CEO of Auria. Before taking the helm of the Southfield-based company, he was the COO for International Automotive Components, where he was responsible for planning, directing, and overseeing the global commercial, engineering, R&D, procurement, quality, and operational aspects of the business. Prior to that, Pour served as senior vice president of manufacturing for IAC. He also spent a significant amount of time in Shanghai.

**EDUCATION:** Kettering University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Maintenance technician for a mobile home company in southern Illinois

**Toughest Challenge:** Negotiating the deal that ultimately led to forming a new global Tier 1 auto supplier, Auria

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I started a lawn mower repair business out of my parents' garage when I was 10 and ran it until I moved away to college

**HOBBY:** Anything car-related. I'm a huge classic car guy. My current project is restoring a 1941 Chevy coupe.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Gone in 60 Seconds"

**BUCKET LIST:** Drive a Formula One car



**ARVIND PRADHAN**

President and CEO  
Camaco,  
Farmington Hills

Pradhan has more than 25 years of experience in manufacturing environments around the world. He has held management positions in engineering, plant management, project management, materials management, new facility program management, and financial audits and analysis. He ran his own manufacturing consulting practice supporting Fortune 500 companies before becoming an entrepreneur. The company is a leading auto seat frame supplier.

**EDUCATION:** Illinois Institute of Technology (B), Case Western Reserve University (M)

**EXPERTISE:** Specializes in strategic direction development, manufacturing facility redesign, new systems development, supplier alliances, training, and personal development

**CUSTOMERS:** Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, Johnson Controls, Audi, Volkswagen, Faurecia, Peugeot, Magna, and more

**FACILITIES:** Eight factories and four sales and engineering offices in six countries

**AWARDS:** Distinguished Alumnus award 2016 from IIT Kanpur, 2013 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur award for Michigan and Northwest Ohio



**D. WILLIAM PUMPHREY JR.**

Senior Vice President and  
President, North America  
Cooper Standard, Novi

With more than 30 years of automotive experience, Pumphrey oversees the commercial, engineering, and manufacturing activities of Cooper Standard's North American operations. Prior to joining the company in 2011, he served as president, Americas for Tower International in Livonia, where he successfully led the operations through the 2009 automotive industry downturn. From 2005 to 2008, he served as the president of Tower's North America operations.

**EDUCATION:** Kenyon College (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Started with General Motors in 1984

**COOPER STANDARD:** Employs 32,000 people in 20 countries

**REVENUE:** \$3.6 billion

**OPERATIONS:** North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and South America

**HISTORY:** Cooper Tire, which got its start in 1936, established its automotive division in 1960

**PARENT COMPANY:** Cooper Standard Holdings Inc.

**BOARDS:** Business Leaders for Michigan, Gilda's Club of Metro Detroit

# Automotive

## SUPPLIERS



**MANOJ SACHDEVA**

Chairman, President,  
and CEO  
EWIE Co. Inc.,  
Pittsfield Township

Sachdeva co-founded EWIE Co. Inc., formerly East West Industrial Engineering Co. Inc., in 1981 and has been its chairman, CEO, and president since April 2017. Prior to that, he was co-owner and vice president. EWIE started as a small tooling company that supplied a single components part plant. Today, it is a global supplier of industrial cutting tools, abrasives, special tools, and industrial supplies. Sachdeva co-founded the company with Dillip Mullick.

**BUSINESS:** Manages more than 100,000 parts across 100 customer manufacturing facilities

**VALUE:** The company's full-service value chain management system aims at reducing procurement, inventory, and process costs across the entire supply chain. Instead of managing hundreds of suppliers and the resulting invoices, customers receive one invoice

**DISTINCTION:** The company is minority-owned

**LIFE MOTTO:** Success lies in good people, surrounded by good people, who are surrounded by even more good people

**BOARD LEADERSHIP:** Chairman of Vandana and The Hindu Temple



**SAMIR SALMAN**

CEO  
Continental NAFTA  
Market, Auburn Hills

Salman was trained as a mechanical engineer and held global sales positions at ITT Automotive. In 1998, he joined Continental as vice president of worldwide aftermarket business following the automotive supplier's acquisition of ITT Automotive. Salman was appointed CEO of NAFTA Market in 2008, and coordinated the North American activities of the three automotive divisions — chassis and safety, powertrain and interior, and central functions.

**EDUCATION:** University of Giessen, Germany (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Product manager at Bosch

**OTHER ROLE:** At Continental, serves as senior vice president of the vehicle dynamics business unit of the chassis and safety division in NAFTA

**PARENT COMPANY:** Continental AG, based in Hanover, Germany

**PRODUCTS:** Brake systems, tires, powertrain and chassis components, safety products, and electronics

**BOOST:** In April, the company increased its investment in DigiLens Inc. in Silicon Valley

**EMPLOYEES:** 235,500



**CHAIN S. SANDHU**

Chairman  
NYX Inc., Livonia

Growing up in a small village in what is now Pakistan, Sandhu was just 5 when he lost his father. After earning a master's degree in engineering, he became an assistant professor at Punjab Engineering College. In 1969, he came to the U.S., joined General Motors Co., and worked as an engineer. He left GM after acquiring a faltering company in 1989, which he renamed NYX. The automotive supplier offers plastics processing, engineered plastics, steel stamping, and assembly.

**EDUCATION:** Guru Nanak Engineering College (B), Punjab Engineering College (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Assembly operator at GM's Fisher Body plant

**OPERATIONS:** NYX has production facilities in Michigan, Tennessee, and Mexico, along with a design and engineering center in India

**HOBBIES:** Organic gardening and enjoying my grandchildren whenever I can

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Traverse City, Hawaii, and Shanghai

**SUPPORTS:** Madonna University

**PET CHARITY:** American Red Cross



**RAY SCOTT**

President, CEO,  
and Director  
Lear Corp., Southfield

As president, CEO, and director of Lear Corp., Scott is responsible for the strategic direction and operational leadership of the company. He was elected to his position March 1. Previously, he was executive vice president and president of Lear's seating business, responsible for developing and leading global initiatives to grow and diversify sales, accelerate innovation efforts, improve financial results, and sustain world-class competitiveness in the industry.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Michigan State University (M)

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP:** United Way for Southeast Michigan, Kettering University Board of Trustees, Michigan State University Eli Broad College of Business Alumni Board

**OTHER POSITIONS WITH LEAR:** President of North American seating systems, president of European customer focused division, president of the General Motors and Fiat customer focused divisions, vice president and general manager of Lear GM-Europe, vice president of operations for Lear-Saab, and sales director for Lear's GM Division.

**EXECUTIVE POSITIONS:** In Europe and the United States



**DON STEBBINS**

President and CEO  
Superior Industries  
International Inc.,  
Southfield

Stebbins has served as president, CEO, and a director of Superior Industries, a leading manufacturer of aluminum wheels in North America, since 2014. Prior to his current position, he provided consulting services to private equity firms since 2012. He was chairman, president, and CEO of Visteon Corp. from 2008-2012, and was president and COO from 2005-2008. He previously held positions of increasing responsibility at Lear Corp. and WABCO Holdings Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Miami University (B), University of Michigan (M)

**TRAITS:** Stebbins says he has strong operational expertise combined with the ability to manage complex global businesses. During his career, he has accelerated revenue growth and profit optimization, and has an expertise in acquisitions and divestitures, capital deployment, and portfolio management.

**OVERSEAS:** Has international leadership and cultural experience including living in Europe, and has built and expanded businesses in both domestic and international markets, including wholly owned and joint ventures.

**CHAIRMAN:** Detroit Country Day School

**NOTABLE:** Strong finance background



**LYNN TILTON**

CEO  
Dura Automotive  
Systems, Auburn Hills

Tilton is founder and CEO of Patriarch Partners, a holding company managing 75 companies across 14 industry sectors with annual revenue in excess of \$8 billion. All told, she operates the largest female-owned business in the country. Since 2000, she has owned and restructured 240 companies with combined revenue of more than \$100 billion. Tilton's portfolio includes Dura Automotive Systems, American LaFrance, MD Helicopters, and Stila Cosmetics.

**EDUCATION:** Yale University (B), Columbia University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** An analyst with Morgan Stanley, before joining Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Was a highly-ranked tennis player during college

**PATRIARCH PARTNERS:** Founded in 2000 in New York City

**WORKFORCE:** More than 700,000 employees

**MANAGEMENT:** In addition to overseeing Dura Automotive, Tilton is CEO of MD Helicopters, Stila Cosmetics, Jane Cosmetics, and Ken Paves You Are Beautiful Hair Care

**PORTFOLIO:** Spiegel, Vulcan Engineering Co., Snelling, Jane, Oasis, and more



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## SAMUEL VALENTI III

Chairman and CEO  
Valenti Capital,  
Bloomfield Hills

Valenti, chairman and CEO of Valenti Capital, an investment firm, serves as chairman of TriMas Corp. in Bloomfield Hills, a publically traded, \$1 billion manufacturer of highly engineered precision products for the automotive industry. He is also lead board director of American Axle & Manufacturing in Detroit. He was president of Masco Capital Corp., and a 40-year veteran of Masco Corp., a Fortune 500 manufacturer of home building and home improvement products.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Cleaning up the neighborhood barber shop t 12 years old

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** You don't have to ask, "The Godfather" and "The Godfather: Part II"

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be brave enough to do a kindness for someone every day

**HOBBIES:** Going on adventures with my four grandchildren

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Driving the California coast with my family

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle, it brings back happy childhood memories



## DONALD J. WALKER

CEO  
Magna International Inc.,  
Auburn Hills

Walker leads Magna, a \$36 billion global automotive supplier that designs, develops, and manufactures components and systems for leading automakers. He was Co-CEO of Magna from 2005 to 2010, and was chairman and CEO of Intier Automotive from 2001 to 2005. Prior to taking Intier public, he was president and CEO of Magna from 1994 to 2001. Before joining Magna, he spent seven years at General Motors in various engineering and manufacturing positions.

**EDUCATION:** University of Waterloo (B)

**NATIVE:** Canada

**MAGNA FOUNDED:** 1957

**WORKFORCE:** More than 168,000 employees

**PORTFOLIO:** 320 plants in 29 countries

**REVENUE:** \$38.9 billion

**NET INCOME:** \$2.2 billion

**DEAL:** In March, Magna announced a \$200-million effort to supply Lyft with high-tech kits that turn vehicles into self-driving cars

**CUSTOMERS:** General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, BMW, Toyota, Volkswagen, and more



## RICK NINI

President and CEO  
Corporate Eagle,  
Waterford Township

Nini started cleaning and detailing aircraft at age 16, in exchange for flight training, and worked his way up to passenger charter pilot. In 1980, he became a captain in the Volkswagen of America flight department. In 1982, he and a partner started Tradewinds Aircraft Sales Inc., which became Tradewinds Aviation. The company organized the Corporate Eagle Flight Department in 1994, which became the dominant operation in 2007. Today, it's called Corporate Eagle.

**EDUCATION:** Commander Flight Academy

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Commit yourself to excellence. Do right. Do your best. Show people you care." – Lou Holtz

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The 2008 Great Recession

**HOBBIES:** Golf, cooking Italian food with my family

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Billions"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**PET CHARITIES:** Midnight Golf, THAW, Detroit Institute of Arts, Boy Scouts, Clarkston Scamp

**AIRCRAFT:** Total of 14: Falcon 2000s, Hawker 800 and 900XPs, and King Air B200s



## GREGORY SCHMIDT

President and CEO  
Pentastar Aviation,  
Waterford Township

In his position, Schmidt is responsible for the overall performance, strategic direction, and long-term growth of Pentastar Aviation. He is the past chairman of the board of directors for the National Air Transportation Association, after serving as chairman and treasurer. He previously served as Pentastar's senior vice president and CFO. Prior to joining Pentastar, Schmidt held numerous leadership roles with Pulte Homes Inc.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B), Walsh College (M)

**PENTASTAR AVIATION:** Provides aircraft management, advisory services, aircraft maintenance, avionics services, interior services, FBO services, and private jet charters operated through Pentastar Aviation Charter Inc.

**HISTORY:** Established in 1964 as the internal flight department for Chrysler Corp.

**OWNER:** Edsel B. Ford II, whose family has been involved in aviation since the early 1920s

**PET CHARITY:** Center for Success Network, which Schmidt helped establish. He served as founding secretary and treasurer.



## JOHN C. CARTER

Managing Director and  
Michigan Region Manager  
JPMorgan Chase, Detroit

Carter has worked for more than 35 years in commercial banking for JPMorgan Chase and its predecessor organizations, and he is in charge of various lending and corporate banking groups that serve corporate clients. He serves on internal bank committees and has involvement in several outside organizations; he's the director of the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, director of the YMCA Foundation, and a board and executive committee member at Forgotten Harvest.

**EDUCATION:** Alma College (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Cutting lawns

**HOBBY:** Golf

**LESSON LEARNED:** Always do your best

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Band of Brothers"

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *The Greatest Generation*, by Tom Brokaw

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Normandy, France

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Read and be informed

**DIRECTOR:** Business Leaders for Michigan, Detroit Regional Chamber, Detroit Historical Society, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, and more



## RICHARD L. DEVORE

Regional President,  
Detroit and Southeast  
Michigan  
PNC Financial Services  
Group, Troy

In addition to overseeing the regional market, DeVore is an executive vice president of PNC Bank and chairman of the local PNC Foundation. A banker with more than 38 years of experience with financial institutions, he joined PNC in 1991. DeVore was a credit executive for commercial lending and oversaw credit training for PNC Bank. He also served as National City Bank's chief credit officer, with responsibility for the National City credit risk management group.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), Wayne State University (M)

**EARLY LIFE:** Growing up in Dearborn, DeVore and his brothers would compete to see who would spot new Ford Mustangs

**TEAM:** Part of PNC's \$5.6 billion purchase of National City Bank

**BOARDS:** Business Leaders for Michigan, Oakland University, Horizon Global Inc., Cranbrook, Detroit Economic Club, Detroit Regional Chamber, and Ann Arbor SPARK

**CHAIRMAN:** Oakland University Board of Trustees

**QUOTE:** What's unique about our bank is that our employees get 40 hours a year of paid time off if they donate that time to early childhood education

# Banking and Finance

• BANKING



**ALESSANDRO P. DINELLO**

President, CEO, and  
Director  
Flagstar Bank, Troy

In addition to overseeing Flagstar Bank, DiNello manages Flagstar Bancorp Inc. Prior to his current position, he was president and chief administrative officer of Flagstar Bank and, for a number of years, executive vice president of retail banking. Prior to that, he joined Security Savings Bank in Jackson, where he ultimately served as president. In 1994, Security Savings was acquired by First Security Savings Bank, which later became Flagstar Bank.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Bank examiner

**PAST EXPERIENCE:** Went skydiving and the parachute didn't deploy. He radioed for help, followed alternative maneuvers as instructed, and safely landed in a cornfield.

**FLAGSTAR:** A \$17.7 billion savings and loan holding company

**FLAGSTAR FOUNDED:** In 1987, as First Security Savings Bank

**EXPANSION:** In June, Flagstar Bank acquired 52 Wells Fargo Bank branches in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio (to close by year-end)

**FOUNDING MEMBER:** Detroit Sports Organizing Corp.



**MATT ELLIOTT**

Detroit Market President,  
Midwest Region Executive  
Bank of America Merrill  
Lynch, Troy

As Detroit market president, Elliott works with company leaders to help deliver Bank of America's full range of global financial services. As the Midwest region business-banking executive for the bank, he leads various teams of professionals who leverage the product breadth, industry expertise, and global presence of the bank to deliver integrated financial solutions to companies and institutions across eight states, including Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), University of Chicago Booth School of Business (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Drive-through operator at Taco Bell

**LESSON LEARNED:** Leave it better than you found it

**HOBBIES:** Golf, boating, and MSU sports

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Great at speaking in different accents

**DOWNTIME:** Northern Michigan

**ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** The journey is the destination; make the most of it

**LEADS:** The bank's corporate social responsibility activities

**EXPERTISE:** More than 20 years of commercial lending, capital markets, and corporate finance experience



**DAVID GIRODAT**

Regional President  
Fifth Third Bank, Detroit

Girodat serves as regional president of Fifth Third Bank in Eastern Michigan, which has \$4 billion in assets. In this role, he is responsible for the growth and strategic alignment of the commercial, wealth, and asset management and consumer businesses. He is on the Bancorp Management Committee and was part of the executive team that agreed to relocate the Eastern Michigan corporate headquarters in Southfield to the One Woodward Building in downtown Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Walsh College (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Burger King

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Carpentry

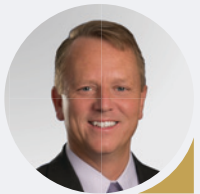
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Your personal brand and reputation will determine much of your path. It will always be a work in progress. Build it and protect it.

**PET CHARITY:** Detroit Dog Rescue

**BUCKET LIST:** I have never been to Italy. I owe it to my wife to take her there.

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Tim Allen

**DIRECTOR:** Detroit Regional Chamber and New Detroit



**RICK HAMPSON**

President, Michigan  
Citizens Bank, Southfield

As state president and head of commercial banking, Hampson directs financial activities and leads the bank's community involvement initiatives. He also directs the Michigan commercial middle market lending groups. He is a member of the company's senior leadership team and the Commercial Advisory Board, and has more than 20 years of experience in all areas of commercial banking. Previously, he was a senior vice president in corporate finance at PNC Bank.

**EDUCATION:** Boston College (B), Columbia University (M)

**PAST LIFE:** Was a senior leader at Comerica Bank

**LESSON LEARNED:** Optimism is critical to success in life and business

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Played Division I soccer at Boston College

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Long Beach Island

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Your career path will likely take many turns, so you don't need to figure it all out on Day One.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Tigers games

**PET CHARITIES:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast Michigan, Gleaners Community Food Bank



**JOHN HANTZ**

President and CEO  
Hantz Group Inc.,  
Southfield

Hantz founded Hantz Group, a full-service financial holding company, in 1998. The company, with more than 600 employees and 21 offices in Michigan and Ohio, provides a variety of financial services for consumers and small businesses including financial and retirement planning, property and casualty insurance for consumers, business and individual tax services, and estate planning, as well as retirement and health care plans for business and commercial insurance.

**EDUCATION:** Northwood University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Fished golf balls out of the river and sold them, three for \$1

**BEST ADVICE:** One look is worth a thousand reports

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** During my first client meeting, my overly animated mentor poked the client in the eye

**LESSON LEARNED:** Being more patient and allowing things to play out

**HOBBIES:** Being outdoors, hunting, and fishing

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Giovanni's Ristorante

**FOUNDER:** Hantz Woodlands, an enterprise of Hantz Farms Detroit, and Hantz Air, a corporate flight operation



**MARYBETH HOWE**

Executive Vice President  
Wells Fargo Bank,  
Birmingham

As executive vice president and division manager for Wells Fargo Middle Market Banking — Great Lakes division, Howe, a 35-year banking veteran, manages nearly 100 commercial banking professionals who provide loan, treasury management, and deposit products to middle-market companies with revenues of more than \$20 million in Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio. She was featured in *DBusiness* magazine's *Powered By Women* annual coverage.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B),

Ohio State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** A boutique clothing store on Detroit's Avenue of Fashion

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Being widowed at the age of 29. Life is short, don't worry about the things you can't control.

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Good leaders inspire teams to have confidence in their leadership; great leaders inspire team members to have confidence in themselves." — Wells Fargo

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle

**BUCKET LIST:** Taking the entire family to Italy

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A MOVIE:** Catherine Zeta-Jones

# Banking and Finance

## BANKING



**JOHN D. LEWIS**

Non-Executive Chairman  
Flagstar Bancorp Inc./  
Flagstar Bank, Troy

Lewis became non-executive chairman of the boards of Flagstar Bancorp and Flagstar Bank in 2012. From 2006 to 2015, he served as managing director of the investment-banking firm Donnelly Penman & Partners. Prior to 2006, he had a 36-year career at Comerica Bank in Detroit, ultimately becoming vice chairman and a director of Comerica Inc. and Comerica Bank. Lewis also serves as chairman of Beaumont Health and the University of Detroit Mercy.

**EDUCATION:** University of Dayton (B),  
University of Detroit Mercy (M)

**FLAGSTAR BANCORP:** A \$17.7 billion savings and loan holding company

**TRANSACTIONS:** In 2018, Flagstar acquired eight branches from Desert Community Bank and a mortgage warehouse lending portfolio from Santander Bank

**HOME LOANS:** Flagstar handles payments and recordkeeping for \$104 billion in loans

**PENDING DEAL:** In June, Flagstar Bank signed a definitive agreement to acquire 52 Wells Fargo Bank branches in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin (expected to close later this year)



**THOMAS W. LOPP JR.**

President  
Sterling Bancorp Inc.,  
Southfield

Lopp was elected president of Sterling Bank & Trust in December 2016, and he holds the titles of COO, CFO, and treasurer. He has been a member of Sterling Bank since 1997. In 2015, he was named the executive in charge of the bank's Southern California expansion. Prior to that, he served as director of the consumer loan division from 2000 to 2002, and divisional controller. Prior to joining Sterling Bank, Lopp was a senior financial analyst at First of America Bank Corp.

**FIRST JOB:** Credit card portfolio analyst at Security Bancorp

**STERLING BANK:** Provides banking and loan services, including mortgages

**STERLING BANK FOUNDED:** 1984

**CUSTOMER BASE:** Individuals, professionals, businesses, and commercial customers

**ASSETS:** \$3 billion

**LOCATIONS:** In addition to Southfield, there are 13 branches in San Francisco, seven in the Bay area, four in Los Angeles, and two in New York (SBT Advantage Bank)

**LOAN PRODUCTION OFFICES:** Seattle, Manhattan, and Flushing, N.Y.



**SANDRA PIERCE**

Senior Executive  
Vice President  
Huntington Bank, Detroit

As client group and regional banking director, Pierce oversees Huntington Private Bank, Huntington Auto Finance, RV and Marine Finance, and Huntington Insurance Inc., as well as having oversight of all state activities. Pierce was vice chairman of FirstMerit Corp. prior to its merger with Huntington in 2016. She also was chairman of the Detroit Financial Advisory Board, which oversaw the city's fiscal restructuring through the nation's largest municipal bankruptcy.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Teller at National Bank of Detroit

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Whatever you are, be a good one." — Abraham Lincoln

**HOBBIES:** Golf, reading, and spending time with my children and grandchildren

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The riverfront

**BUCKET LIST:** I'd love to take my living siblings, all six of us, on a trip somewhere in appreciation of everything they've done for me

**DIRECTOR:** Barton Malow Enterprises, Penske Automotive Group



**DAVID PROVOST**

President and CEO  
Chemical Financial  
Corp., Detroit

In addition to overseeing Chemical Financial, Provost is a board member of Chemical Bank. Chemical Financial is the largest banking company headquartered and running branch offices in Michigan. The company operates through its subsidiary bank, Chemical Bank, with 212 banking offices located primarily in Michigan, northeast Ohio, and northern Indiana. Provost was chairman of Talmer Bank and Trust. In 1989, he co-founded Bloomfield Hills Bancorp Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Alma College (B),  
Eastern Michigan University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working on Shepler's boats between Mackinaw City and Mackinac Island

**PAST LIFE:** Born in South Korea, moved to Mackinaw City at 11 years old

**FAMILY:** Son and grandson of Presbyterian missionaries

**CAREER:** Started at Manufacturers National Bank

**EARLY LIFE:** Saw his first television set when he came to the United States

**CERTIFICATE:** Graduate School of Banking at University of Wisconsin—Madison



**MICHAEL RITCHIE**

President,  
Michigan Market  
Comerica Bank, Detroit

Ritchie joined Comerica in 1991, became a member of the Michigan Senior Leadership Team in 2008, and was named president of the Michigan Market in 2013. In addition to that role, he directly oversees Michigan Middle Market Banking, as well as the bank's national environmental services, captive insurance, and leasing divisions. In addition, he was responsible for Comerica's national health care, financial institutions, municipalities and corporate finance divisions.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), University of Michigan Ross School of Business (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**LESSON LEARNED:** Hard is good, easy is bad

**HOBBY:** Reading

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Rome

**COMMUNITY ROLES:** Board of Business Leaders for Michigan, Detroit Public Safety Foundation, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Detroit Economic Club, College for Creative Studies, Detroit Regional Chamber, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, and Fair Lane in Dearborn, the home of Clara and Henry Ford



**BRETT A. ROBERTS**

CEO  
Credit Acceptance Corp.,  
Southfield

Roberts, a board member, leads Credit Acceptance, which since 1972 has offered automobile dealers financing programs to help them sell vehicles to consumers, regardless of their credit history. The programs are offered through a nationwide network of automobile dealers who benefit from sales of vehicles to consumers who otherwise could not obtain financing, from repeat and referral sales, and from sales to a range of other customers.

**FIRST JOB:** Controller for Credit Acceptance

**JOINED:** Started with the company in 1991

**REVENUE:** \$1.1 billion

**NET INCOME:** \$470.2 million

**TOTAL ASSETS:** \$5 billion

**ACTIVITY:** Consumer loans totaled 328,507

**DEALERS:** 11,551 active dealers

**ASSISTANCE:** Reports to three national credit reporting agencies, giving consumers an opportunity to improve their credit score and potentially qualify for more traditional financing for a vehicle

**WORKFORCE:** More than 1,800 employees



Our carriers, represent both admitted and non-admitted solutions in ***all 50 states***.

AmeriTrust is a specialty niche-focused, commercial insurance underwriter and insurance administration services company. We market and underwrite specialty property and casualty insurance products on both an admitted and non-admitted basis. Our products are distributed through a broad and diverse network of independent retail agents, wholesalers, program administrators and general agents, who value service, have concentrated knowledge and focused expertise. AmeriTrust also provides claims, loss control and other insurance-related services to municipalities and self-insured groups.



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# Banking and Finance | Civic Leaders

•BANKING | •FINANCE | •TURNAROUND MANAGEMENT | •BUSINESS



**GARY  
TORGOW**

Chairman  
Chemical Financial  
Corp., Detroit

In addition to being chairman of Chemical Financial, Torgow is a board member of Chemical Bank. Chemical Financial is the largest banking company headquartered and running branch offices in Michigan. The company operates through its subsidiary bank, Chemical Bank. In July, the bank relocated its headquarters to downtown Detroit from Midland. Torgow also oversees The Sterling Group, which owns commercial office and retail buildings.

**EDUCATION:** Yeshiva University (B), Wayne State University School of Law (JD)

**REAL ESTATE:** Founder and chairman of The Sterling Group in Detroit

**AUTHOR:** *Raising the Bar and Holy Warrior*

**CHEMICAL BANK:** Founded in 1917 with \$50,000 in assets and three employees

**TOTAL DEPOSITS:** \$13.6 billion

**TOTAL ASSETS:** More than \$20 billion

**NET INCOME:** \$149.5 million

**DIRECTOR:** Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Business Leaders for Michigan, and more



**JEFFREY  
BROWN**

CEO  
Ally Financial, Detroit

Brown was named CEO in February 2015 and has since diversified Ally's offerings to include digital wealth management and online brokerage, a credit card, and mortgage products. Previously, Brown served as president and CEO of Ally's Dealer Financial Services business, where he oversaw the company's automotive finance, insurance, and auto servicing operations. He also is a trustee of Queens University of Charlotte.

**EDUCATION:** Clemson University (B), Queens University of Charlotte (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working on a golf course

**PREVIOUS POSITIONS:** Corporate treasurer, Bank of America and Ally

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Seinfeld"

**DOWNTIME:** Volunteer, play golf with my children

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Success can't be accomplished alone

**PASSIONATE ABOUT:** Supporting economic mobility

**DIRECTOR:** In 2018, was appointed Federal Advisory Council representative for the Seventh Federal Reserve District



**VAN  
CONWAY**

CEO  
Van Conway & Partners,  
Birmingham

Conway is internationally recognized in the fields of insolvency/bankruptcy financing, reorganization and management of troubled companies, mergers and acquisitions, debt restructuring, and litigation support. He is also a financial adviser. Conway and his firm provided discounted pro-bono advisory services when Detroit filed for bankruptcy in 2013. He served as president and CEO of Conway MacKenzie in Birmingham from 1987-2016.

**EDUCATION:** John Carroll University (B), University of Detroit (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Accountant

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Will beats skill." – Muhammad Ali  
**LESSON LEARNED:** Find a work/life balance. Children will never remember what you buy them, but they will remember the time you spent with them.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "A Few Good Men"

**BUCKET LIST:** Ride a motorcycle to Alaska

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Party and event planner

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Tom Selleck



**PAT  
O'KEEFE**

Founder and CEO  
O'Keefe, Bloomfield Hills

O'Keefe is an expert in corporate reorganization, financing, debt restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, and litigation support. He has more than 30 years of experience in the financial advisory and turnaround consulting industries, including retail, construction, automotive, manufacturing, technology, and real estate. O'Keefe is CEO of Glycadia, a diabetes research company, and CEO of Grow Michigan, which helps draw businesses to the state.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Never confuse effort with achievement." – John Wooden

**LESSON LEARNED:** Never give up. We don't often control the speed or direction of the wind, but we do determine how we set our sails.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I'm a prankster.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Scotland

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Athletic Club

**SERVED:** As president of the Detroit Athletic Club



**JAMES A.  
WEISSENBORN**

Founder and  
Managing Partner  
Mackinac Partners,  
Bloomfield Hills

Weissenborn has more than 30 years of executive leadership experience. As founder and managing partner of Mackinac Partners, he has led many successful corporate restructurings, turnarounds, M&A transactions, strategic initiatives, and brand and portfolio development efforts for leading companies and equity firms across a variety of industries. Previously, he held several senior officer positions for PulteGroup, a large home builder.

**EDUCATION:** University of South Florida (B), University of Texas at Austin (M)

**FIRST JOB:** I had my own lawn-mowing business

**PAST LIFE:** Served as CFO and a director of First Heights Bank in Texas

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** If you aren't part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last and the servant of all." – Mark 9:35

**HOBBIES:** Walking (or anything to do with) my dogs

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Austin, Texas, and Rome, Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park



**SANDY  
BARUAH**

CEO  
Detroit Regional  
Chamber, Detroit

Sandy Baruah is president and CEO of the Detroit Regional Chamber, the third largest chamber in the nation. Baruah joined the chamber in 2010 after serving under President George W. Bush as administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and chief of staff of the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Prior government work includes service to President George H.W. Bush and U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood.

**EDUCATION:** University of Oregon (B), Willamette University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Selling men's clothing at Hudson's

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** During my service with President George W. Bush, I had roles dealing with the 9/11 terror attacks, Hurricane Katrina, and the financial meltdown in 2008

**HOBBIES:** Travel and cars, but not traveling in cars

**DOWNTIME:** Quiet time at home with my wife and our pets. A glass of wine always helps.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work backwards. Figure out what you want the story of your life to be.

# Civic Leaders

• BUSINESS I • COURTS



**TAMMY CARNRIKE**  
COO  
Detroit Regional Chamber, Detroit

As COO, Carnrike oversees key areas at the nation's third largest chamber, including the Mackinac Policy Conference, special programming, corporate governance, major investor relationships, affinity programs, and day-to-day oversight in support of the chamber president and CEO. Carnrike has achieved the highest professional designation of Certified Chamber Executive, which is held by less than 600 chamber professionals nationwide.

**BEST ADVICE:** The most difficult thing is the decision to act; the rest is merely tenacity  
**INSIGHT:** In facing adversity, you won't remember all that you went through, but you will remember how you survived  
**HOBBIES:** Golf, enjoying good food and wine, exploring new artists, and trying new tequilas  
**DOWNTIME:** Reading books on the beach, trying new restaurants with friends, watching football, and Sunday mornings with coffee and the print newspapers  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** There is nothing you can't accomplish unless you allow yourself to think otherwise. Open your mind and trust your gut when in doubt.



**JEFF MASON**  
President and CEO  
Michigan Economic Development Corp., Lansing

Mason executes MEDC's core mission of business development and attraction, community development, providing access to capital, and improving Michigan's image and brand. From 2009 to 2017, he was executive director of the University Research Corridor, an alliance between the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and Wayne State University. The effort is designed to transform, strengthen, and diversify Michigan's economy.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Dishwasher/short order cook at a restaurant in Grand Rapids  
**HOBBIES:** Golf and bicycling  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Shawshank Redemption"  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Dream big and explore the world  
**BUCKET LIST:** Playing Augusta National  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere in Pure Michigan, but especially Little Traverse Bay  
**CAREER:** Former senior vice president and chief business development officer of MEDC, and served at Travel Michigan



**KENNETH L. HARRIS**  
President and CEO  
National Business League Inc., Detroit

Harris launched the International Detroit Black Expo Inc. in 2005, which hosts more than 1,000 exhibitors from around the world and reaches nearly 300,000 consumers. He also was elected to the Detroit Charter Commission and led the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce. Harris became the president and CEO of the National Business League Inc., which was formerly the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce and founded by Booker T. Washington in 1900.

**EDUCATION:** Clark Atlanta University, Georgia (B. M.), Michigan State University (Ph.D.)  
**BORN AND RAISED:** Detroit  
**OTHER DEGREES:** Doctor of Humane Letters from Lewis College of Business in Detroit, education specialist degree from Wayne State University  
**MICHIGAN BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:** Became the largest African-American chamber in the country under Harris' leadership  
**NATIONAL BUSINESS LEAGUE:** More than 15,000 members, 365 local leagues, access to 2.5 million black-owned businesses across the U.S.



**DOUG ROTHWELL**  
President and CEO  
Business Leaders for Michigan, Detroit

Rothwell has worked as an executive in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors for most of his career. For the past decade, he's led Business Leaders for Michigan, a business roundtable of corporate CEOs from the state's largest companies. He's worked for four governors in two states and, at one time, managed General Motors' 400-million-square-foot global real estate portfolio. He is a director of ITC Holdings and the Renaissance Venture Capital Fund.

**EDUCATION:** University of Delaware (B), University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Busboy  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "In history lies all the secrets of statecraft." — Winston Churchill  
**LESSON LEARNED:** Success is helping others succeed, not just yourself  
**CHAIRMAN:** Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the American Center for Mobility  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Godfather"  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy  
**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A MOVIE:** Tom Hanks



**KEVIN JOHNSON**  
President and CEO  
Detroit Economic Growth Corp., Detroit

Johnson manages Detroit Economic Growth Corp., the city's leading economic development driver. Under his leadership, the organization is aiming to create 10,000 jobs, open 140 small businesses, and secure \$3.4 billion of capital investment by 2020. Johnson joined the DEGC earlier this year. The organization experienced a record year of development and business growth in 2017 and helped facilitate the opening of Little Caesars Arena.

**EDUCATION:** South Carolina State University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** I was a busboy at a local steakhouse in my hometown of Myrtle Beach, S.C.  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Passion has no cure  
**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE:** I was on a business trip to India once and got robbed by a monkey  
**LESSON LEARNED:** Let individuals be themselves, but not to the extent that it clouds the overall mission of an organization  
**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Game of Thrones"  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The RiverWalk; you don't get views like that every day  
**CAREER:** Veteran of economic development initiatives



**HON. JAMES BIERNAT JR.**  
Chief Judge  
16th Judicial Circuit Court, Mount Clemens

Biernat served for the 16th District on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners from 1993 through 1998, and was an assistant prosecutor for the Macomb County Prosecuting Attorney's Office from 1999 until his appointment to the bench by Gov. Rick Snyder in 2011. Biernat is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the Macomb County Bar Association, and is currently involved in Macomb County Adult Felony Drug Court. He is the son of Judge James Biernat Sr.

**EDUCATION:** Hillsdale College (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)  
**FIRST JOB:** Paperboy  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "To live outside the law, you must be honest." — Bob Dylan  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Working in Drug Court and dealing with the success and failures of the participants  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Fox Theatre  
**BUCKET LIST:** Traveling to Poland and Italy to discover my roots  
**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Will Ferrell

# Civic Leaders

• COURTS I • POLITICAL



**HON. ROBERT COLOMBO JR.**

Chief Judge  
3rd Circuit Court,  
Wayne County, Detroit

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Colombo has accepted a number of special assignments, including serving as the asbestos judge for Wayne County and being appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to handle all breast implant cases in the state. He also presided over a lawsuit against former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and the city of Detroit, ruling Kilpatrick's text messages with his chief of staff were subject to Michigan's Freedom of Information Act.

**EDUCATION:** University of Miami (B), Detroit College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for the Wayne County Road Commission

**CAREER START:** Law clerk

**BEST ADVICE:** Do the thing you least like first

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself." — Franklin D. Roosevelt

**LESSON LEARNED:** Tell the truth

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Rome, Italy

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Make good decisions, work hard, save your money, and start putting together a plan for what you would like to do in life.



**HON. Nanci J. GRANT**

Circuit Judge  
Oakland County Circuit Court, Pontiac

Judge Grant was elected to the Oakland County Circuit Court in 1996 and has been re-elected three times since then. Prior to her election, Judge Grant was an attorney practicing commercial litigation at Dickinson Wright. In 2010, the Michigan Supreme Court appointed her as the chief judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court. She served as chief judge from 2010-2017, the longest serving tenure at that position. Grant created the state's first Combat Veterans' Treatment Court.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** I once entered the courtroom when my clerk was busy and did not see me. The incarcerated defendant, in chains in the jury box, called out, "All rise!" He then grinned and said, "I always wanted to do that."

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Shortly after my election, my then 5-year-old son had open-heart surgery. When your child has been through that experience, it puts everything else in your life in perspective.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** A vast and completely useless knowledge of Broadway musicals.



**HON. DENISE PAGE HOOD**

Federal District Court Judge  
U.S. District Court, Detroit

Judge Hood represents Michigan's Eastern District. Hood has served on the bench since 1994. Prior to her appointment, which made her the first African-American judge to join the Eastern District of Michigan's bench in 13 years, Hood served as a judge in Detroit's 36th District Court, Recorder's Court, and Wayne County Circuit Court. Before becoming a judge, she worked as an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Detroit Law Department.

**EDUCATION:** Yale College (B), Columbia University School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Working as an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Detroit Law Department

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Unto whom much is given, much is required.

**VACATION DESTINATION:** Beaches

**PET CHARITY:** InsideOut Literary Arts Project

**CIVIC:** Hood has participated in numerous professional organizations, including a stint as the chair of the Michigan State Planning Body for legal service, the State Bar Pro Bono Initiatives Committee, and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association.



**HON. PHILLIP SHEFFERLY**

Chief Judge  
U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Detroit

Shefferly is the chief judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit. He was appointed as a judge in the Eastern Michigan District, and was named chief judge in 2009. Before becoming a judge, Shefferly was in private practice, working in business reorganizations and Chapter 11 matters in metro Detroit. He has extensive trial and other litigation experience in bankruptcy, federal, and state courts.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**EXPERIENCE:** Before taking the bench, Shefferly had a private practice that concentrated in business reorganizations and Chapter 11 matters. He also had extensive trial experience in bankruptcy, federal, and state courts.

**SPEAKER:** Presenter for the American Bankruptcy Institute, the Federal Bar Association, the Consumer Bankruptcy Association, and the Institute of Continuing Legal Education

**TERM:** Shefferly's current term will expire in March 2031

**GIVING BACK:** Currently an instructor for the Institute of Continuing Legal Education



**MIKE BISHOP**

Congressman  
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Bishop serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means, which is responsible for tax reform, health care, Medicare, Social Security, and welfare. Previously, he served as Michigan's Senate Majority Leader. While in the Senate, he sponsored legislation to create the Michigan Child Protection Registry and the Michigan Identity Theft Protection Act. He also served two terms in the Michigan House of Representatives. Previously, Bishop worked as a chief legal officer.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Michigan State University College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Landscaping and construction

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Destiny is no matter of chance; it's not something to be waited for, it's something to be achieved." — William Jennings Bryant

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Master of the Senate: The Years of Lyndon Johnson*, by Robert Caro

**PET CHARITY:** Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Lake Michigan in the summer

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be confident, be grateful, and be nice to everyone



**BETSY DEVOS**

Secretary  
U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

DeVos serves as the 11th U.S. Secretary of Education, and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on February 2017, after being nominated by President Donald J. Trump. She has been involved in education policy for nearly three decades as an advocate for children and a voice for parents, and is passionate about reforms that help underserved children gain access to a quality education. DeVos' interest in education was sparked at an early age by her mother, a public school teacher.

**EDUCATION:** Calvin College (B)

**GOAL:** Provide better educational options for students across the nation

**EARLIER LIFE:** In-school mentor for at-risk children in Grand Rapids Public Schools

**BUSINESS:** Past chairman of The Windquest Group, an enterprise and investment management firm in Grand Rapids that also includes her husband, Dick

**PAST BOARDS:** Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Kids Hope USA, ArtPrize, and the Kendall College of Art and Design

**HUSBAND:** Dick DeVos, an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and community activist



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# Civic Leaders

• POLITICAL



**DEBBIE DINGELL**

Congresswoman  
U.S. House  
of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

Dingell represents Michigan's 12th District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where she has made it a priority to be a voice for the Midwest on issues that matter to working families. Before being elected to Congress, Dingell worked in the auto industry for more than three decades, where she was president of the General Motors Foundation and a senior executive responsible for public affairs. She was also chair of the Wayne State University Board of Governors.

**EDUCATION:** Georgetown University (B,M)

**FIRST JOB:** Staff assistant for U.S. Sen. Robert P. Griffin

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently." — Henry Ford

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOU:** I'm a great bargain shopper

**HOBBY:** Reading

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** All "NCIS" shows and "Law & Order"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Mackinac Island, on the front porch of the Grand Hotel

**HUSBAND:** John Dingell, a U.S. Representative for 59 years, the longest Congressional tenure in U.S. history



**MIKE DUGGAN**

Mayor  
City of Detroit

Duggan was elected mayor of Detroit in 2013, and was re-elected to a second term in 2017. Born in Detroit, he has spent his entire career working in the city as a lawyer, an administrator, and a prosecutor. Today, as the leader of Detroit, he is fighting crime and blight while improving neighborhoods and access to jobs. Following in the footsteps of his predecessor, Dave Bing, he and his team completed the installation of more than 60,000 LED street lights.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for a law firm in downtown Detroit

**LESSON LEARNED:** Failed to qualify for the mayoral ballot in 2013 due to living less than a year in the city after establishing residency; mounted a successful write-in campaign

**DEPUTY WAYNE COUNTY EXECUTIVE:** From 1987 to 2000 under Ed McNamara

**WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTOR:** From 2001 to 2004

**DETROIT MEDICAL CENTER:** President and CEO from 2004 to 2012

**DETROIT GOALS:** Clean up the neighborhoods, tear down more blighted structures, and improve city services



**WARREN EVANS**

County Executive  
Wayne County

Evans was elected as Wayne County county executive in 2014, when it faced a financial challenge. He has restored fiscal stability, eliminating a \$52-million structural deficit and an \$82-million accumulated deficit while exiting a consent agreement in 14 months. Wayne County has since produced three consecutive budget surpluses. Evans began his work in public service as a jail deputy for the Wayne County sheriff and served as undersheriff from 1987-1991.

**EDUCATION:** Madonna College (B), University of Detroit Mercy (M), Detroit College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Doing whatever was needed at D&L Drug Store in Detroit

**LESSON LEARNED:** There is a hell of a difference between friends and acquaintances, but they all claim to be friends

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Top Gun"

**BEST ADVICE:** Find something you love and chase it. Learn to let naysayers serve as fuel during the rough periods of the chase.

**MEMBERSHIPS:** State Bar of Michigan, the D.C. Bar, Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States

**BOARDS:** Downtown Detroit Partnership and others



**MARK HACKEL**

County Executive  
Macomb County

Hackel began his career in law enforcement in 1981 as a dispatcher with the Macomb County Sheriff's Department. He worked his way through every rank for the next 20 years and was elected sheriff in 2000. Hackel was elected to serve as Macomb County's first-ever county executive in November 2010 and has made the county more economical, efficient, and ethical. He focuses on economic and community development, as well as improving the quality of life.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B),

Central Michigan University (M), FBI National Academy Graduate

**FIRST JOB:** Detroit Free Press paper boy

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift." — Steve Prefontaine

**HOBBIES:** Running and coaching

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I was captain of my high school wrestling team and first team All Conference and All County

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit RiverWalk

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Mark Harmon



**BRENDA LAWRENCE**

Congresswoman  
U.S. House of  
Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

Lawrence was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2016, where she serves as a senior whip, vice chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, and secretary of the Congressional Black Caucus. She also serves on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where she is on the Subcommittee on Aviation, Subcommittee on Highway and Transit, and Subcommittee on Water, Resources and Environment.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Letter carrier

**LESSON LEARNED:** Never give up

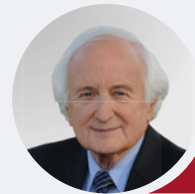
**HOBBIES:** Cooking, traveling

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work hard, get your education, and love yourself unconditionally. Also, remember the importance of being kind.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern Michigan beaches

**BUCKET LIST:** White water rafting, and write a book about women in leadership

**CAREER:** Born and raised in Detroit, she was the first African-American woman to serve as the mayor of Southfield



**SANDER LEVIN**

Congressman  
U.S. House of  
Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

Levin is a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means and is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Health. The Ways and Means Committee has jurisdiction over all tax, trade, economic growth policies, and entitlement spending, including Social Security, Medicare, welfare, and unemployment compensation. Levin first served on the House Banking Committee and joined the Ways and Means Committee in 1987.

**EDUCATION:** University of Chicago (B), Columbia University (M), Harvard Law School (JD)

**STUDENT ACTIVIST:** Class president at Central High School in Detroit, president of student government at the University of Chicago

**FIRST JOB:** Private law practice

**FAMILY:** Parents Saul and Bess Levin, brother Carl, and sister Hannah Gladstone

**EARLY LIFE:** Grew up on Boston Boulevard in Detroit's Boston-Edison Historic District

**SERVED:** Michigan Senate from 1965 to 1970

**FELLOW:** Harvard Kennedy School in 1975

# Civic Leaders | Education

• POLITICAL | • EDUCATION



**L. BROOKS PATTERSON**  
County Executive  
Oakland County

Patterson's mission is to make Oakland County one of the best places to live, work, play, and raise a family as he serves in his seventh term as executive. The county has reached full employment under Patterson's leadership, with less than 5 percent unemployment. His Emerging Sectors, Medical Main Street, and Tech 248 initiatives have attracted nearly \$4.8 billion in private investment, creating or retaining nearly 85,500 jobs. He was an Oakland County prosecutor.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit (B), University of Detroit Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Teacher at Catholic Central High School in Detroit

**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE:** I was invited to speak at the commencement at Pontiac Catholic High School (now Notre Dame Prep). I pushed my chair back to allow a student by to receive her diploma, and I dropped about 12 feet off the stage. I looked up, spotted the exit sign, and thought, "Should I?"

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** James Bond series

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I'm a twin

**HOBBY:** Going to the movies

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** The Rainbow Connection



**GARY PETERS**  
Senator  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

Peters was elected to the Senate in 2014 and pushes for a stronger economy, good-paying jobs, affordable health care, a secure retirement, and a fair chance for everyone to succeed. His top priority is to support job creation, and he serves on the Senate Armed Services Committee; Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee; and the Joint Economic Committee.

**EDUCATION:** Alma College (B), University of Detroit Mercy (M), Michigan State University (M), Wayne State University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy for the *Oakland Press*

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I was voted class clown in high school

**HOBBY:** Riding motorcycles

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Isle Royale

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Seek ways to venture outside of your comfort zone and, in the process, take thoughtful risks.

**CAREER:** Before public office, Peters worked as an investment adviser and volunteered for the U.S. Navy Reserve. He began public service work as a Rochester Hills city councilman in 1991.



**RICK SNYDER**  
Governor  
State of Michigan,  
Lansing

Snyder became Michigan's 48th governor in 2011, and in the past seven years the state has passed eight balanced budgets, eliminated a \$1.5 billion deficit, and reformed tax and regulatory codes. During that time, more than 500,000 private sector jobs were created, while the unemployment rate fell to 4.5 percent (June). Raised in Battle Creek, he previously served as president and COO of Gateway and co-founded two Ann Arbor-based venture capital funds.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Tax accountant at Coopers and Lybrand

**FAVORITE MOVIES/SHOWS:** "Star Wars," "Band of Brothers," and "We Were Soldiers"

**HOBBIES:** Rock hunting and polishing, water skiing, boating, and fishing

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Michigan's Upper Peninsula

**TOP DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Belle Isle and Little Caesars Arena

**BUCKET LIST:** I promised the first lady Sue a safari after my time in office is done



**DEBBIE STABENOW**  
Senator  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow is the senior senator from Michigan. She advocates for the American auto industry, small businesses, health care, agriculture, and the city of Detroit. She has helped to secure millions of dollars to remove blighted homes and improve neighborhoods, helped bring manufacturing hubs to Michigan, and led efforts to open the Elijah McCoy Patent Office in Detroit. She is running for re-election in November.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working at the Dairy Phil ice cream shop in Clare

**BEST ADVICE:** Always do your best, notice the good things first, and treat others as you wish to be treated

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOU:** I grew up in a musical family, eight years of piano lessons and clarinet in the school band and at MSU. I also played guitar in a duo called "Dale and Debbie."

**HOBBIES:** Listening to and playing music, going to the movies, and enjoying our great outdoors

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Dream big dreams. Don't be afraid to take risks. Real failure is not trying.



**DAVID TROTT**  
Congressman  
U.S. House of  
Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

Trott serves on the House Committee on Financial Services, and was on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and House Committee on the Judiciary. After serving for two terms, he announced last September that he would not seek another term in 2018. Prior to being a lawmaker, Trott, a foreclosure expert, was president and managing partner of the law firm of Trott & Trott in Farmington Hills. He joined his family law firm in 1985.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Duke University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at the International House of Pancakes

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** If you do the right thing, everything usually works out

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Building our family business following the death of my parents

**HOBBIES:** Golf, yoga, and traveling

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *The Many Who Sold His Ferrari*, by Robin Sharma

**PET CHARITY:** Care House of Oakland County

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Tom Hanks



**DR. ELIZABETH BURNS**  
President  
Marygrove College,  
Detroit

Burns serves as the ninth president of Marygrove College. Prior to her appointment as president, she served as interim provost at Marygrove. She retired in July 2015 as associate dean for Faculty and Clinical Affairs and assistant dean for Graduate Medical Education/DIO at the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine. From 2008 to 2012, she served as president and CEO of the Michigan State Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies.

**EDUCATION:** Marygrove College (B), University of Iowa (M), University of Michigan Medical School (MD)

**FIRST JOB:** Clerk typist at the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Command in Warren

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** The Serenity Prayer, by Reinhold Niebuhr

**HOBBIES:** Reading and photography

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "The Big Bang Theory"

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Explore your options. There's a big world out there.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo.

**NOTABLE:** Marygrove is now a graduate college

# Education



**BART  
DAIG**

President and CEO  
Baker College, Flint

Daig has served in a variety of roles during his 28 years with Baker College. As president and CEO, he is responsible for providing vision, strategic direction, and executive leadership for the Baker College System, and ensures achievement of the college's mission, philosophy, strategies, and annual goals. He provides oversight of all operations and resources, and serves as the main point of communication between the board of trustees and the college's operations.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B), Baker College (M), Touro University International (Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Baseball umpire at age 15

**PAST LIFE:** Competed in power lifting for 20-plus years

**BEST ADVICE:** From my parents I learned to be respectful, forthright, and to maintain integrity

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Bravo Two Zero," the true story of a special forces unit behind enemy lines during the Persian Gulf War. The resilience, teamwork, grit, and never-quit attitude in the face of insurmountable odds is admirable.

**HOBBIES:** Working out, golf, and skiing

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Aruba



**CLARK  
DURANT**

President  
New Common School  
Foundation, Detroit

In 1991, Durant was a co-founder of Cornerstone Schools in Detroit and became its longtime chair. Today, there are five independent or charter schools that collectively serve more than 3,400 students, with plans to reach 6,000. A former president of the Michigan State Board of Education, Durant now serves on the Coalition for the Future of All Detroit Schoolchildren. Previously, he was director of the private management group at Munder Capital Management.

**EDUCATION:** Tulane University (B), University of Notre Dame Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Parking cars and pumping gas at the Downtown Garage

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Driving to meet a major donor, I ran out of gas five miles from the meeting place. He came to the rescue, and still made a major gift.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Raising a family and creating long-term excellence and sustainability for Cornerstone Schools

**MILITARY:** Former Captain in the U.S. Army, as was his dad

**HONOR:** Winston Churchill Fellow of Westminster College and the National Churchill Museum



**JOHN  
ENGLER**

Interim President  
Michigan State  
University,  
East Lansing

Engler became interim president of Michigan State University in February, following his appointment by the MSU Board of Trustees. He was the 46th governor of Michigan, serving three terms from 1991 to 2003. Before that, Engler served 20 years in the Michigan Legislature, including seven years as state Senate majority leader. He was the youngest person ever elected to the Michigan House of Representatives. He also led the National Association of Manufacturers and Business Roundtable.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Thomas M. Cooley Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Grew up working on the family farm in the mid-Michigan area

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."—Edmund Burke

**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE:** I was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives when I was 22. Not surprisingly, I was mistaken for a student page when I first arrived at the Capitol in Lansing.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** When I was in college, I placed eighth in the nation in a beef cattle judging competition



**ANTOINE  
GARIBALDI**

President  
University of Detroit  
Mercy, Detroit

Garibaldi is the 25th and first lay president of the University of Detroit Mercy. Since 2011, under Garibaldi's leadership, UDM has increased enrollment to more than 5,100 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. Prior to that, he was president of Gannon University in Erie, Pa., for almost 10 years, the first provost and chief academic officer at Howard University, and Xavier University of Louisiana's first lay vice president for academic affairs.

**EDUCATION:** University of Minnesota (B)

**FIRST JOB:** I was a sixth-grade social studies teacher at a Catholic school in Washington, D.C.

**BEST ADVICE:** Stay in a job at least three years so you have accomplishments to bring to your next position

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I was a Catholic seminarian for eight-and-a-half years

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Purple Rain"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**BUCKET LIST:** Write a book about my parents and how they were able to provide excellent educational opportunities for nine children



**MICHAEL  
GRANDILLO**

President  
Madonna University,  
Livonia

Grandillo became the seventh president of Madonna University in 2015, following more than 39 years in higher education, and has expertise in academic leadership, recruitment, public relations, and advancement from his work at a number of colleges and universities. At Madonna, he also holds a faculty appointment as professor of history and political science. During his tenure, Grandillo has helped establish a student government, among other new programs.

**EDUCATION:** Ohio Northern University (B), University of Dayton (M), University of Toledo (Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** By foot, I delivered false teeth to dentists

**HOBBIES:** Collecting sport, political, and pop culture memorabilia

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** I like attending downtown music and sporting events

**DOWNTIME:** I'm a C-SPAN junkie, like classic rock, and keep active in public policy

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Al Pacino



**DOMENICO  
GRASSO**

Chancellor  
University of  
Michigan-Dearborn

Prior to being named chancellor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Grasso was provost at the University of Delaware, vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College at the University of Vermont, and dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences at UVM. As an environmental engineer, his research focuses on molecular scale processes that govern the ultimate fate of contaminants in the environment.

**EDUCATION:** Worcester Polytechnic Institute (B), Purdue University (M), University of Michigan (Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Serving ice cream at Friendly's

**BEST ADVICE:** From my mother: You make money, money doesn't make you

**LESSON LEARNED:** As an executive, your strongest and most effective power is the power of persuasion

**PAST LIFE:** I played rugby for several years

**HOBBIES:** Tennis, skiing, cycling, and hiking

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Follow your heart, have fun, and be yourself

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Vermont and Italy

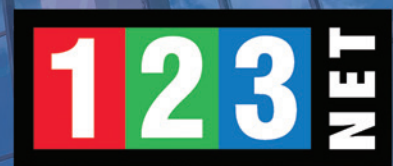
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## Education



**RUSSELL A. KAVALHUNA**  
President  
Henry Ford College,  
Dearborn

In the spring, the Henry Ford College Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Kavalhuna as the sixth president of the institution, and he began his three-year contract period on July 2. The contract will be extended in three-year terms. Founded in 1938, the college has 13,000 students and offers two-year programs in liberal arts, science, fine arts, culinary arts, and health sciences, as well as some 100 online courses. The school operates two campuses in Dearborn.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B), Western Michigan University Cooley Law School (JD)  
**FIRST JOB:** Senior law clerk to Justice Michael Cavanagh  
**MOST RECENTLY:** Executive director of flight operations at Western Michigan University  
**FLIGHT:** Former airline captain for US Airways Express (now American Airlines)  
**MEMBER:** Air Line Pilots' Association (was an elected negotiator)  
**PROSECUTOR:** Assistant U.S. attorney from 2009 to 2015  
**COMMISSIONER:** Michigan Aeronautics Commission, including serving as chairman



**VIRINDER K. MOUDGIL**  
President and CEO  
Lawrence Technological  
University, Southfield

Moudgil has overseen Lawrence Technological University since 2012. Previously, he was senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, and interim provost at Oakland University. Currently, he is overseeing a period of significant growth in LTU's enrollment, fundraising, and community outreach. Campus improvements include the construction of a fourth student residence hall, and LTU's Detroit Center for Design and Technology in Midtown Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Banaras Hindu University (Ph.D.), Varanasi, India  
**FIRST JOB:** Assistant research officer, Indian Council of Medical Research, Banaras Hindu University, India  
**MOTTO:** Work like a horse, but live like a saint  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be globally educated, read and explore options, and follow what your passion and experiences dictate  
**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Mistaken as a student  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** An athlete, a poet, and a student of history  
**HOBBIES:** Traveling, reciting Urdu poetry, reading biographies, and staying current with the news  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle



**MARSHA KELLIHER**  
President and CEO  
Walsh College, Troy

Kelliher was named the president of Walsh College in 2017, the seventh president in the school's 95-year history. Kelliher has more than 35 years of experience in the fields of academic leadership, teaching, business, and law. She came to Walsh after serving in upper-level leadership positions at Susquehanna University and St. Edward's University during more than 20 years in academia. Kelliher began her career in the consulting department of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, & Co. in 1982.

**EDUCATION:** Indiana University (B), South Texas College of Law (JD), University of San Diego (LLM)  
**FIRST JOB:** Started working in retail as soon as I could  
**BEST ADVICE:** Live every day to the fullest and embrace every challenge as an opportunity  
**LESSON LEARNED:** If you think life isn't fair, look around you and you'll see how lucky you really are  
**NOTABLE:** Holds an advanced scuba certification. While earning the advanced certification, she saved the life of her diving partner  
**HOBBIES:** Cooking, gardening, and golf  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Opera House



**DR. ORA HIRSCH PESCOVITZ**  
President  
Oakland University,  
Auburn Hills

Dr. Pescovitz began her tenure as Oakland University's seventh president in 2017. She has more than 30 years of experience in academic health centers and universities. Previously she served as senior vice president and U.S. medical leader for Eli Lilly and Co. She also served in the dual role of executive vice president for medical affairs at the University of Michigan and was CEO for the University of Michigan Health System.

**EDUCATION:** Northwestern University (B), Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine (MD)  
**FIRST JOB:** Selling World Book encyclopedias  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** I'm a pretty good ping-pong player  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Reach for the stars and if you miss, you will land on the moon.  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Go to college  
**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** The day I lectured 350 medical students with one black shoe and one gray shoe, after dressing quietly in the dark so I didn't disturb my husband, who had worked overnight, and our infant children. The students never forgot it.



**EDWARD B. MONTGOMERY**  
President  
Western Michigan  
University, Kalamazoo

Montgomery became the ninth president of Western Michigan University in 2017. He came to WMU from Georgetown University, where he had served as the founding dean and professor of economics at that university's McCourt School of Public Policy since 2010. He served as chief economist, then counselor and assistant secretary for the Department of Labor, before being named deputy secretary of labor under President Clinton.

**EDUCATION:** Pennsylvania State University, (B); Harvard University (M, Ph.D.)  
**FIRST JOB:** Delivered newspapers for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*  
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."  
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** Holds private pilot's license and scuba diving certificate  
**HOBBY:** Golf  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park



**KEITH PRETTY**  
President and CEO  
Northwood University,  
Midland

Pretty joined Northwood University as president and CEO in 2006. He came to Northwood from Walsh College, where he served as president for seven years. Prior to Walsh, he was vice president for external affairs, general counsel at Western Michigan University and president and CEO of the Western Michigan University Foundation. In the private sector, Pretty held governmental affairs positions with Amoco Corp. and became a senior Washington representative.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B), Thomas Cooley Law School (JD)  
**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Follow your passion into a career you love and you will never see "work" as a negative  
**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am an Eagle Scout, and was drafted by the Green Bay Packers  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Harbor Springs  
**HOBBIES:** Sports, reading, travel, history  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum

# Education | Energy

• EDUCATION | • CHEMICALS



**RICK ROGERS**  
President  
College for Creative  
Studies, Detroit

Rogers has been president of the College for Creative Studies since 1994, and recently announced he would retire on June 30, 2019. During his tenure, CCS has more than doubled its enrollment and physical space, established seven new undergraduate departments, launched its first graduate programs, expanded to two campuses, and developed community outreach programs reaching 4,000 inner-city youth annually. He is active on numerous boards.

**EDUCATION:** Yale College (B), Bank Street College of Education (M), Yale Divinity School (M)

**FOUNDED:** In 1906, as the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts

**ENROLLMENT:** More than 1,400 students

**UNDERGRADUATE TUITION:** \$41,040

**DEGREE PROGRAMS:** Advertising, crafts, entertainment arts, transportation and design, illustration, photography, fine arts, and product design, among others.

**TRUSTEE:** McGregor Fund and New Detroit Inc.

**NOTABLE:** LinkedIn recently ranked CCS the No. 3 design school in the U.S., based on alumni success.

**ACTIVE:** North American International Auto Show



**MARK SCHLISSSEL**  
President  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor

Schlissel is the 14th president of the University of Michigan and the first physician-scientist to lead the institution. Since he joined U-M in 2014, Schlissel has launched initiatives including academic innovation; biosciences; diversity, equity and inclusion; poverty solutions; and precision health. U-M is perennially the nation's top public university in research productivity, and is consistently ranked as No. 1 or among the top public universities in the nation.

**EDUCATION:** Princeton University (B), John Hopkins University (MD, Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Cutting grass Monday through Thursday, cleaned the mower on Friday

**LESSON LEARNED:** It doesn't matter how smart you are; experience is the best teacher

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I can spin a basketball on my finger

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "West Wing"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts

**BUCKET LIST:** Play three-on-three basketball against a team led by President Obama

**PREVIOUS:** Provost of Brown University



**JAMES SMITH**  
President  
Eastern Michigan  
University, Ypsilanti

Smith has undertaken several strategic initiatives at the university since becoming president two years ago, including the introduction of several new academic programs in high-demand areas, appointing the President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion, implementing diversity and inclusiveness training among the university's leadership, and conducting broadly focused listening sessions across campus to further develop the university's strategic plan.

**EDUCATION:** Miami University (B, Ph.D.), Xavier University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at a state park in Ohio. I did everything from lawn-mowing to being a lifeguard.

**CAREER START:** Elementary and middle school teacher

**BEST ADVICE:** Some of the best perspective I ever received was on the importance of diversity in so many settings, including, of course, on our college campuses

**DOWNTIME:** Reading three newspapers a day

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Traveling abroad and exploring other cultures and lifestyles

**HOBBY:** Baseball



**DR. M. ROY WILSON**  
President  
Wayne State University,  
Detroit

Wilson became the 12th president of Wayne State University in 2013, and since that time he has realigned the institution's research divisions to emphasize team science and the cluster hiring of scientists. The effort was reflected in the \$90 million Integrative Biosciences Center, which opened in 2015. He also developed a strategy to improve the pipeline of underrepresented students trained in the biomedical sciences. Wilson also leads numerous diversity initiatives.

**EDUCATION:** Allegheny College (B), UCLA (M), Harvard Medical School (MD)

**FIRST JOB:** Project director at the International Eye Foundation

**BEST ADVICE:** Be good to medicine, and medicine will be good to you.

**LESSON LEARNED:** If you feel you are right, you must be clear about it and not waver

**HOBBIES:** Long-distance cycling and reading

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Myanmar, for its unspoiled beauty

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Pursue a career because you love it, not for the money

**NOTABLE:** Exceeded a \$750 million capital campaign



**JEFF M. FETTIG**  
Executive Chairman  
DowDuPont Inc.,  
Midland; Wilmington, Del.

Fettig is a non-employee executive chairman and serves on the Materials Advisory Committee of DowDuPont. He was a director and a lead director of Dow Chemical Co. for several years. In August 2017, Dow completed a merger with DuPont in an all-stock transaction and created three independent, publicly traded companies: an agriculture entity (Corteva Agriscience), a materials science concern (Dow), and a specialty products company (DuPont).

**EDUCATION:** Indiana University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Operations assistant at Whirlpool in 1981

**RETIRED:** As Whirlpool CEO last October, after 13 years at the helm

**REMAINS:** Chairman of Whirlpool

**WHIRLPOOL BRANDS:** Whirlpool, Maytag, KitchenAid, Jenn-Air, and Amana, among others

**HISTORY:** Whirlpool converted to armament production during World War II

**FOUNDED:** 1911

**REVENUE:** \$21.3 billion

**EMPLOYEES:** 92,000



**JIM FITTERLING**  
CEO  
Dow Chemical Co.,  
Midland

With more than 34 years at Dow, Fitterling has played a key role in establishing the company as an integrated and innovative materials science player that delivers solutions to solve some of the world's most pressing challenges using rigorous science. He has a strong commitment to diversifying Dow's global talent and actively serves as executive sponsor for Dow's African American Network. He is a director of the National Association of Manufacturers and Chemical Financial Corp.

**EDUCATION:** University of Missouri, Columbia (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Hauling hay

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Never, never, never give up."

— Winston Churchill

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Surviving stage IV cancer

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I play the trumpet, and I've also refereed basketball games

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** I find most of Asia fascinating

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with my family and my dog, playing sports, working on home projects, and cooking

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Get a STEM degree or learn a skilled trade and you'll have a bright future.

# Energy

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**JAMES M. NICHOLSON**  
Co-chairman  
PVS Chemicals Inc.,  
Detroit

Prior to becoming co-chairman, Nicholson was president and CEO of PVS Chemicals. During his tenure, he presided over top- and bottom-line growth, a workforce increase of more than 30 percent, and the largest acquisition in PVS's history. The company also upgraded its IT infrastructure and expanded the company footprint with additional facilities and capabilities around the world. He is a strong advocate of improving Detroit City Airport.

**EDUCATION:** Stanford University (B), University of Chicago (M), London School of Economics (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Cleaning the office at PVS Chemicals at 8 years old  
**BEST ADVICE:** Don't read your nut mail  
**HOBBIES:** Hiking and golf  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Paris  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Invent the future, it's all yours  
**PET CHARITY:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra  
**ACTIVE:** Chairman of the State of Michigan Investment Advisory Committee, the Futures Foundation, and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan



**J. GEOFF PICEU**  
CEO  
United Paint and  
Chemical Corp.,  
Southfield

Founded in 1953 by Piceu's grandfather, John Gabriel Piceu, United Paint is a formulator and manufacturer of innovative coatings for automotive interior applications. Its products have been approved by 25 of the world's leading vehicle manufacturers, and its coating systems enhance the durability and aesthetic qualities of instrument panels, consoles, and appliques. In 2016, the company sold its automotive interior rigid thermoplastics business to Axalta Coating Systems.

**START:** Piceu assumed leadership of United Paint in 1995  
**FIRST PRODUCTS:** United Paint initially produced architectural and artist paints, including "paint by number" kits  
**PATENT:** In 1961, John Gabriel Piceu patented the first zinc-rich welding primer called Ionoklad, which brought United Paint into the automotive industry  
**CUSTOMERS:** General Motors, Chrysler, BMW, and more  
**GROWTH:** Since 1995, the company has acquired more than a dozen coatings firms  
**OPERATIONS:** U.S., Mexico, Brazil, China, and India  
**DIVERSIFICATION:** Also offers automotive leather and synthetic leather coatings



**LEON RICHARDSON**  
President and CEO  
The Chemico Group,  
Southfield

Richardson is founder and president of one of the largest minority-owned chemical management and distribution companies in the United States. For 27 years, he has guided what was originally Chemico Systems Inc. from a single-employee start up to a global company in the chemical and environmental services space. Today, ChemicoMays employs more than 300 people across 22 states and three countries, and has annual sales of more than \$100 million.

**EDUCATION:** Detroit College of Business (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Working at my parents' convenience store, Leon and Lil's Party Store  
**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "People ask the difference between a leader and a boss. The leader leads and the boss drives"  
— Theodore Roosevelt  
**INDUSTRIES:** Automotive, aerospace, biopharmaceuticals  
**BEST BOOK:** *Extreme Ownership*, by Jocko Wilson and Leif Babin  
**HOBBIES:** Golfing and fishing  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Negril, Jamaica  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Ford Fireworks



**LINDA APSEY**  
President and CEO  
ITC Holdings Corp., Novi

Apsey is responsible for the strategic vision and overall business operation of ITC and its subsidiaries. Previously, she served as executive vice president and chief business unit officer, leading all aspects of the financial and operational performance of the company. Prior to that, she was manager of transmission policy and business planning when the organization was a subsidiary of DTE Energy. Apsey is a member of the Business Roundtable.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Legislative assistant in the Michigan House of Representatives  
**BEST ADVICE:** Always be prepared, think about your state of mind, and how you will present yourself in front of others  
**HOBBIES:** Soccer, travel, spending time at our cottage, and MSU football games  
**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Fox Theatre, Parc restaurant, and the Shinola store  
**BUCKET LIST:** Take time to travel the world  
**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Reese Witherspoon



**LILLY EPSTEIN STOTLAND**  
President and Co-owner  
Vesco Oil, Southfield

Epstein Stotland started her career as a financial analyst at Goldman Sachs in New York City, and returned to Detroit after surviving the collapse of the World Trade Center during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. She joined the family business in 2004, and for the past decade has spearheaded a strategy to grow Vesco Oil through acquisitions and expanding distribution rights with key suppliers. In July, Vesco Oil acquired Acculube, a lubricant supplier in Dayton, Ohio.

**EDUCATION:** Harvard University (B), University of Michigan Ross School of Business (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Art counselor at Summer Impressions Day Camp  
**BEST ADVICE:** If at first you don't succeed, try, try again  
**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE:** Having a performance review with my parents  
**BUCKET LIST:** Traveling to Cuba  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Crime and Punishment*, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Anne Hathaway or Marisa Tomei  
**LEGACY:** Keep Vesco Oil in the family for generations to come



**SAM SIMON**  
Founder and Chairman  
Simon Group Holdings,  
Birmingham

Simon launched Simon Group Holdings, which he formed in 1985, with the founding of Atlas Oil Co. in Taylor. Simon Group Holdings, directly and through its subsidiaries, has interests in and is an active investment manager within the following sectors: commercial fuel supply and distribution, oil field services, logistics and transportation, commercial and residential real estate, aviation, technology SaaS, and turnkey modular housing.

**FIRST JOB:** Delivered newspapers in Detroit at 9 years old  
**BEST ADVICE:** Hire the right people  
**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** One of my team members fell in a diesel truck by accident, and I had to pull him out  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** When I started Atlas Oil in 1985, making payroll and buying supplies was extremely difficult  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** I'm a very good negotiator  
**BUCKET LIST:** Travel the world  
**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Any charity that helps our armed forces  
**NOTABLE:** In 2007, I created Atlas Cares, which supports several Detroit organizations

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WITH HIGH EXPECTATIONS*



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**GERARD ANDERSON**  
Chairman and CEO  
DTE Energy, Detroit

Anderson joined the company as vice president of non-utility business in 1993 and has held various senior executive leadership roles throughout the enterprise. In 2004, he was named president of DTE Energy and assumed the responsibilities of CEO in 2005. Prior to joining DTE Energy, he was a senior consultant at McKinsey & Co. from 1988 to 1993. Anderson is chairman of the Detroit Economic Club and is involved in various local community and civic activities.

**EDUCATION:** University of Notre Dame (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working for my dad for 10 cents an hour in first grade

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I once swam 100 yards underwater

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Backpacking in Peru with my son two years ago

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Seek out experiences. Learn all you can from the people around you

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Beacon Park's Lumen restaurant, for a good meal and a microbrew

**BUCKET LIST:** To travel to New Zealand and Patagonia



**GARY A. BROWN**  
CEO/Director  
Detroit Water and  
Sewerage Department,  
Detroit

For the past two years, Brown has been transforming the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department into an anchor in the community. He was appointed DWSD director by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan in 2015 and was approved by the Board of Water Commissioners in 2016. Today he is responsible for all DWSD operations and system maintenance, serving more than 200,000 residential, industrial, commercial, and tax-exempt accounts, and some 700,000 Detroit customers.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), Eastern Michigan University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Retail clerk at Farmer Jack grocery store.

**BEST ADVICE:** A teacher urged me to join the Marine Corps, grow up, and have the Corps pay for college. I followed his advice and it has positively impacted my life.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Trying to keep water affordable for a population that is 40 percent at the poverty level, while also having the funds to invest in rebuilding the water and sewer infrastructure

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am a twin

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** Running



**TREVOR F. LAUER**  
President and COO  
DTE Electric, Detroit

Lauer leads an electric utility that is a subsidiary of DTE Energy and serves 2.2 million customers in southeast Michigan. He joined the utility in 2005 and has held numerous executive positions, including senior vice president of distribution operations. Prior to that, Lauer was executive vice president at Pittsburgh-based Strategic Energy, a nationwide energy supplier. He also has worked in a variety of leadership and general management positions at Honeywell Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Pennsylvania State University (B), University of Maryland (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Application engineer at Honeywell

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Dealing with the loss of a co-worker

**HOBBY:** Avid outdoorsman, spending time at our family's farm

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere with my wife and sons

**DOWNTIME:** Playing with my dogs, Bella and Charlie

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Pistons games at Little Caesars Arena

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Bruce Willis



**DAVID E. MEADOR**  
Vice Chairman  
DTE Energy, Detroit

At DTE Energy, Meador has served as controller, CFO, and vice chairman. Following college, he worked at PWC as an auditor focused on manufacturing. He was with Chrysler for 14 years in a variety of accounting, manufacturing, and product financial positions, including controller of Mopar. Beyond his career, Meador founded the Autism Alliance of Michigan and has served on the boards of the Detroit Institute of Arts, MEDC, and the Michigan Humane Society.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paperboy, lifeguard, handbill delivery, and wood-cutting. I also worked at a Ford transmission factory

**CHALLENGE:** We have to understand we are one people, and to make change we have to get people to join our cause

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** U.S. and Europe

**HOBBIES:** My children, grandchildren, and gardening

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Beacon Park. Is there anywhere else?

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Dream. Aspire. Know you can, and will, do great things

**PET CHARITY:** Autism Alliance of Michigan, in which I have been a strong advocate of hiring people with autism



**JERRY NORCIA**  
President and COO  
DTE Energy, Detroit

Norcia is responsible for the strategic oversight and operation of DTE Energy's electric and gas businesses, major enterprise projects, and customer service. He also leads the company's non-utility gas storage, pipelines, power, and industrial businesses. Norcia joined DTE Energy in 2002 as president of DTE gas storage, pipelines, and processing. Prior to his current position, he was president and COO of DTE Electric and Gas Storage and Pipelines.

**EDUCATION:** University of Windsor (B)

**FIRST JOB:** I was a laborer for my construction family laying concrete, mixing mortar, and hauling bricks

**BEST ADVICE:** Good luck comes from hard work

**LESSON LEARNED:** You always pay for not listening to your front-line team members

**HOBBIES:** Golfing and bird hunting

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**FAVORITE BOOK:** Biography of Winston Churchill

**CHAIRMAN:** Detroit Economic Growth Corp., Skillman Foundation

**DIRECTOR:** American Gas Association, Invest Detroit



**PATRICIA K. POPPE**  
President and CEO  
CMS Energy, Consumers  
Energy, Jackson

As president and CEO of CMS Energy and its principle subsidiary, Consumers Energy, Poppe has focused on connecting the company more closely with its customers and adapting lean operating system principles throughout the utility. She held automotive management positions and served as power plant director at Detroit's DTE Energy before joining Consumers Energy in her hometown in 2011 as vice president of customer operations.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B, M), Stanford University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Waitress

**EARLY CAREER:** Worked at General Motors

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Water skiing

**BEST ADVICE:** Performance is power. When you deliver results, you have the power to drive change.

**PET CHARITIES:** Jackson Symphony Orchestra, Purdue University, Michigan Women Forward

**BUCKET LIST:** Trip to Ireland

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Zoëy Deschanel

# Foundations



**TONYA ALLEN**

President and CEO  
The Skillman Foundation,  
Detroit

Allen manages and aligns the complexities of education reform, neighborhood development, economic growth, urban revitalization, and public policy so that these various approaches improve the well-being of citizens in her hometown of Detroit and nationally. She has been instrumental in many public-private partnerships, including the 10-year, \$100-million Good Neighborhoods Initiative, and the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Summer camp assistant and house painter

**HOBBIES:** Reading, gardening, throwing dinner parties, random gift-giving

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Comparison is an act of violence against oneself. Be a first-rate version of yourself, not a second-rate version of someone else.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Underground Railroad tours at First Congregational Church and Second Baptist Church

**PET CHARITY:** Detroit Parent Network

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Beyoncé



**JOHN A. BOLL SR.**

Chairman  
John A. and Marlene  
L. Boll Foundation,  
St. Clair Shores

Boll was born in 1929 and served in the U.S. Army from 1951-1953. He founded Chateau Estates, a developer of manufactured home communities, in 1964, which eventually merged and became Chateau Communities Inc. in 1997, the largest owner of manufactured home communities in the country. Boll and his wife, Marlene, founded the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation in the early 1980s to provide charitable assistance to children's organizations.

**FIRST JOB:** Selling newspapers

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am in my early 80s and still skiing.

**HOBBY:** Boating

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Saving Private Ryan"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit riverfront

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Beaver Creek, Colo.

**PET CHARITIES:** Boll YMCA, Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**NOTABLE:** The Bolls recently celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary (Marlene is a former Radio City Rockette)

**PEOPLE DON'T KNOW:** My nickname is "Trust Me," because I love taking my friends on skiing adventures



**MELANCA CLARK**

President and CEO  
Hudson-Webber  
Foundation, Detroit

In her position, Clark oversees a private foundation dedicated to improving the region's quality of life. Prior to joining the foundation in August 2016, she held senior positions in the Obama administration, including chief of staff of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services at the U.S. Department of Justice, senior policy adviser with the White House Domestic Policy Council, and senior counsel with the DOJ's Access to Justice Initiative.

**EDUCATION:** Brown University (B), Harvard Law School (JD)

**EARLY EXPERIENCE:** Law clerk to Judge Joseph A. Greenaway Jr., U.S. District Court of New Jersey

**BEST ADVICE:** Say yes to new challenges, even or perhaps especially if they are out of your comfort zone

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I spent a semester living and working on a farm in high school

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** India

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** The question of who we are as a nation can be answered by you. Embrace that power and responsibility by staying engaged and informed

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Fountains at the GM Plaza



**DARIENNE DRIVER**

President and CEO  
United Way for  
Southeastern  
Michigan, Detroit

In July, Driver took over the helm at United Way for Southeastern Michigan in Detroit. She is the organization's first African-American woman president and CEO. The organization is one of the region's largest nonprofits, with \$55 million in community investments. It is part of the global nonprofit network of United Way Worldwide, headquartered in Alexandria, Va. At age 39, Driver was superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools.

**EDUCATION:** Spelman College (B), University of Michigan (M), Harvard University (M, Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Elementary teacher in Detroit Public Schools for several years

**UNITED WAY:** Led the organization's strategy and community investments around health, education, and economic prosperity

**SERVES:** Families in underserved communities in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties

**DEPENDS ON:** Volunteers from business, labor, government, human services, education, and the community

**NETWORK:** Approximately 1,800 community-based United Ways in 45 countries and territories



**DAVID EGNER**

President and CEO  
Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.  
Foundation, Detroit

In 2016, Egner was appointed president and CEO of the newly formed Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, a \$1.2 billion organization that provides funding to children and youth, young adults, working families, and caregivers. Funding is concentrated in 16 counties in southeast Michigan and western New York (Wilson formerly owned the Buffalo Bills). Egner was president and CEO of the Hudson-Webber Foundation for nearly 20 years.

**EDUCATION:** Westminster College (B), Western Michigan University (M)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "There is a reason the windshield is larger than the rearview mirror."

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Learn to rock climb instead of ladder climb in your career. The changing world will require rapid adaptability

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I write poetry

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with my wife and grandchildren

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Annual visit to Florida to see the Detroit Tigers during spring training

**PAST:** Executive director of the New Economy Initiative



**JOHN ERB**

President  
Fred A. and Barbara M.  
Erb Family Foundation,  
Royal Oak

Erb oversees the Erb Family Foundation, a \$300 million organization that nurtures environmentally healthy and culturally vibrant communities in metro Detroit, consistent with sustainable business models, and supports initiatives to restore the Great Lakes ecosystem. The foundation is focused on improving water quality in the watersheds that affect metro Detroit and Bayfield, Ontario; promoting environmental health and equitable development; and supporting the arts.

**EDUCATION:** University of Denver (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Stock boy at Erb Lumber Co.

**CAREER:** Spent 38 years with the company

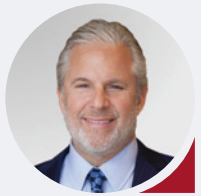
**HISTORY:** Fred Erb acquired his uncle's lumber and coal business in Royal Oak

**GROWTH:** One store with annual sales of \$200,000, to 45 stores and \$300 million in sales

**SOLD:** In 1993 to Carolina Builders

**CIVIC:** A board member of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, Detroit Zoological Society, and Cranbrook Institute of Science, and multiple activities at the University of Michigan

# Foundations



**PHILLIP FISHER**  
Founder  
Mission Throttle,  
Southfield

At Mission Throttle, Fisher drives cultural change to accelerate the evolution of philanthropy. As a capitalist and philanthropist, he develops sustainable strategies to connect, collaborate, and deploy effective market-driven solutions to accelerate community resources and impact. He is chairman of the Max M. and Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, a director and former CEO of The Fisher Group, and a director of the United Jewish Foundation of Metropolitan Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** University of Hartford (B)

**FIRST JOB:** A janitor at the Fisher Building

**BEST ADVICE:** You cannot think your way into a new way of acting; you have to act your way into a new way of thinking

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Trying to hide my family relationship from other workers at the Fisher Building

**CHAIRMAN EMERITUS:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**HIDDEN TALENT:** A pilot since 1973, I love to fly

**HOBBIES:** After flying, addicted to golf; my wife is also a fan

**BUCKET LIST:** New Zealand, I heard it's amazing

**AREA ATTRACTION:** Greenfield Village and anything connected to the Ford family



**SCOTT KAUFMAN**  
CEO  
Jewish Federation of  
Metropolitan Detroit,  
Bloomfield Hills

Kaufman is responsible for leading the charitable organization on a day-to-day basis. Previously, he was director of strategic initiatives, responsible for addressing the issue of attracting and retaining young talent within the Jewish community. Kaufman was integral in exploring web-based platforms such as social media to further the federation brand, and was a founding partner of the Joe Dumars Fieldhouse. He has been a director of the Jewish Federation.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Selling athletic shoes

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** "You can't coach all the players the same." — Chuck Daly

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Every day, at some point, I think I am being secretly filmed for a sitcom

**LESSON LEARNED:** Emotionally investing in your team leads to the team emotionally investing in your customers

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Find the intersection of what you love to do and what you are best at, and try and build your career there

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Encyclopedic knowledge of pro wrestling



**DARIN MCKEEVER**  
President and CEO  
William Davidson  
Foundation, Troy

McKeever joined the William Davidson Foundation in 2015 as its chief program and strategy officer, leading the board of directors and staff through a planning process that established the organization's philanthropic goals and methods for achieving them. Prior to joining the foundation, he worked for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, where he built and led an international team charged with improving the effectiveness of philanthropy and charities worldwide.

**EDUCATION:** Harvard College (B),

Harvard Kennedy School (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Gardener/landscaper

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." — Martin Luther King Jr.

**HOBBIES:** Music, genealogy, tennis

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Star Wars"

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Your life's purpose is revealed in hindsight. Take one step at a time.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Motown Museum

**PAST LIFE:** Was executive director and co-founder of Heads Up, a provider of academic and enrichment programs



**MARIAM C. NOLAND**  
President  
Community Foundation  
for Southeast Michigan,  
Detroit

Noland became the founding president of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan in 1985. Since its inception, the foundation has distributed more than \$1 billion through some 65,000 grants to nonprofit organizations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair, and Livingston counties. Previously, Noland was on the staff of the Cleveland Foundation, where she served as program officer and secretary/treasurer.

**EDUCATION:** Case Western Reserve University (B), Harvard University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Cashier at a grocery store

**BEST ADVICE:** From her husband: Don't try to boil the ocean.

**HOBBY:** Gardening

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Follow your passion. Never quit learning, and remember those who help you along the way

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I played the drums at my wedding reception

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The RiverWalk

**PAST:** Former vice president of the St. Paul Foundation



**RIP RAPSON**  
President and CEO  
The Kresge Foundation,  
Troy

Since his appointment in 2006, Rapson has led the 93-year-old foundation to adopt an array of grantmaking and investing tools to improve the economic, social, cultural, and environmental conditions of urban life through six defined programs: arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services, and community development in Detroit. In 2016, the foundation awarded more than \$150 million in grants and investment commitments.

**EDUCATION:** Pomona College (B),

Columbia University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Legislative assistant

**FOUNDATION MISSION:** To promote human progress

**FOUNDATION VALUES:** Stewardship, respect, creativity, partnership, opportunity

**FOUNDATION ROOTS:** Founded by Sebastian Spring Kresge (founder of S.S. Kresge Co.) in 1924 with a gift of \$1.6 million

**NOTABLE:** The foundation supported The Grand Bargain, a partnership between the philanthropic community, city pensioners, the State of Michigan, and the Detroit Institute of Arts to get Detroit out of bankruptcy in 2014



**TERRY RHADIGAN**  
Executive Director,  
Community Operations  
and Corporate Giving  
General Motors Co.,  
Detroit

Rhadigan leads a team in enhancing GM's image, reputation, and increasing the engagement of its employees. Previously, he led all product and technology communications for the automaker, overseeing product launches and auto shows, media relations, marketing communications, crisis communications, and executive support. He also led technology communications, serving as communications strategist to the president of GM North America.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Answering the phone at the Chevrolet Customer Assistance Center

**DOWNTIME:** Watching sports, especially the Tigers and MSU Spartans

**HOBBY:** Golf

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Work hard, stay positive, and be nice to everyone

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Seinfeld"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park

**PET CHARITY:** Loyola High School in Detroit

**BOARDS:** Automotive Hall of Fame, Detroit Economic Club

small investment

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# Foundations | General Contractors

• FOUNDATIONS | • GENERAL CONTRACTORS



**JAMES G. VELLA**

President  
Ford Motor Company  
Fund, Dearborn

Vella leads all of the community service activities of the Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Co., and oversees the Ford Fund's expanding global outreach. Previously, he served in a variety of executive leadership positions at Ford, including chief of staff, vice president of corporate public affairs, and executive director, corporate communications. Vella joined Ford in 1988 as a producer for the Ford Communications Network.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Working at Hollywood Market in Detroit, sorting the bottle returns

**BEST ADVICE:** From my father: You might as well smile while you are working, because the pay is the same

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy. My best vacation ever was to Lake Como.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Never stop learning and never expect anything to be handed with you. No one ever was successful without hard work

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle. I went there as a kid and have fond memories



**WAYNE WEBBER**

Chairman  
Wayne and Joan  
Webber Foundation,  
Clinton Township

Webber is co-founder of Champagne-Webber Inc., a small concrete company established in 1963. The company grew into a heavy transportation construction contractor specializing in roads, bridges, highways, and airport runways, and later became Houston-based Webber, which today specializes in the construction of intelligent infrastructure. Webber sold the company in 2005 but continues to operate several businesses in Michigan and Texas.

**TREASURY DIRECTOR:** Wayne and Joan Webber Foundation in Clinton Township

**RECOGNIZED CHARITY:** Gained charitable status in 1999

**ASSETS:** \$29.2 million (2016)

**INCOME:** \$13.6 million (2016)

**GIFTS:** Highlights include a \$2 million donation to Beyond Basics to help support tutoring programs in Detroit Public Schools, \$4 million to establish the Wayne and Joan Webber Imaging Center at Beaumont Medical Center in Macomb, and nearly \$3 million to the Detroit Institute of Arts

**SUPPORTS:** Gleaners Community Food Bank, Cornerstone Schools, Salvation Army, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, and more



**JOSEPH ARISTEO**

Executive Adviser  
and Co-founder  
Aristeo Construction,  
Livonia

With \$10,000 and a truck, Aristeo, along with his father, Agosino Aristeo Sr., co-founded Aristeo Construction in 1977. Joseph now serves as the company's executive adviser, transitioning the president's role this year to Michelle Barton. He remains involved in the community, and is chairman of Public School Academies of Detroit, a high-performing nonprofit charter school system founded through the Thompson Foundation.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Field construction laborer at age 12

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** During the 1982 economic collapse, our family went into bankruptcy and worked without a paycheck until the economy picked up again

**HOBBIES:** Vintage race cars, golf, and spending time with my grandkids

**LEADS:** Construction Committee at Meadowbrook Country Club

**TALENT:** I can do complex math problems in my head

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Florence, Italy

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Chazz Palminteri



**GARY BROAD**

President and CEO  
Midwest Steel Inc.,  
Detroit

Broad has dedicated his entire career to the structural steel industry. At Midwest Steel, he oversees planning, scheduling, fabrication, and erection of the structural steel to an array of industries, including automotive plants, hospitals, airports, steel mills, high-rise buildings, stadiums, power generators, and government facilities. The company's projects include Little Caesars Arena, the Ford Dearborn Stamping Plant, the renovation of Cobo Center, and MGM Grand Detroit.

**MILITARY:** Honorably discharged from the U.S. Army

**FIRST JOB:** Worked with his father at his steel company, was an ironworker

**PAST MANAGER:** Former vice president of Broad Crane

**ACQUIRED:** Midwest Steel in 1980, it was founded in 1968

**CAPABILITIES:** Design build, design assist, steel fabrication, steel erection, and virtual construction

**OFFICES:** Detroit, Indiana, Florida, and Ontario

**LOCAL PROJECTS:** University of Michigan Health System C.S. Mott Children's and Women's Hospital, Providence Park, North Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, NASA Mobile Launcher, and Hyatt Corp. world headquarters, among others



**DAVID KELLY**

Vice President  
Turner Construction  
Co., Detroit

Kelly, who also serves as general manager, leads Turner Construction's operations in Michigan. The company began working in the state in 1913, and since that time has built numerous office buildings, technical centers, hospitals, industrial facilities, university buildings, and logistics centers that collectively amount to more than \$6 billion in work. Recent projects include Ford Field (premium space renovation) and Quicken Loans Technology Center.

**EDUCATION:** Lafayette College (B), Northwestern University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Field engineer at Turner in 1994

**EXPERTISE:** Health care, higher education, public facilities, data centers, and commercial construction

**RECENT PROJECTS:** Cobo Center, Campbell Ewald at Ford Field, Pfizer Technical Development Facility, 615 W. Lafayette (former Detroit News building), and Granite City Food and Brewery at the Renaissance Center

**DIRECTOR:** American Society of Civil Engineers — Michigan Section, Southeastern Michigan Branch

**PROJECTS:** Brigitte Harris Cancer Pavilion at Henry Ford Hospital and M-1 Rail Penske Tech Center



**RYAN MAIBACH**

President and CEO  
Barton Malow Co.,  
Southfield

As a fourth-generation builder, Maibach began working at his family's contracting business at a young age. Barton Malow, a commercial contractor established in 1924, focuses on general building and heavy industrial construction throughout North America. Previously, he was vice president of Barton Malow's Industrial Group, with oversight of strategic planning and operations management. Outside of work, Maibach is a board member of the Detroit Regional Chamber.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B)

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Caddyshack"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Bluffton, S.C.

**MANAGEMENT STYLE:** Regularly meets and communicates with employees to share firm news, provide recognition, and ask for feedback on company initiatives

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I got so good at folding shirts working at the Gap in high school, I was allowed to fold them without the folding board

**BUCKET LIST:** Take my wife to Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Little Caesars Arena

**DIRECTOR:** Detroit Children's Fund, The Parade Company

# General Contractors



**WILLIAM PETTIBONE**  
Chairman  
Commercial Contracting Corp., Auburn Hills

Pettibone first began working at Commercial Contracting Corp., a second-generation family-owned construction company, during the summers while attending college. He began in the field as a rigger, working as a foreman and superintendent. His full time employment began in 1968, and since that time he has been an estimator, project manager, vice president, executive vice president, president, and co-chairman before assuming the position of chairman.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Project manager welding steam generators at a nuclear power plant  
**BEST ADVICE:** Integrity. What type of person are you when no one else is around?  
**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Stepping onto my first job site and thinking to myself: What am I doing here?  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The day I was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and the challenges I now face for the rest of my life  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Get a college education



**FRANK REWOLD**  
CEO  
Frank Rewold and Son, Rochester

Rewold's grandfather started Frank M. Rewold and Son in 1918, when he began building houses and farm buildings. Rewold, who represents the third generation, became CEO in 2009. Previously, he served as vice president. The firm, which was incorporated in 1962, has done work for Pine Knob Music Theatre and Oakland Hills Country Club. In 2016, it was awarded its largest project to date: the \$76 million Hill Crest Hall at Oakland University.

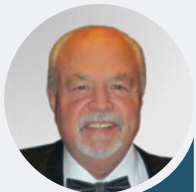
**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Laborer for Frank Rewold and Son  
**MARKET:** Built hundreds of commercial, hospitality, and educational buildings  
**PROJECTS:** The Royal Park Hotel, Jimmy John's Field  
**BEST ADVICE:** Earn it  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Getting through the 2008 global financial crisis  
**HOBBIES:** Hockey and hunting  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Saving Private Ryan"  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Pick a job you enjoy and work hard; good things will happen



**AVINASH RACHMALE**  
Founder and Chairman  
Lakeshore Global Corp., Detroit

Born and raised in India, where his parents could neither read nor write, Rachmale earned an engineering degree and came to the United States to attend Wayne State University. After working for other engineering firms, he founded Lakeshore Global in 1994. Today, the company offers engineering, infrastructure, and construction services to a range of private, public, and military customers. He's also an investor in The Plat-form, a real estate development company in Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Government Engineering College, India (B), Wayne State University (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Civil engineer in India, mostly for roads and bridges  
**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** I gave the OK for a Halloween party. I had a blast coming in a full-body gorilla suit, and didn't let anyone know until the end.  
**HOBBIES:** Golf and hiking  
**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Public Library, and Belle Isle  
**PET CHARITY:** Adopt-a-Child  
**BUCKET LIST:** Build a technical center to train citizens in the construction trade



**GARY RONCELLI**  
Chairman and CEO  
Roncelli Inc., Sterling Heights

Roncelli Inc. celebrated its 50th year in 2016. Founder Raymond "Skip" Roncelli passed away in 1989, and Gary Roncelli has since taken over as chairman and CEO. The company has constructed projects in Michigan and other states as well as Canada and Mexico. Its clients include Beaumont Health, Detroit Medical Center, DTE Energy, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford Motor Co., General Motors Co., Henry Ford Health System, MJR Theaters, St. Joseph Mercy Health, and others.

**COMPANY LEGACY:** Skill, dedication, and integrity  
**HONOR:** Silver World Excellence Award from Ford (2018)  
**MARKETS:** Commercial, development, health care, industrial, institutional, and self performed  
**SERVICES:** Pre-construction, construction, self-performed, equipment and tooling installation, operations, and maintenance  
**CIVIC:** Surgical services expansion project by Henry Ford Health System  
**PHILANTHROPY:** The Autism Society of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters, CARE House Leukemia and Lymphoma Foundation, Turning Point, Toys for Tots, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and others



**JOHN RAKOLTA JR.**  
Chairman and CEO  
Walbridge, Detroit

Rakolta joined Walbridge, a general contracting and construction management company, in 1971, shortly after he graduated from college. Rakolta is the second generation of the family to lead Walbridge. His late father, John Rakolta Sr., was company owner and chairman for more than 20 years. Walbridge has grown from annual sales of some \$40 million in the mid-1970s to a global company that registered sales of more than \$1.5 billion last year.

**EDUCATION:** Marquette University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Starting at age 12, working summers at the Walbridge equipment yard  
**BEST ADVICE:** My father wanted me to learn the rewards of hard work. It worked.  
**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Learn to love hard work. It's the single biggest reason for success.  
**HIDDEN SECRET:** My wife was the driving force behind my success  
**HOBBIES:** Golf and travel; when put together, it's awesome  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Campus Martius  
**BUCKET LIST:** Travel in space



**TODD SACHSE**  
Founder and CEO  
Sachse Construction, Detroit

From a young age, Sachse has operated several property-related companies. Today, he undertakes construction projects that include the renovation of vintage buildings, office buildings, hotels, schools, shopping centers, medical office and general office build-outs, build-to-suits, retail centers, restaurants, airports and the development and construction of multifamily projects. He also is a shareholder and vice president of Broder & Sachse in Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Took over a window-washing company from my brother when I was 16  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am an avid potter, making mostly functional pieces  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Good to be Great*, by Jim Collins  
**DOWNTIME:** Visiting Aspen whenever I can  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Relationships matter more than you can possibly imagine  
**PET CHARITIES:** Michigan Humane Society and Downtown Boxing Gym  
**BUCKET LIST:** An African safari

# General Contractors | Health Care

• GENERAL CONTRACTORS | • HOSPITALS



**FRANK TORRE**

Chairman and Co-CEO  
Signal Restoration, Troy

Torre and his partner, Mark Davis, lead Signal Restoration, which was founded in 1972. The company provides emergency response and property damage restoration services from offices in Michigan, California, Texas, Tennessee, Indiana, Florida, New York, and Kansas. In 1992, Torre formed Torre & Bruglio Inc., a landscape and horticultural services contractor, and expanded the company into golf course management. In 2008, the entire business was sold to Brickman Group.

**BUSINESS:** Torre and Davis acquired Signal Restoration in 2012

**EXPANSIONS:** In 2015, the pair acquired PuroSystems Inc. in Florida, which provides cleanup and rebuilding services for properties affected by accidents and disasters. In 2016, they acquired Sentinel Group, a commercial, industrial, and residential restoration services firm in New York.

**MARKETS:** Industrial, commercial, residential, and public spaces

**CLIENTS:** Property owners and managers, insurance carriers, emergency services organizations, and municipalities

**SUPPORTS:** DMC Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan and Boys Hope Girls Hope, among others



**FRANK VENEGAS JR.**

Chairman and CEO  
Ideal Group, Detroit

Venegas, a Detroit entrepreneur and a grandson of Mexican immigrants, launched what today is a collection of companies after winning a 1979 Cadillac in a raffle. After driving the car for two weeks, he sold it and followed his grandfather's sage advice: Do what your boss does not want to do. Today, the Ideal Group has evolved into eight nationally recognized companies that employ approximately 550 people and have annual revenue approaching \$350 million.

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at Uncle John's Pancake House

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Find a mentor and keep asking questions

**HOBBIES:** Gardening, Corvettes, racing, and technology, including drones, robotics, and gadgets

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Los Angeles

**TALENT:** I have a passion for gardening and landscaping; my home garden was featured in the 2018 Franklin Garden Tour

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit riverfront

**HONOR:** Known for his philanthropic work in southwest Detroit, the government of Mexico recognized Venegas with the Ohtli Award, its highest award to a foreign citizen



**SHELDON YELLEN**

CEO  
Belfor Holdings Inc.,  
Birmingham

The oldest of four boys, Yellen founded Belfor more than 30 years ago, and today the property restoration company has 8,000 employees in 300 offices spanning 34 countries. Belfor Holdings operates a number of companies, including Belfor Property Restoration, which services commercial and residential clients following manmade or natural disasters from water, fire, storms, and man-made accidents. In addition, he appeared in an episode of "Undercover Boss" on CBS.

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** Not to decide is to decide.

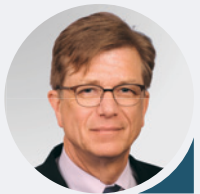
**LESSON LEARNED:** Loyalty is a two-way street. Early in my career, I didn't have the money to pay people right away, but they stuck with me and I paid everyone back.

**HOBBIES:** Giving people hope for a better tomorrow and encouraging them to dream

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** My office, because there I can help change people's lives

**DOWNTIME:** With my family, and hand-writing employee birthday cards

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't focus on how much you make. Focus on how much you can save.



**DR. GEROLD BEPLER**

President and CEO  
Karmanos Cancer  
Institute, Detroit

Dr. Bepler is a thoracic oncologist who has spent his career researching risks, progression, treatments, and outcomes related to lung cancer, with a special focus on non-small cell lung cancer. He began his tenure at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in 2010. Previously, Bepler was director of the comprehensive lung cancer research center, department chair of thoracic oncology, and program leader of the lung cancer program at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa.

**EDUCATION:** College of Music and Performing Arts (B); Philipps University (MD, Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Choir director and organist in a Lutheran church near Frankfurt, Germany

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

**Toughest Challenge:** Immigrating to the United States

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Jamaica

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Live with passion

**HOBBY:** Handiwork around the house

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Robert Redford



**RICHARD BREON**

President and CEO  
Spectrum Health,  
Grand Rapids

Breon has led west Michigan's only locally governed, not-for-profit health system for nearly 20 years. He plans to retire on Aug. 31, and his replacement is Tina Freese Decker, currently executive vice president and COO of Spectrum Health. In 1989, Breon accepted his first CEO position with Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. In 2000, he was named president and CEO of Spectrum Health. He has served on the American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board.

**EDUCATION:** Iowa State University (B), University of Iowa (M)

**SPECTRUM FORMED:** In 1997 with merger of Butterworth Health Corp. and Blodgett Memorial Medical Center

**NUMBER OF HOSPITALS:** 12

**EMPLOYEES:** 26,000 (west Michigan's largest employer)

**NUMBER OF PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH PRACTICE**

**PROVIDERS:** 3,600

**PROJECTED REVENUE:** \$6 billion

**CHAIRMAN:** Dick DeVos

**PLANNED:** Spectrum Health and Lakeland Health plan to merge on Oct. 1. Lakeland Health operates three hospitals and outpatient facilities in St. Joseph, and has 4,500 employees



**DR. JOSEPH CACCHIONE**

President  
Ascension Medical  
Group, Warren

In addition to overseeing Ascension Medical Group, Dr. Cacchione is the interim ministry market executive of Ascension Michigan in Warren. He is board-certified in internal medicine, cardiology, and interventional cardiology. Prior to joining Ascension, Cacchione was chairman of operations and strategy for the Cleveland Clinic's Heart & Vascular Institute, where he helped build a specialty network of providers around the country that now has 5 million people under contract.

**EDUCATION:** Gannon University (B), Drexel University College of Medicine (MD)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at a moving company, packing boxes

**HOBBIES:** Golfing and sports

**CERTIFIED:** LEAN/Six Sigma Green Belt

**MEMBER:** Board of Trustees of the American College of Cardiology

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Patriot"

**BEST BOOKS:** Anything about Abraham Lincoln

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere warm and sunny

**BUCKET LIST:** Attending the Kentucky Derby

**CAREER:** Served at The Cleveland Clinic

# 101 YEARS IN DETROIT

## 1917



### MEXICO TO CORKTOWN

In 1917, Frank Venegas' grandparents arrived at Michigan Central Station from Jalisco, Mexico, chasing the \$5 a day job at Ford Motor Company.

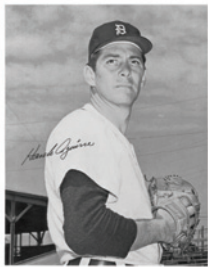
## 1979

### A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK

Frank won a raffle and took home the grand prize at the Home Builder's Association Fall Festival... a brand new 1979 Cadillac Coup de Ville. While most would use it for transportation, Frank quickly sold it to start his first business endeavor, Ideal Steel & Builders' Supplies, Inc.



## 1996



### MOVING TO SOUTHWEST DETROIT

Taking the advice of former Detroit Tigers' pitcher, Hank Aguirre, Frank moved a part of his company to the former Cadillac plant in Southwest Detroit and formed the Hispanic Manufacturing Center. Ideal Group would later move its headquarters to town in 2001.

## 2018

**"Let's build  
our Detroit  
future on  
our legacy!"**

Frank Venegas Jr.  
Chairman & CEO



## 2011

### CREATING COMMUNITY SPACES

To give back to the community, Frank and the Ideal Group worked with multiple Detroit companies and organizations to redevelop two empty lots in Southwest Detroit into the Cadillac Urban Gardens and Scarcyny Park.



Visit [www.weareideal.com](http://www.weareideal.com) to learn more about the Ideal Group.



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# Health Care

## HOSPITALS



**ROBERT CASALOU**  
President and CEO  
St. Joseph Mercy  
Health System and  
Mercy Health,  
Canton Township

Casalou oversees St. Joseph Mercy Health System and Mercy Health, members of Trinity Health, on a state-wide basis. He first joined SJMHS in 2008 as president and CEO of St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor and Livingston hospitals, which made the Truven 100 Top Hospitals list seven times under his leadership. In 2015, he was named regional president and CEO of SJMHS. Prior to that, he served as president of Providence Park Hospital in Novi.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B. M. M)

**FIRST JOB:** Automotive sales representative

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."  
— Winston Churchill

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Caring for my dad who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. The lesson is to cherish loved ones.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I learned all of my Italian grandmother's recipes from the old country and cook them to this day

**HOBBIES:** Cycling and travel

**PET CHARITY:** Make-A-Wish Foundation

**BUCKET LIST:** Cycle part of the route of the Tour de France



**JOHN FOX**  
President and CEO  
Beaumont Health,  
Southfield

Fox came to Beaumont in 2015 from Emory Healthcare, where he served for more than 15 years as president and CEO for the \$2.3 billion system. Previously, Fox was executive vice president of Clarian Health (now IU Health), a health system/academic medical center in Indianapolis. Before that, he was vice president and CFO at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. He began his career as an MBA/CPA at Coopers and Lybrand.

**EDUCATION:** Washington University (B), University of Cincinnati (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**BEST ADVICE:** Most of life's big decisions require you to first have a well-grounded moral compass.

**DOWN TIME:** Family time that now includes grandchildren

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Approving Emory Healthcare's acceptance from Africa of two American health care workers infected with Ebola in July 2014.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I'm a dual citizen by birth: U.S. and Canada, but also eligible for Irish citizenship via an Irish grandparent.



**PHILIP A. INCARNATI**  
President and CEO  
McLaren Health Care,  
Grand Blanc

Incarnati began his health care career in 1977, and has held executive positions at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit Receiving Hospital and University Health Center, and Horizon Health System prior to joining McLaren Health Care. Today, the hospital system includes 14 hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, imaging centers, a 490-member employed primary and specialty care physician network, and commercial and Medicaid HMOs.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B. M)

**BOARD MEMBER:** Premier Inc., Charlotte, N.C.

**MCLAREN SERVICES:** Home health, infusion and hospice providers, pharmacy services, a clinical laboratory network, and a wholly owned medical malpractice insurance company.

**EMPLOYEES:** 26,000

**NETWORK PROVIDERS:** 85,200

**OPERATIONS:** More than 350 inpatient and a ambulatory facilities

**HIGHLIGHT:** McLaren operates Michigan's largest network of cancer centers and providers, anchored by the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit.



**WRIGHT LASSITER III**  
President and CEO  
Henry Ford Health  
System, Detroit

At Henry Ford Health System, Lassiter oversees a \$6 billion organization comprised of six hospitals, a health plan, and a wide range of ambulatory and retail health services consisting of more than 60 clinical locations and 30,000 employees. Lassiter joined Henry Ford in late 2014 as president, and oversaw mergers with Allegiance Health in Jackson and HealthPlus of Michigan in Flint. He also led the board and senior management through a strategic planning effort.

**EDUCATION:** LeMoyne College (B), Indiana University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivered the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* in Tuskegee, Ala., with my dad every morning at 5 a.m.

**HOBBIES:** Cooking and collecting wine

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Godfather"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Warm, sunny places with great culture

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Never stop learning, and don't allow others to define your ceiling

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Motown Museum

**PASSION:** My wife, Cathy, and I are huge NBA basketball fans, and we love being close to the action



**DR. MARSHALL S. RUNGE**  
Executive Vice President  
for Medical Affairs  
University of Michigan,  
Ann Arbor

Dr. Runge has been a physician-scientist for his entire career, combining basic and translational research and education with the care of patients with cardiovascular diseases. Prior to joining the University of Michigan in 2015, Runge was executive dean and chair of the Department of Medicine at the UNC School of Medicine, where he guided the academic and clinical leadership of the School of Medicine and the UNC Health Care System.

**EDUCATION:** Vanderbilt University (B. M, Ph.D.), Johns Hopkins Medical School (MD)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."  
— Winston Churchill

**HOBBIES:** Spending time with family; all sports, but particularly playing tennis indoors (no rain, sun, or wind)

**LESSON LEARNED:** Most people want to do well and do good, but they need inspiration to do so

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I like to write medical fiction as a form of escapism

**ATTRACTIONS:** Henry Ford Museum, Detroit Institute of Arts



**DR. TONY TEDESCHI**  
CEO  
Detroit Medical Center,  
Detroit

Dr. Tedeschi has more than 20 years of operational and clinical leadership in health care, and is currently group CEO of Tenet Healthcare's Michigan and Illinois market, and CEO of the Detroit Medical Center, a leading academically integrated health system in the region. DMC is the largest health care provider in southeast Michigan, with more than 2,000 licensed beds and 3,000 affiliated physicians. Prior to that, Tedeschi was CEO of Tenet Healthcare's Chicago market.

**EDUCATION:** Knox College (B), Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management (M), Medical College of Wisconsin (M), University of Illinois (MD)

**FIRST JOB:** Stock boy for Glenn's Fine Food

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead

**LESSON LEARNED:** Open hearts heal all

**PAST LIFE:** I was a deejay in college

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Comerica Park

**BUCKET LIST:** Improving the health of Detroiters — and I get to work on this every day

# Investment in Detroit



**DMC** Leading. *Health.* Care.  
**Detroit Medical Center**

The DMC's legacy of providing exceptional care and improving the health and wellbeing of our patients and communities continues today as a member of the Tenet family of hospitals. The \$850 million we promised to invest in the DMC not only advances patient care and experience, but represents a significant contribution to the revitalization of Detroit, the city we call home, and all the communities we serve.

✓	<b>Children's Hospital of Michigan</b>	\$200 Million
✓	<b>New Heart Hospital</b>	\$126 Million
✓	<b>Detroit Receiving Hospital</b>	\$30 Million
✓	<b>Harper University Hospital</b>	\$73 Million
✓	<b>Sinai-Grace Hospital</b>	\$84 Million
✓	<b>Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital and Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan</b>	\$16 Million

\*Reflects a partial list of our capital investments in new and improved facilities.

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# Health Care

## INSURANCE



### JOAN BUDDEN

President and CEO  
Priority Health,  
Grand Rapids

Budden, who has more than 30 years of experience in health care, advocates for lowering costs for individuals and employers. Previously, she was the chief marketing officer of Priority Health. Budden is "bicoastal" in Michigan and is committed to supporting communities on both sides of the state. She is a director of the Detroit Economic Club, Van Andel Institute, Frederik Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, and Independent Bank Corp.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at Lorenzo's Pizza, and pizza is still one of my favorite foods

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Follow your passion, be prepared to work hard and sacrifice, and, above all, don't let anyone limit your dreams." — Donovan Bailey

**BUCKET LIST:** Going to Machu Picchu

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Italian Riviera and Walloon Lake

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** It's a marathon, not a sprint, so enjoy the journey



### DR. DAVID COTTON

Founder and CEO  
Meridian Health Plan,  
Detroit

Cotton was a renowned specialist-in-chief of obstetrics and gynecology at the Detroit Medical Center, but left in 1997 and launched the family-owned Health Plan of Michigan. From there, the company became Meridian Health Plan in 2008. In June, the company agreed to be acquired by WellCare Health Plans Inc. in Tampa for \$2.5 billion. Meridian Health Plan is the largest Medicaid HMO in Michigan and Illinois, serving Medicare and Medicaid patients.

**EDUCATION:** Loma Linda University (B, MD)

**FAMILY AFFAIR:** Cotton is joined in the business by his wife, Shery, and three sons; Jon, Michael, and Sean

**EMPLOYEES:** 1,800+

**REVENUE:** \$3.8 billion

**RELATED BUSINESS:** MeridianRx, a pharmacy benefit manager, provides some 1 million health plan members with a prescription network across 34 states

**INTEREST:** Co-owner of One Campus Martius, and investor in Red Crown and Atwater in the Park in Grosse Pointe Park

**FOUNDING MEMBER:** Detroit Crime Commission, Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation



### TRICIA A. KEITH

Executive Vice President  
Blue Cross Blue Shield  
of Michigan, Detroit

In addition to serving as executive vice president, Keith is chief of staff and corporate secretary for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. In her role as chief of staff, she oversees the office of the president and handles Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan senior management governance body coordination. She is also responsible for the administration and management of all activities related to the board and selection councils, and manages corporate services.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B), Michigan State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Digging beach grass for the Mason Lake Soil Conservation District

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Fitting it all in

**HOBBIES:** All outdoor activities (biking, boating, running) and wine

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Napa Valley or Oceania Cruises

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Bucharest Grill; Comerica Park; the riverfront

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I grow, harvest, and distribute horseradish

**PET CHARITY:** Michigan 4-H Foundation



### TERESA "TERRI" KLINE

President and CEO  
Health Alliance Plan,  
Detroit

Kline's career in health care leadership spans more than 30 years, including experience in insurance, managed care, consulting, physician practice management, health care information technology, financial performance, and clinical network management. Prior to joining HAP, Kline led her own firm in Atlanta that provided strategic consulting, due diligence, and interim management services. Before that, she was senior vice president for Health Care Service Corp.

**EDUCATION:** Kalamazoo College (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Retail clerk in a five and dime store

**BEST ADVICE:** "Hope lies in dreams, in imagination and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality."

— Dr. Jonas Salk

**HOBBY:** Hiking

**BUCKET LIST:** A river-rafting trip on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** National Parks

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Do what you love

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Motown Museum



### DANIEL J. LOEPF

President and CEO  
Blue Cross Blue Shield  
of Michigan, Detroit

Loepf oversaw the transformation of Blue Cross to a nonprofit mutual insurance company in January 2014, and has led initiatives to improve health care quality and promote affordability. He joined Blue Cross in 2000. Loepf has served as board chair of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an organization that includes all 36 Blues plans and covers more than 106 million people. He also serves as board chair of BCS Financial Corp.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Overnight billing clerk at Merrill Lynch in high school. I lobbied for the job, and was selected over 15 other kids.

**BEST ADVICE:** Listen more often than you speak; it is through listening that we learn.

**PET CHARITY:** Eton Academy in Birmingham

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Addressing the national challenge of providing health care

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** There are few places more stunning and serene than Michigan

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** I'm amazed at the transformation throughout the city



### CHRISTINE SURDOCK

President  
Molina Healthcare  
of Michigan, Troy

Surdock has more than 25 years of financial management and operations experience in the health care industry. Previously, she served as a COO and a CFO at Molina, and prior to that she was manager of financial operations at The Wellness Plan, as well as manager of claims and administration support at Trinity Health. From 1988 to 2001, she served as director of membership accounting, manager of enrollment, and administrator of reimbursement/reporting of SelectCare.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** An auditor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** One of my projects as an auditor for the USDA required counting cows for inventory. A cow licked me on my first day.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be bold, work hard, and believe in yourself

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The start of summer means going to a Detroit Tigers ballgame. There is nothing better than walking into the ballpark on a beautiful day, seeing the field, and knowing you are going to relax and enjoy the next couple of hours.

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Italy and Greece

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# Health Care | Logistics and Transportation

• MANAGEMENT SERVICES | • REHABILITATION | • LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION



**DAVID  
FARBMAN**  
CEO  
Health Rise Solutions,  
Southfield

Farbman is CEO of Health Rise Solutions and CarbonTV, a principal with NAI Farbman, and *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Hunt*. Health Rise, launched in 2012, provides revenue cycle management for multiple hospital systems across the nation. Farbman recently reclaimed his CEO position at CarbonTV, the world's largest OTT network delivering high-quality, produced entertainment to outdoor enthusiasts across the world.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Janitor at Hagelstein's Bakery at 12 years old

**LESSON LEARNED:** It's not about the original plan, it's about the ability to pivot when the signs are there (and do so in a timely fashion)

**HOBBIES:** Hunting, fishing, hiking, baseball, and being outdoors

**DOWNTIME:** Planning the next business move, so I guess I'm still working on this one

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Florida Keys and Montana

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Peaky Blinders"

**ASSOCIATION:** 2018 president of the Young Presidents' Organization Motor City Chapter



**MINDI  
FYNKE**  
President and CEO  
EHIM Inc., Southfield

Fynke founded EHIM in 1987 as a national third-party administrator of health benefits. Soon after, the company began specializing in pharmacy benefit management services, which quickly became the organization's primary service offering. Over the past 29 years, Fynke has developed the company into a national pharmacy benefit manager that has serviced millions of members. The company also manages its own network of more than 64,000 pharmacies.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Short-order cook in college

**BEST ADVICE:** Never let success go to your head or failure get to your heart

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Early on, scrambling my team when I thought the fire marshal was coming in for an inspection. We had about 20 people crammed into a 900-square-foot office.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Godfather"

**HIDDEN TALENT:** A ranked amateur golfer

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Fisher Theatre

**BUCKET LIST:** Making a bucket list



**RON  
FERBER**  
President and CEO  
Wellsense Inc.,  
Birmingham

A founding investor and director, Ferber oversees Wellsense, a company that conducts R&D for cutting edge technologies that provide hospitals with effective solutions that help to enhance their standard of care, engage patients, improve safety, and reduce costs. The company developed a pressure visualization system for use in hospitals and other medical-related areas to reduce pressure injury risk, improve patient safety, improve quality of care, and lower costs.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**CO-FOUNDER:** HoMedics Inc. in Commerce Township, with Alon Kaufman

**PAST LIFE:** Ferber served as president of HoMedics for 28 years

**LAUNCHED:** myCharge, which offers portable charging systems for smartphones, tablets, and other devices

**WELLSENSE STATS:** About 60 percent of patients with pressure injuries are more likely to die within one year of discharge; 8 to 12 percent of all hospitalized ICU patients develop pressure injuries

**PET CHARITY:** The Friendship Circle



**MOHAMMAD  
QAZI**  
President and CEO  
Ciena Healthcare  
Management Inc.,  
Southfield

A licensed physical therapist, Qazi launched Ciena Healthcare in 1998, following several years in the rehabilitation industry. Today, the company is a manager and operator of skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers. With around 4,000 licensed beds, the 36 nursing communities managed by Ciena Healthcare comprise the largest privately owned operators of skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers in Michigan. The communities offer a holistic approach to patient care.

**NATIVE COUNTRY:** Pakistan

**QUOTE:** "What you hear throughout the world, that America is the land of opportunity, is absolutely true. I don't know that we would have been able to open and operate skilled nursing centers outside the United States. Too many barriers."

**WORKFORCE:** More than 5,000 employees

**BUSINESS MODEL:** Open facilities near hospitals and medical centers

**CULTURE:** The company pays for employees' certification programs and training, which keeps turnover rates low

**INVESTOR:** Detroit Foundation Hotel

**BOARD:** Beyond Basics



**JIM  
BONAHOOM**  
CEO  
Wolverine Packing Co.,  
Detroit

Bonahoom is the fourth-generation family member to lead Wolverine, which was founded in 1937. The enterprise got its start in Eastern Market as a lamb and veal packer, and has since expanded into a full-faceted protein company with multiple plants producing ground beef and poultry items, steak-cutting, and value-added products. In April, the company, along with Indiana-based Tippmann Innovation, broke ground on a meat processing plant in Eastern Market.

**FOUNDER:** Alfred J. Bonahoom

**BUSINESS:** Stocks more than global 250 brands and 4,000 different products

**DISTRIBUTED BRANDS:** Cargill, Creekstone Farms, Certified Angus Beef, Perdue, Tyson, and Turkey Valley Farms, among others

**EMPLOYEES:** More than 500 workers at four facilities in Eastern Market

**BURGERS:** Eight million per week

**SAFETY:** Utilizes X-ray technology and multiple inspections

**AWARD:** In 2017, recognized as Employer of the Year by SER Metro Detroit



**KATHLEEN  
McCANN**  
Chairman and CEO  
United Road, Romulus

McCann joined United Road Services, a finished vehicle logistics provider, in 2011. She led the company through three successive private equity owners while growing annual revenue to \$650 million from \$250 million. In 2013, United Road completed and successfully integrated a transformative acquisition of its next largest competitor. McCann previously was with Soave Enterprises, a privately owned organization with holdings in real estate, scrap metal recycling, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers, lifeguard

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "How small, of all that human hearts endure, that part which laws or kings can cause or cure."  
— Samuel Johnson

**DOWNTIME:** Reading, gardening, catching up with family and friends

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere with family and friends, or an opportunity to learn

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be willing to sweep floors with a smile

**PET CHARITY:** Capuchin Soup Kitchen


A woman with long dark hair, wearing blue medical scrubs, is leaning forward and smiling while talking to a patient whose back is to the camera. The background is a clinical setting with light-colored walls.

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A man in black and red graduation regalia, including a cap and a chain with a medallion, is looking forward. The background is dark with some blurred lights.

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for being recognized by  
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# Logistics and Transportation



**MANUEL MOROUN**

Chairman  
CenTra Inc., Warren

In 1979, Moroun used the credit line of his trucking company to acquire a 25-percent controlling interest in the Ambassador Bridge for \$30 million, beating out famed investor Warren Buffet. CenTra is the controlling body of Central Transport International. Moroun also has a controlling stake in Universal Truckload Services Inc., which is a holding company for over-the-road truck lines and logistics companies, including Universal Am-Can Ltd., Cavalry Logistics, and more.

**EDUCATION:** University of Notre Dame (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at his father's gas station in Detroit

**AMBASSADOR BRIDGE:** Built in 1929, Moroun acquired a controlling interest from the Bower family in 1979

**TRADE:** About \$100 billion in commerce crosses the bridge annually

**GOAL:** Build a neighboring bridge for around \$1 billion, pending government approval

**NET WORTH:** \$1.8 billion (Forbes)

**HEADQUARTERS:** Converted a former school in Warren

**TRUCKING COMPANIES:** Louisiana Transportation, Mason Dixon Lines, Economy Transport, and more.



**MATTHEW MOROUN**

Chairman  
Crown Enterprises Inc.,  
Warren

Moroun oversees the day-to-day operations of Crown Enterprises, a company that manages his family's real estate interests. In June, he announced the sale of Michigan Central Depot and the neighboring Book Depository Building to Ford Motor Co. for an undisclosed price. Moroun also manages a vast trucking business across North America and recently acquired the former McLouth Steel site in Trenton, which he plans to redevelop.

**EDUCATION:** Dickinson College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked various jobs for his father

**MANAGES:** The Moroun companies include interests in transportation, trucking, logistics, infrastructure, and real estate

**EXCHANGE:** Traded several acres of land near the bridge to enhance Detroit's Riverside Park in return for real estate needed for a new span

**MCLOUTH SITE:** Moroun will likely convert the former steel plant into a manufacturing complex. The site includes access to a deep port, rail lines, and freeways.

**DEPOT:** Invested \$8 million to install a freight elevator, add electrical upgrades, and install more than 1,000 windows



**JEFF ROGERS**

CEO  
Universal Logistics  
Holdings Inc., Warren

Having served in the U.S. Army Rangers, Rogers worked at UPS in various logistics, finance, and operational roles for 14 years. Prior to joining Universal Logistics Holding, where he serves as CEO and is a board member, Rogers served separately as president of YRC Freight and president of the regional LTL carrier, USF Holland. He also spent 15 years in various operating and finance roles within YRC Worldwide, including as CFO of YRC Regional Transportation.

**EDUCATION:** Kansas Newman University (B), Baker University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** A shipping clerk in a bookstore

**INDUSTRIES SERVED:** Aerospace, automotive, energy government services, health care, industrial, retail and consumer goods, and steel and metals

**MARKETS:** U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Colombia

**BEST ADVICE:** The harder you work, the luckier you get

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I can juggle

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Outlaw Josey Wales"

**AREA ATTRACTION:** Dream Cruise

**BUCKET LIST:** Travel to New Zealand



**ANDRA RUSH**

Chairman and CEO  
Rush Group, Wayne

Rush started her business in 1984, when she was 23 years old, with \$5,000 she borrowed from her parents. Today, Rush Group includes Rush Trucking, which offers truckload and milk-run transportation for short-haul, long-haul, and just-in-time operations. She also serves as president and CEO of Dakkota Integrated Systems and Detroit Manufacturing Systems. In addition, she is vice chairman of the Minority Business Round Table.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**CERTIFIED:** Minority- and women-owned business (Native American)

**WORKFORCE:** More than 3,000 employees across three companies

**REVENUE:** Approaching \$2 billion in annual sales

**INDUCTED:** Michigan Minority Business Hall of Fame

**PORTFOLIO:** 20 plants in the U.S. and Canada

**MEMBER:** Supplier Council, Ford Motor Co.

**NOTABLE:** In addition to freight distribution, Rush Group is a component manufacturer

**OPERATES:** A large facility in Detroit



**BRANDON STALLARD**

CEO  
TPS Logistics, Troy

Stallard oversees a non-asset-based, full-service logistic management company that offers full platform management of all modes for all shipments, reduces the total logistics burden on the cost of goods sold, and creates customized logistic solutions. Prior to becoming a founder of TPS, he worked in logistics management in Mexico City, focusing on the import/export industry. He also spent time in logistical management within the health and beauty aid field.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Driving a forklift on the midnight shift at a shipping terminal

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Turning down prospective clients that are not a good fit

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Stay humble, make and respect long-term relationships, and keep your head down and work.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I raise bees

**HOBBIES:** Music, guitar, hiking, boating, and training bird dogs

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** After traveling the world, my cabin in northern Michigan wins



**DAVID M. STAPLES**

President and CEO  
SpartanNash Co.,  
Byron Center

SpartanNash is a Fortune 400 company and the fifth largest food distributor in the United States. The company is a leading distributor of grocery products to U.S. military commissaries, operates more than 140 corporate-owned retail stores in eight states, and distributes to more than 2,100 independent locations throughout the country. The company's brands include Dan's Supermarket, D&W Fresh Market, Econofoods, Family Fare Supermarkets, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Dishwasher at the Clock Restaurant

**BEST ADVICE:** Take control of your career and your life, otherwise someone else will

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am a pancake chef

**FAVORITE BOOK/MOVIE:** I am a suspense, action, and mystery fan, so one of my favorite book series is the Jack Reacher series by Lee Child. My favorite movies are also almost any with a suspense and action focus.

**HOBBIES:** Mountain and road cycling, boating, and hiking

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The downtown stadium district

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Western United States and Italy

# Manufacturing

## CONSUMER GOODS



**KEITH J. ALLMAN**

President and CEO  
Masco Corp., Livonia

Allman has overseen Masco, a leader in the design, manufacture, and distribution of branded home improvement and building products, since early 2014. He previously was a group president and had responsibility for Masco's plumbing products and North American cabinet businesses. Prior to that, he was president of Delta Faucet Co. starting in 2007. Allman joined Masco in 1998 as vice president of manufacturing at cabinet manufacturer Merillat Industries.

**EDUCATION:** Kettering University (B), University of Michigan (M)

**PAST LIFE:** Spent 13 years at General Motors in a variety of manufacturing, engineering, and quality positions

**MASCO REVENUE:** \$76 billion

**FOUNDED:** In 1929, by Alex Manoogian

**OPERATING PROFIT:** \$1.7 billion

**BRANDS:** Behr; Delta and Hansgrohe faucets, and bath and shower fixtures; KraftMaid and Merillat cabinets; Milgard windows and doors; and Hot Spring spas

**BOARD MEMBER:** Hansgrohe SE Supervisory Board, National Association of Manufacturers



**JOHN ARMALY JR.**

President  
Armaly Brands,  
Walled Lake

Armaly has taken the multi generation family enterprise into its second century of business. He grew up in the home-cleaning products company started by his grandfather, who began harvesting and selling natural sponges in the Caribbean in the early 1900s. The company is most notably known for its Brillo pads, considered to be one of the world's most recognized cleaning brands, as well as the inspiration for the iconic Andy Warhol sculpture.

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for Borman Foods

**HIGHLIGHT:** Past chairman of the National Housewares Manufacturers Association, now known as the International Housewares Association

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "You're not here to get medals."

— Chester Dykowski

**LESSON LEARNED:** Get it in writing

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work your way to the top, don't expect to start at the top

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am a retired U.S. Army Sergeant Major

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Belle Isle and Lafayette Coney Island



**MARC BITZER**

CEO and Board Member  
Whirlpool Corp.,  
Benton Harbor

Bitzer joined Whirlpool Europe in 1999 as vice president, Bauknecht brand group. He became senior vice president, marketing, sales, and services at Whirlpool Europe in 2000, and was named president of Whirlpool Europe in January 2006. Between 2009 and 2013, he was president of Whirlpool North America and president of U.S. operations, and later was named vice chairman, including overall leadership of North America, Europe, Middle East, and Africa.

**EDUCATION:** St. Gallen Graduate School of Business, Economics, and Law (B, M, Ph.D.)

**WHIRLPOOL FOUNDED:** By Louis and Emory Upton in 1911

**PRODUCTS:** Major and small appliances

**BRANDS:** Whirlpool, Maytag, KitchenAid, Jenn-Air, and Amana, among others

**HISTORY:** The company converted to armament production during World War II

**REVENUE:** \$21.3 billion

**EMPLOYEES:** 92,000

**CAREER:** Bitzer worked for eight years at Boston Consulting Group, and was named vice president in 1999



**KURT L. DARROW**

Chairman, CEO,  
and President  
La-Z-Boy, Monroe

Darrow is best known as the architect of a major transformation of La-Z-Boy that began with his appointment as CEO in 2003 and later as chairman in 2011. During his tenure, the La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries store system evolved and expanded rapidly to include 350 locations across North America, and is ranked as the 13th largest furniture store retailer in the United States. The company's products are sold in some 60 countries.

**EDUCATION:** Adrian College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Hot tar roofing during high school

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Surviving the Great Recession of 2008/2009 and remaining optimistic and realistic

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Never stop learning, growing holistically, and being curious

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I play Shopkins with my 3-year-old niece, Francesca

**BUCKET LIST:** Becoming a 3-handicap golfer

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Pebble Beach, where I proposed to my wife, Renee

**SUPPORTS:** A variety of educational and health care initiatives



**ROBERT DART**

CEO  
Dart Container Co.,  
Midland

Dart Manufacturing was founded in 1937 as a machine shop that produced key rings, steel tape measures, metal rulers, plastic key cases, marble games for kids, and military tags before expanding into plastic cups and related products. In 1960, Dart Container Co. was formed after the business perfected an expandable polystyrene molding process and created its first insulated foam cups. Today, Dart and his brother, Ken, who serves as chairman, oversee the business.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FOUNDER:** William F. Dart

**WORKFORCE:** 15,000 employees

**PRODUCE:** 4,000 products

**COMPANY:** Privately held

**LOCATIONS:** More than 45 production, distribution, and office facilities in six countries

**GROWTH:** In 2012, the company acquired Solo Cup Co. for approximately \$1 billion

**STRATEGY:** Vertical integration of raw materials, production equipment, ink and packaging film, trucking, sales, and recycling operations



**DOUG DEVOS**

President  
Amway Corp., Ada

As president of Amway since 2002, DeVos oversees daily operations of the company with Chairman Steve Van Andel. Together, they form the Office of the Chief Executive. DeVos is the youngest son of Amway co-founder Rich DeVos, who, with Steve's father, Jay, started Amway in 1959. As the world's largest direct selling company, DeVos and his partners have fostered hundreds of entrepreneurs around the world. DeVos is a member of Business Leaders for Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B)

**BEST ADVICE:** Constantly challenge yourself and your perspectives in meaningful ways. Just when you think you have it all figured out is when challenges arise.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** When you make a mistake, learn from it and move on

**PAST LIFE:** Played on Purdue University's football team (quarterback)

**HOBBY:** Sailing

**DOWNTIME:** Family, friends, sailing, and a good walk

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** If you get knocked down, get back up and keep moving forward

# Manufacturing

## CONSUMER GOODS



**MATTHEW HAWORTH**

Chairman  
Haworth Inc., Holland

Haworth assumed the position of chairman in 2009, and has spent his entire career at his family's business. He started working with his father, Dick Haworth, in 1983. In his first position with the company, Matthew Haworth worked an assembly job as he simultaneously went to college. In 1991, he started working for the company full time, working at dealerships in Seattle and Washington, D.C., and later as a member of the Atlanta sales team.

**EDUCATION:** Indiana University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** As an assembly worker for Haworth

**FOUNDED:** In 1948, as Modern Products

**PRODUCTS:** Workspaces, tables, benches, height-adjustable and freestanding desks, cabinets, movable walls, access floors, accessories, and work tools

**PATENTS:** More than 350

**ROOTS:** Crafting wood furnishings in a town on Lake Michigan.

The company now operates in more than 120 countries.

**NOTABLE:** I'm a licensed coach for United States Soccer Federation.

**DIRECTOR:** Grand Valley University Foundation



**JAMES P. KEANE**

President and CEO  
Steelcase Inc.,  
Grand Rapids

Keane has held a variety of leadership roles in his nearly 20-year career at Steelcase, a global manufacturer of furniture and products for offices, hospitals, retailers, and classrooms. He has led research and development, corporate strategy, and IT. Previously Keane was COO at Steelcase, a role he was appointed to in November 2012, where he was responsible for design, engineering and development, manufacturing, sales, and distribution.

**EDUCATION:** University of Illinois (B), Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University (M)

**CAREER:** Prior to becoming CEO in 2014, Keane led the sales and marketing functions for the Steelcase brand

**DIRECTOR:** Rockwell Automation, IDEO, Grand Valley University Foundation, and Economic Club of Grand Rapids

**STEELCASE FOUNDED:** In 1912, as Metal Office Furniture Co.

**BRANDS:** Steelcase, Coalesse, DesignTex, PolyVision, and Turnstone

**REVENUE:** \$3 billion (FY)

**LOCATIONS:** Multiple facilities in North America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia Pacific



**BLAKE W. KRUEGER**

President and CEO  
Wolverine Worldwide  
Inc., Rockford

In addition to overseeing Wolverine Worldwide, Krueger serves as chairman. He is responsible for establishing corporate strategies, managing operations, and providing direct responsibility of the Caterpillar Footwear and Wolverine Retail divisions. The company is one of the world's leading marketers and licensors of branded casual, active lifestyle, work, outdoor sport, athletic, children's and uniform footwear, apparel products, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**FOUNDED:** In 1883 by G.A. Krause and Frederick Hirth, who built a shoe factory in 1903

**REVENUE:** \$2.4 billion

**PROFIT:** \$23.9 million

**PORTFOLIO:** Approximately 3,700 workers operating 81 retail stores and 29 consumer-direct websites

**BRANDS:** Merrell, Sperry, Hush Puppies, Saucony, Wolverine, Keds, Stride Rite, Chaco, Bates, HYTEST, and Soft Style

**DISTRIBUTION:** Retailers are found in the U.S. and approximately 200 countries and territories.



**FLORINE MARK**

President and CEO  
The Weight Watchers  
Group Inc., Farmington  
Hills

Mark is president and CEO of The WW Group, the leading franchise holder of Weight Watchers International. Mark created The WW Group as a family business from the ground up, acquiring franchises throughout the Midwest, East Coast, Canada, and Mexico. Some of these franchises were sold in 2003 to Weight Watchers International, but Mark retained all operations in her home state of Michigan, as well as in northern Ontario, Canada.

**FIRST JOB:** Working at a doughnut shop

**BEST ADVICE:** Believe you are lucky. If you believe you are lucky, you will be lucky.

**LESSON LEARNED:** When I started my career, I realized that I was trying to be superwoman. I was very busy taking care of my five children, and running a business and a household. I learned that being able to delegate is very, very important. I also learned that I don't have to be perfect.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Dream big. Then work really hard to make sure those dreams come true.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I enjoy playing the piano, singing, and dancing



**TED STAHL**

Executive Chairman  
GroupeSTAHL,  
Sterling Heights

GroupeSTAHL was founded in 1932 and is the world's largest manufacturer of garment decoration materials and heat printing equipment. The company has manufacturing and distribution locations around the world and is a licensee of the NBA, NHL, NFL, and MLB. Stahl and his wife, Mary, are co-founders of Stahl's Automotive Collection in Chesterfield Township, which features more than 125 classic cars from all eras on display in an educational setting.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Sweeping floors

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** My wife and I renovated a 54-foot tugboat and a Mighty Wurlitzer organ

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't be afraid to get your hands dirty, and try everything

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** James Scott Memorial Fountain

**PET CHARITIES:** Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs, Make-A-Wish Foundation

**BUCKET LIST:** Participate in the annual Great Race, a 10-day, 2,000-mile antique car road rally, every year for the rest of my life (my wife and I have already participated)



**STEVE VAN ANDEL**

Chairman  
Amway, Ada

Over the past two decades, Van Andel has led a strategic transformation of the Amway company, with a focus on growth through innovation and driving double-digit growth. Prior to being named chairman, Van Andel served as a vice president of Amway's business operations in North and South America. He also served as vice president of marketing. Van Andel sits on the board of directors of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, and Business Leaders for Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Hillsdale College (B), Miami University (Ohio) (M)

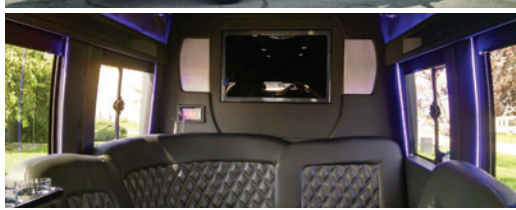
**HOBBY:** I love horses; working with them is about patience, teaching, learning, and — eventually — heading in the same direction

**DOWNTIME:** Family is a main focus for me. They're my world.

**LESSON LEARNED:** My dad (Jay Van Andel) always said that accomplishing a goal is like climbing a mountain — once you've climbed one, you'll see an even higher peak to climb

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work hard, be trustworthy, and enjoy the ride

**PAST LIFE:** Chairman, United States Chamber of Commerce



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# Manufacturing

• CONSUMER GOODS I • DEFENSE



## BRIAN WALKER

President and CEO  
Herman Miller Inc.,  
Zeeland

Beginning in 1995, Walker served as executive vice president and CFO for Herman Miller, where he adopted the economic value-added methodology of measuring business performance and compensating employees. He was named president of Herman Miller North America in 2000; in that role he oversees the company's core business operations for the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Walker has since transformed Herman Miller into a lean enterprise.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** A page at a library

**BEST ADVICE:** If you don't risk your leadership by taking bold action, you won't be successful

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** A 40-percent decline in the business led to a 50-percent reduction of employees

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Venice, Italy

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Invest heavily in communication skills and learn a second language. Worry about experiences, not titles

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am a fifth-degree black belt

**AREA ATTRACTION:** North American International Auto Show



## WILLIAM C. YOUNG

President and CEO  
Plastipak Holdings Inc.,  
Plymouth Township

In addition to overseeing Plastipak Holdings, Young serves as a director and chairman of Absopure Water Co. in Plymouth Township. Plastipak was founded in 1967 to supply water in five-gallon plastic jugs, rather than glass jugs that weighed 50 pounds. Today, the company operates more than 60 production sites in North America, South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. In the 1980s, logistics capabilities were provided via Whiteline Express.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at Absopure Water Co., which his father acquired in the mid 1950s

**QUOTE:** With us, it's all about driving home the sense of purpose, and our purpose is delivering great products and service to our customers.

**PLASTIPAK:** One of the largest global food grade producers of recycled PET materials

**BOARD MEMBER:** Business Leaders for Michigan and Midwest Guaranty Bank

**TRUSTEE:** University of Detroit Mercy

**CLEAN TECH:** Related company provides recycling solutions



## LOU BURR

CEO  
Loc Performance  
Products Inc.,  
Plymouth Township

Burr became CEO in 2017 and has been president of Loc Performance Products since 2008. Previously, he served as CFO of Loc from June 2007 to September 2008. He was also senior financial analyst of AZ Automotive, where he moved up to pricing manager, and eventually, finance director. Loc offers program and supply chain management, design and engineering, quality management, assembly, large structure fabrication, and field service support, among other services.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Credit analyst at Old Kent Bank

**FOUNDED:** 1971

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** Competition is the most powerful tool available to increase efficiency in defense spending

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Caribbean Sea

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** A four-year degree is admirable, as is graduate school, but it's not for everyone. Consider a skilled trade.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The stadium district

**PET CHARITY:** Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs



## DEAN KRUTTY

President and CEO  
Arotech Corp., Ann Arbor

Krutty officially took over the management of the company in March 2018, after serving as acting CEO since January 2017. Prior to working in the company's top spot, Krutty was president of Arotech's Training and Simulation Division; senior vice president, operations in North America; and executive vice president, operations in North America. Before moving into executive roles with Arotech, Krutty spent 13 years as a member of the FAAC management team.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**AROTECH PRODUCTS:** Creates Defense and security products for the military, law enforcement, and homeland security markets, including multimedia interactive simulators/trainers and advanced power supplies, batteries, and chargers

**REVENUE:** \$99 million

**GROSS PRODUCT:** \$28 million

**GOAL:** Generate \$100 million to \$105 million in 2018 revenue

**LOCATIONS:** In addition to the office in Ann Arbor, Arotech has an office in Delaware, as well as research, development, and production facilities in South Carolina, Florida, and Israel

**DIVISIONS:** Training and simulation, and power systems



## MAJ. GEN. DANIEL G. MITCHELL

Commanding General  
TACOM, Warren

In July, Mitchell began serving as commanding officer of the U.S. Army Tank—Automotive and Armaments Command and Life Cycle Management Command in Warren. He replaced Maj. Gen. Clark W. LeMasters Jr. As a major subordinate command of Army Material Command, TACOM manages the Army's ground and support systems material enterprise, along with related organic industrial capabilities, and develops and delivers readiness for ground and support systems globally.

**EARLY SERVICE:** Commissioned a second lieutenant at the U.S. Military Academy as an ordinance officer in 1985

**QUOTE:** "If I have one quality, it's finding out who the thoroughbreds are and letting them run, and just trying to help get the obstacles out of the way."

**AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:** Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Kosovo and Iraq Campaign Medals, Combat Action Badge, and Army Parachutist Badge

**DETROIT ARSENAL:** Formerly Detroit Arsenal Tank Plant, built in 1941 along Mound Road in Warren (since expanded)

**GROWTH:** Today, the TACOM campus spans 113 acres



## PAUL ROGERS

Director  
TARDEC, Warren

Rogers serves as director of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development, and Engineering Center (TARDEC), where he is responsible for providing executive management to deliver advanced technology solutions for all Department of Defense ground systems and combat support equipment. He oversees an annual budget of \$475 million and manages a workforce of more than 1,700 engineers, scientists, researchers, and support staff.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan Technological University (B), University of Michigan Dearborn (M), Michigan Technological University (Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Guide and historian for an underground shaft copper mine dating back to the late 1800s

**BEST ADVICE:** I have carried a fortune cookie quote in my wallet for 26 years, and it reads: None of the secrets of success will work unless you do

**BEST BOOK SERIES:** Vince Flynn's *Mitch Rapp Saga*

**DOWNTIME:** Relaxing with family, reading a good book, and catching up on "want to do" projects

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Witnessing its revival firsthand

# Manufacturing

• DEFENSE | • INDUSTRIAL



## MARK SIGNORELLI

Vice President and  
General Manager  
Combat Vehicles  
BAE Systems,  
Sterling Heights

Part of BAE Systems' land and armaments group, Signorelli is focused on the tracked and wheeled vehicles and associated support functions servicing both U.S. and international customers. The portfolio includes the Bradley family of vehicles, M88A1/A2, the M109 family of vehicles, the M113 family of vehicles, the ground combat vehicle program, and the portfolio of USMC products including the AAV7, amphibious combat vehicle, and Marine personal carrier.

**EDUCATION:** University of Florida (B)

**EARLY LIFE:** Born in New York, grew up as "an Air Force brat"

**COLLEGE:** Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology

**FIRST JOB:** Second lieutenant in field artillery, U.S. Army

**MILITARY:** During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, served as the 1st Cavalry Division Artillery operations officer in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq

**HOBBIES:** Fishing, hunting, golf, running, and bicycling

**SPECIALTIES:** Program management, business management, leadership, mentoring, and coaching

**BAE SYSTEMS FOUNDED:** 1999 in the United Kingdom



## GARY WHITED

President  
General Dynamics  
Land Systems,  
Sterling Heights

Whited oversees the strategic direction of General Dynamics Land Systems, which provides ground combat vehicles. He became president in March 2013, after serving as senior vice president and general manager of domestic operations. Previously, Whited was vice president of finance and CFO. Before joining Land Systems, Whited was vice president of finance and CFO for General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems. He is also vice president of General Dynamics Corp.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Salesperson for the Jean House

**LESSON LEARNED:** First reports from the field are always wrong. Remain calm and focus on the facts.

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I played in the Michigan State High School tennis championships

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** Disney's "Aladdin"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere I travel with my wife is an exciting adventure

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Learn to love what you do and never look back

**HOBBIES:** Traveling with my wife and playing golf



## RICHARD "DICK" BRODIE

President and CEO  
Wico Metal Products,  
Warren

Wico Metal Products, a leader in automotive extrusion, was founded in 1947 and has been under its current ownership since 1972. The company, overseen by Brodie, serves numerous automotive OEMs and major Tier I suppliers, and ships products throughout North America, Mexico, South America, Europe, and Southeast Asia. Wico has five manufacturing facilities in metro Detroit, as well as affiliated manufacturing locations in Canada, Mexico, and China.

**SERVED:** President of the Detroit Athletic Club (2009)

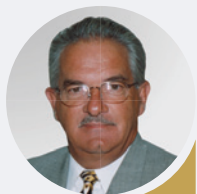
**HONORED:** Brodie was *BoardRoom* magazine's Distinguished Club President of the Year for his service at the Detroit Athletic Club, where he was a director of six years

**WICO PRODUCTS:** Pillar reinforcements, door hinge plates, latch plates, and side rail assemblies

**ENGINEERING:** Broad base extrusion, in-die tapping, and part simplification

**SERVICES:** Works with alternative materials and in-die manufacturing processes

**HONORARY CHAIRMAN:** Detroit Institute for Children during the 2014 North American International Auto Show



## GERALDO DIEZ SR.

Chairman and CEO  
The Diez Group,  
Dearborn

Founded in 1973, The Diez Group is an aluminum and steel sales, service, and logistics center specializing in precision-level blanking (exposed, unexposed, scallop, straight, and configured), laser welding systems, precision slitting, cut-to-length steel, and warehousing and logistics. Early on, the company grew from slitting and cutting steel to producing blanks, or sections of shaped steel used for stamping. While the purchase of blanking presses wasn't cheap, the investment paid off.

**FIRST JOB:** Inventory clerk at Production Steel

**HONOR:** Cited as Hispanic Man of the Year, Minority Business Leadership Award by the National Minority Supplier Development Council

**LIFE DIRECTIONS:** Received Lifetime Achievement Award

**INDUCTED:** Minority Business Hall of Fame

**NOTABLE:** Received Michigan Hispanic Chamber Chairman's Award and Outstanding Member citation

**DIEZ GROUP LOCATIONS:** Ten facilities spanning around 2 million square feet of space in six states

**FAMILY:** His daughter, April Diez, is vice chairman; son Jerry Diez Jr. is president



## KENNETH EISENBERG

Chairman and CEO  
Kenwal Steel Corp.,  
Dearborn

Under Eisenberg's leadership, Kenwal Steel has grown to become one of the largest steel distributors in North America, with around \$800 million in annual revenue. The company has a global roster of clients. Eisenberg joined the company in 1964, and led an expansion into automotive, electronics, appliance, and major equipment manufacturers. The company was founded by his father, Sol Eisenberg, in 1947, and is known for producing an array of flat rolled steel.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Joined Kenwal Steel in 1964

**FOUNDED:** Frances and Kenneth Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan

**SUPPORT:** Donated \$10.8 million to the University of Michigan Depression Center and has provided other U-M gifts to the School of Education and TeachingWorks; College of Literature, Science and the Arts, School of Social Work; Taubman Medical Research Institute; University Musical Society; U-M Athletic Department; and U-M Health System

**MEDICAL:** Eisenberg Center for Translational Therapeutics at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit



## STEPHEN EISENBERG

President  
Kenwal Steel Corp.,  
Dearborn

Eisenberg has been with Kenwal Steel for more than 20 years, and held several positions before being named president of his family's company. He has championed many causes in the arts, education, health care, and community outreach. He has deep ties to the University of Michigan and supports the U-M Health System. Eisenberg also serves on the U-M Mott and Von Voigtlander National Campaign Leadership Council.

**EDUCATION:** New York University (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working at Kenwal Steel in high school

**MEMBER:** Young Presidents Organization

**DOWNTIME:** Being with my family

**HOBBIES:** Golf and U-M athletics

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Young Frankenstein"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts

**DIRECTOR:** Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit

**MEMBER:** U-M Depression Center National Advisory Board, Greater Detroit Campaign Leadership Council

# Manufacturing | Media

• INDUSTRIAL | • PUBLISHING



**MICHAEL FISHER**

President and CEO  
Fisher and Co.,  
St. Clair Shores

Fisher oversees a family-owned and operated engineering and manufacturing company that is a supplier to the global automotive business industry. The enterprise is the parent company for Fisher Dynamics, a seating-systems and mechanisms company, and Fisher Dynamics Metal Forming, a safety-critical precision metal parts firm. The company has four generations of manufacturing experience. Fisher is also a member of its board of directors.

**EDUCATION:** Georgetown University (B)

**MARKET REACH:** North America, Europe, India, China, and Japan

**HISTORY:** The company traces its roots to the late 1800s in Ohio, where it produced carriages

**MOVE:** Two of the Fisher brothers moved from Ohio in 1904 and 1905 to work in horseless carriage body shops in Detroit

**EARLY GROWTH:** Fisher Body Co. started in 1908 to develop new body designs, mostly for General Motors. Over time, the company was sold to GM.

**REAL ESTATE:** Seven Fisher brothers built the Fisher Building

**NOTABLE:** Produced airplanes and tanks during World War II



**RALPH GERSON**

Board Member  
Guardian Industries  
Corp., Auburn Hills

From 1990 until 2011, Gerson served as executive vice president of Guardian and president of Guardian International Corp. The company manufactures float glass and a wide range of fabricated glass products for the commercial and residential construction industries. It's also a leading supplier of vehicle glass, exterior plastic grills, and trim systems for the global automotive industry, and is a manufacturer of fiberglass insulation products and a distributor of building materials.

**EDUCATION:** Yale University (B), London School of Economics (M), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** *Michigan Law Review*

**PARTNER:** Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld in Washington, D.C. (1985 to 1987)

**BOARD MEMBER:** Executive committee member and investment committee chair, William Davidson Foundation

**TRUSTEE AND OFFICER:** The Henry Ford, Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**STEERING COMMITTEE:** New Economy Initiative

**DIRECTOR:** William Davidson Institute at the University of Michigan



**EDWARD C. LEVY JR.**

Executive Chairman  
Edw. C. Levy Co., Detroit

As executive chairman of Edw. C. Levy Co., Levy oversees a mini-conglomerate that is a vertically integrated construction materials operation with a specialty in mill services, aggregate mining, road construction, ready mix concrete, slag cement production, bituminous asphalt paving, and manufacturing. The company serves 25 steel mills in North America, Australia, Thailand, India, and Brazil with a series of steel mill services that provide solutions to recycle co-products of steel and ironmaking.

**EDUCATION:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Mechanics helper

**BEST ADVICE:** Always treat others the way you want to be treated, and make sure they do likewise.

**CLOSE FRIEND:** Henry Kissinger

**FOUNDED:** 1918 by Levy's father, Edward C. Levy Sr.

**DIRECTOR:** Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, American Israeli Public Affairs Committee, and Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation

**INVOLVEMENT:** American Israel Public Affairs Committee (president 1988-89)

**WIFE:** Linda Dresner, operates a Birmingham fashion boutique



**JOEL TAUBER**

Chairman Emeritus  
Key International,  
Detroit

After graduating from law school in 1959, Tauber joined his father-in-law's scrap metal business and was put in charge of operating an auto supplier that manufactured nuts and bolts. In 1968, after some mergers, it became Key International and Tauber became CEO. In the ensuing years, the enterprise acquired and operated additional companies in other industries and grew the business to nearly \$1 billion in sales by 1990.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B),

University of Michigan (M, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Shoveling snow

**BEST ADVICE:** Patience and perseverance in all matters. A bad settlement is generally better than a lawsuit.

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** In business with my father-in-law, who survived the Great Depression, he would enter my office and turn out my lights during the day because he said we shouldn't waste electricity during the day

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo, including the train, which I helped raise funds to rebuild



**S. EVAN WEINER**

President and CEO  
Edw. C. Levy Co., Detroit

Weiner is a partner in Edw. C. Levy Co., a mini-conglomerate that is a vertically integrated construction materials operation with a specialty in mill services, aggregate mining, road construction, ready mix concrete, slag cement production, bituminous asphalt paving, and manufacturing. The company serves 25 steel mills in North America, Australia, Thailand, India, and Brazil with a series of steel mill services that provide solutions to recycle co-products of steel and ironmaking.

**EDUCATION:** Colorado College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Paperboy

**QUOTE:** Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment — but it doesn't have to be your own.

**MEMBER:** National Slag Association; National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association; Association of Iron & Steel Engineers, Iron and Steel Society; and WPO/YPO — Detroit Chapter

**CHAIRMAN:** Board of trustees of The Henry Ford in Dearborn

**BOARD:** Beaumont Health, chairman of finance committee

**MEMBER:** Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan

**TRUSTEE:** The Henry Ford



**KEITH CRAIN**

Chairman  
Crain Communications  
Inc., Detroit

Crain's father, Gustavus Dedman Jr. (G.D.) Crain, who introduced *Advertising Age* in 1930, launched Crain Communications in 1916. Following his death, Crain's mother, Gertrude Crain, chaired the company until 1996. During her tenure, the enterprise grew to 27 newspapers and magazines; it acquired *Automotive News* in 1971 and launched *Crain's Detroit Business* in 1985. Crain replaced his mother as chairman in 1997, and now two of his sons are part of the business.

**PUBLISHER AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** *Automotive News* and *Crain's Detroit Business*

**WORKFORCE:** More than 750 employees who produce 54 publications

**REGIONAL BUSINESS PUBLICATIONS:** Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, and New York

**MEMBER:** Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame, Automotive Hall of Fame

**CHAIRMAN:** College for Creative Studies

**BOARDS:** Concours d'Elegance of America, Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Gilmore Car Museum, and Automotive Hall of Fame

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# Media

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## BRIAN PRIESTER

President  
Detroit Free Press and  
Michigan.com, Detroit

Priester has been president of the *Detroit Free Press* and *Michigan.com* for two years and will retire at the end of September, following a nearly 30-year career in the newspaper industry. Priester previously worked with the *Lansing State Journal*, *Lansing Community Newspapers*, *Port Huron Times Herald*, *Battle Creek Enquirer*, *Livingston Daily Press and Argus*, and the *Observer & Eccentric*. He also has worked in a variety of roles at several other newspapers.

**EDUCATION:** University of Central Missouri (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Media buyer at ad agency in St. Louis

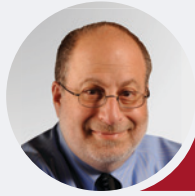
**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing."  
— Helen Keller

**BUCKET LIST:** See Van Morrison and live in Ireland

**LESSON LEARNED:** Confront problems immediately and they become smaller; avoid them they become larger

**PAST LIFE:** I was co-captain of my college rugby team

**FREE PRESS BUILDING:** Becoming mixed-use project



## JONATHAN WOLMAN

Publisher and Editor  
The Detroit News,  
Detroit

For more than 10 years, Wolman has been publisher and editor of *The Detroit News*. Previously he worked more than 30 years with the Associated Press, serving as executive editor and Washington bureau chief before retiring as senior vice president. He was editorial page editor of *The Denver Post* from 2004 to 2007. Wolman joined AP in 1973, covering automotive and urban issues from Detroit, until moving to Washington, D.C., in 1975.

**EDUCATION:** University of Wisconsin—Madison (B)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Journalism is best practiced as a full contact sport, and we like to say: Get it first, but first get it right.

**DOWNTIME:** Tramping, browsing, farm markets, pastry

**LESSON LEARNED:** Words matter. Details matter. In the newsroom there is no substitute for doing one more interview.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** A memorable family safari to a Zululand wilderness reserve in South Africa

**PET CHARITIES:** Focus: HOPE and Forgotten Harvest

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** The Rivera murals at the DIA and watching the sun set from Belle Isle



## MITCH ALBOM

Host, The Mitch Albom Show  
News/Talk 760 WJR,  
Detroit

Albom is an internationally renowned author, journalist, screenwriter, playwright, radio and TV broadcaster, and philanthropist. He has written 13 books that have collectively sold more than 35 million copies worldwide in 45 languages. He is also a longtime panelist on ESPN's "The Sports Reporters" and has written films, plays, and a musical. He has been named a top sports columnist in the nation by the Sports Editors of America for more than a decade.

**BOOKS PUBLISHED:** In 49 countries and territories

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Death ends a life but not a relationship." — Morrie Schwartz

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Losing both parents

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Find what you enjoy and try to incorporate that into your life's work. Give back to your community.

**PET CHARITIES:** S.A.Y. Detroit and Have Faith Haiti Mission

**WHAT'S NEXT:** *The Next Person You Meet in Heaven*, Albom's latest book, will be published Oct. 9

**HOST:** "The Mitch Albom Show," weekdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on News/Talk 760 WJR



## PAUL W. SMITH

Host, The Paul W. Smith Show  
News/Talk 760 WJR,  
Detroit

Smith has interviewed thousands of business, education, and political leaders, including CEOs, governors, celebrities, university presidents, scholars, and politicians. Cited by *The Wall Street Journal* as "the king of talk radio in Detroit," Smith is the only broadcaster who has been asked to fill in for three of the biggest names in the business: Paul Harvey, Rush Limbaugh, and Sean Hannity. Smith was recently inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** WMVO Radio, Monroe

**NAMED:** Best morning show broadcast personality by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters

**LESSON LEARNED:** You can never please everyone

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I won the John Phillip Sousa Award as a drummer

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Saving Private Ryan"

**BUCKET LIST:** Traveling to Lebanon and back to Israel with my whole family

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** George Clooney



## JIM ADAMS

Director of Broadcast Operations  
WJBK Fox 2, Southfield

Adams oversees a television station that is carried on most cable systems in southeast Michigan, southwestern Ontario, and northwest Ohio. On-air talent includes Huel Perkins, Roop Raj, Sherry Margolis, Amy Andrews, Monica Gayle, Rich Luterman, Dan Miller, and Woody Woodruffe. The station is owned by the Fox Television Stations subsidiary of 21st Century Fox. WJBK-TV first signed on the air on Oct. 24, 1948, and was the third television station in Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Spring Hill College (B)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Wise men speak because they have something to say; fools because they have to say something." — Plato

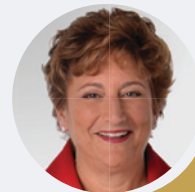
**HOMETOWN:** Montgomery, Ala.

**LAUNCH:** The station originally broadcast at the Masonic Temple until 1956

**EARLY PROGRAMMING:** Milky the Clown, Bozo the Clown, and Sir Graves Ghostly

**BROADCASTS:** Most Detroit Lions games; in years past, it aired Detroit Tigers, Detroit Red Wings, and Detroit Pistons games

**PAST ON-AIR TALENT:** Rich Fisher and Ray Lane



## MARLA DRUTZ

Vice President and General Manager  
WDIV-TV, Detroit

Drutz has held her position since July 2008. Under her leadership, the station has the top-rated and most-watched newscasts in the market. ClickOnDetroit is consistently metro Detroit's No. 1 TV news site. Drutz has worked for the E.W. Scripps Co., DXYZ-TV, and WJBK-TV. Her career began as a research analyst at WJW in Cleveland. Drutz is involved in many local literacy campaigns, including Bookstock, metro Detroit's largest used book sale.

**EDUCATION:** Ohio University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Softball scorer at 13 years old

**BEST ADVICE:** It's better to burn out than to rust

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Climbing ahead in a male-dominated industry

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** The day that "Angel the Chimpanzee" from Jack Hanna's adventures visited the station made for a lot of high jinks

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** You've been born at a wonderful time. Your opportunities are enormous. Your next step, however, needs to be to add to your educational experiences, whether it's college, a trade school, or a program like City Year

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# Media | Professional Services

• TELEVISION | • ARCHITECTS



**RICH HOMBERG**  
President and CEO  
Detroit Public  
Television, Wixom

Homberg oversees Detroit Public Television and led a \$22 million capital campaign for a state-of-the-art broadcast facility in 2009. The station was honored with a DuPont-Columbia Award in 2012 for innovative documentary programming and was recognized by the Association of Public Television Stations for its Great Lakes environmental programming. DPTV's television and radio stations have improved their operating results and audience reach under his watch.

**EDUCATION:** Temple University (B)

**CAREER:** Commercial broadcasting for CBS, Viacom, and Westinghouse Broadcasting

**DPTV SHOWS:** "Sesame Street," "This Old House," "Antiques Roadshow," "Downton Abbey on Masterpiece," and more

**RADIO STATION:** WRCJ, in partnership with the Detroit Public Schools, brought classical music back to Detroit radio and serves more than 100,000 weekly listeners

**GROWTH:** In 2011, the station opened a new TV studio in Midtown, in partnership with Wayne State University

**CHAIR:** PBS Diversity Advisory Committee, Cultural Alliance of Southeast Michigan



**MIKE MURRI**  
Vice President and  
General Manager  
WXYZ-TV, Southfield

Murri began his broadcasting career as an account executive at WJBK-TV in 1982 and was promoted to local sales manager in 1996, director of sales in 2001, and station manager in 2012. In 2015, he was promoted to vice president and general manager of WXYZ and the newly acquired My Network affiliate WMYD, TV20. In 2015, Murri led the effort to create a new street-side studio in The Qube (formerly Chase Tower) in downtown Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Started my own deejay business in high school

**BEST ADVICE:** My parents always instilled the importance of having a strong faith and morals, and never losing my positive attitude and enthusiasm for life

**HOBBIES:** Golf and travel

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Amalfi Coast in Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Campus Martius

**DIRECTOR:** Michigan Association of Broadcasters, Forgotten Harvest, Woodward Dream Cruise, Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau

**NOTABLE:** Syndicates the Woodward Dream Cruise nationwide



**YOUSIF GHAFARI**  
Chairman and Founder  
Ghafari Associates,  
Dearborn

Ghafari founded Ghafari Associates in 1982. Under his leadership, the company has evolved from a Detroit-area CAD shop to an international, full-service engineering, architecture, process design, and consulting firm. He has a master's degrees in business administration, chemical engineering, and applied mathematics. Ghafari served as U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia in 2008. He supports numerous higher education and health care-related charities.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, M), Michigan State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Changing tires at Sears

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Securing the finances to start my company in 1982

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I have run more than 10 marathons

**HOBBIES:** Playing backgammon, golf

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "60 Minutes"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Paris

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** It helps to have a plan, but be ready to adapt to the unpredictable

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit Scandinavia



**KOUHAILA  
"KI"  
HAMMER**  
President and CEO  
Ghafari Associates,  
Dearborn

Hammer joined Ghafari as chief financial officer in 1986, and has served as president and CEO since 2000. Under her leadership, the company pioneered technology applications, developed new service lines, and entered burgeoning markets around the world. Hammer began her 40-year career as an accountant for the audit division of a major public accounting firm. She likes to travel and exercise, and supports the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers at 11 years old

**BEST ADVICE:** My mother-in-law used to tell me: No one ever thanks you for not taking care of yourself

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Adapting to American culture as an immigrant when I was 10 years old

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am very competitive at card games

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Sabrina" with Audrey Hepburn

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Enjoy the journey, not just the end destination

**BUCKET LIST:** Learn to play a musical instrument



**JEFFREY  
HAUSMAN**  
Detroit Office Director  
SmithGroupJJR, Detroit

Hausman has led the development of projects as a principal, project manager, project architect, and designer for more than 30 years. His experience includes college and university facilities, R&D labs, office buildings, restorations and renovations, museum displays, industrial plants, and housing. In his current position, Hausman commits proper staffing and support to each project team. He is also responsible for leading initiatives, including sustainable design.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**FOUNDED:** By Sheldon Smith in 1853 in Detroit

**HOBBIES:** Cheering for the Tigers, swimming

**FAVORITE BOOKS:** Well-written books about American history

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** A cruise on the Danube with visits to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Comerica Park, Michigan Stadium, and Cranbrook Educational Community

**PET CHARITY:** Institute for Population Health, for which I am chairman of the board



**MATTHEW  
ROSSETTI**  
President  
Rossetti, Detroit

A third-generation architect, Rossetti became president of Rossetti in 1999 and has grown the 49-year-old company into an internationally recognized design and planning firm. The enterprise's specialties include sports and entertainment, especially large stadiums and arenas, urban redevelopment, office renovations, and mixed-use projects. He founded Return on Design to offer clients a unique approach for generating value through design solutions.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Working for his father, Gino Rossetti

**FAMILY:** Rossetti's grandfather, Louis Rossetti, designed Cobo Center

**WORKFORCE:** Around 100 employees

**DESIGN PORTFOLIO:** Breslin Students Events Center at Michigan State University, recent renovation of Ford Field and The Albert, USTA Arthur Ashe Stadium, UCLA Health Training Center, Baku Olympic Stadium, former Palace of Auburn Hills, and more

**PUBLIC:** Regularly lectures on the convergence of sports, economics, and civic design



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# Professional Services

• ARCHITECTS | • BUSINESS INSURANCE



## VICTOR SAROKI

Founder and President  
Saroki Architecture,  
Birmingham

Along with his wife, Michelle, Saroki started his business in downtown Birmingham in 1983. The firm provides architectural and design work in retail, hospitality, mixed-use, multiple residential, and custom residential. Works include the Royal Park Hotel, Birmingham Theater, ABC Harley Davison, Shenandoah Country Club, Plum Markets, and The District Lofts. The firm has received more than 60 design awards, including AIA Michigan Firm of the Year (2007).

**EDUCATION:** Lawrence Technological University (B)

**PERSONAL:** Received the Young Architect of the Year award from AIA Detroit in 1994

**PORTFOLIO:** Royal House Recording, Forest Avenue, Michigan First Credit Union, Phoenicia, the expansion of the Townsend Hotel, Merrill Park, The Willitts, Main North, and more

**BOARD:** Chaldean Community Cultural Center  
**TRUSTEE:** Lawrence Technological University

**PAST BOARD MEMBER:** The Parade Company, Birmingham Community House, and Birmingham YMCA

**PAST PRESIDENT:** AIA Michigan, AIA Detroit

**ADMITTED:** College of Fellows of the AIA in 2000



## JOEL SMITH

President  
Neumann/Smith  
Architecture,  
Detroit/Southfield

As president of Neumann/Smith Architecture, Smith builds a diverse practice reflecting a balance of creative vision and practical performance that has become one of the hallmarks of the firm. He has been at the forefront of Detroit's revitalization, leading the planning and design of innovative spaces that have helped to attract new businesses to the city. The company opened its Detroit Design Studio in the historic Wright Kay Building.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked in a bakery

**PROJECTS:** Microsoft Detroit, GM World, Lear Innovation Center, Somerset Management Offices, Wagner Place, and more

**HOBBIES:** Collecting and drinking single malt scotch, gardening

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Make travel a part of your continuing education. It will help shape your future.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The street art in the Z Parking Deck and the Belt Alley

**PET CHARITY:** The Holocaust Memorial Center

**BUCKET LIST:** Hiking in southern Utah



## KENN ALLEN

President and CEO  
AmeriTrust Group, Inc.,  
Southfield

Allen began working with AmeriTrust Group and Meadowbrook Insurance Agencies, which is a subsidiary of AmeriTrust Group, more than 30 years ago. Since then he has assimilated seven property and casualty benefit agency acquisitions. Prior to his current position, Allen was senior vice president of AmeriTrust Group and president of Meadowbrook. He began his career with Safeco Insurance Co., performing safety engineering services throughout the Midwest.

**EDUCATION:** University of Cincinnati (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Occupational health and loss prevention engineer for Safeco Insurance Co.

**PAST LIFE:** A vice president at Republic Hogg Robinson

**ADVICE RECEIVED:** If you don't keep score, it's only practice

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere that involves wilderness backpacking.

**DOWNTIME:** Working with my horses

**TRUSTEE:** Michigan Opera Theatre

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Never be average, always try to beat your competition every day

**AREA ATTRACTION:** Greenfield Village



## GREGORY J. CRABB

President and CEO  
Amerisure,  
Farmington Hills

Crabb joined Amerisure in 2008 as chief administrative officer, and was named president and CEO in 2014. Prior to joining Amerisure, he was a vice president in the middle market and specialty commercial division of The Hartford. In that role, he led teams focused on underwriting, marketing, and technology solutions. Before joining The Hartford, he was an attorney in private practice. He serves on Amerisure's board, and is a director of other organizations.

**EDUCATION:** University of Western Ontario (B), Emory University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Bank teller

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "A Christmas Story"

**DOWNTIME:** Running, golf, and soccer

**BEST ADVICE:** Follow your passion

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Boys & Girls Club of Southeastern Michigan

**BUCKET LIST:** Attend a World Cup soccer final

**BOARDS:** Business Leaders for Michigan; Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, where he also serves as the chairman of the PAC board; and Boys & Girls Clubs of SEMI



## ALAN KAUFMAN

Chairman,  
President and CEO  
H.W. Kaufman Group,  
Farmington Hills

More than 20 years ago, Alan Jay Kaufman turned the private H.W. Kaufman Group, founded by his father, into a public company. Under his leadership, both Kaufman Group and its portfolio companies have more than \$2 billion in annual revenue. Burns & Wilcox, a specialty insurance firm, generated more than \$1.2 billion in annual premiums. Kaufman is also the founding senior partner of Kaufman, Payton & Chapa. In 2007, he founded the Kaufman Institute.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), University of Notre Dame Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Cut lawns, lifeguard

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Finding, recruiting, and retaining the best talent to grow our business

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** London

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Keep your eye on the big picture

**PAST LIFE:** Earned the rank of Eagle Scout

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo

**FOUNDED:** The Kaufman Institute, which provides ongoing professional development opportunities for my employees



## PAUL J. MUELLER

Regional President  
Hanover Insurance  
Group Inc., Southfield

Hanover Insurance Group is a holding company for several property and casualty insurance companies, which together constitute one of the largest insurance businesses in the United States. The company provides insurance solutions and distributes its products through a select group of independent agents and brokers. Together with its agents, Hanover offers standard and specialized insurance protection for small and mid-sized businesses.

**HANOVER FOUNDED:** Hanover Fire Insurance Co. opened in Manhattan at Hanover Square in 1852

**EARLY INVESTOR:** Author Washington Irving

**EARLY AUTO CUSTOMER:** Babe Ruth

**REVENUE:** \$5.2 billion

**NET INCOME:** \$186 million

**TOTAL ASSETS:** \$15.5 billion

**COVERAGE:** Homes, automobiles, and other personal items

**NOTABLE:** Through its international member company, Chaucer, Hanover underwrites business at Lloyd's of London in several major insurance and reinsurance classes, including marine, property, and energy

# Professional Services

• BUSINESS INSURANCE | • DESIGN | • ENGINEERING | • LAWYERS



**JAMES PETCOFF**

Chairman and CEO  
Conifer Holdings Inc.,  
Birmingham

As chairman and CEO, Petcoff is responsible for establishing the overall direction and materializing the strategy of Conifer Holdings Inc. He founded the company in 2009 and has more than 35 years of insurance industry experience, including founding North Pointe Insurance Co. in 1986, taking it public in 2005, and facilitating its sale to QBE Holdings Inc. in 2008. The firm has eight subsidiaries through which it provides specialty insurance products.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (M, JD)

**COMPANY'S SUBSIDIARIES:** Eight

**OFFICES:** Seven locations including Michigan, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Florida

**REVENUE:** \$96.8 million

**NOTABLE:** Through its subsidiaries, Conifer offers specialty insurance coverage for both commercial and personal lines, marketing through independent agents in all 50 states

**COMPANIES:** Conifer Insurance Co., White Pine Insurance Co., and Sycamore Insurance Agency; the latter company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Conifer Holdings



**JEFF TAGSOLD**

Chairman and CEO  
Auto-Owners  
Insurance Co., Lansing

Tagsold joined Auto-Owners in May 1985 in the actuarial division. He has served in numerous positions with the company and was named president in 2010. He added the title of COO in 2015, before being named chairman and CEO in January 2018. Auto-Owners had more than 4.89 million personal and commercial insurance policies at the end of 2016, and last year marked the company's sixth consecutive year of making a profit in underwriting.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Worked in my family's funeral home and did miscellaneous farm work in the fields

**BEST ADVICE:** Don't mistake activity for production.

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Showing up on my first Saturday working overtime dressed in a suit and tie, while everyone else was in casual clothes

**HOBBIES:** Playing golf, playing cards, and walking my dog

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Pursue an education that allows you to maximize your strengths and interests, and then work for an organization that has a culture that aligns with your personal beliefs.



**ED WELBURN**

CEO  
The Welburn Group,  
Detroit

During a visit to the Philadelphia Auto Show as an 8-year-old, Welburn decided he wanted a career in automotive design. His dream became a reality in 1971, when he interned at General Motors. A year later, he became the first African-American hired to design GM vehicles. Welburn spent his entire 44-year design career at GM, and became the highest-ranking African-American in the auto industry as the first-ever vice president, GM Global Design.

**EDUCATION:** Howard University (B)

**EARLY LIFE:** Started drawing cars when I was 2 years old

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Motivating and keeping a creative design organization focused during the darkest days of GM's bankruptcy

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy. I love the food, architecture, art, environment, and most of all, the people

**DOWNTIME:** I enjoy washing a beautiful car by hand. All I need is a bucket of water, a rag, good music, and a glass of red wine.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I love to cook. In fact, I once helped lead a cooking class on the Champs-Élysées in Paris.

**PRESENT:** I run a design-consulting firm in Detroit



**TOM WACKERMAN**

Founder and President  
ASTI Environmental,  
Brighton

In addition to overseeing ASTI Environmental, Wackerman is the practice leader for the firm's brownfield redevelopment group. The firm provides environmental and engineering services to business, industrial, and government clients worldwide, with projects in Czech Republic, Kenya, Mexico, and Canada. Services include property assessments, contamination investigations, ecological restoration, environmental compliance, remediation, and more.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**CERTIFIED:** Hazardous materials manager (masters level), certified environmental trainer, and licensed real estate instructor

**PORTFOLIO:** More than 12,000 projects, including Michigan Central Depot, Wuritzer Building (Siren Hotel), Lake St. Clair Coastal Wetland Restoration, and more

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA:** In the early 1990s, Wackerman was asked to assess the environmental impact of a uranium tailings dump. "When we presented our results, it was like a scene in a 1950s-era Soviet based movie. The citizens arrived wearing the same gray clothes, all the young people had left, and the hall was a square concrete building with a single light bulb."



**ALAN ACKERMAN**

Co-founder  
and Managing Partner  
Ackerman, Ackerman,  
and Dynkowski,  
Bloomfield Hills

As a lawyer, Ackerman has represented landowners from coast to coast for more than 40 years. An expert in eminent domain law, he has won multi-million-dollar judgments for his clients in disputes over the east and west riverfront proceedings, property owners displaced by the GM Poletown and Chrysler plants, and residents and business owners relocated by road projects to build M-59 and M-5, as well as the upcoming Gordie Howe International Bridge.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Wayne County Road Commission. Yes, it was a dirty job, but it gave me a chance to see a whole lot more than garbage.

**BEST ADVICE:** From my father: Work is always a battle taking on the government

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Madrid, Jerusalem, and Charlevoix

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I was on the University of Michigan Law School Beer Chugging Championship Team in 1972

**HOBBIES:** Anything and everything with my family

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Someone who doesn't mumble



**WILLIAM BURGESS**

CEO  
Dickinson Wright, Detroit

For more than 20 years, Burgess has served as counsel to secured lenders in all aspects of restructurings, loan modifications, and enforcement of remedies. He has represented automotive manufacturers and Tier 1 suppliers in all facets of reorganization, turnaround, workout, and liquidation cases. As CEO of Dickinson Wright, Burgess oversees all aspects of the firm's professional and business operations, working closely with practice area leaders and administrative officers.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Yale University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering payroll to Daly Drive-In restaurants

**FOUNDED:** 1878

**LAWYERS:** More than 450 attorneys across 40-plus practices

**DOWNTIME:** Distance running, triathlon training, racing

**HOBBY:** Cooking. It's best on Sunday afternoons, taking hours and hours, while my wife, Katy, serves as deejay.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have a built-in sense of direction.

No map, no GPS, never admit that you're lost, and never stop to ask for help.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Participating in group runs at Run Detroit



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# Professional Services

## LAWYERS



### MARK CANTOR

President and Chairman  
Brooks Kushman,  
Southfield

Cantor, a co-founder of the law firm, has helped the company grow to 90 intellectual property professionals, a nearly two fold increase, and was instrumental in expanding the practice nationally and internationally. He has extensive experience in dealing with complex litigation matters in all technology areas and has tried cases relating to patents, trademarks, trade secrets, and copyrights in state and federal courts throughout the country and the world.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M), University of Detroit Mercy (JD)

**EXPERIENCE:** Handles "inter partes" administrative proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the International Trade Commission.

**ACTIVE:** With cases involving insurance coverage in IP cases, and I've spoken at annual meetings of the State Bar of Michigan on the topic

**ADVISES:** On the acquisition, management, and licensing of IP

**PRACTICE:** Industries include automotive, life sciences, and medical devices

**SPECIALIZES:** IP litigation and trademarks



### ROBERT M. CARSON

Managing Member  
Carson Fischer,  
Bloomfield Hills

Carson is one of the founding members of the Carson Fischer law firm and serves as its managing partner. His practice focuses on real estate, land use, finance and entity creation, operation, acquisitions, dispositions, and governance. He represents business interests in Michigan, throughout the United States, and internationally. Carson is a member of the Board of Visitors of Wayne State University Law School and is active with the Oakland County Bar Association.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Cutting lawns and delivering papers

**BEST ADVICE:** Nothing just happens, you must work for it

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Paris

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** With hard work and focus, anything is possible

**HOBBY:** Traveling

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The people

**ACTIVE:** Detroit Bar Association and the American Bar Association

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Business/transaction, complex litigation, real estate law, zoning — land use, and entertainment



### HENRY B. "HANK" COONEY

Partner  
Plunkett Cooney,  
Bloomfield Hills

A partner in Plunkett Cooney's litigation department, Cooney served as president and CEO of the firm from 1998 to 2015. Among his responsibilities were the review and management of the Professional Code of Ethics for firm members, including all aspects of the attorney-client relationship, conflicts of interest, advocacy, public service, and maintaining the integrity of the profession. His expertise includes product liability, construction liability, and commercial litigation.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)

**AREAS OF PRACTICE:** Alternative dispute resolution, commercial litigation, construction law, and product liability

**PAST DUTIES:** Past president of the Detroit Regional Chamber and executive committee, and past chair of the 2014 Mackinac Policy Conference

**BOARD CHAIRMAN:** University of Detroit Jesuit High School

**BOARD MEMBER:** Life Directions, Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, American Heart Association of Southeast Michigan, and Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings

**SERVES AS:** Case arbitrator and facilitator in Michigan



### MARK DAVIS

President and CEO  
Howard & Howard  
Attorneys, Royal Oak

Davis concentrates his practice in business, real estate, securities, and tax law. He has extensive experience handling the acquisition, development, leasing, and disposition of automobile sales and service facilities, as well as handling the acquisition, leasing, and disposition of industrial and commercial property in various industries. Previously, Davis was with E.F. Hutton and subsequently with the Michigan Corporation and Securities Bureau, Enforcement Division.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Thomas M. Cooley Law School (JD), Wayne State University Law School (LLM)

**FIRST JOB:** Caddie at Pine Lake Country Club

**INDUSTRY FOCUS:** Automotive and industrial

**BEST ADVICE:** Treat people the way you want to be treated

**LESSON LEARNED:** Problems don't get better if you ignore them

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Atlas Shrugged*, by Ayn Rand

**HOBBIES:** Skiing and golf

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Education opens the door to opportunity

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo



### EUGENE DRIKER

Member  
Barris, Sott,  
Denn, and Driker, Detroit

Driker specializes in complex business litigation, counseling to business and non profits, and alternative dispute resolution. He has served as the lead or a co-lead trial counsel in numerous business cases, including representing one of the state's largest utilities in a \$500 million fraud and breach of contract action brought by a major industrial firm. Driker also has represented the State of Michigan and the City of Detroit in complex litigation matters.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B, JD), George Washington University Law School (LLM)

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation, business counseling, and bet the company litigation

**CLIENTS:** Automobile Club of Michigan, CMS Energy, the W.A. Dart family, Ford Motor Co., General Motors Co., and more

**LEGAL WORK:** I have represented numerous lawyers and law firms, including several of the largest in the state, in professional liability, disciplinary, and partnership dissolution matters

**NOTABLE:** Selected as one of the mediators in the City of Detroit bankruptcy, appointed by the chief judge of the United States District Court



### DAVID FOLTYN

Partner, Chairman,  
and CEO  
Honigman, Detroit

Foltyn has served as chairman and CEO of Honigman, Michigan's largest law firm, since 2008. Under his guidance, the firm has instituted innovative strategies by integrating new technology and staffing models to increase value and maintain a high quality of legal services. In addition, he has enhanced recruitment and development by providing a wide variety of internal and external tools to assist attorneys and staff with career advancement.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Working for my father's wholesale drapery business

**BEST ADVICE:** From my father: A healthy person has a million problems; an ill person has one.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Patience

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I used to play electric bass in rock bands in the 1970s

**HOBBIES:** Reading, travel, and watching our kids' sports and musical events with my wife

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Casablanca"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit riverfront

# Professional Services

## LAWYERS



### STACY FOX

Executive Vice President,  
General Counsel  
DowDuPont Inc., Midland,  
Wilmington, Del.

In addition to serving as executive vice president and general counsel of DowDuPont, Fox is co-founder and principal of the Roxbury Group in Detroit, a real estate development firm that has renovated and built severable noteworthy projects, including the David Whitney Building. In 2013, she was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to serve as deputy emergency manager of Detroit, and helped guide the city through the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Waitress at the Brown Jug in Ann Arbor

**BEST ADVICE:** It's amazing what you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Working with the city and state to help forge the Grand Bargain when deputy emergency manager for Detroit

**OTHER LIFE:** I own an historic inn and tavern in downtown Lexington called Cadillac House, which opened in 1860. A \$3 million renovation was recently completed, and includes a tavern and restaurant, and 12 hotel suites.

**PET CHARITY:** Grand Circus Park Conservancy



### WILLIAM H. HERITAGE III

President  
Giarmarco, Mullins,  
and Horton, Troy

Heritage concentrates his practice in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, business formation, planning and transactions, corporate law, health care law, and real estate law. He has 20 years of experience dealing with complex business and commercial transactions within a broad range of industries. Heritage has represented privately-held businesses of all sizes as well as international business clients. Much of his work includes negotiating and drafting contracts.

**EDUCATION:** Duke University (B),  
Michigan State University (JD)

**BOARD SERVICE:** S.E. Michigan American Red Cross

**PET CHARITIES:** Children's Hospital, Haven House

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Represents real estate clients with the purchasing, selling, and leasing of commercial, professional, industrial, and retail properties. He is also experienced in real estate financing.

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Automotive business planning, business planning, commercial transactions, health care law, international law, M&A, and real estate

**PLANNING:** Works with closely-held businesses to develop succession planning and buy-sell agreements



### JOHN J. HERN JR.

CEO  
Clark Hill, Detroit

In addition to serving as CEO of Clark Hill, Hern's practice involves advising corporations on incorporation, financing, leasing, contracting, mergers, acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, and other matters. He has been involved in multimillion dollar corporate mergers and acquisitions with manufacturing, service, and financial organizations. In the securities area, Hern works with both private offerings and public offerings of securities.

**EDUCATION:** University of Notre Dame (B), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Gas station attendant

**BEST ADVICE:** To thine own self be true

**OVERSEAS WORK:** Consults on both U.S. and European antitrust laws

**EXPERTISE:** Extensive dealings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and is an expert in trade secrets, confidentiality agreements, and proprietary information

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I play the guitar

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time outdoors



### STEVE H. HILFINGER

Partner  
Foley & Lardner, Detroit

Hilfinger is co-chair of Foley & Lardner's manufacturing industry team and chair of the Detroit office's business law department. He has more than 25 years of transactional and finance experience, including representing private and public companies (automotive suppliers and other manufacturers), senior and mezzanine lenders, venture capital funds, and private equity funds. Previously, he was COO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. under Gov. Rick Snyder.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Northwestern University (JD)

**HONOR:** William A. Paton Award for achieving the highest score on the Michigan CPA examination in 1984

**PREVIOUS POSITION:** Led Michigan's Office of Regulatory Reinvention, which repealed more than 1,500 administrative rules and implemented 100-plus recommendations to streamline state government

**INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE:** Focuses on China, Japan, and South Korea

**REPRESENTS:** Several private equity and venture capital funds in their formation and portfolio investment



### PETER KELLETT

Chairman and CEO  
Dykema, Detroit

Under Kellett's leadership, Dykema expanded its footprint into Minneapolis and has significantly grown its presence in Texas. Prior to his current role, he was director of the firm's litigation department, where he focused his practice on class action, product liability, and commercial litigation. He is a board member of the Detroit Economic Growth Corp. and serves on the audit and finance committee. He is also a board member of the Detroit Economic Club.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**LOCATIONS:** 13 offices in Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, California, Texas, and Washington, D.C.

**AREAS OF PRACTICE:** Automotive, energy, hospitality, gaming, banking and finance, labor and employment, among others

**DYKEMA FOUNDED:** In Detroit in 1926, by Raymond K. Dykema and two partners

**AUTOMOTIVE CLIENTS:** General Motors, Ford, FCA, Honda, Kia, Volkswagen, Mitsubishi, and Nissan

**NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS:** More than 425



### JUSTIN KLIMKO

President and CEO  
Butzel Long, Detroit

Justin G. Klimko has extensive experience in securities regulation, corporate financing, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, and general corporate matters — fields he has practiced in since 1980. His experience includes planning, negotiating, and implementing various types of merger and acquisition transactions. Additionally, Klimko taught corporate law for five years as an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School.

**EDUCATION:** Ohio University (B),  
Duke University School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** McDonald's

**BEST ADVICE:** Integrity is important. A reputation is very hard to acquire and very easy to destroy.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Casablanca"

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Have some humility and perspective. There are over 7 billion people in the world, and almost all of them will never know who you are. So don't get too full of yourself.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I write parody lyrics for "A (Habeas) Chorus Line," a musical parody group I've been involved with since 1992.

**GMH** GIARMARCO, MULLINS & HORTON, P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

WILLIAM H. HERITAGE, III  
RECOGNIZED AS

**DETROIT 500**  
**MOST POWERFUL BUSINESS LEADERS IN**  
**METROPOLITAN DETROIT**

[www.gmhlaw.com/william-heritage](http://www.gmhlaw.com/william-heritage)

**GMH** GIARMARCO, MULLINS & HORTON, P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

RECOGNIZED AS  
**DETROIT 500**  
**MOST POWERFUL BUSINESS LEADERS**  
**IN METROPOLITAN DETROIT**

**WILLIAM H.**  
**HERITAGE, III**  
PRESIDENT



Dear Dad,

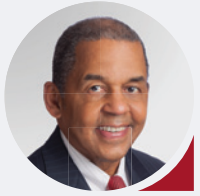
We have always known that you are a great father. We also know how smart, hard working, and dedicated you are to your clients - but now the world knows!

Love,  
Briley, Claire & Abby

[WWW.GMHLAW.COM/WILLIAM-HERITAGE](http://WWW.GMHLAW.COM/WILLIAM-HERITAGE)

# Professional Services

## LAWYERS



**DAVID  
BAKER  
LEWIS**

Of Counsel  
Lewis & Munday, Detroit

With more than four decades of experience in municipal finance, Baker Lewis is well versed in municipal bonds including revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, certificates of participation, bond offerings, bond purchase agreements, special tax bonds, state revolving bond funds, cash-flow borrowings, industrial development bonds, and performing due diligence. A co-founder of Lewis & Munday, he served as chairman and CEO from 1972 to 1982, and 2004 to 2010.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B), University of Chicago Booth School of Business (M), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Working as a bagger at a Wrigley's store in Detroit

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** An imposter applied for a position on our legal staff, representing himself to be a college graduate of Harvard University, a Rhodes Scholar, and a law school graduate of Harvard Law School, all of which turned out to be untrue. This same person also impersonated himself as a professional baseball player for the Detroit Tigers.

**HOBBIES:** Golfing and going to the movies

**PASSION:** I am a lover of outstanding architecture



**RALPH  
MCDOWELL**

Chairman  
Bodman, Detroit

McDowell joined Bodman as a summer associate in 1985 and has spent his entire legal career with the Detroit-based firm. He is among Michigan's leading bankruptcy attorneys, representing the interests of financial institutions, automotive suppliers, general manufacturing businesses, and other clients involving debtor-creditor rights and commercial bankruptcy. He has been recognized by multiple peer review journals that evaluate business attorneys.

**EDUCATION:** Kalamazoo College (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." — Maya Angelou

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit more national parks

**PET CHARITY:** Hebrew Free Loan

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Grand Cayman. I love everything about the island, especially the beach.

**DETROIT ATTRactions:** The Detroit Institute of Arts. The quality and breadth of the collection is incredible



**MICHAEL  
MCGEE**

CEO  
Miller Canfield, Detroit

As CEO, McGee oversees the firm's 16 offices in five countries. He leads a service-oriented team of legal professionals across a broad range of disciplines. He has served as team leader on a wide range of public finance projects including infrastructure financing and refinancing, restructuring actions, compliance review, intergovernmental agreements, and public entity creation, operation, and financing. Prior to being CEO, he was a senior member of the firm.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** I was a page at the Livonia Public Library's Alfred Noble branch. My job was to restock shelves with returned library books. I loved it, but the librarians often despaired because I was reading them as I was returning them.

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "One person can make a difference, and everyone should try." — John F. Kennedy

**LESSON LEARNED:** The world really is run by those who show up. The lesson is: show up, do your job, stick with it, get it done and move on.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Sleeping Bear Dunes



**ANDREW  
RICHNER**

Member  
Clark Hill, Detroit

Richner is a member in Clark Hill's government and public affairs practice group, where he provides advice on matters of legislation and governmental law and policy. He also has substantial experience in legislative and regulatory issues, government appropriations, campaign finance, lobbying, ethics laws, and open government laws, including the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act. Richner is vice chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, JD)

**INTERNSHIP:** At the White House, in the Office of Counsel to the President (1995)

**OVERSEAS:** In 1990, assisted a law firm in Warsaw, Poland, with international transactions

**PUBLIC SERVICE:** Served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 1997 to 2002, where he sponsored 49 bills that became public acts

**COMMISSIONER:** Past member of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners (1993 to 1996)

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Government and public affairs, municipal law, and political law



**LOWELL  
SALESIN**

Partner  
Honigman Miller,  
Bloomfield Hills

Salesin has more than 20 years of experience representing retail, office, self-storage, multifamily, and manufactured housing developers in acquisitions, financing, construction, development, and leasing transactions related to properties spanning the United States. He is Honigman's vice chair of the real estate department, representing some of the industry's leading REITs and private developers in a broad sector of real estate matters.

**EDUCATION:** Indiana University (B), George Washington University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Windsurfing instructor on Orchard Lake

**BEST ADVICE:** Hard work pays off

**HOBBIES:** Yoga and biking

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Fletch"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Aspen, Colo.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Lafayette Coney Island

**EXPERTISE:** Portfolio acquisitions, joint ventures, property-level secured financing, multiple property credit facilities, and loan workouts

**MEMBER:** American Bar Association, State Bar of Michigan



**ALAN E.  
SCHWARTZ**

Partner  
Honigman, Detroit

Schwartz, a founding member of Honigman, has a list of clients that includes numerous corporate and cultural institutions. He's also a well-recognized figure in civic and nonprofit organizations. He has participated in the advancement of nearly every major development project in Detroit, either as an attorney or as a leader in business organizations, since he joined the firm in 1952. In addition, former Mayor Dave Bing named the annual Alan E. Schwartz Award after him.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Harvard Law School (JD)

**SERVICE:** Served in Guam during World War II

**FIRST JOB:** Special assistant counsel for the New York State Crime Commission

**BAR ADMISSIONS:** Michigan and New York

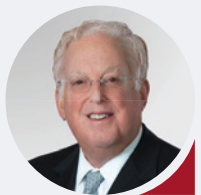
**CIVIC WORK:** A member of Business Leaders for Michigan, Economic Alliance for Michigan, and New Detroit Inc.

**HONORED:** Received the Judge Learned Hand award from the American Jewish Committee, Detroit Chapter

**PHILANTHROPIST:** Supports the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Cranbrook Schools, Kresge Foundation, and more

# Professional Services

• LAWYERS | • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING



**ALAN S. SCHWARTZ**

Partner and Vice Chairman  
Honigman, Detroit

Schwartz is a corporate attorney who has served the firm as vice chairman since 2008, and previously was chairman and CEO from 2003 to 2007. He has been an integral part of the firm's leadership for more than 30 years, and was instrumental in its growth as a leading business law firm serving clients locally, nationally, and internationally. In addition, Schwartz has held leadership roles at the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, Legacy DMC, and the Detroit Regional Chamber.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Harvard Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** My current job. I just celebrated 50 years with Honigman.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Telling a client, no matter how insistent, that you have to have time to think through a problem before advising how to proceed.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have not missed doing a *New York Times* Sunday crossword puzzle in more than 60 years

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Unlike Dustin Hoffman, it's not plastics. It's anything high-tech; the world as we've known it will change even faster going forward.



**REGGIE TURNER**

Member, Executive Committee  
Clark Hill, Detroit

Turner has successfully litigated commercial, employment, labor, class action, and public policy matters in state and federal courts and administrative tribunals. He regularly counsels clients in negotiation, drafting, and administration of labor and employment contracts in the private and public sectors. He is a member of Clark Hill's Executive Committee, Government Policy Group, and Labor and Employment Practice Group. He also is an experienced lobbyist.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), University of Michigan (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** From the lawyer's oath: I shall never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any cause for lucre or malice.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Balancing my busy law practice with my desire to improve the quality of life for the less fortunate, especially for those who have been disenfranchised in society.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Mackinac Island

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle



**ARTHUR A. WEISS**

Chairman  
Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer, and Weiss, Southfield

Weiss is a member of the firm's board of directors and tax practice group. He specializes in business planning, real estate law, and federal, state, and local taxation law. Weiss serves as director for the Milton M. Shiffman Tuition Assistance Fund, U-M Hillel, the Frankel Academy, and the YCT Rabbinical School. He earned his LLM in taxation from the New York University School of Law. He is a member of the bar in Michigan and U.S. Federal Courts.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M), University of Detroit Mercy Law School (JD); New York University School of Law (LLM)

**PASSIONATE ABOUT:** Education

**MEMBERSHIPS:** American Bar Association Taxation Section, State Bar of Michigan, Foundation to Reinvent Michigan

**AWARDS:** Best Lawyers in America 2010, 2017; *DBusiness* Top Lawyers 2012-2016

**PRACTICE AREAS:** Israel Practice Group, tax, impact investing and social enterprise

**FIRM FOUNDED:** 1968

**FOCUS:** Full-service business law firm



**RICK WILLIAMS**

Managing Partner  
Williams, Williams, Rattner, and Plunkett, Birmingham

A corporate law attorney for 40 years, Williams has a passion for buying, selling, expanding, and enhancing businesses. Working with Avenir Cos. and the McDonald Agape Foundation, he has acquired, merged, closed, or sold more than 50 companies. In the 1980s, Williams and other investors formed private equity groups and investment firms to acquire smaller companies with growth potential, provide needed resources, and enhance the management team.

**EDUCATION:** Princeton University (B), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Spent four years in the U.S. Navy

**FIRST JOB:** With the corporate finance department at Smith Barney in New York City

**GRADUATE:** Defense Languages Institute (Russian)

**CHAIRMAN:** Board of trustees, Michigan Opera Theatre

**BOARD MEMBER:** Penske Corp., Clarke Power Services, Conifer Holding Co, Green Optics, and more

**HONORED:** A National Opera Trustee Recognition Award from Opera America, one of four recipients in 2018; raised millions of dollars for MOT with former general director David DiChiera.



**MARK WISNIEWSKI**

Chairman and CEO  
Kitch Druchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook, Detroit

Wisniewski joined the Kitch firm in 1990 and has served as its chairman and CEO since 2014. He has taken the lead in several multimillion-dollar statewide property damage lawsuits, with a particular emphasis on cases involving asbestos. Additionally, Wisniewski has lectured to client and attorney groups on asbestos litigation, and has been the moderator of judicial panels regarding discovery and trial tactics. His experience also extends to medical malpractice.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering *The Detroit News*

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." — Walt Disney

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOU:** I

worked as a probation officer in Washington, D.C., while in college, and that experience is what made me decide to go to law school.

**TRAVEL DESIGNATION:** Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island

**BUCKET LIST:** Getting to The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. I love bagpipes.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The big slide at Belle Isle



**DEAN BRODY**

Managing Director  
Accenture, Detroit

As a managing director at the global consulting firm Accenture, Brody is responsible for helping companies define and execute corporate strategies, with an emphasis on operational efficiency, revenue optimization, and new market entry. Brody has 20 years of experience in large program and project execution, business planning, business case definition, and process, design, and optimization. He also leads Accenture's Impact Hire Program in Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Bagged groceries and sorted bottles

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Whether you think you can, or think you can't, you're right." — Henry Ford

**LESSON LEARNED:** If you want something, you have to get it. Nothing is given.

**PAST LIFE:** Owned a music and skate culture-inspired clothing company

**HOBBIES:** Working with entrepreneurs; basketball/hoops fanatic

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Lafayette Coney Island; there's nothing beats two Coney's and a cold Vernors with my two sons

# Professional Services

•MANAGEMENT CONSULTING I •SECURITY I •STAFFING



**HANS-WERNER KAAS**  
Senior Partner  
McKinsey & Co., Detroit

Kaas joined McKinsey & Co. in 1991 as a business analyst in the Düsseldorf, Germany, office. He is a co-leader of the global advanced industries practice and heads the firm's global client council. He co-led the opening of McKinsey's Detroit office in 1998 and has been building its Americas Automotive and Assembly, and Advanced Industries practice, which serves leading global players in the automotive, electronics, aerospace, defense, and machinery industries.

**EDUCATION:** Technical University of Kaiserslautern in Germany (B, M)

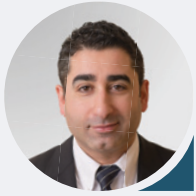
**FIRST JOB:** Production technology analyst/consultant for Daimler-Benz

**BEST ADVICE:** From my dad: Find the right balance between work, career, family, and your faith.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Opening and building our McKinsey office in Detroit from scratch in 1998

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** With my colleagues in the McKinsey Frankfurt office I performed theater plays as a creativity development exercise

**PASSION:** History, politics, and public service



**JACK ZAHARAN**  
President  
Pinkerton, Ann Arbor

Zahran joined Securitas USA in 2004 as a financial analyst and worked his way to president of its global enterprise security division in 2009. In this position, he supports large multinational corporations in more than 25 countries in a wide range of specialty services including executive protection, dedicated investigations, global intelligence, fire prevention, technology management, crisis management, and government compliance support.

**EDUCATION:** University of Windsor, Canada (B), Lawrence Technological University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy and cutting lawns

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Be the change that you wish to see in the world" – Mahatma Gandhi

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I have a black belt in ITF Tae Kwon Do

**HOBBY:** Gaming with my kids

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

**CAREER:** In 2011, became senior vice president of sales and marketing and was appointed president of Pinkerton in 2012



**DAVID W. BARFIELD**  
Group Development Officer  
Impellam Group, United Kingdom

Barfield is responsible for the leadership and strategic expansion of Impellam Group's portfolio of managed services and specialist staffing businesses, including Guidant Group, Corestaff, SRG Woolf, S.Com, and Bartech Group. He joined the company following the 2015 acquisition of Bartech Group Inc., where he was COO since 2009 before he was promoted to CEO in 2012. He has leveraged process improvement, supply chain, technology, and risk mitigation strategies.

**EDUCATION:** Georgetown University (B), University of Michigan (M)

**RECOGNITION:** Named one of the staffing industry's most influential executives by *Staffing Industry Analysts* and *HRO Today*

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP:** Business Leaders for Michigan; National Minority Supplier Development Council, where he is a member of the corporate plus management committee

**PASSION:** Advocating for increased procurement opportunities for Asian, black, Hispanic, and Native American businesses in the global corporate supply chain

**IMPELLAM GROUP:** A talent solutions firm based in the U.K.



**LORI BLAKER**  
CEO  
TTi Global, Bloomfield Hills

As CEO of TTi Global, Blaker oversees operations on five continents, including 23 offices. In emerging markets, the company builds agreements among government, higher education, and manufacturers to upgrade training programs. With a staff of more than 2,000 employees, the company offers a wide range of services tailor-made to drive business goals, including business consulting, research, staffing, workforce development, and learning solutions.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** At a KFC near my house; it was a perfect job for those high school years

**LESSON LEARNED:** How to pick yourself up and keep charging ahead when you've failed

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am a diehard karaoke fan; a legend in my own mind

**HOBBIES:** Cooking, playing piano, and being outdoors

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Thailand

**BUCKET LIST:** Salmon fishing in Alaska

**CIVIC:** Co-founder and president of the U.S. National Committee for UN Women — Metro Detroit Chapter



**GEORGE CORONA**  
President and CEO  
Kelly Services, Troy

Corona was named president and CEO of Kelly Services in May 2017. He joined the company in 1994 and served as a U.S. middle market leader before being named executive vice president of the Americas. He was promoted to executive vice president and COO in 2009, and assumed responsibility of all of Kelly's global operations. As COO, Corona oversaw the transformation of operating models to align with market demands and sharpened the firm's focus on growth areas.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), Oakland University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy with the *Detroit Free Press*

**BEST ADVICE:** Always do the right thing

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I do my own handyman work at home

**HOBBIES:** Golf, astronomy, and messing with computers

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Amalfi Coast in Italy

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Do what you love, and you will never work a day in your life

**PET CHARITY:** The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund

**PAST LIFE:** Served on the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's Advisory Council on Agriculture, Small Business, and Labor



**PAUL HUXLEY**  
Chairman  
Strategic Staffing Solutions, Detroit

Huxley previously served as CFO and chairman while also taking on the responsibility of COO. He led the company through nine acquisitions of other IT services companies and 21 years of consecutive growth, creating and directing all banking, accounting, and legal relationships in the U.S. and Europe. Huxley was a member of the city-appointed Board of Zoning Appeals and is the past chairman of the Michigan Humane Society's board of directors.

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen." – Winston Churchill

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I'm an Eagle scout and served in the Air National Guard

**HOBBIES:** Golfing, traveling, running. I have completed four marathons.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Dornach, a town in the Scottish Highlands

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Tigers games

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Longest Day"

DETROIT'S PREMIER BUSINESS JOURNAL

# dbusiness

## DAILY NEWS

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# Professional Services | Real Estate

• STAFFING | • APARTMENTS



**CYNTHIA J. PASKY**

Founder and CEO  
Strategic Staffing  
Solutions, Detroit

Pasky founded Strategic Staffing Solutions in 1990. The company has since grown to an international, \$300 million corporation with 25 U.S. branches and locations in Lithuania, Latvia, Great Britain and, soon, Cuba and Argentina. Pasky aims to keep a “green” culture by putting customers, consultants, and communities first. She is chair of the Downtown Detroit Partnership, co-chair of the Mayor’s Workforce Development Board, and a member of Business Leaders for Michigan.

**FIRST JOB:** Ballet teacher

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** “The Longest Day”

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Lithuania

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Eastern Market

**BUCKET LIST:** Create more jobs for Detroiters

**PET CHARITY:** Michigan Humane Society

**NOTABLE:** I haven’t missed a Detroit Tigers Opening Day since I was 7 years old

**BUCKET LIST:** Create more jobs for Detroiters

**OFFICE COMPANIONS:** Three pampered office cats — CTO, Green Bean, and Guinness — and an office dog named Sam

**DOWNTIME:** Occasional full-bodied whiskey and a good cigar



**DAVID SEGURA**

CEO  
VisionIT, Detroit

Segura invested early in Detroit’s technology hub, leading VisionIT from a startup to a global technology leader over the past 21 years across IT practices and software products. Today, the company has invested in software technologies including AI, connected vehicle, cloud ERP, and secure mobile communication. Segura built out VisionIT Mexico and was appointed by the White House to serve for the past eight years on the Advisory Committee on Trade Policy and Negotiations.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Started an R&B/hip-hop record label

**CHALLENGE FACED:** Raising capital for my business when it was an early stage company

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Customers don’t realize a member of our leadership team is my sister, Christine Rice

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Motown Museum, which demonstrated a small Detroit company could impact the world

**PET CHARITY:** Norwayne Boxing Gym, Westland

**HOBBY:** Managing professional boxer Domonique Dolton

**BUCKET LIST:** See Dolton win and hold up the Welterweight world championship belt



**RAVINDER “RON” SHAHANI**

President and CEO  
Acro, Livonia

Shahani oversees Acro, a staffing firm that specializes in providing highly qualified workers in the fields of information technology, engineering, accounting, and finance. Born and raised in India, Shahani came to the United States and attended the University of Detroit Mercy. Following graduation, he went to work for Ford Motor Co. as a financial analyst. In 1982 he left Ford to start Acro. The company has 34 offices in the U.S. and six throughout Europe and India.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Washing dishes in the university cafeteria

**PET CHARITY:** Ford Health Care Foundation

**CHAIRMAN EMERITUS:** Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce, Farmington Hills

**RISK:** Going against the advice of his parents, Shahani left Ford to launch Acro

**REVENUE:** \$332 million

**HONORED:** In 2016, Acro was named a National Best and Brightest Company to Work For by the National Association for Business Resources; Shahani and his wife, Chris, were recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals



**DIANE BATAYEH**

CEO  
Village Green, Southfield

Batayeh joined Village Green in 1980 as a part-time sales consultant while attending the University of Michigan and gradually worked up to CEO. She is responsible for global and strategic-level initiatives and planning for all of the operating companies that comprise Village Green Holding. She teaches executive leadership at Village Green University, leads the company’s innovation council, and is a director of the National Multi Housing Council.

**COMPANY:** Property management services in 30-plus cities

**OFFICES:** Southfield, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Atlanta, Connecticut, and Scottsdale

**PORTFOLIO:** Operates more than 40,000 units valued in excess of \$6.5 billion

**QUOTE:** It’s all about the people

**PREVIOUS POSITION:** President and COO

**FOUNDED:** In 1919, as Holtzman and Silverman

**WORKFORCE:** More than 1,300 employees

**LEGACY:** The company led the effort to force banks to offer mortgages to underprivileged and ethnically diverse people in the 1930s; championed energy efficiency beginning in the 1970s



**ALBERT M. BERRIZ**

Managing Member,  
CEO, and Co-Owner  
The McKinley  
Companies, Ann Arbor

Berriz leads a real estate investment company that owns and operates a \$4.6 billion real estate portfolio consisting of 20,000 apartment units and more than 15 million square feet of shopping centers and office buildings located in 17 states. Berriz has been responsible for acquiring and managing assets in excess of \$10 billion during his career. In addition, he is involved with Project Healthy Schools, a community and University of Michigan Health System collaboration.

**EDUCATION:** University of Miami, School of Engineering (B), J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at a restaurant in Coral Gables, Fla.

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Hitch your wagon to the stars

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** You can do anything you want to do. Never give up, never settle; there isn’t anything you can’t accomplish.

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** The entire James Bond series

**HOBBIES:** Boating on Lake Michigan and the Bahamas with my wife

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I love Cuban music and I love to dance— not really surprising for a Cuban kid born in Havana



**SAMUEL BEZNOS**

Partner and CEO  
Beztak Cos.,  
Farmington Hills

Beznos oversees property management, asset management, finance, construction, and accounting at Beztak Cos. He also specializes in acquisitions, land development and property rezoning, and strategic planning and risk evaluation. In addition, he is president of Oakland Management Corp., a property management firm in Farmington Hills, and is a licensed real estate broker in 12 states and Washington, D.C. Beznos is a member of the Young Presidents’ Organization.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), New York University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Ran a bulletin board out of my parents’ home. I had multiple phone lines coming into the house, and it was basically a chat room and file-sharing platform.

**BEST ADVICE:** Be honest, ethical, and do the correct thing

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I’m very handy and can fix things

**HOBBIES:** Yoga, exercise, water sports, and winter skiing

**DOWNTIME:** I have three young kids that keep me very busy

**BUCKET LIST:** Live in Spain with my family for a year

**MEMBER:** International Council of Shopping Centers, National Multifamily Housing Council

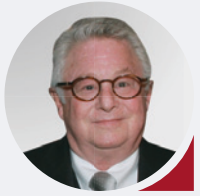
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# Real Estate

• APARTMENTS



**WALTER COHEN**  
Principal  
Arco Construction,  
Southfield

Cohen's father, Arnold, started a development and construction firm that primarily built apartment communities in Detroit, including Prince Hall Place, Parkview Tower, and Freedom Place, among others. After joining his father at the company in the 1970s, Cohen steadily grew the business to include residential and commercial properties across metro Detroit. Now joined by his son, David, the family recently completed DuCharme Place and the Foundation Hotel.

**DUCHARME PLACE:** The \$42-million, 185-unit community includes a swimming pool, a Zen garden, a fitness center, and interior parking

**HOSPITALITY:** Arco Construction and several partners, including Aparium Hotel Group, converted the former headquarters of the Detroit Fire Department across Washington Boulevard from Cobo Center into the 100-room Foundation Hotel, Apparatus Restaurant, and meeting spaces

**FOUNDATION HOTEL:** The \$28-million project also occupies the former Pontchartrain Wine Cellars

**REDEVELOPED:** The Park Shelton and Stroh River Place Apartments



**PETER CUMMINGS**  
Executive Chairman  
The Platform, Detroit

Cummings is founder of RAM, a leader in real estate investment, management, and development in Florida. In 2015, he stepped down as chairman to create The Platform, a Detroit-based venture focused on new housing and retail developments in the city. He divides his time between Florida and Michigan, where he serves on the investment committee of the Max M. Fisher Family Office and is a director and chairman emeritus of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

**EDUCATION:** Yale University (B), University of Toronto (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Journalist for *The Montreal Star*

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Brains are important and a strong work ethic is important and developing a network is important, but perseverance trumps them all

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Charlevoix

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I hosted a Sirius XM Satellite Radio show, "Linked: Connecting the Classics," from 2011 to 2014

**THE PLATFORM:** Owns the Fisher Building, Cass Cadillac, Lakshore Global Building, and more

**BUCKET LIST:** Sharpen my photographic skills and learn Spanish



**MICHAEL HIGGINS**  
President  
Leland House Limited  
Partnership, Detroit

With more than four decades of professional experience in the real estate and property management fields and an extensive background in maintenance and efficiencies in building operations, Higgins has been a developer and entrepreneur since the 1970s. He has been involved in ownership and managed more than 50 properties, including the historical Leland Hotel, Broderick Tower, and Elliott Building, all located in downtown Detroit.

**FIRST JOB:** Worked as a clerk at the Downtown Train and Camera Hobby Shop at 16 years old

**HOBBIES:** Model trains and traveling

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives"

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Paris and Hong Kong

**BUCKET LIST:** Cruise the Caribbean Islands on a catamaran

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Belle Isle and Eastern Market

**DIRECTOR:** Shoreline East Condominium and Detroit Towers Condominium

**MEMBER:** Detroit Entertainment District Association, which works to enhance the northern portion of the downtown area in the theater and sports arena district



**JONATHAN HOLTZMAN**  
Co-founder, CEO,  
and Chairman  
City Club Apartments,  
Farmington Hills

Holtzman's grandfather, Joseph, started as a single-family homebuilder in 1919 and grew the company into one of the nation's largest home-builders; his father and uncle expanded the company to include commercial, retail, and apartment development, construction, and management. Today, Holtzman operates City Club Apartments, which offers a mixture of well-designed communities in Detroit, Chicago, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and Pittsburgh.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Marketing manager for Village Green

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** I was performing due diligence on an apartment community we were purchasing and I went into an apartment, and the guy living there had a full-sized pig.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Work hard. You will never regret it.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Groundhog Day"

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I race historic Formula 1 Ferraris in series events and championships around the world

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo



**RICHARD KARP**  
Managing Partner  
Karp and Associates,  
Detroit

A Detroit native, Karp is a member of Capitol Park Partnership in Detroit, which has undertaken development, design, historic construction, technology, and commercial leasing to help revitalize Capitol Park in downtown Detroit. He was part of the revitalization of Lansing's Old Town, where he utilized various combinations of historic rehabilitation credits, new market credits, and low-income housing tax credits. He also partners with quasi-public entities, universities, and banks.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Site cleanup at a downriver Detroit steel plant

**BEST ADVICE:** If you truly believe something is right and works, no one else's opinion matters

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** In all facets of business, human behavior is often the greatest obstacle

**HOBBIES:** Alpine and water skiing, travel, and cooking

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Plan on outworking everyone if you truly want to succeed

**DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL CONTRACTING:** Multifamily, office, retail, and light manufacturing projects throughout the Midwest



**DIETRICH KNOER**  
President and CEO  
The Platform, Detroit

The Platform is focused on developing residential and mixed-use communities in Detroit. Its 23-person team is working on a \$500 million development pipeline throughout the city and its neighborhoods. Knoer has been a development and investment professional for the last 24 years, starting as a development officer at Hines in the Chicago and Atlanta offices. He then spent four years at JPMorgan Partners in London before joining REDICO in Southfield in 2013.

**EDUCATION:** Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany (B), Dartmouth College (M)

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I make a goose dinner for Christmas each year

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Once in a Great City*, by David Maraniss

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** La Jolla, Calif.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle

**BUCKET LIST:** Playing in the Pro Am of the Masters and watching the Sunday round live

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Anthony Edwards

**THE PLATFORM:** Began operations in February 2016

# Real Estate

•APARTMENTS | •AUTOMOTIVE | •CIVIC



## MATT LESTER

CEO and Owner  
Princeton Enterprises,  
Bloomfield Township

In 1994, Lester founded Princeton Enterprises, a privately held real estate investment firm that owns and operates a commercial investment portfolio consisting of multifamily housing and office buildings. To date, Lester and his various partners have acquired 130 properties with an aggregate value of \$1 billion. Lester owns and operates a portfolio of more than 22,000 apartment units as well as office, medical, storage, and other commercial facilities.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), University of Southern California (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Busboy at the Birmingham Athletic Club

**BEST ADVICE:** Whatever you choose to do, do it to the best of your ability

**LESSON LEARNED:** Change in the real estate market is not usually gradual. The challenge is being prepared.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have an exceptional green thumb that I use at some of our properties

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Dream big but be prepared to pay some dues. No one starts at the top.

**BUCKET LIST:** Play golf at the Old Course at St. Andrews



## TYLER ROSS

Principal  
ROCO Real Estate,  
Bloomfield Hills

Following college, Ross and Michael Colman worked at Edward Rose & Sons, a large multifamily development and management firm in Bloomfield Hills that is owned by the Ross family. In 2012, they recruited their brothers, Evan Ross and Michael Colman, and launched ROCO Real Estate. The company owns and manages more than 20,000 apartments among 110 properties in 13 states including Michigan, Ohio, Florida, New York, Texas, and Illinois.

**OPERATIONS:** Colman researches the acquisition targets, Ross oversees financing and analysis, and David manages the assets. Evan, a silent partner, is an opera singer who performs around the world.

**BRAND:** ROCO (Ross and Colman)

**CRITICAL MASS:** Once the company owned 15,000 apartments, it launched ROCO Management to streamline costs and improve oversight

**AREA LOCATIONS:** Chesterfield Township, Clinton Township, Roseville, Southfield, South Lyon, Westland, Warren, and more

**PHILANTHROPY:** Hosts annual fundraisers for area charities

**FAIR MARKET VALUE:** More than \$1 billion



## TERRY SCHWARTZ

Principal  
Dover Realty Advisors,  
Bingham Farms

As principal, Schwartz oversees Dover Realty Advisors, an institutional Midwest real estate advisory company. Dover specializes in asset management, property management, receivership, and repositioning of multifamily real estate holdings. During his 40-year career, Schwartz has managed more than \$1 billion in development and has handled \$600 million in acquisitions and repositionings. He has been an active member of the National Multifamily Housing Council.

**EDUCATION:** University of New Haven (B), Rutgers University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Assistant manager of Oakwood Garden Apartments in San Jose, Calif.

**BEST ADVICE:** From my father, "You get what you put into in life."

**LESSON LEARNED:** If it's too good to be true, it generally is when money becomes the primary motivator

**HOBBIES:** Golf, swimming, and hiking

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Maui

**PET CHARITY:** The Friendship Circle

**DOWN TIME:** Weather permitting, anything outdoors. During inclement weather, a good book or a movie.



## MICKY SHAPIRO

Owner  
M. Shapiro Real Estate  
Group, Farmington Hills

Shapiro is one of Michigan's top financiers and developers, and he has ownership positions in numerous real estate entities across the U.S. His real estate companies own and provide complete property management services for apartment complexes and manufactured home communities throughout the U.S. and Canada. His management company is the largest privately held owner-operator of high-quality manufactured housing in the nation.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** My parents, Sara and Asa, came to the U.S. from Germany after surviving the Holocaust

**PROPERTY:** Shapiro is the largest private land owner in Oakland County, with raw land holdings in excess of 2,000 acres

**HIGH VALUE:** Shapiro's companies own apartment complexes and manufactured home communities around the country valued in excess of \$1 billion

**GIVING BACK:** Holds leadership positions on the Kellogg Eye Center Advisory Board and Michigan Multiple Sclerosis Society

**HONOR:** Appointed by President G.W. Bush as a council member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum



## DAVID DUBENSKY

Chairman and CEO  
Ford Land, Dearborn

Dubensky was appointed chairman and CEO of Ford Land in January 2017, succeeding Donna Inch. He leads a global team with responsibility for real estate, engineering and construction, energy and sustainability, dealership design, workplace design, and facility management services for Ford Motor Co. In addition, he is a point person for Ford's recent acquisition of Michigan Central Depot and neighboring properties in Detroit's Corktown district.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Started with Ford more than 25 years ago

**MOST RECENT POSITION:** President and managing director, Ford Motor Private Limited, a subsidiary that oversees Ford's global business services operation headquartered in India

**PAST ROLES:** Served in management, finance, strategy, analytics, automotive credit, and audit roles in the United States, Mexico, and Japan

**CORKTOWN CAMPUS:** Ford plans to have 2,500 workers in the district in 2022 or sooner, along with 2,500 workers from complementary autonomous and mobility disciplines, and will offer residential, retail, and restaurant options



## DAN CARMODY

President  
Eastern Market Corp.,  
Detroit

For the past 40 years, Carmody, has led local governments, small businesses, and nonprofits during a career focused on reviving rust belt cities. For the last 10 years, Carmody has served as president of Eastern Market Corp., a nonprofit that manages and promotes one of Detroit's most venerable institutions. Under his leadership, Eastern Market has joined with other partners to increase the consumption of healthy food by creating and expanding venues and employment.

**EDUCATION:** University of Illinois (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Making Squeeze Parkway and Miracle Whip for Kraft Foods

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "He had an abiding sense of tragedy, which sustained him through temporary periods of joy." — William Butler Yeats

**HOBBIES:** Reading, music, cheering for underdogs (White Sox, Lions, and University of Illinois)

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** As a bar owner, a partner and I once dragged a tall customer outside after he had passed out, and his artificial leg fell off as we crossed the threshold.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have designed some kick-ass bars

# Real Estate

•CIVIC I •COMMERCIAL



**SUE MOSEY**  
President  
Midtown Detroit Inc.,  
Detroit

Mosey joined Midtown Detroit in 1987, and became executive director and president in 1990. Midtown Detroit oversees numerous programs in Midtown, including district planning, beautification and maintenance, community and real estate development, marketing, events, and more. In 2011, the organization merged with New Center Council, which allowed it to expand its staff and geographic footprint to include New Center, TechTown, and the North End.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B)

**ORGANIZATION:** More than 150 members representing cultural, academic, medical and service institutions, corporations, businesses, and community organizations

**COMMITTEES:** Public space development and maintenance, community and economic development, security, marketing, and special events

**RFP:** In partnership with the Detroit Institute of Arts to select a landscape architecture and urban design team for the new DIA Plaza and Midtown Cultural Connections in March 2019

**NOTEWORTHY PROJECT:** The Inn on Ferry Street, which converted six historic mansions into a 40-room boutique hotel



**MARK WALLACE**  
President and CEO  
Detroit RiverFront  
Conservancy, Detroit

Wallace oversees the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, which is dedicated to providing public access to Detroit's riverfront and to serving as an anchor for economic revitalization. The conservancy's ultimate vision is to revitalize and transform 5.5 miles along Detroit's international waterfront. Prior to joining the conservancy, Wallace was a director with Hines Interests; most recently, he served as project manager of the River Point development in Chicago.

**EDUCATION:** Princeton University (B),  
University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "West Wing"

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Focus on your likability and integrity

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I launched Wallace Detroit Guitars, which manufactures guitars using reclaimed wood from abandoned homes and buildings in Detroit

**DOWNTIME:** Fishing and reading, and playing with my dog, Penny Lane

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit RiverWalk



**GEBRAN S. "GABE" ANTON**  
Partner  
Anton, Sowerby  
& Associates,  
Mount. Clemens

Anton oversees a commercial brokerage firm that assists property owners and businesses in the sale and leasing of industrial buildings, land sales, build-to-suit transactions, crane bay and other sophisticated construction, zoning and occupancy issues, and the development of industrial subdivisions. It also facilitates sales of apartment complexes, commercial strip centers, office buildings and complexes, multitenant industrial buildings, and single-user facilities.

**FIRST JOB:** Took over the family shoe store when I was 17 years old, following the passing of my father

**SERVED:** Two years in the U.S. Army

**PAST LIFE:** Founded, owned, and operated Anton's menswear stores, which at its peak had nine locations

**FOUNDED:** Anton, Sowerby & Associates in 1998

**CIVIC:** Former director of First National Bank in Macomb County, Community Central Bank, St. Joseph's Health Network Board, Macomb County Chamber of Commerce

**PHILANTHROPY:** In 2010, Anton and Stuart Frankel donated the former Towne Square Building in Mount Clemens to Oakland University, which converted it into an educational facility



**JIM BIERI**  
Principal  
Stokas Bieri Real Estate  
Co., Detroit

Bieri founded Bieri Co. in 1976 to help landlords and tenants reach their real estate goals. As principal of Stokas Bieri Real Estate Co., Bieri has provided services from business expansion planning to project leasing for some of the world's most renowned retailers. He is a member of professional, educational, and civic organizations including the Urban Land Institute, and has served as co-chair of the Urban Land Institute Detroit District Council.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B), Detroit College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**BEST ADVICE:** To be an effective negotiator, one must control one side of the negotiations

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Top Gun"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Rome

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I'm a State Fair pie-eating judge

**HOBBIES:** Handball, golf

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Red Wings and Belle Isle

**BUCKET LIST:** I want to visit Asia

**PET CHARITY:** Michigan Humane Society



**RANDALL BOOK**  
Executive Vice President  
Colliers International,  
Detroit

Book joined Colliers International's occupier services group in 2011 as part of the national steering committee. Throughout his 25-year career, he has focused his practice on tenant and owner representation around the world. As executive vice president, Book has completed transactions that include office space, building sales, land leasing, purchases, and build-to-suit projects. His focus over the last several years has been to bring new businesses to Michigan.

**FIRST JOB:** Picking cherries in Traverse City

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** A client who was purchasing a 500-acre property started snoring during a conference call. He wound up buying it.

**LESSON LEARNED:** A deal isn't dead until it's died three times.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Hong Kong

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I meditate daily

**PET CHARITIES:** Gilda's Club of Detroit, Starfish

**BUCKET LIST:** Go to the moon

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Dan Akroyd

**DOWNTIME:** Walking, reading, and thinking



**CHRIS BROCHERT**  
Founding Partner  
Lormax Stern  
Development Co.,  
Bloomfield Hills

Brochert has more than 35 years of experience in shopping center acquisition, development, construction, and leasing. He has been involved in the acquisition and development of more than 25 million square feet of gross leasable retail space, primarily in Michigan. Brochert has been a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers for more than 35 years and is on the board of directors of the Detroit Regional Chamber.

**FIRST JOB:** Selling houses for Arthur N. King realty

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** If you don't have patience, get out now

**LESSON LEARNED:** Don't be impulsive

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Curb Your Enthusiasm"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Saint-Tropez, France

**BEST DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The food scene

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Gabriel Macht

**SUPPORTS:** Jalen Rose Leadership Academy, University Prep Academy, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Detroit, Angels of Hope, the Rhonda Walker Foundation, Wigs for Kids.

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# Real Estate

## COMMERCIAL



### RICHARD BRODER

Founder and CEO  
Broder & Sachse Real Estate, Detroit

Under Broder's leadership, Broder & Sachse has grown from a startup business to a full-service management and development company, managing over 130 properties consisting of more than 16 million square feet of space and 10,000 multifamily units. Overall, since 1993, the firm has developed and acquired more than \$250 million of multifamily, retail, and boutique office properties in Michigan and the southeastern United States.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Property manager and leasing agent for Farbman Stein and Co., now Farbman Group

**SHAREHOLDER:** With Todd Sachse

**HOBBY:** Bike riding

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS:** Jewish Federation of Metro Detroit

**ARTWORK:** Serves on the board of the Department of Drawings, Prints, and Photography at the Detroit Institute of Arts

**CERTIFICATION:** Holds an Associate Brokers license in Michigan, is the firm's broker of record, and is a Certified Property Manager of the Institute of Real Estate Management



### MASON L. CAPITANI

Executive Principal  
L. Mason Capitani  
CORFAC International, Troy

Capitani is a director and principal of L. Mason Capitani CORFAC International's property management arm and serves on the executive management team that directs all aspects of brokerage and property management services. During his tenure, the scope of services offered by the company has expanded to include the acquisition, disposition, and management of office, medical, industrial, flex, and retail properties throughout Michigan and beyond.

**EDUCATION:** Ohio University (B)

**FACILITATED:** As a broker, Capitani has facilitated more than \$750 million in sales and leasing transactions

**HOBBIES:** Mountain biking, reading history

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Living up to my father and grandfather's standards

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern and southern California

**DOWNTIME:** Attending my son's hockey and lacrosse games, and my daughter's figure skating competitions

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't be afraid to take risks and be entrepreneurial. You're only young once.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Tigers and Red Wings games



### LARRY EMMONS

Managing Director  
JLL, Detroit

Emmons serves as market leader for JLL's Michigan offices (formerly Jones Lang LaSalle), where he oversees all brokerage services in the region and helps identify new market opportunities. He has more than 25 years of experience working with clients in the commercial real estate market in metro Detroit and Michigan, and continues to provide multiple services in agency leasing, capital markets, asset management, and marketing.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Swept the floors at my dad's manufacturing company when I was 13. It was dirty and hard work. I didn't get promoted very quickly, either

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am a licensed private pilot

**BEST ADVICE:** Deal with life's problems one at a time and head on, show up, and be present in the moment

**AREA ATTRACTION:** Michigan Stadium

**HOBBY:** I love to travel and dine with my wife and children

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The south of France, Spain, and the Florida Keys are all fantastic



### DOUGLAS ETKIN

Principal  
Etkin, Southfield

Etkin has been responsible for Etkin's strategic planning, development, and leasing activities since founding the company in 1982. The company has been involved in more than 9.5 million square feet of office, industrial, retail, hotel, senior living, and mixed-use developments. It also offers fee-based management and development services to a select number of third-party clients, financial institutions, hospital organizations, and physician groups.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**NEW:** Later this year, Etkin will move its headquarters to a new office building with ground-floor retail and restaurant space it developed in downtown Royal Oak. The building is just east of the U.S. Post Office.

**RETAIL PROJECTS:** Centerpoint, Pontiac; Northfield Point Marketplace, Troy; Evergreen Atrium Marketplace, Southfield; and College Park, Livonia

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:** Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, chairs strategic planning committee

**MEMBER:** Urban Land Institute Michigan



### MATTHEW FARRELL

Founder, Executive  
Principal/Partner  
Team CORE, Auburn Hills

In addition to his operational executive duties, Farrell manages many of the firm's real estate clients. Prior to forming CORE Partners in 2006 and Team CORE in 2018, he was a vice president with Friedman Real Estate Group and an adviser with Grubb & Ellis. Farrell has been a top producer and leading executive professional in the Michigan commercial real estate industry, and is a director of the Better Business Bureau in Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Cutting lawns starting at 8 years old

**BEST ADVICE:** There are no such things as expenses in business, only investments. Every time a check is written or a payment made to you, expect an ROI.

**LESSON LEARNED:** I have often been faulted by family, friends, and team members for being too trusting. While I never want to change who I am and what I stand for, I am much more cautious these days

**HOBBIES:** Snow skiing, snowboarding, wake surfing, and swimming

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Michigan Central Depot



### STUART FRANKEL

President  
Stuart Frankel  
Development Co., Troy

Frankel oversees a full-service real estate development firm, that has completed more than 50 projects over the last 30 years, including Somerset Place, a 900,000-square-foot office complex; Somerset Inn, a 250-room hotel; and Somerset Apartments, which offers 2,200 units. The company has developed Victor Parkway along I-275 in Livonia, which includes 88,000 square feet of office space, and Oakland Park at I-75 and the Davison Freeway in Highland Park.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**PASSION:** Frankel and his wife, Maxine, are avid art collectors

**COLLECTION:** Works by seminal modern and contemporary artists, and contemporary ceramic objects

**PHILANTHROPY:** Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation, Bloomfield Hills

**GIFT:** In 2004, the couple donated \$10 million to establish the Maxine and Stuart Frankel and Frankel Family Wing at the University of Michigan Museum of Art

**NOTEWORTHY:** The couple often lends pieces to international museum exhibitions

**PORTFOLIO:** More than 6 million square feet of space

# Real Estate

## COMMERCIAL



**DAVID  
FRIEDMAN**

President and CEO  
Friedman Real Estate,  
Farmington Hills

Friedman began his professional career in 1983 as a commercial real estate broker. Four years later, he formed Friedman Real Estate Group and created a strategic partnership with a property management and construction company to offer fully integrated real estate solutions to a wide client base. Today, Friedman Integrated Real Estate Solutions offers commercial brokerage, property and asset management, investment and loan sale advisory, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** I worked with my father, who was a plumber

**OPERATIONS:** Michigan, Ohio, Florida, and Arizona, and active in 23 states

**HOBBIES:** Biking, hiking, skiing, and tennis

**DOWN TIME:** Working out and chilling out at the lake

**BUCKET LIST:** Traveling to Australia

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Dequindre Cut

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Find something to do that you are passionate about, whether working or in college

**PET CHARITY:** Alzheimer's Association



**TED  
FULLER**

President  
Central Park Properties,  
Birmingham

Fuller, a longtime entrepreneur, owns more than 1 million square feet of office, retail, and residential space in downtown Birmingham. He has undertaken numerous renovations and expansions of his buildings in the central business district, including adding on to a large office and retail structure at the southeast corner of South Old Woodward and Maple Road. In addition to adding office space, the project included a parking garage where the popular Midtown Café once operated.

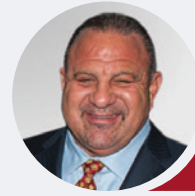
**FOUNDED:** 1976

**PAST DIRECTOR:** Fidelity Bank for 21 years

**PROJECT:** In the process of replacing Café Via along the south side of Maple Road, east of South Old Woodward, with a new full-service dining establishment

**PORTFOLIO:** Central Park Properties owns 16 commercial parcels totaling 465,000 square feet of space in Birmingham, along with numerous residential buildings

**ADVOCATE:** Has supported numerous improvements to downtown Birmingham, including the redesign and expansion of Shain Park, as well as the recent completion of North and South Old Woodward with its new streetscape features



**STEVE  
GORDON**

Founder and President  
Signature Associates,  
Southfield

Gordon has more than 30 years of experience in all aspects of commercial and industrial real estate, and has worked individually with owners, landlords, tenants, and buyers. He launched his firm in 1989, and since then has acquired or opened offices in Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Holland, and Toledo. Services include industrial, high-tech, office, retail, medical, land, build-to-suit, tenant representation, investment sales, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B)

**NOTABLE:** Part of the "Dirty Dozen," a nickname that came about when Gordon, with 11 other principals, left a successful commercial real estate firm to launch Signature Associates in Southfield

**CLIENTS:** Beaumont Health, Ford Land, Plastipak, Walbridge, Yazaki North America.

**INDUCTED INTO:** Midwest Commercial Real Estate Hall of Fame in 2010

**MEMBER:** Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, World Presidents Organization, and Commercial Board of Realtors

**BOARD MEMBER:** Beaumont Foundation



**ANDY  
GUTMAN**

President  
Farbman Group/NAI  
Farbman, Southfield

Gutman has been with Farbman for more than 22 years and has 27 years of industry experience. He has been responsible for Farbman's financing of hundreds of millions of dollars in debt and provision of equity vehicles for the organization and for clients. Gutman serves as chairman of the Building Owners and Managers Association advisory council and is on the international board for the B'nai Brith Youth Organization. He was vice chairman of the Novi Planning Commission.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy

**BEST ADVICE:** Leadership is not about popularity; also, put the company before yourself, and the rest will fall into place

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** In my spare time I am a songwriter and author. My father taught me to love books and music, and I have been quietly working on that for years

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** "Purple Rain" and "Rudy"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Third Man Records

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE?:** George Clooney, Chris Pratt, Rick Moranis, or Chewbacca (not the actor who played him, but the outfit itself)



**SUSAN  
HARVEY**

Senior Vice President  
Ashley Capital, Canton

Harvey joined Ashley Capital in the summer of 1996 as vice president in the Detroit office. She is responsible for all aspects of the Detroit operation, including property management, leasing, land acquisitions, and development. During her tenure, Ashley Capital's Michigan portfolio has grown from 3 million to more than 20 million square feet. Prior to joining Ashley Capital, Harvey was vice president at PM Realty Group and worked with Cushman and Wakefield.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Making pizzas

**BEST ADVICE:** Not only can you sometimes judge a book by its cover, but you must do that because you haven't time to read them all

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, by John Irving

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** New Zealand

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be a good listener

**BEST AREA ATTRACTIONS:** The Detroit Symphony

Orchestra, The Henry Ford

**PET CHARITY:** American Civil Liberties Union



**JIM  
KETAI**

Managing Partner  
and CEO  
Bedrock, Detroit

Ketai co-founded Bedrock, a full-service real estate firm, in 2011, and has been managing partner and CEO ever since. The firm, part of the Quicken Loans Family of Companies, acquires, develops, leases, finances, and manages commercial and residential buildings. Bedrock and its affiliates have invested and committed more than \$5.6 billion to acquiring and developing over 100 properties, including new construction in downtown Detroit and Cleveland.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Detroit College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Practiced real estate and bankruptcy law

**PAST LIFE:** Managing partner of Etkin Equities Inc. in Southfield for 21 years

**DRAWN:** At Bedrock, helped attract more than 160 businesses to downtown Detroit

**BOARDS:** Urban Land Institute Michigan, Jewish Federation of Metro Detroit

**BEDROCK INVESTMENT:** Recently invested in Randolph Technical Center and Breithaupt Career and Technical Center, both in Detroit

"Everything you can imagine is real."

-Pablo Picasso



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# Real Estate

## COMMERCIAL



**ALAN KIRILUK**  
Chairman  
KIRCO, Troy

Kiriluk founded KIRCO in the 1970s as a commercial real estate development, construction, and property management organization. It has since grown to include offices in Ohio and North Carolina. Kiriluk began his career working in his father's earthwork, paving, and road construction business. Later, on his own, he expanded the business to include the development and construction of office buildings and corporate build-to-suit projects.

**FIRST JOB:** Road construction, paving, landscaping

**EARLY CLIENTS:** Sony Corp., EDS, and Siemens Automotive

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** A homeowner sketched me while I paved her driveway

**HOBBIES:** Snowmobiling in natural forest environments and spending time with my grandchildren

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Dr. Pol"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Sailing the Fiji Islands

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Always work to improve your personal skills and take advantage of experiences that strengthen your resume

**BUCKET LIST:** Expanding my high-horsepower car collection



**MATT KIRILUK**  
President  
KIRCO, Troy

Kiriluk started working for KIRCO at the age of 13 and has since been involved in the company in various capacities, including construction project management, leasing, development, and finance. He joined the company full time in 1992 and has since led it to pursue different product types. KIRCO has expanded nationally from Michigan into Ohio, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Alabama, and, most recently, Florida.

**EDUCATION:** Hillsdale College (B),

New York University (M), Harvard University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Construction

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Gladiator"

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** When the KIRCO

**MANIX ESTIMATOR DRESSED UP AS THE GRINCH**

**FOR THE COMPANY'S HOLIDAY PARTY**

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Stay away from drugs and alcohol. Develop a strong work ethic. Don't quit. Be a team player. Take a balanced approach to life. Invest in yourself.

**BEST DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Red Wings games

**PET CHARITY:** Judson Center



**C. MICHAEL KOJAIAN**  
Principal  
Kojaian Management Corp., Bloomfield Hills

For more than 60 years, Kojaian Management and several related entities have offered a range of services including real estate development, design and build, acquisition, leasing, and management. The company's portfolio includes residential, office, industrial, high-tech, and retail spaces. Along with a sizeable investment in Grubb & Ellis, a commercial real estate company, Kojaian served as chairman for several years. The firm went through a bankruptcy in 2012.

**FIRST JOB:** Working at my father's market in Detroit

**CHAIRMAN:** Kojaian Ventures in Bloomfield Hills

**PAST BOARD MEMBER:** Arbor Realty Trust Inc., Flagstar Bank

**PAST TRUSTEE:** Detroit Country Day School

**PROJECT:** Acquired the former Varsity Shop in downtown

Birmingham, plans to replace it with a mixed-use building

offering retail, offices, and residences

**DEVELOPED:** Bloomfield Hunt Club Estates, a neighborhood of luxury homes located east of the Bloomfield Open Hunt Club

**GRUBB & ELLIS:** The firm sold nearly all of its assets to BGC

Partners in New York City



**JOHN A. LATESSA JR.**  
President, Midwest  
CBRE, Detroit

Latessa provides oversight for 11 CBRE offices, including the region's flagship in Chicago. Before he was promoted to his current position in January 2017, he managed the company's Michigan operations and oversaw markets including Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Louisville, St. Louis, and Kansas City. Latessa was a principal/managing director of JFK Investment Co. and was a project manager with Hines Interest Limited Partnership.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B),

Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Real estate broker

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE FACED:** My father passed away at a young age, and I learned it's important to be the best version of yourself today, because tomorrow isn't guaranteed

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Billions"

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I grew up with the nickname Scooter

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Ford Field

**BUCKET LIST:** Going to all four major tennis majors. So far, I've been to the U.S. Open.



**DAN MULLEN**  
President and Chief  
Marketing Officer  
Bedrock, Detroit

At Bedrock, one of the Quicken Loans Family of Companies, Mullen is responsible for creating and implementing the company's vision for Detroit's central business district. He has helped attract and locate multiple companies to Detroit, including professional firms, retailers, and restaurants. He also is active in redeveloping the Hudson's site and the Monroe Block into multi-use buildings. Mullen is on the board of Empowerment Plan.

**FIRST JOBS:** Started at 13 years old working as a janitor, a

ditch-digger, a lawn-cutter, and a car-washer

**CAREER START:** In 2003, as a mortgage banker at

Quicken Loans

**RELOCATION:** When the decision was made in 2010 to move nearly 10,000 workers from the suburbs to downtown Detroit, Mullen was the first person hired to lead the project

**GOALS:** "One of our goals is to create these unique retail places that people can't find anywhere else. If we can create this sense of place, people will want to live and work here."

**EARLY PROJECT:** Helped redevelop the historic Madison Building in downtown Detroit



**BRAD OLESHANSKY**  
Founder and CEO  
M1 Concourse, Pontiac

Oleshansky is an attorney and entrepreneur who, following a career in management, left in 2012 to develop and build the M1 Concourse. Set on the site of a demolished General Motors plant, the campus for automotive enthusiasts spans 87 acres at Woodward Avenue and South Boulevard. Amenities include 250 private garages, a 1.5-mile performance track, and a private motorsports club. Oleshansky is a member of the Young Presidents' Organization.

**EDUCATION:** Ithaca College (B),

Southwestern School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Car detailer

**BEST ADVICE:** All we have is time, treasure, and talent. Use all three wisely.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Working on a project most people thought can't be done

**HOBBY:** Anything to do with cars, especially classic cars

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Citizen Kane"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Santorini

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Take risks early in your career, when consequences aren't as great

# Real Estate

• COMMERCIAL | • HOMEBUILDERS



## GARY SAKWA

Co-founder and Managing Partner  
Grand Sakwa Properties,  
Farmington Hills

Sakwa has more than 35 years of experience in the residential and commercial real estate industry. Over the duration of his career, Sakwa has developed more than 10,000 residential lots, and through joint ventures has constructed 3,000-plus homes in partnership with several large homebuilders. He also has developed and/or acquired in excess of 5 million square feet of commercial property. He also oversees Grand Sakwa Management.

**OPERATIONS:** Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Texas, Mississippi, and Florida

**RETAIL:** Midtown Square in Troy, Northville Retail Center Phase 1 in Northville Township, Crossroads Village in Canton Township, and more

**OFFICE:** Bloomwood Office Building in Bloomfield Hills, Timberland Office Park One in Troy, 34965 Woodward Development in Birmingham

**RETAIL TENANTS:** Walmart, Home Depot, Target, Kohl's, Kroger

**NOTABLE:** Acquires commercial properties via sale-leaseback transactions



## DAVID SCHOSTAK

CEO  
Schostak Brothers  
and Co., Livonia

Schostak Brothers and Co. is a fourth-generation commercial real estate company with projects around the country. Schostak has more than 35 years of experience in all aspects of real estate development and finance. As CEO, he is responsible for \$1 billion in financing and refinancing the company's portfolio properties. He also oversees all planning, development, and redevelopment of its properties, which includes shopping centers, office buildings, and mixed-use developments.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University (JD)

**BEST ADVICE:** From his first banker: Bankers understand risk and bad news, but not surprises. Don't surprise me, and remember — I loan money to people, not deals.

**ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS:** Detroit Investment Fund's investment committee, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Bar Association

**CHALLENGE FACED:** 2008-2010 financial crisis

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** You can always make more money, but you can't always earn your reputation back



## DANIEL STERN

Partner and President  
Lormax Stern  
Development Co.,  
Bloomfield Hills

Stern is responsible for overseeing operations and managing a portfolio of some 7 million square feet of retail space in Michigan, Florida, Illinois, and Mississippi. Area locations include Crossroads Village in Canton Township, Macomb Mall in Roseville, and the Northville Retail Center in Northville Township. Stern also is president of KAM Marine and KAM Yacht Sales, which operates full-service marinas and sells yachts in Michigan, Florida, and Maryland.

**EDUCATION:** School of Hard Knocks

**FIRST JOB:** Selling hot dogs and beer at Eastern Market

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern Michigan

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Get your head out of your phone

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The riverfront

**PET CHARITY:** I'm a sucker for all charities. I get gifts mailed weekly

**MEMBER:** Former state director of International Council of Shopping Centers. Chairman of the Michigan Commercial Real Estate PAC.

**BUCKET LIST:** Racing in the Baja 1000



## JOHN W. STROH III

Chairman and CEO  
The Stroh Cos. Inc.,  
Detroit

At The Stroh Cos., Stroh oversees and manages 300 River Place in Detroit's riverfront district, along with other operating and financial investments. He also owns The Rattlesnake Club, a fine dining restaurant. Both businesses are part of the original Parke-Davis pharmaceutical complex at the foot of Jos. Campau at the Detroit River. Stroh is the great-great grandson of Bernhard Stroh, who founded Stroh Brewing Co. in 1850 in Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Ohio Wesleyan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Corporate banking at Crocker National Bank

**EDUCATIONAL PURSUITS:** Diploma course in brewing technology at the Siebel Institute of Technology

**PAST LIFE:** Founding board member of the Detroit RiverFront Conservancy

**HOBBIES:** Skiing, hiking, and biking

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Obtain a four-year degree

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Institute of Arts

**DIRECTOR:** Jefferson East Inc., East Jefferson Development Corp., and University-Liggett School



## DALE WATCHOWSKI

President and CEO  
REDICO, Southfield

Watchowski oversees the day-to-day operations of REDICO, which has a real estate portfolio of more than \$3 billion in value, and encompasses in excess of 18 million square feet of space nationally. He also serves as president and CEO of American House Senior Living Communities in Southfield, one of the nation's largest owners and operators of senior housing communities. In addition, Watchowski serves as president and CEO of Continuum Services.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** A land surveyor for the Oakland County Road Commission

**BEST ADVICE:** Any success I've had has been based on identifying opportunities presented through difficult situations

**HOBBIES:** Coastal sailing, skiing, and fly fishing

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Eastern Market

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Technology is extremely useful and has many great applications, but young professionals are losing the importance of personal interaction. That's how deals are made.

**BUCKET LIST:** Sail around the world



## MICHAEL CHIRCO

President and Owner  
MJC Cos., Macomb  
Township

After being honorably discharged from the U.S. Army, Chirco, a Detroit native and the son of Italian immigrants, sold his first home in 1968, and four years later formed his first company. Today, MJC includes a realty company, commercial building and leasing, residential building, and real estate development. Overall, the enterprise has built more than 9,000 homes that collectively represent \$1.3 billion in sales. In 2005, he was recognized as the fifth largest U.S. condo builder.

**FIRST JOB:** I worked at my family's fish market in Detroit

**STARTING OUT:** You have to take risks, but they should be planned out with a goal in mind. For me, it was to own my own company and to work in the office, not the field.

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** A customer kept calling saying there were spirits in the shrubs behind his house. When we investigated, there was a small clearing in the woodlands behind him, and from the empty beer cans, we determined it was a local hangout for young people.

**HOBBY:** Golfing with good friends

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** George C. Scott, if he were alive

# Real Estate

## HOMEBUILDERS



### HOWARD FINGERROOT

Area President  
M/I Homes Inc.,  
Bloomfield Hills

Fingerroot, a longtime homebuilder, joined M/I Homes Inc., a publicly-traded home building company based in Columbus, Ohio, in February 2018. The company, which has sold more than 105,000 single-family homes, entered into a definitive purchase agreement to acquire the residential homebuilding assets and operations of Pinnacle Homes, a homebuilder in Bloomfield Hills, where Fingerroot was president. Last year, Pinnacle delivered 214 homes.

**HONOR:** The former Pinnacle Homes was cited as Builder of the Year in 2011 by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan

**PAST LIFE:** Former executive at Pulte Homes Inc.

**AREA SUBDIVISIONS:** Ann Arbor, Commerce Township, Canton Township, Northville Township, Novi, and Superior Township

**LAUNCHED:** Fingerroot and Steve Friedman established Pinnacle Homes in 2005

**M/I HOMES:** Homebuilding operations in Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Tampa, Sarasota, Orlando, Austin, Dallas/Fort Worth, and more.



### GURMALE S. "GARY" GREWAL

CEO  
Singh Development,  
West Bloomfield  
Township

Grewal founded Singh Development, a family-owned real estate development firm, in 1973. Today, the company develops and builds upscale apartment communities, single-family subdivisions, and senior living communities under the brand Waltonwood. Singh focuses on real estate development, construction, and management, and is currently building in Novi, South Lyon, Canton Township, and Royal Oak, as well as North Carolina and Virginia.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B)

**WORKFORCE:** More than 1,600 employees

**SECOND OFFICE:** Cary, N.C.

**ACTIVE:** Singh is building an array of developments in Michigan, North Carolina, and northern Virginia

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Wherever my children and grandchildren are. They keep me going.

**MOTTO:** Maintain total and complete honesty, along with the highest level of integrity.

**PROJECT:** Building a 245-unit mixed-use community called The Griffin in Royal Oak, which will include a fitness center, courtyard pool, game room, business center, and more.



### RONALD HUGHES

CEO  
Hughes Properties,  
Bingham Farms

Hughes is founder and CEO of Hughes Properties Inc. Before starting the company, he served as vice president and senior loan officer for Michigan National Bank, where he was responsible for one of the largest commercial and real estate portfolios held by the bank. Hughes has more than 39 years of experience in acquisition, entitlement, development, and management of real estate assets within multiple market sectors.

**EDUCATION:** Ferris State University (B)

**IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL:** Hughes founded Hughes Properties in 1982

**DIVERSE PROPERTIES:** Hughes Properties deals with commercial, residential, senior, and student housing properties

**LICENSES:** Hughes is a licensed real estate broker in the state of Michigan

**SPECIALTIES:** Office, industrial, residential communities, and housing for seniors and students

**PROPERTIES:** Hughes Properties developed The Landmark Building in Ann Arbor, The Sheridan at Birmingham in Birmingham, and The Collegian in Ann Arbor



### SCOTT JACOBSON

CEO  
SR Jacobson  
Development Corp.,  
Bingham Farms

SRJ is celebrating its 40th year in business. After founding the company, which built custom homes, Jacobson expanded to offer both single-family homes and condominiums. In 2004, he decided to focus on land development and sold his building operation to a local builder, in conjunction with an institutional investor. Since 1978, Jacobson has developed or acquired more than 100 communities with more than 9,000 lots or units in Michigan, Illinois, and Florida.

**EDUCATION:** Attended Michigan State University

**STARTED OUT:** At his family's property management company

**PREVIOUS POSITION:** Chairman and director of a local bank

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP:** Alumni Board of Directors for Michigan State's building construction management program

**PREVIOUS LEADERSHIP:** Director of Temple Beth El, Lifetime Member Director of the Home Builders Association of Michigan

**PET CHARITY:** Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County, where he was a director

**APPOINTED TO:** Michigan State Residential Builders Board in 1997 by then-Gov. John Engler



### FRANK JONNA

Partner  
Jonna Construction Co.,  
Detroit

Jonna joined Jonna Construction Co. in 1972, where his years have been split between construction and development. He is a licensed builder in Michigan and Florida, and has experience in land acquisition, managing project consultants, securing government approvals, negotiating purchase and sale agreements, overseeing architectural design, and developing marketing plans. Jonna works with several different family members and his son, Joey, develops luxury homes.

**FIRST JOB:** Worked at family's grocery store, which was located in Detroit

**ADVICE RECEIVED:** You have to listen to be heard

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** One of the operators on the company's job site once asked if they were working on Sweetest Day, which falls on a Saturday

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern Michigan

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Bull"

**PET CHARITY:** Angels' Place

**BUCKET LIST:** Play Augusta National

**DIRECTOR:** Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, Detroit Public Television, and Culture Source



### ERIC LARSON

Founder, President  
and CEO  
Larson Realty Group,  
Bloomfield Hills

Larson established Larson Realty Group in 1999 and has more than 30 years experience in real estate. He served as managing partner at Bedrock Real Estate Services and as non-executive president of Olympia Development of Michigan. During his career, Larson has developed, financed, owned, and managed more than \$3 billion of real estate, including GM's purchase and redevelopment of the Renaissance Center and Millender Center in downtown Detroit.

**PREVIOUS POSITIONS:** Vice president at Hines, partner and senior vice president with Bruce S. Brickman and Associates

**FOUNDED:** The Community Investment Support Fund

**BOARD CHAIRMAN:** The Parade Co., The Robert C. Larson Leadership Initiative, and the Urban Land Institute Detroit Governance Committee

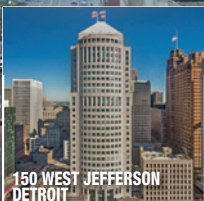
**OTHER ROLE:** CEO of Downtown Detroit Partnership

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I am a grand jester with The Parade Company's Distinguished Clown Corps

**NOTABLE:** Currently developing The Corner, which will offer 111 apartments and retail space on the site of the former Tiger Stadium in Detroit. It is projected to open next year.

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CREATING  
ENVIRONMENTS**



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**2017** | MFE AWARDS GRAND PRIZE (MARKET-RATE SENIOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT) • AMERICAN HOUSE COCONUT POINT | CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS COOL PLACES TO WORK | 101 BEST AND BRIGHTEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR | **2016** | BOMA TOBY AWARD • DEARBORN TOWNE CENTER | BOMA TOBY AWARDS • BUILDING ENGINEER OF THE YEAR | E&Y ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR • DALE WATCHOWSKI (AMERICAN HOUSE) | CORENET ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR • DALE WATCHOWSKI | 101 BEST AND BRIGHTEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR | BEST AND BRIGHTEST IN WELLNESS | CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS 50 NAMES TO KNOW IN REAL ESTATE | **2015** | BOMA TOBY AWARD • ONE KENNEDY SQUARE | BOMA TOBY AWARD • ONE TOWNE SQUARE | CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR FOR 2015 • DALE WATCHOWSKI | 101 BEST AND BRIGHTEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR | **2014** | BOMA TOBY AWARD • BUILDING ENGINEER OF THE YEAR AWARD | BOMA PRESIDENT'S AWARD | CREW IMPACT AWARD • GATEWAY MARKETPLACE | 101 BEST AND BRIGHTEST COMPANIES TO WORK FOR | **FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

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# Real Estate

## HOMEBUILDERS



### ANTHONY LOMBARDO

President  
Lombardo Homes,  
Shelby Township

In 1988, Lombardo took the helm of the family business and, since then, has helped transform the company into an organization that generates as much as \$70 million in annual revenue. Under his leadership, new innovative sales programs were developed to tap new buyer segments, and the company made a move to acquire all the land assets of the Detroit division of Centex Homes. The company has more than 30 new home communities across southeast Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Ferris State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Sweeping floors

**FOUNDED:** In 1961, by Cosimo and Antoinette Lombardo

**BEST ADVICE FROM MY DAD:** Do everything you're supposed to do, then go one step further.

**AREA HOMES:** Available throughout Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, Washtenaw, and Livingston counties

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** My cabin in lower Michigan. It's peace, it's comfort, and it's home.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Always be willing to learn, listen, and work hard. Combining that with respect for those around you will be the key to your success.



### DOMINIC J. MOCERI

Partner, Finance/  
Acquisition  
Mocerri Management and  
Development, Auburn Hills

Mocerri and his brothers, Mario and Frank, are beginning the fourth generation of creating and developing sustainable master-planned communities across metro Detroit and the nation. The family has created more than 55,000 residences that rank among the finest in the nation. Mocerri specializes in development vision, acquisitions, entitlements, approvals, and financing, and is a director of the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Ditch-digger and broom-sweeper par excellence

**BEST ADVICE:** You "are" when you show up. When you're on time, you're late.

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** When doctors tell me that they invest in real estate as their hobby, I respond that I do brain surgery on the weekends.

**BUCKET LIST:** Teaching my granddaughter how to ski

**LESSON LEARNED:** It's not location, location, location, but rather timing, timing, timing

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Sitting in a window booth at Joe Muer Seafood gazing at the Detroit River and Windsor



### WILLIAM J. "BILL" PULTE

CEO  
Pulte Capital Partners,  
Pontiac

In addition to overseeing Pulte Capital, a strategic investment firm centered on investing in building products businesses, Pulte is chairman and CEO of Carstin Brands, a large residential countertop manufacturer. He also is a director of Olon Group Inc., a manufacturer in the cabinet industry, and PulteGroup Inc., one of the nation's largest homebuilders. Pulte's grandfather, William J. Pulte, founded PulteGroup in Detroit in 1950. The company has built more than 700,000 homes.

**EDUCATION:** Northwestern University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Roger Penske's Private Equity Fund, where I learned how to acquire and grow companies

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Helicopter pilot since I was 18 years old

**BUSINESS:** Owns and operates Carstin Brands, a Midwest supplier of countertops, and kitchen and bath products

**PULTE CAPITAL:** Focused on investing in housing supplies, building products, and related service companies. The collective management team has built 1 million homes around the world. Target acquisitions range from \$15 million to \$200 million in size.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The neighborhoods

**PET CHARITY:** The Blight Authority in Detroit



### PAUL C. ROBERTSON JR.

Chairman  
Robertson Brothers Co.,  
Bloomfield Hills

After graduating from college, Robertson worked with Townsend and Bottom Co. building coal powered electrical generating plants in Trenton and Monroe. In 1969 he joined his father in the family residential housing business, Robertson Brothers Co. His career path went from being an estimator and purchasing manager to a project manager, vice president, president, and now chairman. The company has built thousands of homes throughout the region.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Picking up paper cups in the parking lot of the Franklin Cider Mill

**BEST ADVICE:** The harder you work, the luckier you get

**MILESTONE:** Next January will mark 50 years since Robertson joined the company

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The Great Recession of 2005 to 2012. We were one of the very few builders who survived.

**BUCKET LIST:** An African safari

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Villa D'Este, Lake Como, Italy

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra, particularly the Jazz series



### GARY A. SHIFFMAN

Chairman and CEO  
Sun Communities Inc.,  
Southfield

Shiffman founded Sun Communities in 1975, and today the enterprise is a public company that has interests in some 350 manufacturing housing and recreational vehicle communities in the United States and Canada. He is actively involved in the management, acquisition, construction, and development of manufactured home communities, and oversees the purchase, rezoning, development, and marketing of numerous manufactured home expansion projects.

**INVESTED:** More than \$4 billion in acquiring 117,000 sites

**WORKFORCE:** More than 2,700 employees

**EXPANSION:** In 2016, the company acquired a portfolio of 103 communities mostly located in California, Florida, and Ontario, Canada for \$1.7 billion

**COMMUNITIES:** Michigan, Arizona, Florida, California, Indiana, Iowa, North Carolina, Texas, and more

**SUN RV RESORTS:** Around 130 locations in 97 cities

**DIVISION:** Has 100 active 55+ communities in 71 communities

**NEW PROJECTS:** The Sands RV and Golf Resort, Desert Hot Springs, Calif.; Silver Creek RV Resort, Mears, Mich.; Compass RV Resort, St. Augustine, Fla.



### MATT SHIFFMAN

CEO  
Alden Development  
Group, Southfield

Shiffman oversees a privately owned real estate development, investment, and asset management company founded in 2010 through a merger of several family home office real estate holdings. The company has more than \$500 million in active general development projects. Shiffman is also a partner in Iconic Brands, the hospitality company behind Parc Detroit, Fountain Detroit, and the soon to open Zalman's Delicatessen at the Hilton DoubleTree in Bloomfield Hills.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Pulling a Red Ryder wagon filled with bagels, cream cheese, and fresh orange juice cartons around the neighborhood on Sunday mornings

**BEST ADVICE:** Work hard, put in the hours, and don't get caught up with the small stuff

**LESSON LEARNED:** Ensure that all agreements are documented properly

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Colorado

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I completed a few courses at the Culinary Institute of America

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Campus Martius

# Real Estate

• HOMEBUILDERS | • HOTELS



**ANTHONY  
"TONY"  
SOAVE**

President and CEO  
Soave Enterprises,  
Detroit

Over the past five decades, Soave Enterprises has built up an enterprise that includes real estate development, metals recycling, auto dealerships, and hydroponic greenhouse operations. During that time, Soave Enterprises has strategically entered and in a few cases, exited, a number of industries — from luxury condominiums in Florida to Budweiser distributorships, Midwestern metals recycling operations, auto dealerships, and a master-planned residential community.

**SOAVE ENTERPRISES FOUNDED:** 1961

**PHILOSOPHY:** Leadership springs forth from encouraging people and inspiring them. It comes from spreading your passion to others.

**PAST LIFE:** Was a star football player in high school

**ANNUAL REVENUE:** More than \$1.8 billion

**WORKFORCE:** Around 1,700 employees

**SOLD:** A multistate waste management and environmental services group

**DEVELOPING:** Elton Park in Detroit's Corktown district, featuring 420 apartments, retail space, numerous amenities, streetscape improvements, and parking



**RANDY  
WERTHEIMER**

CEO  
Hunter Pasteur Homes,  
Farmington Hills

With nearly 20 years of experience as a homebuilder and developer, Wertheimer and his partners have built more than 1,000 homes and condominiums in over 20 different communities throughout southeast Michigan. In April, the company announced it was under contract to acquire the Northville Downs harness racing track and adjacent parcels. At 48 acres, the development is slated to include commercial space and up to 600 residential units.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Dishwasher at EG Nicks Restaurant

**BEST ADVICE:** Stay even keel in good times and bad

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The global financial crisis. It ended up being the best thing to happen to our business.

**HOBBIES:** Tennis and spending time with my family on vacation

**BUCKET LIST:** Go to Wimbledon and the French Open

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Miami

**PROJECTS:** South Lyon, Northville Township, Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Lake Orion, and Detroit

**NORTHVILLE DOWNS:** Planning for 600 rental apartments, for-sale townhouses, and single-family homes



**DAVID  
DI RITA**

Founder and Principal  
The Roxbury Group,  
Detroit

Di Rita has more than 30 years of corporate, legal, and transactional experience, and is the founder and principal of the Roxbury Group. Di Rita is actively involved in the firm's real estate development and advisory work, typically involving projects requiring public and private financing. Previously, he was a corporate and transaction attorney and real estate executive, and held senior positions at Tower Automotive, Visteon Corp., and Johnson Controls.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Served ice cream at Emily's Across the Street

**BEST ADVICE:** My father, on choosing a career: I don't care if you are a ditch-digger. Just decide you're going to be the best ditch-digger on earth.

**PROJECTS:** Redevelopment of the historic David Whitney Building into an Aloft hotel, apartments, and commercial space; The Auburn and The Plaza in Midtown; The Griswold in Capitol Park; and the upcoming Metropolitan Building, among others

**PET CHARITY:** Grand Circus Gala

**DETROIT ATTRactions:** David Whitney Building Atrium and the Buhl Bar



**ZAID  
ELIA**

Founder and CEO  
The Elia Group,  
Birmingham

For the past 15 years, Elia has overseen The Elia Group, a holding company for a portfolio of hospitality and commercial real estate companies. His first real estate project was a ground-up, retail development in Ann Arbor. In 2009, Elia entered the hospitality business when he purchased the territory rights for more than 90 Subway restaurants in western Wayne County. Since then, he has grown his portfolio to include shopping centers, hotels, restaurants, bars, and more.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Working weekends at a wine shop

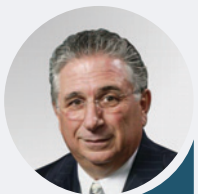
**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** Build and maintain a strong family foundation, work smart, and pray for a little luck. After that, the sky is the limit.

**BUCKET LIST:** Taking my wife to Paris, her favorite place on earth

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Bahamas, especially Paradise Island

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Details matter

**DETROIT ATtraction:** Campus Martius Park.



**JOHN  
FERCHILL**

Chairman and CEO  
The Ferchill Group,  
Cleveland

After a deal with Kimberly Clark fell through, Ferchill led a \$189-million restoration of the historic Westin Book Cadillac Hotel in downtown Detroit, which opened in 2008. The renovation includes several dozen apartments, some of which have been sold as condominiums, along with two upscale restaurants — Roast and 24 Grille. Overall, The Ferchill Group has developed or renovated more than 4 million square feet of office space, as well as housing projects.

**EDUCATION:** Cleveland State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Field engineer at Ohio Bell Telephone Co.

**BEST ADVICE:** Work hard, be honest, and never accept "It can't be done."

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Starting a real estate development firm in 1977 with \$25,000. I was the father of three children, all under 6 years old.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy and Detroit, because Detroiters truly love their city. They want to make it great.

**BUCKET LIST:** The Monaco Grand Prix with Roger Penske, after he wins 20 Indy 500s

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** "Blazing Saddles" and "The Godfather"



**MIKE  
KOZA**

CEO  
Group 10,  
Farmington Hills

The family-owned company was founded in the 1970s, when it was the operator of a grocery store in Detroit. Today, the firm, overseen by Koza and his brother, Kenny, operates two supermarkets in Detroit, other real estate properties, and middle-market hotel brands. In 2017, the company announced it planned to build a 120-room hotel, 65 apartments, retail space, and a parking deck at Woodward Avenue and Alexandrine Street in Detroit's Midtown district.

**SUPERMARKETS:** Mike's Fresh Market, one on Livernois Avenue and one on Gratiot Avenue

**OWNERSHIP:** The grocery stores are owned by Koza, Jamal Abro, and Lyon Koza

**TROY:** Group 10 developed the Hampton Inn & Suites and Hilton Garden Inn along Big Beaver Road, along with a Carrabba's Italian Grill, a Bonefish Grill, and Jersey Mike's sub shop, among other offerings

**FARMINGTON HILLS:** Courtyard by Marriott at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake roads

**ROMULUS:** Fairfield Inn & Suites, La Quinta Inn & Suites

**PARKING:** Qwik Park, Airlines Parking, and US-Park in Romulus

# Real Estate

## HOTELS



### BOB LAMBERT

Regional General Manager  
Detroit Foundation  
Hotel, Detroit

Lambert was born in Los Angeles and raised in Germany, where his family operated a steakhouse. Today, he brings more than 20 years of multi-unit general manager experience managing branded hotels, including Hilton, Marriott, and Wyndham hotels in Las Vegas, Orlando, Dayton, Baton Rouge, Washington, D.C., and St. Louis, as well as a luxury high-rise condominium in Miami. In addition, he has served as an adjunct professor in hospitality management.

**EDUCATION:** Troy University (B), Rollins College (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Line cook at a Dairy Queen

**HOBBIES:** Riding my motorbike, golf, and exploring new hotels and restaurants

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Mexico for the food, people, culture, and weather

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't be a complainer. If you identify a problem, think of a solution before bringing it to leadership. Be a problem-solver.

**PET CHARITY:** The Gentle Barn

**BUCKET LIST:** Travel to Italy where my mother's family is from, skydive, and take a motorcycle trip across the country



### ASAD MALIK

President and CEO  
Amerilodge Group,  
Bloomfield Hills

Malik's start in the hospitality industry began in 2006 when he opened the Holiday Inn Express in Grand Blanc. He has since cultivated a relationship with IHG, a global hotel company, which culminated in the Amerilodge Group. The company manages, operates, and owns hotels across the Midwest. Prior to his career in hospitality, Malik held several executive leadership positions in finance at hospitals in Michigan, including Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

**EDUCATION:** Albion College (B), University of Detroit Mercy (M), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Working at Showcase Cinema in Bloomfield Hills

**BEST ADVICE:** Gail Warden, past CEO of Henry Ford Health System, told me: The best advice is to sit down and listen to everyone.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Gladiator"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Africa

**PET CHARITIES:** Haven, American Red Cross, and Habitat for Humanity

**FAVORITE DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Henry Ford Museum



### MARK MITCHELL

Managing Partner  
Lorient Capital,  
Birmingham

Mitchell is co-founder of Lorient, as well as a managing partner. Lorient is a private investment firm that is focused exclusively on the health care industry. The company pursues investments in the health care "micro" middle market. Mitchell previously served as CEO of U.S. Medical Management, a provider of an integrated continuum of home-based health care services to patients across the country. He sold a majority interest in USMM in 2014.

**EDUCATION:** Attended the University of Detroit Mercy

**LORIENT HAS WORKED WITH:** Centria Autism Services, ClearGage, The Core Institute, Healthy Living At Home, and MedCerts

**WORK AT USMM:** Grew company from a single practice location into a diversified health care enterprise spanning nine service lines and 14 states

**EMPLOYEES AT USMM WHEN MITCHELL LEFT:** 2,000

**PATIENTS SERVED PER YEAR AT USMM WHEN MITCHELL LEFT:** 50,000 patients per year. He sold a majority interest in USMM in 2014.

**SOLD USMM FOR:** \$325 million



### R.D. "DAN" MUSSER III

President  
Grand Hotel,  
Mackinac Island

Musser started full time at the Grand Hotel in 1986 and has served as kitchen assistant, bellman, bartender, bar manager, front desk clerk, front desk manager, reservations manager, and vice president. He was named president in 1989. Along with his sister, Mimi, he represents the third generation of Musser family ownership and operation of the Grand Hotel. Musser is a director of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau.

**EDUCATION:** Albion College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** My first job was raking the sand traps at the Grand Hotel golf course for 75 cents per hour. At the end of each day, I would also earn a full-size candy bar.

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "A penny saved is a penny earned."  
— Benjamin Franklin

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Paris, France

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Do what you love, and do it 110 percent.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Godfather"

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I enjoy running

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts



### AKRAM NAMOU

Founder and CEO  
Namou Hotel Group,  
Southfield

The Namou Hotel Group acquires, develops, and manages hotels across the country, with a portfolio of more than 10,000 rooms, including 1,000 rooms that have been added in the past two years. The offerings include full-service, independent, select-service, and extended-stay hotels. Brands include Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton, Best Western, Carlson, Wyndham Worldwide, and InterContinental Hotels Group. The company also recruits, hires, and trains hotel staff.

**EDUCATION:** Al-Hikma University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Accountant at Follmer Rudzewicz (now UHY Advisors Inc.)

**NATIONALITY:** Born in Iraq, spent time in England, came to Detroit in 1980

**START:** Borrowed \$15,000 from his parents and launched an accounting firm in 1984

**HOSPITALITY:** Acquired his first hotel in Warren in 1991

**FULL TIME:** Namou had partners run the accounting firm and retired in 1994 to manage his hotel operations. He still oversees the accounting firm.

**EMPLOYEES:** More than 3,000



### BOB PIERCE

General Manager  
The Dearborn Inn,  
Dearborn

Pierce has been with Marriott International for 33 years, and has served in various management leadership positions in Chicago, Houston, and metro Detroit. He was named general manager of The Dearborn Inn in 2005. Pierce has a background in sales and marketing, and now specializes in guest relations, internal and external communications, property positioning, and strategic planning. He has served as an executive director of Check-In Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** A weekend janitor at a professional building

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Having a famous heavy metal band check in to one of my former hotels under obvious fake names; we later found the suites were trashed

**BEST ADVICE:** A strong work ethic and seeking more responsibility can take you far in life

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Hilton Head Island

**AREA ATTRACTION:** The Henry Ford

**NOTABLE:** The Dearborn Inn was built in 1931 by Henry Ford and designed by Albert Kahn. In the beginning, it served guests flying to Ford's airport (now a Ford proving ground).

# Real Estate

• HOTELS | • MORTGAGES



## MIICHAEL PLATT

General Manager  
Royal Park Hotel,  
Rochester

Platt has spent more than 30 years in the hospitality industry, working for casinos and resorts as well as large city hotels. Previously, He was general manager for Hotel Arista, a personal luxury resort near Chicago. He also was general manager for the Viceroy Santa Monica Hotel, a boutique property in Los Angeles. Prior to this, Platt held leadership positions with Hilton Hotels at properties in New York City, Puerto Rico, and Southern California.

**EDUCATION:** Hotel School Johannesburg (B), Cornell University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Storeroom clerk

**BEST ADVICE:** Whether you believe you can or you cannot, you are right

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** London or Zurich

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Your career will change several times in your life

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I love to cook and bake

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Fox Theatre

**NOTABLE:** Famous guests at the Royal Park Hotel include U.S. presidents, professional sports stars, and entertainers



## RYAN SHELDON

General Manager  
The Henry  
Hotel-Autograph  
Collection, Dearborn

Sheldon is the general manager of the Henry Hotel-Autograph Collection in Dearborn, located next to Fairlane Mall. Sheldon moved into the position at the end of 2016, after working as the assistant general manager of the hotel for a year. Before joining the staff at the Henry Hotel-Autograph Collection, Sheldon had a long career in the hospitality industry. Since 2006, He has managed or assistant-managed four local hotels.

**EDUCATION:** Concordia University, Ann Arbor (B)

**ACCOLADES:** This year, *U.S. News & World Report* named the Henry Hotel-Autograph Collection as the No. 3 hotel in Detroit

**DIRECTOR:** Sheldon was elected to the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce in 2018

**MEETING:** The Henry Hotel-Autograph Collection features 26,000 square feet of flexible event space

**SLEEP LIKE A BABY:** Each room in the hotel features "The Henry Bed," a special bed made exclusively by Lady Americana

**THE PERKS:** Amenities at The Henry include free self- or valet parking, massages by appointment, an on-site fitness center, and an indoor pool.



## DAVID SILLMAN

Co-Owner  
Townsend Hotel,  
Birmingham

Sillman is a co-owner of the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham, as well as Sillman Enterprises Inc. in Bloomfield Hills. The Townsend is regarded as one of the finest luxury hotels in metro Detroit. The hotel, which opened in 1988, is a AAA Four-Diamond and *Forbes Travel Guide* four-star boutique property. The Townsend Hotel, located along Townsend Street, has been recognized as the best hotel in Michigan by *Travel + Leisure* magazine.

**OFFERINGS:** 150 guest rooms, including several suites

**DINING:** The hotel houses the Rugby Grille, a world-class restaurant, and operates an award-winning bakery

**AMENITIES:** Each room features Frette linens, a Bose radio, and a 49-inch HD flat-screen TV.

**MEETINGS:** The Townsend has three banquet rooms that can be subdivided for smaller groups

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Sillman and his wife, Susie, have been longtime supporters of the Leukemia Foundation of Michigan

**A SECOND HOME FOR THE STARS:** The Townsend is often the hotel of choice for touring musicians, visiting sports teams, movie stars, and public officials



## DENNIS BERNARD

President  
Bernard Finance Group,  
Southfield

Bernard formed Bernard Financial Group and Bernard Financial Servicing Group in 1991, and they have grown to be among the largest commercial mortgage banking firms in Michigan. On average, they finance more than \$1 billion in Michigan commercial real estate annually. Most recently, Bernard was elected to the Mortgage Bankers Association commercial real estate board of governors, and was honored in 2006 with the Governors Service Award.

**EDUCATION:** Miami University (B), Case Western Reserve University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** I was a caddy at a golf club

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." — Dr. Seuss

**LESSON LEARNED:** Always remain humble and respectful to everyone you meet or do business with

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't sweat little people — don't let them bring you down

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I'm a great cook, and I never use a recipe or accurate measurements.



## BILL EMERSON

Vice Chairman  
Quicken Loans Inc.,  
Detroit

In addition to overseeing Quicken Loans, Emerson is vice chairman of Rock Holdings Inc., the parent company of the mortgage lender. He is responsible for leadership, growth, and culture development across the entire Rock Holdings portfolio. Most recently, he was CEO of Quicken Loans, a position he held for 15 years. Under his leadership, Quicken Loans became the second largest retail mortgage lender in the nation. The company sells mortgages across all 50 states.

**EDUCATION:** Penn State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Mortgage banker at Rock Financial

**DIRECTOR:** Xenith, Detroit Economic Club, Skillman Foundation, The Parade Company

**NOTABLE:** Member of Penn State's 1992 National Championship football team; I was a running back in all four years of my college career

**CHAIRMAN:** Mortgage Bankers Association, 2015-2016 term

**BOARD MEMBER:** Financial Services Roundtable's Housing Policy Council and HPC Executive Council

**RECIPIENT:** ALS Association's Iron Horse Award, Salvation Army William Booth Award



## JAY FARNAR

CEO  
Quicken Loans Inc.,  
Detroit

Farnar oversees Quicken Loans, the nation's largest mortgage lender as of the first quarter of 2018. He is responsible for the leadership and growth of the company, and joined the enterprise in 1996 when it was known as Rock Financial. From there, he was one of the company's top mortgage professionals, and in 1997 he was named a director of mortgage banking. In that role, he played a significant role in training and workforce development for Rock Financial.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**DIRECTOR:** One Reverse Mortgage, In-House Realty, and Rock Connections

**PAST:** Former president and chief marketing officer of Quicken Loans

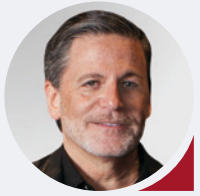
**LAUNCH:** Part of the team that started Rocket Mortgage in late 2016, which had its advertising debut during Super Bowl 50

**RANKING:** Over last four years, Quicken Loans was ranked highest in the nation for client satisfaction among mortgage servicers by J.D. Power

**SERVICE:** Executive board member of the Metropolitan Detroit YMCA

# Real Estate

## MORTGAGES



**DAN GILBERT**

Founder and Chairman  
Quicken Loans Inc.,  
Detroit

In addition to overseeing Quicken Loans, Gilbert is founder and chairman of Rock Ventures, the umbrella entity for his portfolio of business and real estate investments. He also is majority owner of the Cleveland Cavaliers. Rock Ventures and its more than 100 affiliated companies employ more than 30,000 team members. Gilbert is a shareholder in several sports-related businesses, including Fathead, Flash Seats, and Xenith, and founder of Jack Entertainment.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** I hold the record for the most pizza deliveries (78) on the crystal-clear, light-trafficked, everyone-having-their-money-ready, lucky night of Aug. 14, 1983

**BUSINESS START:** In 1985, invested \$5,000 earned in delivering pizzas and launched Rock Financial with his brother, Gary, and childhood friend, Lindsay Gross

**CO-FOUNDED:** StockX in Detroit, the world's first stock market of things

**HORIZON:** Building mixed-use developments on the Hudson's site and the Monroe Block in downtown Detroit



**MAT ISHBIA**

President and CEO  
United Shore, Pontiac

Ishbia leads a national mortgage company that has more than 2,500 employees, a four fold increase since 2011. The company's business division, United Wholesale Mortgage, has been the No. 1 wholesale lender in the nation for three years in a row. The company, which recently moved to a new headquarters in Pontiac, has a 19-percent market share in the wholesale mortgage sector and has been on *Inc.* magazine's 5,000 Fastest Growing Company list for three consecutive years.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Warehouse clerk at President Tuxedo

**COLLEGE CAREER:** I was a four-year point guard on the basketball team, which made three Final Four appearances and won the 2000 NCAA national championship

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "The Shawshank Redemption"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Florida

**DETROIT ATTRactions:** Ford Field and Little Caesars Arena

**NOTABLE:** United Wholesale Mortgage, a division of United Shore Financial Services, finished 2017 as the No. 1 wholesale mortgage lender for residential loans in the U.S. (its third year in a row), according to Inside Mortgage Finance



**OWEN LEE**

President and CEO  
Success Mortgage  
Partners Inc.,  
Plymouth Township

In 2002, Lee launched Success Mortgage Partners, and today the company has mortgage lending licenses in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Texas, and Wyoming. With more than 100 loan officers, the company transitioned to a mortgage banker from a mortgage broker in 2007, and gained full-eagle designation with the FHA for forward and reverse mortgages. Lee also is a co-owner of Title Partners, and corporate counsel of Professional Real Estate Appraisals Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Villanova University (B), Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Caddie at Pine Lakes Country Club in the sixth grade

**BEST ADVICE:** If the mind can see it and believe it, you can achieve it

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Surviving the global financial crisis was brutal

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I BBQ/smoke meat at a competitive level

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Think and Grow*, by Napoleon Hill  
**BUCKET LIST:** Playing a round of golf at the Old Course at St. Andrews in Scotland with my two sons



**TIM ROSS**

CEO  
Ross Mortgage Corp.,  
Troy

From a single office startup in 1983, Ross and a partner, Hugh Ross, built the enterprise into a multi-branch, full-service mortgage banking company. Today, Ross Mortgage is one of the top independent mortgage lenders in the Midwest, offering residential mortgage loans through a network of offices in Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Florida. Ross was president of the Mortgage Bankers Association of Michigan.

**FIRST JOB:** I swept floors in newly constructed homes

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** As a young loan officer, I was in and out of my car so often that my pants split apart. One of my colleagues broke the news to me.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I'm an Ironman triathlete, and ran in the Boston Marathon

**HOBBIES:** Fitness, skiing, and golfing

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Out of Africa"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern Michigan

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit the Amalfi Coast in Italy

**SERVED:** Two terms on the Residential Board of Governors with the Mortgage Bankers Association of America



**ANDREW SMITH**

CEO  
Towne Mortgage Co.,  
Troy

Smith is the founder of BroadSolutions and the CEO of American Community Homes Inc., the parent entities of Towne Mortgage, AmeriCU Mortgage, and ACH Trust. The companies originate and service mortgage loans independently, and provide mortgage origination, servicing, and support services to credit unions. Smith has more than 25 years of experience in the fixed income markets, as well as modeling and risk management of mortgage programs.

**EDUCATION:** The London School of Economics and Political Science (M)

**UNIVERSITY WORK:** Research fellow and lecturer at the University of Oxford

**PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:** Executive managing director, BroadStreet Capital Partners; chief investment officer, Republic National Bank

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP:** BroadSolutions and American Community Homes

**ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP:** Residential Board of Governors of the Mortgage Bankers Association

**HOBBIES:** Sailing, wine, and coaching my son's basketball team



**MARK WORKENS**

CEO  
Mortgage 1 Inc.,  
Sterling Heights

Workens has been with Mortgage 1 since January 1994. The company has grown from a single office to 37 branch offices in four states, with 196 licensed loan officers. The company offers its Snap Mortgage, which allows users to start closing their loans in about 15 minutes, as well as Veterans Affairs mortgage loans. It also works with the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to provide borrowers with a range of lending options.

**FAMILIES SERVED:** 62,000

**OPERATES IN:** Michigan, Ohio, Florida, Texas

**LOANS OFFERED:** Fixed, ARM, FHA, MSHDA, and VA loans for veterans

**VALUE:** More than \$1 billion in mortgage sales

**FHA GOVERNMENT LOAN:** The lender has expanded the guidelines in condominium financing options. A condominium complex can be grouped into one of two mortgage categories warrantable and non-warrantable. A condo complex is considered non-warrantable when it fails to meet criteria by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, to allow for more traditional mortgage financing.

## Bay Harbor Waterfront Home



**1040 Vista Drive, Bay Harbor**

6 bedrooms | 5 1/2 baths | 7,400 Sq. Ft. | Elevator  
100' of waterfront | Boathouse | Private Dock  
\$4,490,000

## Lake Charlevoix Waterfront Home



**7575 Indian Trails, Charlevoix**

5 bedrooms | 5 1/2 baths | 8,669 Sq. Ft.  
285' of waterfront | 2.57 acres | Private Dock  
\$4,999,000

Walloon Lake | Bay Harbor | Lake Charlevoix | Burt Lake | Mullett Lake | Petoskey | Harbor Springs



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**THE #1 AGENT IN  
NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
WITH OVER  
\$95 MILLION  
SOLD IN 2017**



**159' on Village Harbor**



**3275 Village Harbor, Bay Harbor**  
5 bedrooms - 4 full baths, 2 half baths  
5,000 Sq. Ft. - Private dock  
\$1,995,000

**125' on Bay Harbor Lake**



**1201 Shores Drive, Bay Harbor**  
5 bedrooms, 5 full baths, 2 half baths  
5,000 Sq. Ft. - Private Dock  
\$1,565,000

**1,500' on Mullett Lake**



**3063 Red Pine Pointe, Indian River**  
10 bedrooms - 10 full baths, 5 half baths  
14 acres - 16,000 Sq. Ft - 3 Kitchens  
\$5,500,000

\* According to NMMLS by volume sold in 2017 | Office address: 325 E. Lake Street, Petoskey, MI

# Real Estate

• PROPERTY MANAGEMENT I • SHOPPING MALLS/CENTERS



**THOMAS A. FABBRI**  
President and CEO  
Aaro Cos., Warren

Fabbri, who has nearly 50 years of professional experience in facility services, hospitality, banking, and real estate investment communities, has been president and CEO since 1970 of Aaro Cos., started by his father in 1945. The company provides commercial building maintenance, window cleaning, and commercial janitorial services and supplies. Fabbri was a past president of the Detroit Athletic Club, and is involved in community activities across Michigan.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Painter

**BEST ADVICE:** The secrets of success in business are: Never keep score, debate the issues, make a decision, live with it, and move on

**HOBBIES:** Fishing, bow hunting whitetail, golf, and squash

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** San Marino, and the Adriatic and Mediterranean areas

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** There is no beauty in bigness.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** My passion for farming

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Athletic Club



**JOEY AGREE**  
President and CEO  
Agree Realty Corp.,  
Bloomfield Hills

Agree was appointed president and COO of Agree Realty in 2009, taking over from his father, Richard, in the company he founded more than 40 years ago. In 2013, Joey was named CEO. He has led the transformation of the company's real estate portfolio from a \$300 million micro-cap development REIT to a more than \$2 billion diversified retail net lease market leader. Agree participates in numerous panels nationwide, discussing a host of commercial real estate topics.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B); Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Working for a residential homebuilder

**BEST ADVICE:** Find the best mentor possible and attach yourself to them.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Florence, Italy

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** "Live, experience, learn, get better, rinse, repeat."

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Last Chance Dog Shelter

**FAVORITE DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Greektown

**MEMBER:** State Bar of Michigan, Young Presidents' Organization, and International Council of Shopping Centers



**BRUCE AIKENS**  
Vice Chairman  
Robert B. Aikens  
and Associates,  
Birmingham

Aikens has been with Robert B. Aikens and Associates since 1987. He has previous experience in retail leasing and build-to-suit development projects. Aikens is responsible for developing comprehensive programs for the company's retail properties. He is an active member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, and his specialties include site acquisition, tenant negotiations, planning, design, and joint venture participation.

**EDUCATION:** University of Colorado (B)

**COMPANY HAS DEVELOPMENTS IN:** Michigan, Louisiana, and Florida

**TOTAL SQUARE FEET OF DEVELOPMENT:** More than 20 million

**DEVELOPMENT TYPES:** Retail, residential, commercial

**COMPANY OBJECTIVE:** Develop projects uniquely tailored to meet the needs of local communities

**DESIGN:** The company's goal is to take into account the existing architecture and landscaping, to create spaces that blend into the surrounding environment. Form and function cannot operate independently.



**NATE FORBES**  
Managing Partner  
The Forbes Co.,  
Southfield

As managing partner of The Forbes Co., a nationally recognized developer, owner, and manager of luxury shopping destinations, Forbes and his father, Sid, oversee all facets of The Somerset Collection in Troy; The Mall at Millenia in Orlando; The Gardens Mall in Palm Beach Gardens; and the Waterside Shops in Naples. He also is chairman of the University of Michigan's Greater Detroit Campaign Leadership Council for the Victors for Michigan Campaign.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Tenant coordination at Lakeview Square Mall in Battle Creek

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** "Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts." — Winston Churchill

**HOBBIES:** Exploring and traveling the world with my family, and road biking

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "A Few Good Men"

**DOWNTIME:** Staying active and current on the financial markets and world affairs

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anything unusual. Galapagos, Morocco, and all of Europe.



**SID FORBES**  
Founding Partner  
The Forbes Co.,  
Southfield

Forbes founded The Forbes Co. almost 50 years ago, and has worked to create landmark properties and redefine the parameters of commercial development. The company's portfolio includes The Somerset Collection in Troy; The Mall at Millenia in Orlando; The Gardens Mall in Palm Beach Gardens; and Waterside Shops in Naples. Forbes supports the University of Michigan Forbes Institute for Cancer Discovery, Cranbrook Schools, and many other charitable causes.

**FIRST JOB:** I was selling shoes at the W.L. Douglas shoe store, and my boss said to me, "When someone walks out with one pair of shoes you are not doing your job. They need to walk out with two or three pair of shoes — then you have actually sold them something."

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am fiercely competitive, in my psyche I never give up

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The French Riviera

**DOWNTIME:** I read a lot; I can sit for hours and read

**BUCKET LIST:** I have never had a bucket list. I do everything that I want to do.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts



**DENNIS E. GERSHENSON**  
Chairman  
RAMCO, Farmington Hills


Prior to being named chairman, from May 1996 to June 2018 Gershenson served as president and CEO of RAMCO, a shopping center real estate investment trust. The company's primary business is the ownership and management of regional town centers, urban infill properties, and neighborhood shopping centers located in 15 large metropolitan markets in the United States. RAMCO owns interests in and manages a portfolio of 56 shopping centers and three joint venture properties.

**EDUCATION:** Syracuse University (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**PORTFOLIO:** As of March 2018, the consolidated properties were 93.6 percent leased

**CAREER:** Prior to being named president and CEO, Gershenson served as vice president — finance and treasurer at Southfield-based Ramco-Gershenson Inc. (forerunner of RAMCO) from 1976 to 1996, and was responsible for arranging all of the financing of RAMCO's developments, expansions and acquisitions

**PAST BOARDS:** Hospice of Michigan, Cranbrook Academy of Arts, Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, Oakland Family Services.



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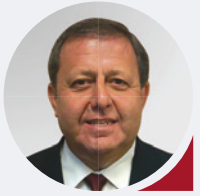
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# Real Estate | Restaurants/Food & Beverage

• SHOPPING MALLS/CENTERS | • TITLE | • RESTAURANTS/FOOD AND BEVERAGE



## ARKAN JONNA

Principal  
A.F. Jonna Development  
Co., Bloomfield Hills

Family owned and operated, A.F. Jonna is a commercial property company that develops, leases, and manages more than 50 retail centers and mixed-use properties. Properties include Ann Arbor Plaza in Ann Arbor, South Tel Plaza in Southfield, Big Beaver Center in Troy, Boardwalk Plaza in Detroit, and Bloomfield Crossing in Bloomfield Hills. The latter development replaced the Fox & Hounds restaurant and today includes Bill's, Chase, and more.

### FOUNDED:

1997  
**SPECIALTY:** Focus on developing retail centers at major intersections across metro Detroit

**PROVIDES:** Entrepreneurial environment for startup companies, offers continuous education for employees

**RETAIL:** Preferred developer for Rite Aid Pharmacy

**NOTED PROJECT:** The Palladium of Birmingham, which includes Emagine Palladium, Lucido's Fine Jewelry, Bianchi's Salon, Cryo Balance, Universal McCann, and Birmingham Couture Bride

**FUTURE:** The Palladium is adding The Morrie, a restaurant by AFB Hospitality Group, that is scheduled to open later this year



## ROBERT S. TAUBMAN

Chairman, President,  
and CEO  
Taubman Centers Inc.,  
Bloomfield Hills

Taubman joined Taubman Centers Inc. in 1976, was elected executive vice president in 1984, COO in 1988, president and CEO in 1990, and chairman in 2001. He has headed the company and served on the Taubman Centers board since the company's IPO in 1992. He is on the executive board of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, is a member of the Urban Land Institute, and is founding chairman of ULI's Detroit Regional District Council.

### EDUCATION:

Boston University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Lawn maintenance at Somerset Apartments  
**BEST ADVICE:** Have a thirst for knowledge and never stop learning throughout your life

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** From my father, A. Alfred Taubman: Make things better, not just different

**LESSON LEARNED:** Good judgment is based on experience, and experience is based on bad judgment — learn from your mistakes

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere I am with my family

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Find passion in your work and success will find you



## LINDA ORLANS

Founder and  
Executive Chair  
Orlans PC, Troy

Orlans is a practicing attorney and executive chair of Orlans PC, a company she founded as a result of a merger of seven companies. It provides legal services to local and national banks, credit unions, consumer loan finance companies, loan servicers, investors, government agencies, landlords, municipalities, utilities, title insurance companies, and private individuals and has clients. Orlans is a former director of Beyond Basics, and now serves on the advisory board.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), Michigan State University Detroit College of Law (JD)

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** My grandmother told me that life is about relationships, and to always be on equal level with those close to me. I interpreted that to mean that I was to surround myself with people who share my values.

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Gift from the Sea*, by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Learn to ask good questions, of yourself and others. Finding peace and happiness is about confidence. The key to confidence is learning to trust your instincts.



## WILLIAM ROBINSON JR.

President  
ATA National Title Group,  
Farmington Hills

Robinson runs a full-service title insurance agency operating through more than 50 offices in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Products and services include residential and commercial title insurance, title search, escrow services, relocation services, and default/REO. In addition to ATA, the company's brands include Greco Title Agency, Midstate Title Agency, Seaver Title Agency, and Talon Title Agency. Robinson is licensed to practice law in Michigan and Illinois.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Wayne State University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Hauling furniture

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "To thine own self be true" — Polonius, from William Shakespeare's Hamlet

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have appeared on stage in amateur productions, including playing Uncle Fester in "The Addams Family"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Northern Michigan

**DOWNTIME:** I'm an ardent reader

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Players along East Jefferson; I've been a member for 39 years



## RICHARD ALLISON

CEO  
Domino's Pizza Inc.,  
Ann Arbor Township

Allison was named Domino's CEO in January 2018, and assumed the post in July from Patrick Doyle. He has served as president of Domino's International since 2014, overseeing more than 9,200 stores and all franchise relationships outside the U.S. Domino's is currently the world's eighth largest quick-service restaurant chain and the world's No. 1 pizza company, based on retail sales. It has more than 14,800 stores in over 85 markets.

**EDUCATION:** University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (B), University of North Carolina, Kenan-Flagler Business School (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Produce clerk at A&P

**BEST ADVICE:** Find something that is broken and fix it

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Completing an Ironman triathlon. You learn a lot about yourself along the way.

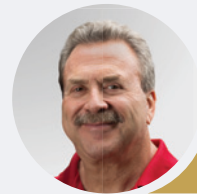
**HOBBIES:** Running, cycling, and cooking

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Bald Head Island, N.C.

**PET CHARITY:** Ozone House, Ann Arbor

**PAST LIFE:** Before joining Domino's, Doyle worked at Bain & Co. Inc. for more than 13 years

**REVENUE:** \$2.8 billion (FY)



## JACK ARONSON

CEO  
Great Lakes HPP, Taylor

Aronson and his wife, Annette, were former restaurateurs in Ferndale when they launched Garden Fresh Gourmet in 1998. Over time, they invested in high-pressure processing machines that eliminated germs, molds, and bacteria, which extended the shelf life of their products to 45 days and led to a national expansion. In 2015, Campbell Soup Co. acquired Garden Fresh for \$231 million. Since then, the Aronsons have launched Clean Planet Foods and Great Lakes HPP.

**FIRST JOB:** Line cook at Big Boy

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Staying true to your vision. Larger companies used preservatives to extend their shelf life; we got there without preservatives.

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am an All-American softball player for my age group

**DOWNTIME:** Reading, riding, and cooking

**BEST ADVICE:** Surround yourself with good people, professionally and personally

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit the spice markets in Istanbul

**CHAIRMAN:** Beyond Basics, which teaches children and adults to read using certified tutors and one-on-one training



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# Restaurants / Food & Beverage



## MIKE GIBBONS

President and CEO  
Mainstreet Ventures Inc.,  
Ann Arbor

Gibbons began his career in the restaurant industry with CA Muer Corp., initially serving as a waiter while attending college. Upon graduation, Gibbons transferred to Michigan accepting a position with Muer's The Gandy Dancer where he advanced to regional manager before embarking as a restaurateur. In 1979, Gibbons co-founded Mainstreet Ventures that includes the Real Seafood Company, The Chop House, Gratz, Carson's American Bistro, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Xavier University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**BEST ADVICE:** Leadership is getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it.

**LESSON LEARNED:** There is nothing more discouraging than having a business fail after you have put your heart and soul into it. When it happens you have to put it behind you quickly.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Set goals, aim high, never quit, and there are no limits to what you can do

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I used to fly my own plane

**DETROIT ATTRactions:** Attending Detroit Lions and Detroit Red Wings games



## STEVE JACKSON

President and CEO  
Hungry Howie's Pizza  
and Subs Inc.,  
Madison Heights

From the converted Tic Toc Hamburgers in Taylor, in 1973, Jackson began delivering pizzas while in high school for Hungry Howie's owner James Hearn. The concept proved popular, and Hungry Howie's awarded its first franchise in 1983. Within three years, there were 65 locations, and in 2005 the company had more than 500 restaurants. The company, which offers a wide range of pizzas and related products, was a pioneer with the development of flavored crusts.

**EDUCATION:** Studied at college to be a teacher, but his father, a school principal, cautioned him against it due to a lack of hiring at the time

**EARLY JOB:** Assembly line at Ford Motor Co.

**NICKNAME:** Jackson and his friends nicknamed Hearn's Howie, after industrialist Howard Hughes — the inspiration for Hungry Howie's

**OPERATION:** More than 550 restaurants in 21 states

**GOAL:** Have 800 stores by 2020

**LESSON LEARNED:** The importance of self-examination and continuous improvement

**NOTABLE:** Jackson owns and operates 12 franchises



## JOHN JETTS

Co-owner  
Jet's America Inc.,  
Sterling Heights

Jetts co-founded the pizza company with his late brother, Eugene, in 1978. Their parents advised Eugene to invest \$20,000 in personal savings into a house, but the two brothers converted a former liquor store in Sterling Heights into Jetts Party Shoppe and Pizzeria. To date, the company has not changed its basic pizza recipe, which was developed by their mother, Elmina. One of the first to offer square and deep dish pizza, the menu includes sandwiches, salads, side dishes, and drinks.

**FIRST STORE:** The location initially sold pizzas, beer, wine and party fare, but after six years it was converted entirely into a pizza operation

**EARLY YEARS:** After seven months, John and Eugene took home their first paychecks (\$35 each)

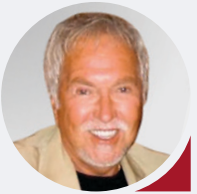
**GETTING BY:** Working 16 hours a day early on, the brothers would sleep on cots in the store

**PORTFOLIO:** More than 400 restaurants in 20 states

**PARTNERS:** Cousins Jim Galloway Jr. and Jeff Galloway

**NOTABLE:** Many of the company's employees are now franchisees

**GOAL:** Have 500 stores in the next few years



## NORM LEPAGE

Co-owner  
Big Rock Chophouse,  
Birmingham

For four decades, Norm and Bonnie LePage have owned and operated neighborhood restaurants, including Big Rock Chophouse and Got Rocks Diamond Crown Cigar Lounge, The Reserve (meeting venue), and Griffin Claw Brewing Company in Birmingham. In addition, their son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Susanne LePage, own Clubhouse BFD in Rochester Hills. Most recently, the entire family opened Lumen Detroit in Detroit's Beacon Park.

**FIRST BUSINESS:** Southern Crème Doughnuts in Dearborn. Norm LePage would make the doughnuts at night while his father-in-law sold them at the Rouge plant

**NEXT RESTAURANT:** Squire's Table, a formal restaurant in Walled Lake. Soon after, the couple remodeled the space, introduced a casual menu, and reopened as Nifty Norman's

**BIRMINGHAM:** In 1984 the couple opened Norm's Eton Street Station in Birmingham's former train station. It became Big Rock Chophouse in 1997

**PAST LIFE:** Bonnie LePage was manager of the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham



## ROBERT G. LIGGETT JR.

Chairman and President  
Big Boy Restaurants  
International, Warren

Liggett, owner of Radio First in Port Huron (formerly Liggett Communications), acquired Big Boy during its bankruptcy in 2000. Today, the company operates and franchises 84 Big Boy, Bob's Big Boy, and Big Boy's Burgers and Shakes restaurants in Michigan, Ohio, California, and North Dakota as well as licensing 280 Big Boy restaurants in Japan. Liggett founded Liggett Broadcasting in 1971, which at its peak owned radio stations in Michigan and five other states before it was sold.

**FOUNDED:** Big Boy was started as Bob's Pantry in 1936 in California before it became Big Boy and began franchising in the 1960s

**SPLIT:** During the bankruptcy, Liggett negotiated an agreement to transfer dozens of restaurants to Frisch's Restaurants, an independent company

**INNOVATION:** Big Boy debuted a double-deck hamburger

**SALE:** In 2017, Liggett sold the weekly *Grosse Pointe News* following 10 years of ownership

**RADIO FIRST:** Owns five radio stations in St. Clair and Sanilac counties

**PAST BOARD:** Beyond Basics



## SYD ROSS

Co-CEO  
Great Lakes Wine  
& Spirits, Highland Park

Ross has been in the wine industry for more than 40 years, starting his career with J. Lewis Cooper Co. He left the company in 1976 to become state manager at Mogen David Wine Co. Two years later, he purchased a wine distributorship in Detroit, General Wine and Liquor Co., and built it into one of the Michigan's largest wholesalers. Later, General Wine and Liquor and the J. Lewis Cooper Co. merged to form Great Lakes Wine & Spirits, one of the largest wine and spirits distributors in the Midwest.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Selling clothes at Northland Mall

**BEST ADVICE:** From my brother-in-law: You have pretty good verbal skills, you should be in sales.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Being 28 years old, having zero business skills, and buying a wine distributor

**HOBBY:** Collecting classic cars

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** The purpose of education is self-sufficiency. In the end, enjoy what you do

**PET CHARITY:** The Garden Party Foundation

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo

**BUCKET LIST:** Skydiving

## Restaurants / Food & Beverage



### ANTONIO RUGIERO

President and CEO  
Antonio's Cucina  
Italiana, Canton  
Township

Rugiero oversees Antonio's Cucina Italiana restaurants in Canton Township, Dearborn Heights, Farmington Hills, and Livonia as well as Roman Village Cucina Italiana in Dearborn. The latter restaurant was founded in 1964 by his parents, Antonio Sr. and Rita. Rugiero is founder and chairman of the Rugiero Promise Foundation, on the board of trustees of Michigan Opera Theatre, and a founding board member of The Patrons of the Arts of the Vatican Museum Michigan.

**FIRST JOB:** I am still doing it, only instead of washing dishes I am CEO

**BEST QUOTE:** From my mentor, Frank Stella: "If you take the time to do it, make it count."

**HIGHEST HONOR:** An audience and the blessing from the three most recent Popes

**GOAL:** Finding the right balance in family and work so that everyone is happy and successful

**HOBBIES:** Making wine and hunting with friends

**PET CHARITY:** University of Michigan Antonio Rugiero Sr. Diabetes Research Fund

**BUCKET LIST:** Visit Japan and China



### PATRICK A. RUGIERO

Executive Director  
Roman Village  
Restaurant Group,  
Dearborn

Rugiero is a restaurateur, a chef, a brand ambassador, and a commercial real estate investor. His parents, Antonio and Rita Rugiero, founded Roman Village Restaurant in 1964, which he now operates with his mother and three brothers, Anthony, Roberto, and Marco. Away from business, Rugiero sits on numerous charitable boards and has helped raise millions of dollars for the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, Life Directions, and Beyond Basics.

**FIRST JOB:** Working in the family business making pizzas

**BEST ADVICE:** There are no shortcuts to success

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The passing of my father in 2008 was a challenge that taught me to value that much more every moment I have with those I love.

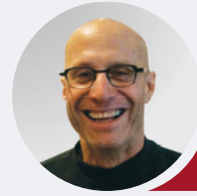
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** The "Rocky" movies

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy, the birthplace of my parents

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Choose something you are passionate about

**TRUSTEE:** Beaumont Health

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** John Travolta



### PAUL SAGINAW

Co-Founder and Partner  
Zingerman's Community  
of Businesses, Ann Arbor

Saginaw and Ari Weinzwieg joined forces to found Zingerman's Delicatessen in downtown Ann Arbor in 1982 with the goal of providing a great corned beef sandwich and an organization with soul. The first location spanned 1,300 square feet of space, and offered a combined restaurant and specialty food retail store. The Zingerman's Community of Businesses now has 23 partners, employs over 750 people, and generates over \$65 million in annual revenue among 10 businesses.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Landscaping at age 14

**BEST ADVICE:** It's more important to be kind than right

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** A customer brought her service animal, a donkey, into the delicatessen

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Raising two boys with my wife

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Leadership is an Art*, by Max Depree

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I used to be an excellent card counter at blackjack

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Pisac, Peru; the Sacred Valley

**PET CHARITY:** Food Gatherers

**BUCKET LIST:** Live outside the U.S. for a year



### MARK SCHOSTAK

Executive Chairman  
Team Schostak Family  
Restaurants, Livonia

Schostak oversees a family-owned restaurant group with a portfolio of more than 100 casual, quick service, and family dining restaurants, including Applebee's, Olga's Kitchen, MOD Pizza, and Del Taco. Additionally, he is a partner of Schostak Family Enterprises, which includes family entities Schostak Family Investments Co., Schostak Brothers & Co. Inc., and Schostak-Fisher Group. Schostak has expertise in planning, analysis, and management.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), Harvard Business School (M)

**FIRST JOB:** In high school, I ran a Sunday morning bagel delivery route that has now been passed on to my children

**BEST ADVICE:** People don't want to do a bad job. It's up to leadership to be candid with them or we're doing a disservice

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." — Ben Franklin

**LESSON LEARNED:** Never accept the status quo

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** In your business and personal life, become a lifelong learner

**PET CHARITIES:** JDRC, MDA, and Make-A-Wish Michigan



### DAVE SCRIVANO

President and CEO  
Little Caesar Enterprises  
Inc., Detroit

Scrivano oversees the day-to-day operations of Little Caesar Enterprises Inc., the third-largest pizza chain in the world. Under his leadership, the company has consistently been one of the world's fastest-growing restaurant brands, with a presence in all 50 states and 23 countries and territories. Scrivano joined Little Caesars in 1999 as senior vice president of administration, where he oversaw marketing, training, human resources, and research and development.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Assistant manager at a Domino's pizza store

**OVERSEES:** Development of Little Caesars' world headquarters expansion, which is set to open later this year in tandem with Columbia Street, a mixture of 10 restaurants and retail stores

**HEADQUARTERS:** The nine-story, 235,000-square-foot facility is located immediately west of the Fox Theatre and set to open later this year

**FEATURES:** One-of-kind façade made up of 14-foot tall pizza-shaped glass pieces, an open-air, glass-covered terrace, collaborative workspaces, a fitness center, along with retail shops and restaurants at street level



### JOE VICARI

President and CEO  
Joe Vicari Restaurant  
Group, Warren

Vicari and his wife, Rosalie, operate 20 restaurants, including several area Andiamo locations; Joe Muer Seafood eateries in downtown Detroit and Bloomfield Hills; Brownie's on the Lake; The Country Inn; 2941 Mediterranean Street Food; and Andiamo Steakhouse at The D in Las Vegas. Vicari has been a restaurant owner since 1982. He also owns Detroit Chemical and Paper Supply Co., and is a co-owner of Michigan Lottery Amphitheater at Freedom Hill in Sterling Heights.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** At age 13, worked at my father's dry cleaning and tuxedo rental business

**BEST ADVICE:** The harder you work, the luckier you get

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The 2008 recession, we had to dig deep to keep it all going

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I enjoy producing concerts and bringing in national entertainment

**HOBBIES:** Golf and looking at new restaurant concepts

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**PET CHARITIES:** Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Gleaners

**BUCKET LIST:** Continued good health and a long life



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# Restaurants / Food & Beverage | Retail

• RESTAURANTS / FOOD & BEVERAGE | • RETAIL



**ARI WEINZWIEG**

Co-Founder and Partner  
Zingerman's Community  
of Businesses, Ann Arbor

Launched Zingerman's Delicatessen with Paul Saginaw in 1982 with a \$20,000 bank loan, a staff of two people, and a modest menu of sandwiches and other fare. Today, through multiple businesses, Zingerman's serves more than 500,000 people per year, employs over 750 workers, and has annual revenue of around \$65 million. Weinzwieg has written several books, operates a farm, and co-founded Food Gatherers, which delivers more than one million pounds of food to people in need.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Running errands and deliveries for H.A. Lieber Paper Co. in Chicago

**LESSON LEARNED:** Most everything we care about is hard to do, but hard in a good way

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I write about anarchism and its application to modern, progressive businesses

**HOBBIES:** Reading and running

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Ireland

**AREA ATTRACTION:** Labadie Collection at the University of Michigan Graduate Library

**PET CHARITY:** Safehouse Center in Ann Arbor



**SABER AMMORI**

Co-Founder and CEO  
Wireless Vision,  
Bloomfield Hills

Ammori has more than 25 years of experience in business management and operations. His entrepreneurial drive led him to start several successful businesses, most of them retail-oriented. Wireless Vision, a family-owned business established in 2004, today operates more than 500 T-Mobile locations in 26 states. The expansion has come through a combination of acquisitions and organic growth. The company offers the Women in Leadership Forum, among other programs.

**EDUCATION:** Northwood University (B), Walsh College (M)

**EXPANSION:** In July, acquired Express Locations

**WORKFORCE:** More than 4,000 employees

**PASSION:** People and culture development

**TEAM DEVELOPMENT:** We're serious about having fun

**BEST ASSET:** Our culture

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with my wife, Jeanine, and playing sports with our five boys

**QUOTE:** "We're able to continue our growth, bring new jobs into more communities, and do what we love because of (customer) loyalty."

**OPERATES:** Wireless Vision University, Leadership Academy.



**SPIROS ASSIMACOPOULOS**

President and CEO  
Michigan Bread Co.,  
Taylor

Michigan Bread, operated by Assimacopoulos and his brother, Andy, was founded in 1973 by their father, George, who delivered baked goods from the trunk of his 1971 Plymouth Duster. Early on, the company distributed its products via local bakeries. In the mid 1990s, the family formed Assimacopoulos Bakery Distributors Inc., and in 2003, they added a warehousing facility. In 2006, the bakery merged with Mike Sanfilippo of Supreme Sales and Service.

**EDUCATION:** Eastern Michigan University (B), Michigan State University (M)

**HOBBY:** Avid soccer player

**MEMBER:** Young Presidents' Organization

**PRODUCTS:** More than 800 offerings, including artisan, deli, and specialty breads, buns, rolls, and frozen breads

**PROCESS:** Slow fermentation, a time-consuming and expensive process, results in healthier products

**OPERATES:** President and CEO of George Anthony Baking Co. and G&A Baking Co.

**MERGER:** The bakery merger allowed for an expansion into area restaurants, hotels, and country clubs



**DON BARNES III**

President  
Belle Tire Inc.,  
Allen Park

Belle Tire was founded in 1922 in Detroit by Sam Waze, who named the business after his wife, Belle. Today, Belle Tire has around 100 locations in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. Offering tires, rims, glass repair, and automotive services, Barnes was appointed president in 2014. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations at all retail stores and directly oversees Belle Tire's customer service, inventory, pricing, and other activities.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Inventory specialist

**BELLE TIRE:** Barnes joined the company in 2005 as operations and marketing manager. Shortly thereafter, he was named marketing director, and in 2012, was promoted to vice president of retail operations.

**BEST ADVICE:** If you're not first, you're last

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I'm a great dancer

**HOBBIES:** Golf, deep sea fishing

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Michigan Humane Society

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Mark Wahlberg



**MANOJ BHARGAVA**

Founder and CEO  
Living Essentials,  
Farmington Hills

After spending time in the United States and India, Bhargava attended a natural products trade show and sampled an energy drink. He developed his own formula of vitamins, amino acids, and vitamins and launched 5-Hour Energy. At first, the two-ounce drink was available at GNC stores before being expanded to thousands of gas stations, pharmacies, and retail outlets. He has launched multiple enterprises and founded and oversees Stage 2 Innovations.

**FIRST JOB:** Running a printing press and working construction

**QUOTE:** It's not the little bottle. It's not the placement. It's not the product. You can con people once, but nobody pays \$3 twice.

**NET WORTH:** More than \$1.5 billion (*Forbes*)

**PLEDGE:** Plans to spend 99 percent of his fortune on global sustainability, including bringing water and electricity to 3 billion people who live in developing areas

**FOUNDED:** Stage 2 Innovations focuses on technology that improves quality of life, or as Bhargava says to "invent stuff that makes a difference in other people's lives."

**INNOVATIONS:** Electric bike that produces 24 hours of electricity by pedaling one hour and a desalination machine.



**RONALD BOIRE**

President and CEO  
Art Van Furniture Inc.,  
Warren

Boire became president and CEO of Art Van Furniture in April 2018, which was founded by the late Art Van Elslander. Boire more than 35 years of experience in the retail industry and previously worked in senior executive positions, including president and CEO roles at companies including Barnes & Noble, Sony Electronics, Best Buy, Toys R Us, Brookstone, and Sears Canada. He most recently served as a principal at the Upland Group, an advisory firm.

**EDUCATION:** Columbia University (M), London Business School (M)

**PET CHARITY:** He co-founded the Ferguson Noonan Foundation, which focuses on educating under-privileged children; also supports the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

**AWARD:** S. David Feir International Humanitarian Award from the Anti-Defamation League

**LEADERSHIP:** Former director of the Retail Council of Canada and the Retail Industry Leaders Association

**COMPANY FOUNDED:** 1959

**EMPLOYEES:** 3,600 people

**STORES:** Some 100 in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa

# Retail

• RETAIL



**JOHN BUSCH**  
Chairman  
Busch's Fresh Food Market, Ann Arbor

Busch's father, Joe, along with Charlie Mattis, launched the gourmet market business by acquiring two stores from J&C Family Foods in 1975. Following World War II, Joe and two partners opened Country Market in Clinton Township, added more stores, and went bankrupt. He went to work at the chain that bought the stores, and when they went into bankruptcy in 1975, he reacquired the original two stores. Today, Busch's Fresh Food Market operates 17 stores.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Accountant at Seidman and Seidman

**HOBBIES:** Biking and travel

**WORKFORCE:** More than 1,400 employees

**COMPANY:** Operated by the second generation of the family, John, Doug, and Tim Busch

**NICHE:** A full service grocery store chain that also offers specialty and organic foods, a mobile app called MyWay, catering, and a central kitchen in Clinton Township

**NOTABLE:** Offers J.B.'s Smokehouse, a 170-seat restaurant at the Canton Township location which opened last year. The store offers prepared food, a full line of groceries, and more.



**RICHARD GOLDEN**  
Founder and CEO  
SEE, Southfield

Golden joined the former D.O.C. corporate team as director of advertising in 1977, and was named vice president and appointed to the board in 1982. He was named president and CEO in 1986. With Golden at the helm, D.O.C. became the sixth largest optical chain in the U.S., expanding the network from 27 stores (\$9 million in annual sales) in 1977 to 110 stores (\$120 million in annual sales) in 2007, at which time the company was sold to Luxottica.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** I was an account executive at WABX radio in Detroit

**FOUNDED:** In 1998, created SEE, the first store to offer high fashion eyewear and sensibility in pricing.

**BEST ADVICE:** If you believe in your path and it is well thought through, give little credence to those who try to dissuade you.

**LESSON LEARNED:** Don't let the first 15 to 20 doors slammed in your face stop you from moving forward

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** While speaking to a large group of students at MSU, I had to ad lib a "stand up" routine for 20 minutes while a tech restored my presentation

**BUCKET LIST:** A first class African safari — without the bugs



**DAN GORDON**  
Chairman  
Gordon Food Service Inc., Wyoming

Started more than a century ago by Isaac van Westenbrugge, a 23-year-old Dutch immigrant, as a butter-and-egg delivery business in the Grand Rapids area. In 1916, Ben Gordon was hired, and five years later he married van Westenbrugge's daughter. Gordon and his brother, Frank, renamed the company Gordon Food Service in 1942, and today the company is run by Dan and Jim Gordon. The company, one of the largest food service distributors in North America.

**FOUNDED:** 1897

**EMPLOYEES:** More than 19,000

**CUSTOMERS:** Restaurants, schools, universities, health care facilities, and a variety of food service operations

**FOOD:** Appetizers, soups, dairy, baked goods, beef, pork, poultry, seafood, and more

**SUPPLIES:** Commercial kitchen equipment, place settings, and cleaning products

**OPERATES:** Gordon Food Service Stores in commercial areas as well as 17 distribution centers.

**COMPANY BRANDS:** Brickman's, Crown Collection, Harvest Valley, Hearthstone, and Premium Angus Beef, among others.



**MATT JONNA**  
Co-Founder and CEO  
Plum Market, Farmington Hills

Jonna began working at a young age at his father's business, The Merchant of Vino, a fine wine and specialty foods store in Birmingham. Following college, he helped his father, Ed, and brother, Marc, expand the business to six locations. In 1998, Whole Foods acquired the business, and Matt joined the company's national operations team. In 2006, the Jonna family launched Plum Market. Today, the company has multiple large and small format locations.

**EDUCATION:** Albion College (B)

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Convincing the banks to support Plum Market

**FAVORITE BOOK:** "A Lapsed Anarchist's Approach to Building a Great Business" (Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading)

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Going to a great university or college is important, however, there is nothing like real life work experience.

**PASSION:** Work side by side with the teams

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Jelly Bean Jump Up

**BUCKET LIST:** Grow Plum Market into the nation's leading food and beverage company



**ALON KAUFMAN**  
CEO  
HoMedics Inc., Commerce Township

Kaufman is co-founder and CEO of FKA Brands, which does business as HoMedics. Born in Israel, he moved to the United States and in 1987 launched HoMedics with Ron Ferber. Today, the company offers a wide range of home massage, self care, and wellness products, including air filters, humidifiers, sleep aids, fitness monitors, beauty aids, oils, footbaths, and more. The company also manufactures a range of sound-therapy products.

**FIRST JOB:** Gas station attendant

**BEST ADVICE:** Stay away from negative people, they have a problem for every solution

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Was overleveraged and got through it

**HOBBY:** Collecting cars

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Sardinia

**DOWN TIME:** Reading news and catching up on movies

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** If you want something you never had, you have to do something you've never done

**BUCKET LIST:** Improve our online strategy



**TOM LEWAND**  
CEO  
Shinola, Detroit

Lewand was named CEO of Shinola in 2015, a company that produces modern, handcrafted watches, leather goods, jewelry, bicycles, and other curated gifts. The enterprise has 30 retail locations across the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain, and is opening the Shinola Hotel in downtown Detroit in the fall. Prior to that, Lewand was president of the Detroit Lions for seven years. He held myriad positions and responsibilities within the front office during his 20-year tenure.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M, JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Fudge maker on Mackinac Island

**BEST ADVICE:** There is true strength in both gratitude and humility

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Long Walk to Freedom*, by Nelson Mandela

**HOBBIES:** Traveling to great places around Michigan with my family

**DOWN TIME:** Reading and working out

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Thank you for helping us "adults" see the world in a different way. The way younger people are finding and using their voices is impressive.

# Retail



**THOM LIPARI**  
President and CEO  
Lipari Foods, Warren

Thom Lipari joined Lipari Foods in 1971, a wholesale food distributor started by his father, Jim, in 1963. He has played a major role in the company's growth by overseeing multiple strategic acquisitions and entering into new business opportunities such as expansion into the dairy and "Better-For-You" categories as well as creating a Convenience Store division. Today, Lipari Foods stocks over 25,000 items at its 700,000 square-foot warehouse in Warren.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**BEST ADVICE:** If it's broken, fix it and make it better. If its not broken, break it and make it better

**LESSON LEARNED:** I didn't compete in Chicago for many years because I thought it was too tough of a market. Today it's one of our largest markets. I learned that if your program is good it's probably going to be good anywhere

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Independence Day"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Nassau, Bahamas

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Believe in what you want to do and do it with great passion



**HANK MEIJER**  
Executive Chairman  
Meijer Inc., Grand Rapids

Meijer operates a large supermarket chain that was founded in 1934 by his grandfather, Hendrik Meijer, as Meijer Grocery. The store concept emerged from Hendrik's barbershop. He and his son, Frederik, launched Meijer Thrifty Acres in 1962, an early pioneer in one-stop shopping. Frederik inherited the company after the death of his father in 1964. In 1990, he handed over the company to Doug and Hank, and he remained chairman until he passed in 2011.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Newspaper reporter

**OPERATION:** The retailer operates more than 240 supercenters and grocery stores

**AUTHOR:** *Thrifty Years and Arthur Vandenberg: The Man in the Middle of the American Century*

**REVENUE:** \$16.6 billion (*Forbes* estimate)

**WORKFORCE:** More than 77,000 employees

**STORES:** Located in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin

**PHILANTHROPY:** Annually donates more than six percent of its net profit to charities



**JIM ROSENTHAL**  
Managing Partner  
Mans Lumber & Millwork,  
Canton Township

Rosenthal is a managing partner at Mans Lumber & Millwork in Canton. Before becoming the CEO at Mans, Rosenthal was heading up his family's lumber company, National Lumber. However, after the two companies merged in 1998 (keeping the Mans Lumber & Millwork name), Rosenthal partnered with Pete and Doug Mans. Before the merger, National Lumber was at one time the nation's largest single-yard lumber company.

**FOUNDED:** 1900

**ROOTS:** Founder Nicholas August Mans began selling coal and peat in Trenton

**PRODUCTS:** Decking, moulding and millwork, kitchen and bath, windows, flooring, and doors

**OPERATIONS:** Four lumberyards, two kitchen and bath design showrooms, a finished carpentry and mill workshop, and an installed products division

**EXPERTISE:** Rosenthal helped Mans Lumber and Millwork stay profitable as the company and industry struggled during the housing crisis that started in 2007 and the global recession in 2008



**KIRK TAYLOR**  
President  
Nino Salvaggio  
International  
Marketplace,  
St. Clair Shores

The late Nino Salvaggio founded Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace in 1979, and the first store was in St. Clair Shores. Since then, the gourmet market has added locations in Clinton Township and Troy, and soon will open a new marketplace in Bloomfield Township. The stores offer meats, poultry, fish, cheeses, dairy, produce, and general food offerings. The business also supports numerous charities, fundraising opportunities, and school tours.

**PARTNERS:** Leo Salvaggio, along with Andrea and Frank Nicoletta

**LAUNCHED:** Nino's Fresh2Go, an online shopping service, which includes curbside pickup or delivery services.

**PARTNER:** Troy-based WyGO for Fresh2Go delivery. The company makes deliveries in electric Chevy Bolts wrapped in the WyGO logo. Perishable items are transported in hot bags and cold bags to maintain proper temperature.

**SERVICE:** Fresh2Go customers can search for a specific product, look for items by brand name, and narrow down options by price range. A minimum order of \$25 is required for curbside pickup and delivery.



**MARK VALADE**  
Chairman and CEO  
Carhartt Inc., Dearborn

As CEO and chairman of Carhartt, Valade leads the development of the company's long-term vision and strategy with a view to maintaining the integrity and value of the business. He previously served as the company's president from 1997 to 2013, making him the 4th generation family member to lead the firm. He is the great-grandson of founder Hamilton Carhartt, who launched the business in 1889 in Detroit. Since 1979, Valade has held multiple positions at the company.

**EDUCATION:** Lyndon State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Working summers and vacations at Carhartt

**FOUNDED:** 1889 in Detroit

**BEST ADVICE:** "There is not an imitation tolerated at any point. We are building for the years — not for a season or two." — Hamilton Carhartt

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** I enjoy visiting Vermont, where I attended college

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The energy in downtown and Midtown, and, of course, the Carhartt store in Midtown

**PET CHARITY:** I like supporting charities that shine a light on Detroit and the positive things that are happening in the city.



**THOMAS E. WOLFE**  
President and CEO  
Ziebart International  
Corp., Troy

Wolfe has worked at Ziebart for more than 40 years, and served as executive vice president and CFO before becoming president and CEO in 1994. In December of that year, Wolfe led Ziebart employees in a buyout of the company through an ESOP. He is responsible for expanding Ziebart's presence internationally. Under his leadership, the company has expanded into 33 countries, with more than 1,000 service centers throughout the world.

**FIRST JOB:** CPA

**FOUNDED:** In 1959 by Kurt Ziebart in Detroit. Ziebart had worked for Packard.

**MEMBER:** International Franchise Association

**BEST ADVICE:** Trust your instincts

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Ziebart faced bankruptcy and we had to change the culture of the employees and also the business format of the franchise dealers.

**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Florida and Istanbul, Turkey

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Take your education as far as you can go

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Athletic Club



+



# We're changing the way the world eats!

No question about it, the world is getting smaller. And yet the number of people that need food that's safe, healthy and delicious is growing exponentially. But by working together, we're doing our best to ensure this growing need gets met. That's why we opened Great Lakes HPP—the region's first High Pressure Pasteurization facility—in Taylor to make HPP accessible to Detroit area food entrepreneurs. It's also why our sister company, Clean Planet Foods, uses HPP to make wholesome, clean foods that are perfect for time-starved individuals and families. Contact Dante Dasaro (dante@glhpp) to find out more about how we're changing the way the world eats—for the better!



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# Retail | Sports, Arts, Entertainment

• RETAIL | • ARTS | • CASINOS



**SEAN ZECMAN**

President  
National Food Group,  
Novi

Zecman manages National Food Group, a wholesale food distributor for institutional food service markets such as schools, universities, hospitals, entertainment venues, and correctional facilities across the country. The company was founded in 1990 by his father, Bud, and was transitioned to Sean in 2003. Since its inception, National Food Group has been steadily expanding. In 2015, the company hired nearly 30 new employees and experienced nearly 30 percent growth.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** A cook at McDonald's

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Profit is in the details and be kind; you don't know other people's stories

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Burt Lake in northern Michigan

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Slow down and smell the roses. It's not about getting there, it's about the journey.

**BUCKET LIST:** Finishing an Iron Man competition

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Belle Isle. I remember as a young child having so much fun at the Belle Isle Zoo and the Belle Isle slide.



**WAYNE S. BROWN**

President and CEO  
Michigan Opera Theatre,  
Detroit

Brown was named president and CEO of Michigan Opera Theatre in 2014, replacing David DiChiera, who started the cultural organization in 1971 and opened the Detroit Opera House in 1996. Brown had been director of music and opera for the National Endowment for the Arts since 1997, where he managed NEA grants for music and opera projects and directed the NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships, the nation's highest honor in jazz.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Administrative manager at the DSO

**FOUNDING MEMBER:** Magic in Music Advisory Committee for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

**CAREER:** Former executive director of the Louisville Orchestra

**PAST ADVISORY BOARD:** Ford Foundation, Mellon Foundation

**FORMER VICE CHAIRMAN:** American Symphony Orchestra League

**UPCOMING SHOWS:** Wicked, Aug. 8 to Sept. 2; An Evening with Renee Fleming, Sept. 29; Eugen Onegin, Oct. 13-21; The Barber of Seville, Nov. 10-18, and more



**EUGENE A. GARGARO JR.**

Chairman  
Detroit Institute of Arts,  
Detroit

Gargaro was a member of the Dykema law firm in Detroit for more than 25 years before joining Masco Corp. in 1993, where he served as vice president and corporate secretary before his retirement in 2008. He currently serves as legal counsel and an officer of the Manoogian Foundation. As chairman of the Detroit Institute of Arts since 2003, Gargaro led a strategic initiative to successfully guide the DIA through the Detroit bankruptcy, and secured the museum's independent status.

**EDUCATION:** Georgetown University (B), University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Lawyer at Dykema

**NOTABLE:** From 2003 to 2007, he worked to implement a \$160-million renovation, expansion, and reinstallation of the museum

**FAVORITE BOOKS:** World War II books and related biographies

**HOBBIES:** Fishing, golf, investing, and art collecting

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Vero Beach, Florida

**ADVICE FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE:** Be the best you can be at whatever you do, and enjoy it.



**ANNE PARSONS**

President and CEO  
Detroit Symphony  
Orchestra, Detroit

Parsons has overseen the Detroit Symphony Orchestra since 2004. Under her leadership, since 2011, the DSO has achieved record ticket sales growth and has doubled its donor base. Her vision of making the organization more accessible has resulted in the launch of innovative new products. The Neighborhood Residency Initiative has established seven DSO residencies across metro Detroit and established the William Davidson Neighborhood Concert Series.

**EDUCATION:** Smith College (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Assistant to the executive director of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

**LESSON LEARNED:** Inspiring others to embrace and support change

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I can still play the flute and aspire to spend more time enjoying that gift.

**DOWN TIME:** Protecting unscheduled time (and sometimes days) where plans unfold spontaneously.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Eastern Market

**BUCKET LIST:** Spending more time at our family camp in the Adirondacks



**SALVADOR SALORT-PONS**

Director,  
President and CEO  
Detroit Institute of Arts,  
Detroit

Salort-Pons was appointed director, president, and CEO of the Detroit Institute of Arts in 2015, succeeding Graham W. J. Beal. Salort-Pons joined the DIA in 2008 as assistant curator of European paintings, and served as head of the European art department since 2011, adding the role of executive director of Collection Strategies and Information in 2013. He also played a critical role in supporting the Grand Bargain during Detroit's bankruptcy.

**EDUCATION:** University of Madrid (B), Cox School of Business, Southern Methodist University (M), University of Bologna (Ph.D)

**FIRST JOB:** Curator of exhibitions, Memmo Foundation/Palazzo Ruspoli, Rome

**NOTABLE:** Helped lead the way for a tri-county millage for the Detroit Institute of Arts.

**DIA EXHIBITS:** Helped organize Fakes, Forgeries, and Mysteries, Five Spanish Masterpieces, and Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus, among others

**AUTHOR:** *Velazquez en Italia and Velazquez*

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Don Quixote*, by Miguel de Cervantes

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Rome



**TOM CELANI**

Owner  
Luna Entertainment,  
Novi

The son of an Italian immigrant, at 26, Celani became president of Action Distributing Co. after the unexpected death of his father. Under his leadership, ADC grew into one of the largest Miller distributors in the country, selling more than 5 million cases of beer annually. In 1988, Celani founded Sodak Gaming, Inc. He transformed the small casino gaming device distributor into a company with \$150 million in annual sales. More recently, he formed Luna Entertainment.

**FIRST JOB:** Worked for my father sweeping and mopping the floors at the Hamm's beer warehouse in Detroit.

**BEST ADVICE:** From Leonard Goldstein, former president of Miller Brewing Co. After my dad died, he put his arm around me and said, "Surround yourself with the best talent available and never be intimidated by your shortfalls."

**FEW PEOPLE KNOW:** I can be gentle. I can listen. I lead by example, and I won't ask anyone to do anything I wouldn't do.

**HOBBIES:** Auto racing, bow hunting with my sons, fishing, and golf.

**FAVORITE TV SHOWS:** "Family Feud" and "Billions"

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Eastern Market

# Sports, Arts, Entertainment

• CASINOS | • MUSEUM | • MUSIC



**MATTHEW P. CULLEN**

CEO  
Jack Entertainment,  
Detroit

In addition to overseeing Jack Entertainment, Cullen is a principal of Rock Ventures. The latter enterprise connects entrepreneur Dan Gilbert, founder and chairman of Quicken Loans Inc. and majority owner of the Cleveland Cavaliers, to more than 100 of his companies, as well as his investments, real estate acquisitions, and community activities. Since 2010, the Quicken Loans Family of Companies has invested more than \$2.2 billion in real estate development and renovation.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B),  
University of Detroit Mercy (M)

**CAREER:** Spent 29 years at General Motors, including as general manager of economic development and enterprise services

**OVERSAW:** At GM, a 450-million-square-foot real estate portfolio

**NOTABLE:** Chief architect of GM's \$500 million acquisition and redevelopment of the Renaissance Center

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Cullen Plaza along the Detroit RiverFront

**VOLUNTEER:** President and CEO of M-1 Rail, which operates the QLine



**BRUCE DALL**

President  
MotorCity Casino Hotel,  
Detroit

In June 2016, Dall was named president of MotorCity Casino Hotel, after serving in an interim role. He is responsible the casino operation, 400 hotel rooms, restaurants and food service, beverage, retail, marketing, facility, and administrative departments. Dall has more than 28 years of experience in the casino industry. His most recent assignment at MotorCity Casino Hotel was senior vice president of finance and administration/CFO.

**EDUCATION:** University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (B)

**NATIVE:** Milwaukee

**CERTIFIED:** CPA in Nevada

**EXPERIENCE:** Assistant general manager and CFO for Greektown Casino; CFO and treasurer of the Hard Rock Hotel Casino; controller of the Desert Inn; and director of internal audit for Caesars World

**DETROIT ATTRACTIONS:** Little Caesars Arena, Comerica Park

**FEATURES:** MotorCity Casino includes Sound Board, a performing arts, entertainment, and meetings venue, banquet and meeting space, and Iridescence restaurant.



**MICHAEL J. MALIK**

Owner  
MJM Enterprises and  
Development, Detroit

Malik owns and operates numerous companies, including hunting and fishing preserves, oil and gas operations, financing touring entertainment acts, and casino properties, the latter with different partners. In the 1990s, he was part of a group that funded a successful ballot initiative to bring three casinos to downtown Detroit, and for a time was a partner in MotorCity Casino. He also helped develop a casino for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in Manistee.

**FIRST JOB:** Licensed real estate broker

**OWNS:** Paradise Hunt Club in Gladwin, a 1,000-acre wild game preserve

**DEVELOPED:** Wildlife Genetics, a company that offers hunting and outdoor products

**EXPERTISE:** Resort and casino development, shopping malls, urban development, and industrial parks

**PARTNER:** Gateway Casino Resorts, which is working with the Shinnecock Indian Nation to open a gaming enterprise on Long Island, N.Y.

**GAMING:** Has long worked, and at times has been successful, in developing casinos in Michigan, California, and New York



**MIKE NEUBECKER**

President and COO  
MGM Grand Detroit,  
Detroit

A Michigan native, Neubecker oversees the day-to-day operations of MGM Grand Detroit, including casino operations, a 400-room hotel, numerous amenities like the Top Golf Swing Suite, and several restaurants, including Wolfgang Puck Steak, Tap, and the Palette Dining Studio. Prior to that, Neubecker was executive director of finance, assistant vice president of finance, vice president of finance, and CFO at MGM Grand Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B)

**SUCCEEDED:** Steve Zanella, president of MGM Resorts International

**CAREER:** Former director of finance, construction controller, and senior accountant at MGM Grand Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas

**REVENUE:** \$592.2 million

**PARTNERS:** A separate corporation, Partners Detroit joined with MGM Grand Detroit when the casino opened

**ORIGINAL PARTNER:** Martha Jean "The Queen" Steinberg, who passed away in 2000

**PARTNERS:** Roy S. Roberts, William F. Pickard, Jane C. Garcia, Anthony S. Gramer, and more



**PATRICIA MOORADIAN**

President and CEO  
The Henry Ford,  
Dearborn

Mooradian leads the strategic direction and the overall campus at The Henry Ford, the nation's largest American history destination and a national historic landmark site that attracts 1.7 million visitors annually. The institution offers a collection of more than 26 million artifacts across multiple venues, including Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour, Benson Ford Research Center, and Henry Ford Giant Screen Experience.

**EDUCATION:** Texas Christian University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Deck cleaner at the local swim club

**OPERATES:** The Henry Ford also offers the Henry Ford Academy, a public charter high school that educates more than 500 students a year.

**BEST ADVICE:** Always keep your dignity

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I play ragtime piano

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *A New Earth*, by Eckhart Tolle

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Define your values and live by them always

**DOWN TIME:** Playing Scrabble, exercising, reading, gardening, and watching movies



**JOEL MARTIN**

Producer and Owner  
54 Sound, Ferndale

Martin got his start on the production side of the music business in 1977, and found success with the Detroit rock band Sponge. Working with Jeff and Mark Bass, Luis Resto, and others, he began to produce records for Eminem (Marshall Mathers). The first album, "Infinite," was a dud, but the next four records were a huge success. Martin continues to produce records and licenses a collection of more than 12,000 songs and ad jingles to movies, TV shows, and radio programs.

**FIRST JOB:** In high school, was an intern at Artie Field's Studios in Detroit

**EARLY LIFE:** Set up a guitar shop called the Hole in the Wall in an old cloakroom at the Belcrest Hotel in Detroit

**QUOTE:** "I just wanted to find groups to record. I'd decided I didn't want to be a musician."

**SUCCESS:** Sold 100 million records with Eminem

**COLLECTOR:** Art and memorabilia from the Atomic Age (1950s and 1960s)

**RESTAURANT:** Owns Atomic Dawg in Berkley

**HELPED LAUNCH:** D-PAN, the Deaf Performing Artists Network in Ferndale

# Sports, Arts, Entertainment

• PARADE I • PRODUCTION I • PRO TEAMS



**TONY MICHAELS**  
President and CEO  
The Parade Company,  
Detroit

Michaels oversees an organization that creates and produces America's Thanksgiving Parade by Art Van and the Ford Fireworks. In addition, The Parade Company produces the Strategic Staffing Solutions Turkey Trot and Hob Noble Gobble, presented by Ford. He is also executive director of The Woodward Dream Cruise and the brand adviser to Gretchen Valade's Detroit Jazz Festival. Michaels is a board member of the Detroit Economic Club.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B).

**FIRST JOB:** Golf caddie

**LESSON LEARNED:** When treated unfairly, rise above and stay on the high road. Also remember it's how you treat others that really matters.

**HOBBY:** Golf

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Ray Donovan"

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** No matter what you do, go all in and strive to create greatness

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Visiting family in Chicago and Minneapolis

**BUCKET LIST:** Play golf at Augusta National Golf Club



**JASON HUAERE**  
Founder and President  
Paxahau Events, Detroit

Huvaere manages Paxahau Events, a full-service event planning and production company. He began producing events in 1993, and launched *Paxahau.com* in 1998 as internet music stream technology was introduced. Under his leadership, Paxahau Events produces the annual Movement Electronic Music Festival, Detroit Jazz Festival, and Detroit Restaurant Week. In 2014, *Rolling Stone* named him and his colleague, Sam Fotias, as two of the "50 Most Important People in Electronic Dance Music."

**FIRST JOB:** Street sweeper and popcorn maker at my dad's business. I was 11 years old.

**BEST ADVICE:** From my dad when I was 19. He said he knew exactly what he wanted to do when he was 19 years old. So I quit my job and started my own business.

**LESSON LEARNED:** Years ago, I bought a brand that was re-sold by the seller to another person in a different jurisdiction. The lesson is to only build your own brands

**HOBBIES:** Playing with synthesizers, boating, and ORV sports

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"

**WHO SHOULD PLAY YOU IN A BIOGRAPHICAL**

**MOVIE:** Leonardo DiCaprio. He's my only choice



**AL AVILA**  
Executive Vice President  
of Baseball Operations  
Detroit Tigers, Detroit

The first Cuban-born general manager in MLB history, Avila is responsible for the day-to-day baseball operations of the Detroit Tigers. Prior to joining the team in 2002, he served as special assistant to Pittsburgh Pirates General Manager Dave Littlefield for a short time, and spent nine seasons with the Miami Marlins (previously Florida Marlins). In 1997, the Marlins won the World Series. Avila helped the Marlins draft several top players.

**EDUCATION:** St. Thomas University (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Catcher with the Los Angeles Dodgers

**EARLY CAREER:** Head coach at St. Thomas University and general manager of the Daytona Beach Admirals

**FAMILY:** His father, Ralph, is senior scouting adviser for the Dodgers (previously served as vice president), and his son, Alex, is a catcher for the Arizona Diamondbacks (after spending several years with the Tigers)

**NOTED:** A pioneer in drafting players from baseball academies in the Dominican Republic and Venezuela

**NOTABLE:** Inducted into the Professional Baseball Scouts Hall of Fame in 2012



**MARTHA FORD**  
Owner and Chairman  
Detroit Lions, Detroit

Ford succeeded her husband, William Clay Ford, after he passed away in 2014. Since that time, she approved a \$100-million renovation of Ford Field, oversaw the hiring of team president Rod Wood, general manager Bob Quinn, and coach Matt Patricia, set about renovating the Detroit Lions Allen Park practice facility, and added a cheerleading squad. Ford is the granddaughter of industrial icon Harvey Firestone, and grew up in Akron, Ohio.

**EDUCATION:** Vassar College (B)

**GOAL:** Win multiple Super Bowls

**LEGACY:** The Ford's have owned the Detroit Lions since 1963

**LEADERSHIP:** Ford is joined on the Detroit Lions board by her three daughters — Martha Ford Morse, Sheila Ford Hamp, and Elizabeth Ford Kontulis; and her son, William Clay Ford Jr.

**CIVIC ROLE:** Board member of Detroit Lions Charities and Henry Ford Health System

**FOUNDER:** The Maple Grove Institute

**PAST AFFILIATIONS:** Served on the boards of The Merrill Palmer Institute, The University Liggett School, and the Children's Home of Detroit



**TOM GORES**  
Owner  
Detroit Pistons, Detroit

Gores is owner of the Detroit Pistons, and chairman and CEO of Platinum Equity, a global investment firm in Beverly Hills. Founded in 1995, today Platinum Equity has \$13 billion of assets under management and its current portfolio comprises more than 30 operating companies generating \$22 billion in collective revenue. In Michigan, the company's portfolio of companies span automotive, transportation and logistics, and boat manufacturing.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Software entrepreneur to the lumber industry

**EARLY LIFE:** Born in Israel, Gores grew up in Genesee County and played football, baseball, and basketball in high school

**ACQUIRED:** Became team owner in 2011

**PISTONS VALUE:** Nearly \$1 billion (*Forbes*)

**PRINCIPLES:** Empowerment, hard work, and integrity

**YOUTH SPORTS:** Coached soccer and basketball teams

**BUILDING:** Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center, a state-of-the-art practice facility and corporate headquarters in New Center expected to open in 2019. The facility is in partnership with Henry Ford Health System.



**KEN HOLLAND**  
General Manager and  
Executive Vice President  
Detroit Red Wings,  
Detroit

Holland, general manager and executive vice president of the Detroit Red Wings, in April had his contract extended for two more years. In his 35th year with the team, he is one of the most successful GMs in professional sports. Since Holland was appointed to his position in 1997, the Red Wings have more wins (982) than any other franchise in the NHL, including 863 regular season wins and 119 playoff victories. During Holland's time, the Red Wings have won four Stanley Cups.

**FIRST JOB:** Goaltender for the Red Wings for two years

**NATIVE:** British Columbia, Canada

**FRONT OFFICE:** Became a Red Wings scout in 1985

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Oversees player personnel, development, contract negotiations, and player movement

**NOTABLE:** Associate director for Hockey Canada at the Winter Olympic Games in 2010 (Vancouver) and 2014 (Sochi), where Team Canada captured the gold medal each time

**QUOTE:** "When I fly in an airplane, I always love to fly with a pilot who has done it before. Ken Holland has had the experience of seeing a Detroit Red Wings team in the 1980s build from the ground all the way up to Stanley Cup champions." — Christopher Ilitch

## WHEN YOU INVEST IN THE COMMUNITY, THE RETURNS ARE GUARANTEED.

At Huntington, we know how important it is to give back to the community. After all, we do more than just work here – we live and raise our families here too. And after everything this community has done for us, we're just happy to be able to return the favor.



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**LGC Global Construction | Facility Management | Infrastructure**

**2018 CORPORATE  
CITIZEN AWARDEE**

**DETROIT  
Thank You  
Awards**



**CONSTRUCTION**



**FACILITY MANAGEMENT**



**INFRASTRUCTURE**

# Sports, Arts, and Entertainment

• PRO TEAMS | • RESORTS | • THEATERS



**CHRIS  
ILITCH**

President and CEO  
Ilitch Holdings Inc.,  
Detroit

Ilitch, the son of the late Mike and Marian Ilitch, leads and provides oversight to an array of companies in the food, sports, and entertainment industries, including Little Caesars Pizza, Blue Line Distribution, the Detroit Red Wings, Olympia Entertainment, the Detroit Tigers, Olympia Development, and more. The organization also has a joint venture interest in 313 Presents. He led the development of The District Detroit, a 50-block area that includes Little Caesars Arena.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)  
**WORKFORCE:** More than 23,000 employees  
**REVENUE:** \$3.6 billion  
**BOARDS:** Business Leaders for Michigan, Downtown Detroit Partnership, Detroit Economic Club  
**CHAIRMAN:** Ilitch Charities

**THE DISTRICT DETROIT:** Home to eight world-class theaters, five neighborhoods, four professional sports teams, and three multiuse sports facilities, including Little Caesars Arena

**FAMILY:** In 1953, Mike Ilitch opened a pizza shop in Haig's Bar in Detroit. "I say shop," says Chris Ilitch, "but it was inside a closet in the bar, some 200 or 300 square feet in size."



**ARN  
TELLEM**

Vice Chairman  
Palace Sports &  
Entertainment,  
Auburn Hills

Tellem oversees Palace Sports & Entertainment, which includes the Detroit Pistons basketball franchise. Tellem, who reports to owner Tom Gores, has responsibility for business strategy, planning, and development, and strengthening the organization's connection with the community. For the Pistons, he is responsible for league-related initiatives as one of the team's alternate governors on the NBA Board of Governors. In 2017, he helped bring the Pistons back to Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** Haverford College (B), University of Michigan Law School (JD)  
**MEMBER:** American Bar Association, State Bar of California  
**PHILOSOPHY:** Making a difference to a community gives you a deeper sense of purpose.  
**NBA CAREER:** Former executive vice president and general counsel, Los Angeles Clippers (1982 to 1988)  
**PAST LIFE:** Represented more than 500 professional athletes as a player agent  
**WRITER:** Has written for *Sports Illustrated*, *The New York Times*, and *The Japan Times*  
**NEXT CHALLENGE:** Bringing an MLS franchise to Detroit



**TOM  
WILSON**

President and CEO  
Olympia Entertainment,  
Detroit

Wilson oversees Olympia Entertainment, the sales and marketing arm of the Detroit Red Wings and the operating company for Little Caesars Arena, the Fox Theatre, and City Theatre. He and his team played a pivotal role in the design and construction of Little Caesars Arena, which opened in September 2017. Prior to that, Wilson spent 32 years with the Detroit Pistons, including serving as president and CEO of Palace Sports and Entertainment.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Office support at B.C. Morton, a downtown Detroit brokerage firm  
**BEST ADVICE:** What is step one? Bill Davidson always cautioned everyone to execute the first step perfectly, and everything else will follow.  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** I was an actor in California  
**TRAVEL DESTINATIONS:** Paris, London, Barcelona, and Rome  
**PET CHARITY:** CATCH. It brings all the teams together to help children, and what could be better than that?  
**BUCKET LIST:** Climbing Mount Everest



**ROD  
WOOD**

President  
Detroit Lions, Detroit

Wood joined the Detroit Lions as president in 2015, and reports directly to Martha Firestone Ford, the team's owner and chairman. In 2017, he led a \$100-million renovation of Ford Field, including upgraded audio, visual, and Wi-Fi systems, new scoreboards, and renovated suites. Prior to joining the Lions, Wood was president and CEO of Ford Estates, where he worked with the team and the Ford family. He also worked at Comerica Bank from 1999 to 2007.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B), ABA Graduate School of Commercial Banking (M)  
**LEADERSHIP:** Reinforce a culture that we can do big things. And once you do big things, then people can believe, OK, we can do the next big thing.  
**TEAM GOAL:** Win multiple Super Bowls  
**LEAGUE POSITION:** NFL's investment committee  
**TEAM MEMBER:** Board of trustees and officer of Detroit Lions Charities  
**MEMBER:** Detroit Sports Organizing Corp., geared to identify, bid, and attract sporting events to the region  
**DIRECTOR:** CATCH and Downtown Detroit Partnership



**STEPHEN  
KIRCHER**

President  
Boyne Resorts,  
Boyne Falls

Kircher's father, Everett, and two partners, founded Boyne Resorts in 1947. Stephen grew up in the business and today is responsible for 10 resort and development operations in Michigan, Montana, Maine, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Washington, and British Columbia. He served as the point person for Boyne on the \$1-billion Bay Harbor Project, and oversaw the development processes on more than \$350 million in projects, including the Inn at Bay Harbor.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Boston College (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Making range balls for one of Boyne's golf practices facilities  
**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap ... and Others Don't*, by Jim Collins  
**HOBBIES:** Skiing, snowboarding, sailing, golf, and travel  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Big Sky Mountain in winter, St. Barts in spring, and northern Michigan in summer and fall  
**DOWNTIME:** On Walloon Lake with family  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Show up, be on time, stay engaged, and learn how to listen to adults



**PAUL  
GLANTZ**

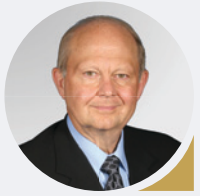
Chairman  
Imagine  
Entertainment Inc.  
Troy

Initially working in banking and public accounting, Glantz helped grow the wealth of several prominent Detroit-area families, who later helped him pursue his entrepreneurial dream. Before launching Imagine Entertainment in 1997, he worked in management at Proctor Financial Inc. in Troy. Today Imagine Entertainment operates 18 theater complexes in Michigan, Minnesota, and Illinois. Glantz has worked at Comerica Bank, Ernst & Young, and Pulte Homes Inc.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B), Walsh College (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Telephone solicitor. It was an awful job.  
**BEST ADVICE:** Put the interests of others ahead of your own, and inevitably you'll both be very successful  
**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The worst thing in business is when you don't know what you don't know  
**HOBBIES:** Boating and snow skiing  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Croatia  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Life is about preparation; never stop learning  
**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Christopher Plummer

# Sports, Arts, and Entertainment | Technology

• THEATERS | • ZOOLOGICAL | • TECHNOLOGY



**MICHAEL MIHALICH**  
Founder and CEO  
MJR Theatres,  
Bloomfield Hills

Mihalich launched MJR Theatres in the early 1980s with the acquisition of the Main Art Theatre in Royal Oak. In 1990, the company acquired a drive-in complex in Monroe and a theater in Waterford Township, followed by what today is MJR Adrian Cinema 10 in 1997. The chain took its name from its original slogan, "Movies Just Right." To help finance new cinemas, MJR sold some of its existing theaters and brought in Novi-based Luna Entertainment as an investor.

**FIRST JOB:** Paper boy at 10 years old

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** When the going gets tough, the tough get going

**HOBBIES:** Reading, golf, exercise, and watching college football

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Rudy"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Delray Beach, Fla.

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Detroit Zoo

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Don't walk away when things get tough; fight through it

**BUCKET LIST:** Playing a round of golf at Augusta

**WHO WOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:**

Donnie Wahlberg



**RON KAGAN**  
CEO  
Detroit Zoological  
Society, Detroit

At the Detroit Zoo, Kagan has led the development of the Gorilla Conservation Research Center, the Wilds of Africa, the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, the National Amphibian Conservation Center, the Arctic Ring of Life (largest U.S. polar bear facility), the Ford Education Center, and the Polk Penguin Conservation Center. In addition, he is leading the way to build a new bat exhibit. Kagan also lectures at universities and has authored scientific and policy papers, and book chapters.

**EDUCATION:** University of Massachusetts (B), Hebrew University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Golf caddy as a teenager

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Being a soldier

**HOBBIES:** Skiing, auto racing, and travel

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** A sea lion put my entire

thigh (gently) in his jaw — I wasn't feeding him fast enough

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I like howling with wolves

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Endurance*, by Sir Ernest Shackleton

**DOWN TIME:** Spending time with family

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Antarctica

**BUCKET LIST:** Going to Mars



**JIM ANDERSON**  
Founder, president,  
and CEO  
Urban Science, Detroit

As the founder of the company, Anderson was and is the original "Urban Scientist." A professor at Wayne State University at the time of the company's founding, Anderson solved seemingly unsolvable problems for Cadillac. His belief in science and his can-do attitude have driven Urban Science forward for 40 years. His personal passion for "Science Enhancing Life" has led to his commitment to improving lives throughout the community and beyond.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (B,M)

**FIRST JOB:** I peddled papers for the *Detroit Times*

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The best way to predict the future is to create it." — Abraham Lincoln

**LESSON LEARNED:** Quality has to come first; then everything else seems to take care of itself

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME:** I used to play the tuba

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Patton"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** The Great Lakes by personal boat or London, because I can almost speak the language

**BICKET LIST:** To build a new boat



**FRANCOIS J. CASTAING**  
Chairman of the Board  
Gentherm, Northville

Castaing has served as a director of Gentherm since 2001. In 2000, he retired as technical adviser to the chairman of Chrysler Corp. Prior to retiring, Castaing spent 13 years with Chrysler, where he held various positions including vice president of vehicle engineering from 1988 to 1996, and president of Chrysler International from 1996 to 1997. Castaing began his career with Renault as a technical director for Renault Motorsport Programs.

**EDUCATION:** Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers.

**FIRST JOB:** Designing and developing racing engines right after college

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** Setting my pants on fire on the Dodge Viper SRT 10 prototype side exhaust pipe at the Chrysler proving ground, while arguing the merits of adding a heat shield to it

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I enjoy vintage car racing

**HOBBIES:** Driving around in an Alfa Romeo 4C and Jeeping with a 2006 Wrangler

**FAVORITE MOVIES:** "Best in Show," "The Blues Brothers"

**DIRECTOR:** FIRST Robotics



**BHARAT DESAI**  
Chairman  
Syntel Inc., Troy

Desai and his wife, Nerrja Sethi, founded Syntel in 1980, first working out of their Troy apartment to oversee the IT consulting and outsourcing operation. Desai acted as CEO from April 1980 to February 2009. He was also the president of the company from April 1980 to December of 2006. Today, the company's partnerships include Google Cloud, Amazon Web Services, Pivotal, Duck Creek Technologies, Horton Works, Health Edge, and Back Base.

**EDUCATION:** Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (B), University of Michigan Ross School of Business (M)

**INDUSTRIES SERVED:** Health care, life sciences, banking and financial services, manufacturing, retail, logistics, and more

**AWARDS:** Desai was named Entrepreneur of the Year by *USA Today* in 2004

**DIRECTOR:** John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, University of Michigan Ross School of Business

**NET WORTH:** \$1 billion (*Forbes*)

**EMPLOYEES:** 28,000

**FIRST-YEAR REVENUE:** \$30,000

**INITIAL INVESTMENT:** \$2,000



**PHIL EYLER**  
President and CEO  
Gentherm, Northville

In to addition managing Gentherm, Eyler serves as a director. Since 2015, he has been president of the \$3 billion Connected Car division at Harman, a subsidiary of Samsung. At Harman, Eyler oversaw more than 8,000 employees. Joining Harman in 1997, he was senior vice president and general manager of its Global Automotive Audio business. He also led Harman's North American Automotive business and the North American and Asian Manufacturing group.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B), Fuqua School of Business at Duke University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Baling hay and detasseling corn

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others." — Lord Robert Baden-Powell

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am good at shooting free throws.

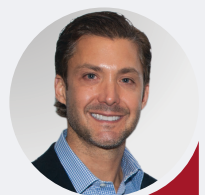
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Caddyshack," Bill Murray should have won an Oscar

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Coming back home to Arizona

**DOWNTIME:** I love to read historical biographies

**AREA ATTRACTION:** The Henry Ford Museum

# Technology



**MARC GARDNER**  
Founder and CEO  
North American Bancard  
Holdings, Troy

Gardner oversees a multifaceted payment solutions provider that processes more than \$50 billion in credit card transactions among 350,000-plus national merchants. The company offers business solutions in four primary segments: credit card processing, e-commerce/gateway, mobile payments, and cash advances. Gardner launched the company in 1992, and by 2004 he had 20,000 merchants clients. In 2017, the company acquired Total Merchant Services in California.

**EDUCATION:** University of Wisconsin (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Ran a sign display company in downtown Birmingham

**START:** Initially rented space in his father's office; now his father rents space from him

**WORKFORCE:** More than 1,200 employees and 3,000 sales partners

**RECOGNITION:** Ernst & Young 2008 Entrepreneur of the Year for the Central Great Lakes region

**BOARD:** MOCAD in Detroit

**PHILANTHROPY:** AIPAC, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Friendship Circle, Cranbrook, and more



**RADHA GURUSAMY**  
Co-founder and Chairman  
Apexon, Southfield

Gurusamy is co-founder and chairman of Apexon, a global information technology and business process management (BPM) services provider. He co-founded the company in 1996 and, under his leadership, Apexon became a global player in the IT and BPM space, with key Fortune 500 companies as clients. Gurusamy has been instrumental in guiding the company's revenue growth, profitability, and expansion into new verticals and markets.

**EDUCATION:** Bharathiar University (B, M)

**OFFICES:** Apexon has offices across North America, India, the UK, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as in the Middle East

**EMPLOYEES:** More 4,400 globally

**ROOTS:** Apexon was created from the rebranding of Technosoft Corp.

**FORMER WORK:** Gurusamy has held positions with Tata Consulting Services, Syntel Inc., and Ford Motor Co.

**EXPERIENCE:** Gurusamy has more than 25 years of technology leadership experience

**EXPERTISE:** Health care, financial services, retail, and telecommunications



**DAN IRVIN**  
President and CEO  
123Net Inc., Southfield

Irvin is the founder and primary owner of 123Net, a business network services provider that offers high-speed fiber, fixed wireless, voice platforms, and operates the region's largest data center. To date, 123Net has installed and oversees more than 3,500 miles of fiber throughout Michigan, with annual increases of 300-plus miles. The company operates the Detroit Internet Exchange, which includes Rocket Fiber, Google, Netflix, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Working for General Electric on a project for U.S. Steel

**BEST ADVICE:** Remember you'll always regret what you didn't do, rather than what you did

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Growing up I was an accomplished tennis player. I also built walkie-talkie systems and buzzers as a kid.

**DOWNTIME:** Reading about technology trends, along with novels and biographies

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.



**PETER KARMANOS**  
Co-founder and Chairman  
MadDog Technology,  
Birmingham

After co-founding Compuware Corp. in 1973 in a converted motel room with two partners, Karmanos led the company for 40 years before it was split up and sold. From there, he co-founded MadDog Technology in Birmingham, which uses the cloud and mobile devices to monetize the core assets of companies, including automotive, manufacturing, and banking. He's also part owner and governor of the Carolina Hurricanes, who won the Stanley Cup in 2006.

**A FAVORITE MOMENT:** Hoisting the Stanley Cup

**OFFICE KEEPSAKE:** A cash register from my parents' former diner on Detroit's west side

**NOTABLE:** Inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2015

**PROUD MOMENT:** When an arbitrator ruled Compuware's former management team had to pay him \$16.5 million for wrongful termination and taking vested stock options

**LIQUID ASSET:** Spending several million dollars on the water feature in the Compuware Building

**SALES:** I keep telling our guys, people don't buy stuff from you because they like you; they buy stuff because you demonstrated that they get value for it.



**FRED MINTURN**  
Group CEO  
and Executive Chairman  
MSX International,  
Detroit

Minturn oversees the company's two divisions: Geometric Results Inc. and Retail Network Solutions. MSX International, a global business process outsourcing firm, was acquired by Bain Capital in 2017. Prior to assuming his current position, Minturn was MSX's president and CEO, and before that he was executive vice president and CFO. Earlier in his career, he was vice president and controller of MascoTech in Taylor, a predecessor of MSX.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Babysitting at age 10

**BEST ADVICE:** The harder you work, the luckier you get

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Managed a near-bankrupt business in Turin, Italy, for three years by commuting every month, but it ended in a successful sale

**HOBBY:** Collecting wine

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Rome

**DOWNTIME:** Dog-walking, wine-tasting, squash, golf, and watching movies

**PET CHARITY:** Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation

**BUCKET LIST:** To go to the Masters



**JOE O'CONNOR**  
Co-founder and CEO  
ViziRecruiter, Troy

O'Connor oversees ViziRecruiter, an online platform where text-based job descriptions are converted into visual branding statements. Once a job recruiter copies, pastes, and enters a text-based job description on the company's website or via a mobile app, the user selects a preferred design template of colors, fonts, and icons, and then shares the content with a specific job candidate or on social media. O'Connor also is the author of a children's book, *Where Did Daddy's Hair Go?*

**EDUCATION:** University of Massachusetts, Amherst (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Helped plan America's Bicentennial in 1976 in Boston, which included President Gerald R. Ford, Queen Elizabeth II, and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy

**PAST LIFE:** Co-owned a yogurt chain and operated bakery franchises

**CO-FOUNDED:** Troy-based Kalpa Systems Inc. in 1999

**KALPA SYSTEMS:** Develops and distributes IT products and services to the educational sector

**KALPA PORTFOLIO:** Serves 900+ schools, 51,000 teachers, and has tracked more than 13 million professional development hours



# DETROIT'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Meet Jeff Gau, CEO of Marco, one of the largest technology providers in the country. Though Jeff might not be the most recognized person in Detroit, he's quietly influencing the way businesses approach their technology strategy.

Besides being a respected leader and mentor, a generous contributor to local communities, and the driving force behind Marco's high-performing culture, Jeff is also a great partner for businesses that want to work smarter, dream bigger and take their technology further.

Jeff knows being a trusted technology partner isn't just about finding the right products. It's about providing the most value and the best service experience. That's why 32,000 customers across the nation trust Marco as their go-to company for business IT.

*Learn more about Jeff by subscribing to his Leadership Blog at [aleadershipculture.com](http://aleadershipculture.com).*



copiers & printers  
business IT  
managed services  
cloud services

**marconet.com**

# Technology | Venture Capital

• TECHNOLOGY | • VENTURE CAPITAL



## MADHAVA REDDY

President and CEO  
HTC Global Services,  
Troy

Reddy is the founder, president, and CEO of HTC Global Services and has grown the company to a global provider of information technology services over the past 26 years. Under his leadership, the company has recorded significant growth in revenue and market share, and serves an array of industries including automotive, manufacturing, banking and financial services, health care, insurance, hospitality, and retail. He immigrated to the U.S. in 1983.

**EDUCATION:** Sri Venkateswara University (B), Walsh College (B, M)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:** American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants

**COMPANY MISSION:** To provide global IT solutions that enable clients to achieve their business objectives through technology and expertise

**HTC GLOBAL FOUNDED:** 1990

**SERVICES:** Application management, cybersecurity, data management, data center services, infrastructure services, mobile development, and records and content management



## DANIELLE RUSSELL

Managing Director,  
Americas Platforms  
Google, Detroit

Russell is Google's managing director of platform sales. In her role, she drives adoption and utilization of the DoubleClick and Google Analytics 360 platforms within the U.S. finance, travel, pharmaceutical, and health systems sectors. Prior to her platform roles, she served as Google's director of automotive for the U.S., as well as the director of automotive parts, services, and third-party sellers. Before joining Google, Russell was with Ogilvy & Mather.

**EDUCATION:** The College of William and Mary (B), Wayne State University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Account coordinator at Ross Roy Communications

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Perfection is the enemy of progress." — Winston Churchill

**HOBBY:** Playing golf with my family

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Anywhere with family and friends, preferably where it's sunny and warm.

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Be curious and flexible. Embrace chaos and learning. Ask questions. Listen. Value mentors.



## BOBBY SCHOSTAK

CEO  
MadDog Technology,  
Birmingham

In addition to running MadDog Technology, a developer and investor in cloud-based solutions for a range of industries, Schostak is CEO of MadDog Venture Capital and general partner and fund manager of MadDog VC Fund I. For 35 years, Schostak served as co-CEO of Schostak Brothers & Co., a commercial real estate business in Livonia that operates properties in 24 states. He was chairman and finance chairman of the Michigan Republican Party.

**EDUCATION:** Oakland University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Sold newspapers outside neighborhood bakeries

**BEST ADVICE:** Failure is not an option

**FOUNDED:** Templar Baker Group in 2015

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** The shenanigans that take place working every day with three brothers who are five-and-a-half years apart in age

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Making a career pivot from real estate to the technology software business

**HOBBIES:** Fishing and sailing

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Scent of a Woman"

**PET CHARITY:** University of Michigan Congenital Heart Center



## GUY SCHUELLER

Industry Director,  
Automotive  
Google, Detroit

Schueller leads Google's sales and operations teams within the U.S. automotive vertical, covering General Motors Co., Fiat Chrysler, and Ford Motor Co. Schueller has been working at Google since 2012. Prior to that, he spent nearly two years at Microsoft as the Global Automotive Industry Insights lead. Before that, he spent more than a decade on the advertising agency side of the business, leading automotive-focused media and digital teams.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Beyond Interactive, a digital advertising agency startup in Ann Arbor

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** Your attitude is the only thing you can truly control, so have a good one

**TOUGHEST LESSON LEARNED:** Understanding that everything happens for a reason and that you cannot buy perspective, it must be earned

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME:** I love pinball and have actually built a full-size virtual pinball machine

**FAVORITE HOBBY:** I still try to play hockey once a week

**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "Game of Thrones"



## RAJ B. VATTIKUTI

Chairman and CEO  
Altimetrik Corp.,  
Southfield

After forming Covansys Corp. in 1985, which he sold to Computer Science Corp. in 2007, Vattikuti established several technology-based businesses, including Synova Inc., Vattikuti Technologies, Vattikuti Ventures, and Davinta Technologies. He formed Altimetrik in 2012 to catalyze digital transformation for a number of global businesses in health care, manufacturing, automotive, retail, travel and hospitality, and financial services. He is a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

**EDUCATION:** College of Engineering, Guindy, India (B), Wayne State University (M)

**BEST ADVICE:** Put yourself in your customer's shoes and everything will come to you

**LESSON LEARNED:** Instill the right culture first, and the leadership comes from everybody

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** While traveling for business, I forgot my dress shoes and instead I wore sandals

**FAVORITE CHARITY:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, The Omidyar Foundation

**BUCKET LIST:** Live in Europe and other parts of the world, and mingle with the locals enjoying cuisine, culture, and history



## RALPH BOOTH

Co-founder  
and Managing Partner  
Fontinalis Partners,  
Detroit

Booth is responsible for the day-to-day operations at Fontinalis Partners, a venture capital firm that invests in next-generation global mobility solutions. He is a director of three Fontinalis portfolio companies: SQL-stream, Parkmobile International, and Synovia Solutions. He also served on the board of Grupo Clarin, S.A. in Buenos Aires, Argentina. For the past 20 years, Booth has been CEO and chairman of Booth American Co., a private investment firm.

**EDUCATION:** Harvard University (B)

**EXPERTISE:** Repeatedly built and scaled companies from inception to monetization event, including in the United States, Europe, and South America

**INVESTMENT:** Has significant operational, strategic, and transactional experience in domestic and international markets

**HOBBIES:** Pond ice hockey and fishing

**PAST TRUSTEE:** The Henry Ford and Hotchkiss School

**NOTABLE:** As an active outdoorsman, I have been involved with the Valley Floor Preservation initiative in Telluride, Colo.

**OVERSEAS:** In 1989, I formed a European telecommunications division to provide broadband services in the U.K.

# Venture Capital



## PAUL BROWN

Managing Director  
eLab Ventures,  
Ann Arbor

Brown has diverse experience as an entrepreneur and venture capital investor. He was most recently vice president of capital markets at the Michigan Economic Development Corp., where he managed the bulk of the state's \$2 billion 21st Century Jobs Fund. Brown co-founded and was the senior vice president of business development of Front Door Insights, a mobile technology company that was acquired in 2013 by Mobivity.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M), Wayne State University (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, and Froom in New York

**MEDC:** Managed 21st Century Commercialization Competition, \$150 million; and 21st Century Investment Fund, \$109 million

**ELAB VENTURES:** An early-stage venture capital fund

**BUILDS AND INVESTS IN:** Disruptive technology

**OFFICES:** Ann Arbor and Silicon Valley

**PORTFOLIO:** Companies include Clinc, Strata Oncology, Tut Systems, Blue Medora, Automatic, Aperia, Cobalt, Mobile Force, Rachio, Sight Machine, Step Communications, and more



## JEFF COHEN

Founder and CEO  
Rock Cos.,  
Bloomfield Township

Cohen manages Rock Cos., an integrated real estate firm that includes Rock Construction Co. Inc., Rock Equities, and Rock Management. He has expertise in engineering and design, construction management, property leasing, maintenance, accounting services, information systems, and real estate law. In recent years, he and his colleague, Steven Rosenthal, helped Dan Gilbert, founder and chairman of Quicken Loans Inc. in Detroit, on real estate projects.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**PRINCIPAL:** Rock Gaming, Detroit

**NOTABLE:** Cohen was one of the investors of Quicken Loans Inc. when it was acquired in 2002 as well as the Cleveland Cavaliers

**SERVED AS:** Vice chairman of the Cleveland Cavaliers

**COMMUNITY:** Former president of JARC Properties, a nonprofit organization providing housing and services to the developmentally disabled

**PAST:** Director of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit

**PET CHARITY:** Juvenile Diabetes Foundation

**RECENT:** Developing the Hudson's and Monroe Block in Detroit



## BRIAN DEMKOWICZ

Managing Partner  
Huron Capital Partners,  
Detroit

A co-founder of Huron Capital, an operationally-focused venture capital firm founded in 1999, Demkowicz helps lead the company in acquiring, repositioning, and growing lower middle-market businesses. He has executed middle-market acquisitions, recapitalizations, restructurings, growth financings, and divestitures. Through the firm's six investment funds, Demkowicz has participated in the closing of more than 200 transactions valued at over \$2 billion.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B), J.L. Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper route at 12 years old

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** You cannot control the wind, but you can adjust your sails.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Finding strong executives

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am an avid guitar player and collect left-handed vintage guitars

**ONCE MET:** George Harrison in an airport lounge

**BUCKET LIST:** Checked off bungee jumping and running with the bulls, next is skydiving and heli-skiing

**DIRECTOR:** Detroit Athletic Club



## JAN GARFINKLE

Founder and  
Managing Partner  
Arboretum Ventures,  
Ann Arbor

Garfinkle leads the fundraising effort at Arboretum, and has raised more than \$450 million over four funds. The firm's investments focus on promising medical technologies that enable healthcare system savings. Prior to founding Arboretum, Garfinkle spent 20 years in entrepreneurial health care companies. She was founder and president of Strategic Marketing Consultants, where she advised health care startups and major medical device companies.

**EDUCATION:** University of California, Berkeley (B), Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Engineer and product manager for Procter & Gamble

**WORK:** Has led more than a dozen investments and currently serves as a director of Ebb Therapeutics, NeuMoDx, Cardiac Dimensions, and Strata Oncology

**NOTABLE:** Past investments have led to successful exits creating more than \$2 billion in enterprise value for HandyLab (acquired by Becton Dickinson in 2009), Esperion (IPO in 2013), CardioMEMS (acquired by St. Jude Medical in 2014), and NxThera (acquired by Boston Scientific in 2018)



## PATRICIA "PATTI" GLAZA

Senior Vice President  
Invest Detroit, Detroit

Glaza serves as senior vice president of Invest Detroit and leads investments for ID Ventures, managing early-stage, technology-focused venture capital funds. She joined Invest Detroit in 2014, bringing more than 20 years of experience to the job. Glaza serves as a resource to startups and as an adviser/board member for organizations including the Michigan Venture Capital Association, Great Lakes Protection Fund, Next Energy, GreenLight Fund Detroit, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), University of Michigan (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Paper delivery girl in Port Huron

**BEST ADVICE:** Don't burn bridges

**LESSON LEARNED:** Workaholic leaders don't create the highest performance teams

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME:** Before I had kids, I used to travel the world bird-watching

**FAVORITE HOBBIES:** Reading, traveling, and teaching entrepreneurship

**DREAMTIME:** Ha! I am the chauffeur and cheering squad for two teenage daughters.



## RICH HELPPIE

Founder and  
Managing Partner  
Vineyard Capital Group,  
Franklin

Helppie is the founder and a managing partner at Vineyard Capital Group in Franklin. He is an industry veteran in the health care information technology industry, and a longtime consultant. Helppie started his consulting career in 1984, founding Superior Consultant. As the leader of Superior Consultant, he turned it from a one-man operation into a company that employed more than 1,400 workers and had annual revenue of \$149 million.

**WHAT THEY DO:** Vineyard Capital Group is a firm that specializes in investing and providing governance and advisory services to small- to medium-sized companies

**PET CHARITY:** The Helppie Family Charitable Foundation

**PORTFOLIO:** Vineyard Capital Group is comprised of several investors, including Santa Rosa Consulting, Fortified Health Security, and reach | influence

**BEST ADVICE:** Philanthropy is really an attitude. That attitude that tells you to find those people who need help, and provide it, in any way you can.

**CAREER:** Brings more than 26 years of experience in business services, health care, and IT

# Venture Capital



**BRIAN HERMELIN**  
Managing Partner  
Rockbridge Growth  
Equity, Detroit

Hermelin co-founded Rockbridge Growth Equity, a private equity investment firm, in 2007. He shares the title of managing partner with Dan Gilbert and Kevin Prokop. Once the firm identifies an investment opportunity, it works with management to construct a roadmap for building the business. The strategy includes funding organic growth, pursuing add-on acquisitions, adding additional resources, and identifying threads to help the business reach its potential.

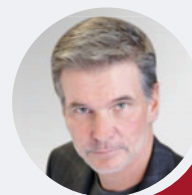
**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania (M)  
**ROCKBRIDGE PORTFOLIO:** Connect America, Northcentral University, GSTV, Rapid Advance, Robb Report, Protect America, and Kings III Emergency Communications  
**CO-FOUNDER:** Detroit Venture Partners, located in the Madison Building in downtown Detroit  
**PRINCIPAL:** Rock Gaming, Detroit  
**PAST LIFE:** Former chairman and CEO of Active Aero Group at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti Township  
**BOARD MEMBER:** Outbox AXS, Cranbrook Schools, American ORT



**MICHAEL J. JANDERNOA**  
Founder  
42 North Partners,  
Grand Rapids

Jandernoa founded 42 North Partners, which works in investments, entrepreneurship, and community. The company drives collaboration among stakeholders to identify and address priorities that will help entrepreneurial ecosystems thrive. Prior to his current position, he joined Perrigo, a global health care supplier that develops, manufactures, and distributes an array of over-the-counter and generic prescription pharmaceuticals and other products.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)  
**42 NORTH PARTNERS FOCUS AREA:** West Michigan  
**MEMBER:** Business Leaders for Michigan, Hopen Life Science Ventures, Metabolic Solutions Development Co., University of Michigan President's Advisory Group, Grand Valley University Foundation, Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, and The Heart of West Michigan United Way  
**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Jandernoa serves on and chairs religious and community boards and committees  
**OPERATES:** Jandernoa Foundation with his wife, Sue  
**FOUNDED:** Jandernoa Entrepreneurial Mentoring, which works with entrepreneurs



**DAVID KATZMAN**  
Founder and  
Managing Partner  
Camelot Venture Group,  
Farmington Hills

Katzman oversees a private investment group that invests in online direct-to-consumer companies, technology, and financial services. For 10 years he was managing partner of Camelot Ventures, before forming Camelot Venture Group in 2008. Some of Camelot Venture's investments include Lens Express, 1-800-Contacts, Rawlings Sporting Goods, Red Envelope, Flashseats, Fathead, Cleanrest, ePrize (now HelloWorld), Quicken Loans Inc., and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Various retail positions with chain stores  
**DIRECTOR:** Sharper Image, Smile Care Club  
**PAST VICE CHAIRMAN:** Quicken Loans Inc. and Cleveland Cavaliers  
**FOUNDED:** DeeKay Enterprises Inc. in 1987, which was acquired by Home Depot in 1997  
**NOTABLE:** In addition to co-owning the Cleveland Cavaliers, Katzman oversaw sales, marketing, sponsorships, capital improvements for Quicken Loans Arena, and the design and construction of Cleveland Clinic Courts, the team's practice facility



**STEVEN LABARRE**  
Partner  
Strength Capital  
Partners, Birmingham

LaBarre joined Strength Capital Partners in 2006 when he oversaw a portfolio company, Inland Management, as director of corporate development. In 2007, he was promoted to vice president of corporate development. As a partner, he participates in due diligence, transaction execution, and portfolio monitoring. Before joining Strength Capital, he was the CFO/controller of a general contracting business operating in the residential construction market in the region.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), University of Michigan (M)  
**HOBBIES:** Running, skiing, and boating  
**HISTORY:** Strength Capital Partners was founded in 2000  
**GROWTH:** Over the last two decades, Strength Capital Partners has grown from a two-man operation into a nine-person team operating out of offices in Michigan, Ohio, and Colorado  
**DOWNTIME:** Traveling with my family  
**CORE VALUES:** Strength Capital Partners cites its core values as integrity, accountability, dialogue, passion, courage, and resilience  
**CAREER:** Worked with Stout Risius Ross



**CHIP MCCLURE**  
Managing Partner  
Michigan Capital  
Advisors,  
Bloomfield Hills

McClure is a managing partner at Michigan Capital Advisors in Bloomfield Hills. He has more than 35 years of experience in the transportation industry. Before founding Michigan Capital Advisors, McClure served as chairman of the board, CEO, and president of Meritor Inc. from 2004 through 2013. From 2002 through 2004, he served as CEO, president, and as a member of the board of Federal Mogul Corp. He also held positions at Hoover Universal and Ford.

**HONORS:** In 2007, McClure was named "Legend CEO" by Automation Alley  
**DIRECTOR:** DTE Energy, Penske Corp., 3D Systems, and Crane Co.  
**PROFILE:** Michigan Capital Advisors is a private equity firm focused on Tier II and Tier III suppliers in the automotive and transportation industries  
**TEAM:** Including McClure, Michigan Capital Advisors employs seven investment professionals and advisers  
**FOCUS:** Automotive, heavy truck, manufacturing, and industrial  
**MEMBER:** Trustee of Henry Ford Health Systems, Invest Detroit board, and Business Leaders for Michigan



**CHARLES MORET**  
President, CEO,  
and Chairman  
Invest Michigan, Detroit

Moret has 40 years of diversified experience including investments, commercial and international banking, business development, and technology commercialization. He has extensive experience in early stage investing and working with universities to commercialize technologies, and has invested in 100 early stage technology companies. Prior to his work in the technology entrepreneurial sector, Moret held a variety of senior management banking positions.

**EDUCATION:** Pace University (B), Fairleigh Dickinson University (M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Foreign credit analyst and manager at Irving Trust Co. in New York  
**BEST ADVICE:** Be a lifelong learner and try something new each year, and maintain the highest degrees of ethics at all times  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** I am a private pilot  
**HOBBIES:** Cycling, golf, and travel  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Barcelona  
**DOWNTIME:** Enjoying all of Detroit's offerings  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts  
**BUCKET LIST:** Crossing the Atlantic Ocean by ship



photograph: Joseph Thekale

## PROUDLY DETROIT

PENINSULA CAPITAL PARTNERS L.L.C. is a Detroit-based firm that has fought hard to make a name for itself in the global private equity industry. Since its founding in 1995, Peninsula has raised six investment partnerships totaling approximately \$1.6 billion, each providing customized capital solutions to middle-market businesses seeking funding to complete acquisitions, support growth, buyback stock or address other special situations requiring junior capital. We pioneered the development of a new, more flexible investment approach in the private equity industry and are recognized as a leader in our market, earning us the patronage of major institutional investors both in the United States and Europe. Our unique investment approach combines elements of buyout, private debt and growth capital funds, allowing us the rare flexibility to craft tailored capital solutions for businesses, including both debt and equity, and either as a controlling or non-controlling investor. Since 1995, we have closed over 120 platform investments, about half of which have been in partnership with independent sponsor groups. Please keep us in mind the next time you require a junior capital provider; we'd love to bring some Detroit muscle to your transaction.



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# Venture Capital



## DOUG NEAL

Co-founder and  
Managing Director  
eLabs, Ann Arbor

After 15 years in California in a variety of leadership positions at Hewlett Packard and Symantec, Neal came back to Michigan to raise his family and help grow the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Ann Arbor. In 2009, he became managing director of the University of Michigan Center for Entrepreneurship, where he transformed the organization to include a world-class university startup accelerator called TechArb, which has since launched over 100 student ventures.

**EDUCATION:** Central Michigan University (B)

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it

**FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE IN THE WORKPLACE:** Having the police show up when the computer testing our security software was automatically dialing 911

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I enjoy playing guitar and writing music

**HOBBIES:** Sailing, especially long-distance cruising

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with my family and studying history

**BUCKET LIST:** Sailing my own boat across the Atlantic Ocean

**TECHARB:** Reaches more than 8,000 students per year



## STEPHEN POLK

President and CEO  
Highgate, Birmingham

Polk oversees Highgate, a private investment firm that has supported numerous projects including two residential projects in Detroit — Third and Grand in New Center, and DuCharme Place in Lafayette Park. He joined R.L. Polk & Co. in 1981, which was founded in Detroit by his great-grandfather, Ralph Lane Polk, in 1870. Polk held various positions in the company before being elected president in 1990. Four years later, he was named chairman and CEO.

**EDUCATION:** Denison University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Telephone sales

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Life is life, and fun is fun, but it's all so quiet when the goldfish dies." — Beryl Markham

**HOBBIES:** Sailing and cross-country skiing

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Lost Horizons*, by James Hilton

**DOWNTIME:** Reading, exercising

**BUCKET LIST:** Sail to Isle Royale

**NOTABLE:** In 2013, after turning around Southfield-based R.L. Polk, he sold the data analytics company to IHS Markit for \$1.4 billion. He also was the lead investor of the Polk Penguin Conservation Center at the Detroit Zoo.



## SCOTT REILLY

President and Chief  
Investment Officer  
Peninsula Capital  
Partners, Detroit

Following several years of working in middle-market corporate finance and private equity investing, Reilly moved to Detroit in 1995 to co-found Peninsula Capital Partners, a private equity firm that combines elements of traditional buyout, private debt, and growth equity to provide customized and comprehensive capital solutions to middle-market companies. Peninsula Capital has raised \$1.6 billion via six investment partnerships and has invested in more than 120 platforms.

**EDUCATION:** University of North Dakota (B), Duke University (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Corporate finance associate with Security Pacific Bank in Los Angeles

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Always make new mistakes."  
— Esther Dyson

**LESSON LEARNED IN THE PRIVATE EQUITY WORLD:** It's what you do between the purchase and the sale that matters most

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Italy

**BUCKET LIST:** Hiking the original trail to Machu Picchu in Peru



## CHRIS RIZIK

CEO and Fund Manager  
Renaissance Venture  
Capital Fund, Ann Arbor

Rizik is the CEO and fund manager of the Renaissance Venture Capital Fund in Ann Arbor. He has more than three decades of experience in technology, finance, and law. Before he formed Renaissance Venture Capital Fund, Rizik served as a co-founder, partner, and board member of Ardesta. He also co-founded and served as managing director of Avalon Investments, and has received four consecutive Deal of the Year awards from the Michigan Venture Capital Association.

**SOMETHING MANY PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW:** I am the founder of *SoulTracks.com*, billed as America's most popular soul music online magazine

**DIRECTOR:** Serves as a member of the executive committee and is the finance subcommittee chair of Michigan Economic Development Corp. He also serves on the steering committee of the New Economy Initiative, and the National Advisory Board of the University of Michigan Office of Technology Transfer

**PHILOSOPHY:** Venture capital is important for economic growth. Michigan and many other major regions are underserved in the amount of venture capital available to fund exciting new ideas and technology.



## STEVEN ROSENTHAL

President and Principal  
Rock Cos.,  
Bloomfield Township

Rosenthal helps run the day-to-day operations of Rock Cos., a multifaceted real estate company that specializes in property management, apartment communities, construction and construction management, and student housing management. He has responsibility for operations, acquisitions, underwriting, and finance. In addition, he manages the implementation of governing policies, procedures, cost management, and revenue growth.

**EDUCATION:** University of Colorado Boulder (B)

**PRINCIPAL:** Rock Gaming, Detroit

**NOTABLE:** I was one of the investors of Quicken Loans Inc. when it was acquired in 2002, as well as the Cleveland Cavaliers American Hockey League's Lake Erie Monsters, the NBA Development League's Canton Charge, and Detroit-based Fathead, which produces sports and entertainment graphics

**MEMBER:** National Apartment Association, National Association of Home Builders, Franklin Baseball Organization, and a trustee of the Franklin Village Council

**ASSIST:** Helped Dan Gilbert with his real estate projects



## CHARLES ROTHSTEIN

Founder and Senior  
Managing Director  
Beringea,  
Farmington Hills

At Beringea, Rothstein helps identify and execute private equity investments in market-leading businesses in dynamic sectors. He manages Beringea's operations and provides ongoing advice to its portfolio companies. He also oversees the firm's U.S.-based funds and serves on the board of directors of some of its portfolio companies, including Blis, ELOQUUI, All In One Medical, and the Detroit Institute of Music Education. He serves on the board of S.A.Y. Detroit.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** I worked at the Franklin Cider Mill

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Our business plan had a lot of flaws, so I learned to be nimble and ready to adapt to changing market conditions

**HIDDEN TALENT:** I have a knack for remembering the phone numbers of just about everyone I have ever met

**HOBBIES:** Running and hanging out with my family

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** London, where we have an office

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Start a business, be an entrepreneur; it's fun and fulfilling, and more secure than working at a big office

# Venture Capital



## SCOTT D. SEGAL

Co-founder and Principal  
Riverstone Growth  
Partners, Birmingham

Segal is a co-founder and principal of Riverstone Growth Partners in Birmingham. He is responsible for sourcing, evaluating, and analyzing investments. He has extensive operating experience and is actively involved in leading continuous improvement efforts across the Riverstone portfolio. Segal also oversees the day-to-day operations of all manufactured home communities within Riverstone Communities, including acquisitions, finance, and operations.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**HISTORY:** Segal joined Riverstone as a partner in 2005. Prior to that, he invested in multifamily real estate in metro Detroit.

**EXPERTISE:** Acquisitions, finance, IT, and operations

**START:** Riverstone was formed in 2013; its partners have more than 150 years of combined experience

**VALUES:** Riverstone Growth Partners has expressed core values of integrity, accountability, excellence, unity, communication, respect, and adaptability

**IPO:** In 1995, Segal founded an internet consulting and programming company which he successfully sold in 1997. Soon after the IPO, he served as managing partner for the firm.



## SKIP SIMMS

Senior Vice President  
Ann Arbor SPARK,  
Ann Arbor

Simms works with technology startup and early stage companies with a focus on preparing startups for equity fundraising. He has raised more than \$26 million in grants for the original Michigan Pre-Seed Capital Fund, which invested in more than 100 Michigan startups. He is also the managing member of the for-profit Michigan Angel Fund. Prior to working for Ann Arbor SPARK, Simms was the managing general partner at the Ralph Wilson Equity Fund.

**FIRST JOB:** Delivering newspapers

**BEST ADVICE:** The cream always rises to the top

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** When wind currents blew our promotional hot air balloon away from the event we sponsored

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Turning around a business requires tough decisions. Working with and for people with integrity makes it a little easier.

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** National Parks

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts

**HOBBIES:** Skiing, golfing, biking, hiking, and jigsaw puzzles

**PET CHARITY:** United Way of Southeastern Michigan



## JEFF SLOAN

Co-founder and CEO  
StartupNation,  
Birmingham

Sloan co-founded StartupNation in 2002 along with his brother, Rich, to provide aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners with the knowledge, resources, inspiration, and empowerment to create and/or grow a successful business. Sloan also co-hosts a nationally syndicated StartupNation Radio show, which airs in more than 85 markets, and he has authored the book *StartupNation: Open for Business*. New projects include Wantify Inc. and Fan Label.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Over one summer, I acquired, renovated, and sold a HUD home with a friend

**HOBBIES:** Sailing, Arabian horses, and playing classical guitar

**INVENTED:** Battery Buddy

**LESSON LEARNED:** I will never forget interviewing a billionaire entrepreneur who, when I asked him how it felt to achieve such a supreme level of success, answered: "To tell you the truth, it was kind of unsatisfying relative to the thrill of getting up every day in pursuit of making it happen."

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Summer in northern Michigan is pretty sweet



## CHRIS THOMAS

Founder and Partner  
Fontinalis Partners,  
Detroit

At Fontinalis, Thomas is responsible for a wide range of critical processes ranging from deal sourcing and execution to corporate operations and business strategy centered on the mobility space. Prior to Fontinalis, he worked at Ford Motor Co. in sustainable business development and treasury. He also served in the U.S. Army as a communications officer in Iraq. Thomas is a co-owner of Buddy's Pizza, and is an avid angel investor in the mobility space.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B), Yale School of Management (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Selling "puzzles" to my classmates in kindergarten that I made by cutting up pages from magazines

**OTHER EARLY JOBS:** Window washer, caddie, landscaper, state senate page, janitor, bank teller, fire demolition, and more

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Once an Eagle*, by Anton Myrer

**PET CHARITIES:** The COMMIT Foundation, Read to a Child

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** The Guardian Building. I love Art Deco architecture, and I married the most wonderful woman in the world there in 2015.

**ADVOCATE:** Smart cities and early childhood literacy



## MATT TURNER

President and CEO  
Amherst Fund, Ann Arbor

Turner has supported entrepreneurs in a wide variety of businesses and circumstances, providing capital, guidance, and connections to help them build their businesses and realize value. He is a director of Saline Lectronics, Espresso Royale, and Fusion Coolant. His experience ranges from sales engineer in the auto supply sector to professional race car driver for Porsche Cars GB in Europe. Turner is fluent in French and German, and is functional in Swedish and Mandarin.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B), University of Monaco, Monte Carlo (M), and Webster University in Vienna, Austria (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Farmhand

**INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE:** "Look at a day when you are supremely satisfied at the end. It's not a day when you lounge around doing nothing; it's a day you've had everything to do and you've done it." — Margaret Thatcher

**HOBBIES:** Canoeing, local history, ice hockey

**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Burton Historical Library

**PET CHARITIES:** Next Generation Philanthropists, Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation



## DONALD J. WALKER

Managing Director  
Arbor Partners,  
Ann Arbor

Walker is the managing director of Arbor Partners in Ann Arbor. He has extensive experience in business and venture capital. Walker served as vice president of sales and as senior vice president of sales and marketing at Comshare from 1974 to 1996. During that time, he successfully directed the company through some large-scale transitions. Walker is also a private investor in several startup companies. Arbor Partners was formed in 1996.

**EDUCATION:** St. Paul's College (B)

**ADVISER:** Michigan's Wolverine Venture Fund

**DOWNTIME:** Spending time with family and friends

**PHILOSOPHY:** Arbor Partners invests exclusively in companies creating the next generation of enterprise software, semiconductors, and advanced materials

**PAST DIRECTOR:** New Enterprise Forum

**SEED INVESTOR:** Network Express, when it went public in 1994

**DIRECTOR:** CMS Technologies, Bluespring Software, *Bulbs.com*, Cohesia, Siron Corp., Knowlagent

**PRIVATE INVESTOR:** Several entities

# Living Legends



**DENNIS  
ARCHER**

Chairman and CEO  
Dennis W. Archer, Detroit

Before launching his own law firm, Archer was chairman of Dickinson Wright in Detroit. From 1994 to 2001, he was Mayor of Detroit, and was instrumental in securing an Empowerment Zone, establishing the three casinos, and assisting with the development of Comerica Park, Ford Field, Campus Martius Park, and numerous other downtown and neighborhood projects. In turn, he modernized the city's operation with new technology and a modern organizational structure. Archer was elected to the Michigan Supreme Court, where he served from 1986 to 1990.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B), Detroit College of Law (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Caddie at Park Shores Golf Course at 8 years old

**UNIQUE WORK EXPERIENCE:** Running on Belle Isle with President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore during the G7 Job Conference in 1994

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Having a balanced budget in each year I served as mayor

**HOBBY:** Golf

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Sarasota and Martha's Vineyard

**DOWN TIME:** Reading, watching TV news, listening to music

**BUCKET LIST:** A 14-day cruise in the Mediterranean; 14-day cruise through wine country in France



**GORDON R.  
FOLLMER**

Managing Director  
UHY Advisors Inc., Detroit

In addition to overseeing UHY Advisors, Follmer is a partner with UHY, a large certified public accounting firm. Throughout a career that spans more than 40 years, he has been actively involved in developing and implementing financial business strategies that enable companies to prosper and grow. He is the founding partner of Follmer Rudzewicz and Co., a predecessor firm prior to the 2000 merger of seven firms that formed UHY Advisors. Follmer's expertise includes manufacturing and distribution, automotive suppliers, health care, construction, and real estate.

**EDUCATION:** University of Detroit Mercy (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Public accountant at Amick and Spicer

**WORK:** Assists minority automotive suppliers with turnaround strategies

**EXPAND:** Helped the firm advance its financial and business consulting service offerings

**DIRECTOR:** Michigan Hispanic Chamber, Music Hall for the Performing Arts,

**AWARD:** Last year, UHY was named Partner of the Year by Beyond Basics. Follmer has been a longtime supporter of Beyond Basics

**MEMBER:** Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants



**W. FRANK  
FOUNTAIN JR.**

Director  
DTE Energy, Detroit

At DTE Energy, Fountain serves on the audit committee, along with the public policy and responsibility committee, and he joined the board in 2012. He was a longtime executive of Chrysler Corp., which was reorganized under federal bankruptcy laws in 2009 after his retirement. His positions at Chrysler included serving as senior adviser, senior vice president of external affairs, and public policy from 1998 to 2008, and vice president, government affairs from 1995 to 1998. In addition, he is a director of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania

**EDUCATION:** Hampton University (B), Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Investment analyst, Chrysler Corp.

**EARLY LIFE:** From 1966 to 1968, Peace Corps volunteer in West Bengal, India

**PRESIDENT:** Escambia Enterprises in Troy

**EXPERIENCE:** A leader of large business organizations, public and financial accounting for complex organizations, corporate finance, public policy, and government relations, and regulatory matters

**TRUSTEE:** Hampton University

**PAST DIRECTOR:** Served as chairman of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum Foundation from 2009 until 2012.



**ALLAN D.  
GILMOUR**

Principal Officer  
The Gilmour-Jirgens Fund, Detroit

Launched in 1995, The Gilmour-Jirgens Fund supports education and civic causes, including the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, a nonprofit organization that offers charitable activities that improve the quality of life of area residents. His partner, Eric Jirgens, joins him in the fund. Gilmour served for 34 years at Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn, including as vice chairman and CFO. He retired from the automaker in 1995. He also served as president of Wayne State University in Detroit from 2010 to 2013.

**EDUCATION:** Harvard University (B), University of Michigan Ross School of Business (M)

**FIRST JOB:** Finance staff financial analyst at Ford starting in 1960

**FAMILY:** Son of a dairy cow dealer in Vermont

**FORD TITLES:** President of Ford Automotive Group and Ford Motor Credit Co.

**FOND OF DRIVING:** Ford GT

**PAST BOARDS:** DTE Energy, Dow Chemical, Whirlpool Corp., Business Leaders for Michigan, Prudential Financial Inc., Hertz Corp., Comcast MO Group, and Detroit Renaissance Venture Fund

**PAST TRUSTEE:** University of Detroit Mercy, Henry Ford Health System

**PAST ADVISER:** Tower International Inc.

# Living Legends



**MORT HARRIS**

Co-founder  
American Axle & Manufacturing  
Holdings Inc., Detroit

Harris served as a Flying Fortress first pilot during World War II, where he flew 33 missions and received three Distinguished Flying Crosses, six air medals, Polish Medal of Honor, and a Presidential Citation. He also was knighted into the French Legion of Honor. Following the war, he was president of Mercier Corp., a metallurgical supplier, co-founder of Euroad, which became one of the largest trucking companies in Europe, and acquired Erie Coke and Chemical Co., which he built into the largest privately owned coke company in the United States.

**FIRST JOB:** Manual labor at Edward Levy & Co.

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** Sold my business that was described as manufacturing coke. The buyer thought I was selling the drink.

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Flying the long bombing mission to and from Berlin

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Thirty Seconds over Tokyo"

**CO-FOUNDER:** American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings Inc., Detroit

**PET CHARITY:** Anything to do with health care or education. He made a large gift under his wife's name to Henry Ford Hospital for the Brigitte Harris Cancer Pavilion, to be completed in 2020

**BUCKET LIST:** To dance the Tango at the age of 100



**RON LAMPARTER**

Founder and Chairman Emeritus  
Defense Corridor/Center for  
Collaboration and Synergy,  
Sterling Heights

DC3S, or Defense Corridor Center for Collaboration and Synergy, offers a synergistic campus environment that promotes creativity and collaboration between businesses and the military. The center offers high-tech office space, meeting rooms, a large event area, a 3-D virtual reality simulator, along with vehicle displays and military artwork that details individuals and major military platforms used in World War II. Lamparter has always been self-employed, and founded and managed 20 different companies, most related to the transportation sector.

**EDUCATION:** Wayne State University (2B, Business and Engineering)

**FIRST JOB:** Sold bicycles that I assembled from old parts salvaged from junk yards

**CAREER:** Been awarded 125 patents on various technologies, many still being used

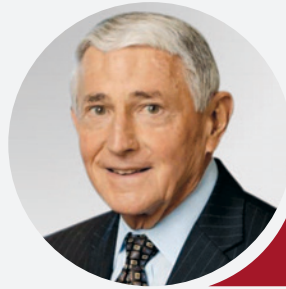
**LESSON LEARNED:** It's impossible to always be right

**HOBBY:** Mentoring people with lots of ambition who are pursuing their life dreams

**AREA ATTRACTIONS:** Detroit River, Lake St. Clair, The Henry Ford

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Freedom's Forge: How American Business Produced Victory in World War II*, Arthur Herman

**PET CHARITY:** Guardian Angel Medical Service Dogs



**IRA JAFFE**

Founder and Senior Member  
Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer, and Weiss, Southfield

Jaffe started the law firm in 1968 when he was 28 years old, and serves or has served as a trustee, chairman, president, and CEO. The full-service law firm offers a range of practice areas, including aerospace, aviation, construction, financial services, franchising, immigration, intellectual property, information technology, and real estate. Jaffe serves as chairman of Real Estate Development and Investment Co. Inc., president and CEO of The Fisher Group, and co-trustee of the Marjorie S. Fisher Irrevocable Trust.

**EDUCATION:** Massachusetts Institute of Technology (B), University of Michigan Law Schools (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Associate attorney at Miller Canfield

**HOBBIES:** Exercise and attending U-M football games

**FAVORITE BOOK:** *Origin*, by Dan Brown

**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Always strive to be the best you can be in everything

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Naples, Fla.

**CO-HOST:** A large tailgate before every home game at Michigan Stadium

**PET CHARITY:** Beyond Basics



**BOB LUTZ**

President and CEO  
Lutz Communications, Ann Arbor

In addition to overseeing Lutz Communications, Lutz is chairman of Via Motors and a board member of Group 14, NanoSteel, and Ushr, and a partner in VLF Automotive with Gilbert Villarreal and Henrik Fisker. Lutz retired in May 2010 as vice chairman of General Motors, following a 47-year career in the global automotive industry that included senior leadership positions at BMW, Ford, and Chrysler. Lutz began his automotive career in 1963 at GM, where he held a variety of senior sales and marketing positions in Europe until 1971. He was a U.S. Marine from 1954 to 1965.

**EDUCATION:** University of California, Berkeley (B, M)

**FIRST JOB:** Fighter attack pilot, U.S. Marine Corps (attained the rank of Captain)

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** Rolling a test car on its back in 1966, in front of GM's top management

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Sticking with Ford of Europe after being falsely accused of wrongdoing

**FAVORITE TV SHOWS:** Old "Law and Order" and "Blue Bloods"

**DOWNTIME:** Writing, making airplane models, flying my jet

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Montserrat, British West Indies

**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** Antonio Bandejas

# Living Legends



**BEN  
MAIBACH III**  
Chief Community Officer  
Barton Malow Co., Southfield

Maibach joined the general contracting firm in 1965, and served as president and CEO for more than 30 years before transitioning to his new role in 2015. During his time at the helm, Maibach grew the company into one of North America's largest construction firms, including serving such industries as energy, sports stadiums, higher education, health care, schools, industrial, and more. Notable projects include an expansion of Spartan Stadium at Michigan State University, Little Caesars Arena (Barton Malow/Hunt/White), redevelopment of the Hudson's site, and the Shinola Hotel.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Laborer at Barton Malow

**FOUNDED:** In 1924 by Carl Barton as C.O. Barton Co. in Detroit, the name was changed to Barton Malow in 1932 after Arnold Malow joined the firm

**NOTABLE:** Inducted into the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame, received an Outstanding Civic Involvement Award from the Engineering Society of Detroit

**PAST DIRECTOR:** Detroit Regional Chamber, YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit, Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan, and more

**VOLUNTEER:** Donates more than 500 hours annually to charitable and civic organizations



**EUGENE A.  
"GENE"  
MILLER**  
Chairman  
McKinley Inc., Ann Arbor

Miller, a longtime chairman, president, and CEO of Comerica Bank in Detroit, is chairman of McKinley, a real estate investment company that owns and operates a \$4.6 billion real estate portfolio consisting of 20,000 apartment units and more than 15 million square feet of shopping centers and office buildings located in 17 states. His expertise includes executive compensation, risk management, and corporate governance as well as subject matter expertise in the areas of finance, executive management, and professional standards.

**EDUCATION:** Detroit Institute of Technology (B)

**FIRST JOB:** In 1955 with The Detroit Bank, forerunner to Comerica Bank

**DIRECTOR:** TriMas Corp., where he is chair of the corporate governance and nominating committee charter, and a member of the audit committee charter and the compensation committee charter

**TRIMAS:** Based in Bloomfield Hills, the company is a diversified industrial manufacturer of products for consumers, aerospace, industrial, petrochemical, refinery, and oil and gas with approximately 4,000 employees in 13 countries.

**PAST BOARDS:** DTE Energy, Handleman Co., Detroit Medical Center, McGregor Fund, Amerisure Mutual Insurance Co., and more



**RICHARD  
MANOOGIAN**  
Chairman Emeritus  
Masco Corp., Livonia

Manoogian was a longtime CEO and chairman of Masco Corp., a global leader in the design, manufacture, and distribution of branded home improvement and building products. The company's brands include Behr paint; Delta and Hansgrohe faucets, bath, and shower fixtures; KraftMaid and Merillat cabinets; Milgard windows and doors; Kichler decorative and outdoor lighting; and HotSpring spas. Manoogian was instrumental in supporting the Grand Bargain to spare the collection at the Detroit Institute of Arts from being sold during Detroit's bankruptcy.

**EDUCATION:** Yale University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Joined Masco in 1958

**FOUNDED:** By Manoogian's father, Alex, as Masco Screw Products Co. in 1929

**CHAIRMAN:** For 12 years at the Detroit Institute of Arts

**DISTINCTION:** The Manoogian Wing at the DIA

**OVERSEES:** Richard and Jane Manoogian Foundation

**COLLECTION:** Wide ranging, with a focus on 19th and early 20th century American art

**SUPPORTER:** Helped Midtown Detroit restore several mansions north of the DIA into The Inn on Ferry Street bed-and-breakfast hospitality enterprise



**WILLIAM F.  
PICKARD**  
Chairman  
Global Automotive Alliance, Detroit

Pickard is chairman of Global Automotive Alliance Manufacturing and Supply Chain Management located on the west side of Detroit, co-managing partner of MGM Grand Detroit Casino, CEO of Bearwood Management Co., and co-owner of five black-owned newspapers. He began his career as a McDonald's franchisee in Detroit. Founded in 1989, GAA has eight plants in the U.S. and Canada. Clients include Boeing, Mercedes Benz, Ford, General Motors, FCA, Delphi, Johnson Controls, Starbucks, and Home Depot.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B), University of Michigan (M), Ohio State University (Ph.D.)

**FIRST JOB:** Larry's Record Shop in Flint, where I learned customer satisfaction. It was right at the time of Motown Records.

**BEST ADVICE:** There is no prize which cannot be won by hard work and application

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** Getting through a bankruptcy in 1992

**PASSION:** Classical music

**HOBBIES:** Reading and traveling

**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Water, sand, and sun

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# Living Legends



**LLOYD E. REUSS**

Director  
International Speedway Corp.,  
Daytona Beach

Reuss is best known as a longtime executive at General Motors Co., where he worked for 36 years and rose to the position of president in 1990. Two years later, as part of a new direction at the automaker, he was replaced by Jack Smith and appointed executive vice president in charge of new vehicles and systems. He retired a year later and went on to work without compensation at Focus: HOPE in Detroit. Today, he is a director of International Speedway Corp., which owns 13 racetracks that annually host NASCAR, IndyCar, Grand-Am, and other race series.

**NOTABLE:** Lloyd Reuss Award for Teaching Excellence, established in 1998 by SAE International

**CAREER:** Led GM's former Chevrolet-Pontiac-Canada division

**PAST BOARDS:** Handleman Co., Detroit Mortgage and Realty Co., and United States Sugar Co.

**POST CAREER:** In 1993, named the executive dean of the Center for Advanced Technologies at Focus: HOPE, which awarded more than 300 associate and bachelor engineering degrees

**AWARD:** In 2015, Focus: HOPE named Reuss one of its Heroes for Hope for supporting the nonprofit organization's mission of education, housing, and food.

**FAMILY:** His son, Mark, is an executive vice president at General Motors

**DRIVE:** Led two capital campaigns at Focus: HOPE that raised a combined \$184 million



**ROY ROBERTS**

CFO  
Magnum Sports and Entertainment,  
New York

Roberts, who lives in metro Detroit, was group vice president for North American vehicle sales, service, and marketing at General Motors, and spent 23 years at the automaker. He retired from GM in 2000. At the start of his career, he spent 17 years with the aerospace division of Lear-Siegler Corp. In 2011, he and his wife donated \$1.1 million the Detroit Institute of Arts to create the Maureen and Roy S. Roberts Gallery of Contemporary African American Art. From 2011 to 2013, he served as emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools.

**EDUCATION:** Western Michigan University (B)

**FIRST JOB:** Instrument assembler, including gyroscopes, altimeters, and electronics

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** Most people want the reward, but few want to take the journey.

**FUNNIEST WORK EXPERIENCE:** When GM moved to downtown Detroit, we took a hot air balloon up that said: Detroit Here We Are." But the winds shifted and took us into Canada and we landed in a backyard. Two ladies came out and asked if we would like a cup of coffee.

**LESSON LEARNED:** Every problem has a solution

**DOWNTIME:** Reading, golfing, and time with my grandkids

**BUCKET LIST:** Help the city and Detroit Public Schools grow



**STEVEN W. RHODES**

Case Manager  
Judicial Arbitration and Mediation  
Services, Inc., Detroit

A retired Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Rhodes is best known for presiding over the city of Detroit's 2013 bankruptcy, the largest municipal bankruptcy in the nation's history. In 2015, following 30 years of service in the federal judiciary, he served as transition manager for Detroit Public Schools Community District, an office created to lead the institution out of difficulty in the wake of the city's bankruptcy. Rhodes has extensive experience in bankruptcy as well as business and commercial matters, class actions, tort, fraud, and Ponzi schemes.

**EDUCATION:** Purdue University (B), University of Michigan Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** Law Clerk for Judge John Feikens, U.S. District Court — Eastern District of Michigan

**PAST LIFE:** Was in private practice from 1977 to 1981

**HIGHLIGHT:** During Detroit's bankruptcy, cited the city as both financially deficit and service deficit

**HONORED:** Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation 2105 Dennis Archer Community Service Award

**FELLOW:** Michigan Bar Foundation, American College of Bankruptcy

**AUTHOR:** *The Ponzi Book: A Legal Resource for Unraveling Ponzi Schemes*, with Kathy Bazoian Phelps



**GERALD E. ROSEN**

Case Manager  
Judicial Arbitration and  
Mediation Services, Inc., Detroit

A retired Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Rosen served as the Chief Judicial Mediator during Detroit's Chapter 9 bankruptcy — the largest, most complex municipal bankruptcy in the nation. In 2014, the case resulted in an agreed upon, consensual plan of adjustment after 17 months of proceedings. He served 26 years on the federal bench, and has extensive experience in facilitating settlements in highly complex multi-district litigation matters and class actions.

**EDUCATION:** Kalamazoo College (B), George Washington University Law School (JD)

**FIRST JOB:** A trial lawyer at Miller Canfield in Detroit from 1979 to 1990, left as a senior partner

**EXPERTISE:** Antitrust, bankruptcy, business and commercial matters, intellectual property, securities, civil rights, and more

**NOTABLE:** During the city's bankruptcy, credited with creating a fund to shore up the city's pension funds and keep the collection of the Detroit Institute of Arts from creditors, dubbed the Grand Bargain. He rallied numerous executives and foundations to support the effort.

**DIRECTOR:** Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Focus: HOPE, Michigan Chapter of the Federalist Society, and more



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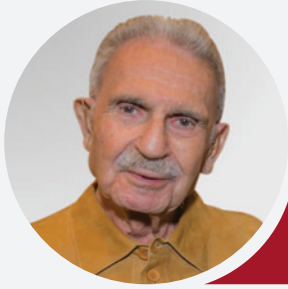
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Keith Pretty, President, 2018 Detroit 500

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# Living Legends



**DAVID  
USHER**  
Chairman  
Marine Pollution Control, Detroit

Considered the world's foremost expert in cleaning natural and manmade disasters, Usher oversees a highly mobile, rapid response team that has facilities across the globe. His company is best known for extinguishing oil wells that were set on fire as the Iraqi Army retreated from Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm, as well as successfully transferring more than 40 million gallons of oil when the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Prince William Sound in 1989. Usher also is credited with numerous innovations, including the use of submarines to survey oil spills.

**FIRST CAREER:** Before launching Marine Pollution Control in 1967, Usher, co-founded Dee Gee Records in Detroit in 1951 with famed jazz musician Dizzy Gillespie  
**MUSIC:** Dee Gee Records was sold to Savoy Records, and Usher became a producer for Argo Records and formed Red Anchor Productions  
**AUTHOR:** *Music is Forever: Dizzy Gillespie, the Jazz Legend, and Me*, with Berl Falbaum  
**PIONEER:** Developed numerous advances to clean up oil spills and hazard materials  
**NOTABLE:** Helped launch American Salvage Association, Spill Control Association of America, and the International Spill Control Organization  
**LONGTIME SUPPORTER:** Detroit Jazz Festival



**KEN  
WAY**  
Board Member  
Elio Motors Inc., Livonia and Phoenix

Way served as CEO of Lear Corp. in Southfield from 1988 to 2000, and was chairman 1988 to 2002. He was with Lear and its predecessor companies for 37 years in various engineering, manufacturing, and general management capacities. He was a director of Cooper Standard Automotive, Wesco Distribution, Inc., and the United Way Cancer Institute. At Elio Motors, Way is helping the company develop and manufacture a three-wheeled autocyte, which has a motorcycle classification with a top speed on 107 mph and can achieve up to 84 mpg.

**EDUCATION:** Michigan State University (B, M)  
**FIRST JOB:** Worked for Boeing Co.  
**BEST KNOWN:** Steady management hand who focused on continuity, continuous training programs for employees, and workplace culture  
**PAST BOARD MEMBER:** Comerica Bank, Consumers Energy, Cooper Standard  
**PAST TRUSTEE:** Kettering University, Henry Ford Health System  
**MEMBER:** Sigma Chi Fraternity  
**SUPPORTS:** Boy Scouts of America Detroit Area Council  
**SUPPORT:** Promoted moving the Detroit Lions to Ford Field from the Pontiac Silverdome



**GRETCHEN  
CARHARTT  
VALADE**  
Benefactor/Principal  
Detroit Jazz Festival/  
Mack Avenue Records, Detroit

Carhartt Valade is past chairman of Carhartt Inc. in Dearborn and chairman of the Detroit Jazz Festival Foundation, where she has been a key contributor to the arts, culture, and business landscape in Detroit. She is a granddaughter of Hamilton Carhartt, who founded Carhartt Inc. in 1889. She founded Mack Avenue Records in 1998, which has since become an accomplished jazz record label that has recorded such artists like Christian McBride and Cecile McLorin Salvant. In 2015, she gifted \$7.5 million to Wayne State University to create a jazz performance center.

**FIRST JOB:** Office assistant at Carhartt  
**HIDDEN TALENT:** Songwriter  
**OPENED:** Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe in Grosse Pointe Farms in 2008  
**DOWNTIME:** Relaxing. I'm 92 years old for crying out loud!  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** African safari  
**BUCKET LIST:** To live long enough to see if I've made a difference  
**BEST ADVICE FOR A YOUNG PERSON:** Never, ever give up  
**WHO SHOULD PLAY ME IN A BIOGRAPHICAL MOVIE:** It might be a little difficult, but it would be nice if they could get Carole Lombard



**RON  
WEISER**  
Founder  
McKinley Associates Inc., Ann Arbor

In 1968, Weiser launched McKinley Associates, a national real estate investment firm that today has a portfolio value of \$4.6 billion, \$500 million in annual revenue, 1,000 employees, and more than 30 million square feet of commercial and residential property under management. The company has holdings in 16 states. He long held the title of chairman and CEO, and in 2001 he stepped back from day-to-day operations to become the U.S. Ambassador to the Slovak Republic under George W. Bush through 2005.

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan Ross School of Business (B)  
**FIRST JOB:** Wrapping packages in a women's clothing store  
**BEST ADVICE:** "Service is the rent we pay for living." — Marian Edelman  
**CHAIR:** Michigan Republican Party  
**BOARD OF REGENTS:** Vice chair of the University of Michigan  
**HOBBIES:** Tennis, collecting wine and art  
**TRAVEL DESTINATION:** Paris, St. Barts  
**DETROIT ATTRACTION:** Detroit Institute of Arts  
**BUCKET LIST:** Finding a way to retire, as I keep failing retirement



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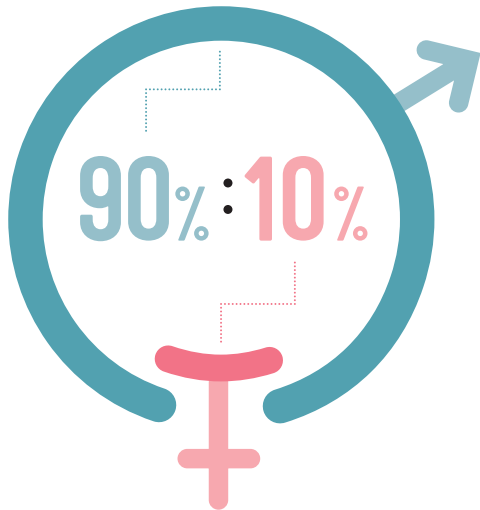
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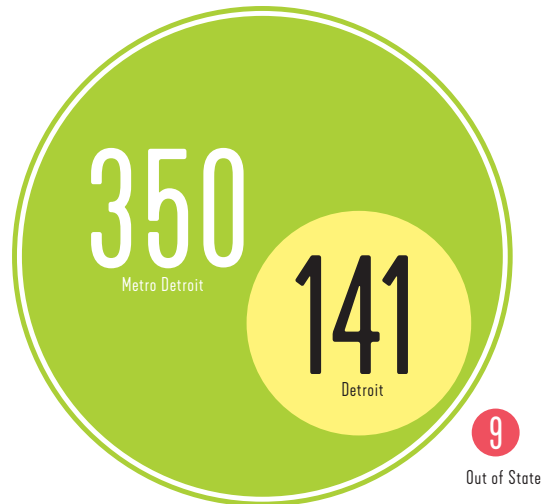
## BY THE NUMBERS

Of the men and women who make up The Detroit 500 for 2018, most hold a college degree, worked their way up through the ranks, and wouldn't dream of quitting.



### BUSINESS LEADERS

Men dominate leadership positions among the 500 individuals cited (452 men vs. 48 women).

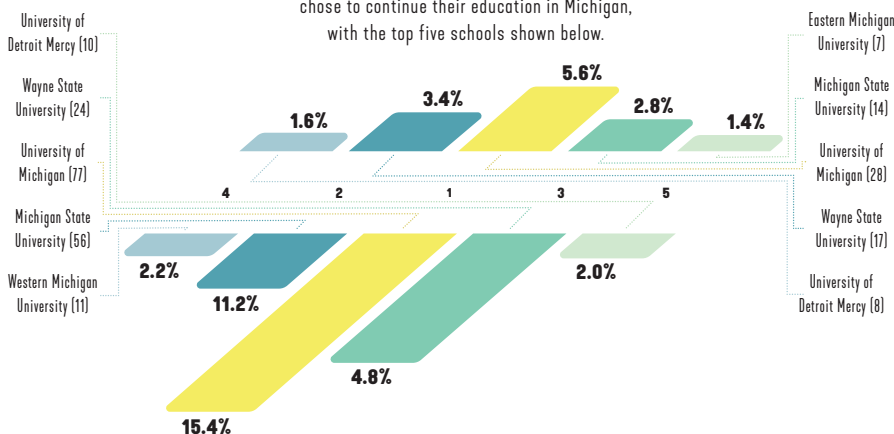


### HEADQUARTERS LOCATION

Accounting for every business, with some listed multiple times, The Detroit 500 work mostly in the suburbs.

### ALMA MATERS - GRADUATE SCHOOL

Most of The Detroit 500 who went to graduate school chose to continue their education in Michigan, with the top five schools shown below.



### ALMA MATERS - UNDERGRAD

The largest number of undergrads (15 percent) wave the Maize and Blue flag, but there are quite a few Spartans, too.

697

416

Bachelor's degrees (403)

Master's degrees (188)

Ph.D. (16)

MD (12)

JD (74)

LLM (4)

### EDUCATION SITUATION

The Detroit 500 is a highly educated group, with several leaders holding more than one degree. The overall coterie, made up of 416 people who earned a bachelor's degree, hold a collective 697 diplomas.

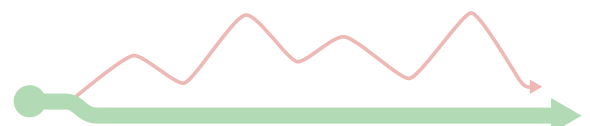
3.2%  
14.8%

### Earned their Ph.D.

Everyone who earned a Ph.D. had a different school of choice, with state schools leading the way.

### Earned their JD

The top school for attorneys, at 31.2 percent, was the University of Michigan Law School.



### ADVANCE TO GO

While most business leaders on the list earned a degree, 84 of the Detroit 500 chose an entrepreneurial path out of high school or entered military service before turning to the corporate world.



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A professional headshot of Jeffrey Lance Abood, a man with a short beard and balding head, smiling. He is wearing a blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a light blue striped tie. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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