

Three decades: A toast to the best

The PBJ honors Philadelphia's Most Valuable Players

Quite frankly, we had reservations about this. We thought it would be cute to come up with 30 names, one for each year we've been in business, of people who could be called Philadelphia's Most Valuable Players. We opened it up to our readers to suggest people who have had a significant influence on the region and the business community, and we got a heap of names. Some were salient, some not

so much. Some just made us come up with more ideas. Then we asked our own staff, and they tossed in some more names. When it came time to whittle the list down to 30, we had many more deserving candidates than we could include in our tidy framework, but we carried on. We know not everyone will agree with our list. We can't even agree on it. But we believe it captures a representative mix of

the pioneers and characters who helped shape the city and the business community, living and departed. Later, we invited readers to pick their favorites during an online poll, and **Stephen M. Goodman**, **Rosemarie Greco** and **Ed Rendell** received the most votes and were honored at our anniversary party on June 20. You can read about them and our other MVP picks here.

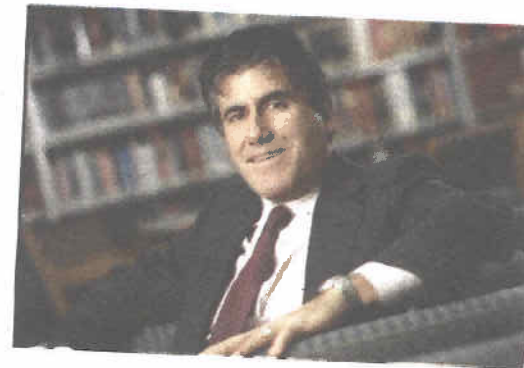
Lynne Abraham

Lynne Abraham was the first woman to serve as district attorney of Philadelphia, a post she held from 1991 to 2010. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Abraham was an assistant district attorney in the early 1970s under Arlen Specter, became head of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority and then was elected as a judge with the Philadelphia Municipal (1977) and Common Pleas (1980) courts. After stepping down as district attorney this self-described "tough cookie" joined Haddonfield, N.J.-based Archer & Greiner's Center City office as a partner. — Jeff Blumenthal



Frank Baldino

Frank Baldino was the founder and CEO of Cephalon Inc., one of the most successful independent biopharmaceuticals companies in the country. (Cephalon was sold to Teva last year.) Baldino, a former DuPont research biologist, led the Frazer company until his death in 2010 at age 57 from complications associated with leukemia. Baldino was a tireless advocate for the local biosciences community and for the region, participating on numerous boards and associations. He was also known for serving as a mentor to other scientists wanting to start their own companies and for his philanthropic activities. — John George



of business is here.



Della Clark

Della Clark is president of The Enterprise Center, which was formed in 1989 in West Philadelphia by the Wharton Small Business Development Center. It provides access to capital, building capacity, business education and economic development opportunities to high-potential, minority and disadvantaged entrepreneurs. — Natalie Kostelni

