LICA’s Annual Dinner Brings Awards and Insight While “Spanning the World for Construction”

Babylon Town Supervisor Steve Bellone congratulates LICA’s re-elected board members Peter Scalamandre of Peter Scalamandre & Sons, Inc., Chester Broman of 110 Sand Company and Paul Posillico of Posillico after he formally installed them for their new terms.

In a show of solidarity and a commitment to the taxpayers biggest investment, our public infrastructure, New York State Senator Carl Marcellino, Suffolk County Treasurer Angie Carpenter, Suffolk County Presiding Officer William Lindsay, Suffolk County Legislator Wayne Horsley, Nassau County Legislator David Denenberg, Babylon Town Supervisor Steve Bellone and Town of Oyster Bay Councilman Anthony Macagnone were among the elected officials who stood with the Long Island Contractors’ Association (LICA) during the group’s recent Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner.

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Addressing the crowded room of over 150 LICA members and construction professionals, Supervisor Bellone took to the podium to reinforce his commitment to maintaining and improving Long Island’s roads and bridges.

“The heavy construction industry is the heart and the engine of Long Island’s economy, and we are not doing enough to get people back to work, to create jobs and to move our economy forward here on Long Island,” stressed Bellone. “One thing we know how to do in Babylon is to move projects forward. It is never on the table for good projects to be stopped. It is absolutely critical that we invest in our infrastructure, and I want you all to know that you have a partner in me in government to help move things forward.”

Awards well earned

Kicking off the program, LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst presented the first award of the night to the Long Island Association (LIA), honoring the organization with LICA's 2011 Partnership Award for its strategic role in advocating on behalf of New York's infrastructure. The largest business organization in New York, the LIA has proven time and time again that it is a valuable partner to LICA, its members, and industry supporters.

LICA's 2011 Leadership Award was presented to Suffolk County Commissioner of Public Works Gil Anderson for his continued support and leadership in the Long Island heavy construction industry.

“He is a true professional, an outstanding public servant and a genuine friend,” said Herbst. “At the close of this last construction season, the SCDPW letting level for Long Island was $87.5 million. That was more than half of what the State put out for Region 10, and that was done through the leadership of Suffolk County’s Commissioner of Public Works Gil Anderson.”

In his acceptance remarks, Anderson repeatedly stated that he was accepting the award not only on behalf of himself but on behalf of the entire Suffolk County Public Works Department. “You know our commitment to making sure the county works, and you know our commitment to making sure that the residents of the county have the best infrastructure and are afforded the best quality of life, and that’s what you guys do.”

In response to stalled projects and a blizzard of ineffective regulations, LICA turns to poetry

Echoing history’s poets and authors who have sought to express their personal and professional frustrations through the use of the written word, members of the Long Island Contractors’ Association (LICA) are responding to the latest round of delays in getting approvals for road and repair projects by creating the first annual Highway Haiku Contest, the winner being presented a $200 bookstore gift certificate.

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“Our industry is beyond being frustrated. The State has had no funding for the last three years of its capital program, Nassau County doesn’t have staff to even advance last year’s projects, Suffolk County is reportedly cutting back its planned program, and the towns are in anguish over decreased tax receipts,” said Herbst. “Very few officials are willing to recognize public works as the best way to combat the recession. So why are we encouraging poetry? Because nothing is more dramatic than sensitive construction executives going from pouring concrete to reading their poetry.”

Some of LICA’s members and industry supporters not eligible for the award sought to demonstrate what the group is looking for during LICA’s Annual Meeting and Dinner week by offering the following examples of words that speak of project delays, lost approvals and government bureaucratic red tape that have begun to strangle the construction season.

The money appropriated
Mocks the dusty unopened RFP
A construction family wonders
Why food stamps are considered a delicacy

The rutting road
Can’t be helped by the indifferent clerk
Small wonder we have lost our way

The road to ruin
Should not begin
Because paperwork has failed to leave the building

Approving everything
But finishing nothing
Leaves the future unopened

As Newsday’s Jim Bernstein listened intently, among those who spoke of the industry’s fate through poetry were LICA Chairman James Pratt, III of Pratt Brothers, Inc.; LICA Board Member Peter Scalamandre of Peter Scalamandre & Sons, Inc.; Bob Albinski of Intercounty Paving Associates; Marissa O’Neill of Island Pavement Cutting Co., Inc.; Kevin Asher of State Bank of Long Island; Chuck Forte of Posillico; Tony Pirozzi of Teamsters Local 282; Don Hoeffner of Newborn Construction, and LICA’s Manager of Policy and Government Affairs Louis Imbroto, Esq.

Herbst notes, “There are thousands of men and women in hard hats who work with their hands but who, I maintain, have much to say in this form of poetry. They have had much time to consider this kind of self expression while on unemployment.”

These and other submissions to the LICA poetry contest will be published in upcoming LICA e-grams and posted on our website.

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“Spanning the World for Construction”

No one understands competition more than LICA members, and so it was with that appreciation that LICA’s special guest at their annual dinner was former sports anchor and New York native Len Berman, who delivered the night’s keynote address that featured a video presentation recapping some of the world’s most hilarious sports bloopers over the years.

An Emmy-Award winning sportscaster and New York Times Best Selling Author, Berman has covered just about every major sports event including multiple Super Bowls, World Series, and Olympics during his 40-year career in broadcasting. He is the creator of “Spanning the World,” a monthly collection of sports bloopers which was a 20-year staple on NBC’s Today Show, and “Sports Fantasy,” which aired on NBC and pitted regular viewers against famous sports stars.

Also attending were Felice Farber of the General Contractors Association of New York; John Duffy of the Operating Engineers Local 138; Thomas Gesualdi of the Teamsters Local 282; Ernie Fazio of Long Island Metro Business Action; Desmond Ryan of Association for a Better Long Island; Theresa Rizzuto of Long Island MacArthur Airport; and representing the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York, Paul Grosser of P. W. Grosser Consulting.

Senator Fuschillo Calls on LICA to Testify at Public-Private Partnership Hearing

New York State Senator and Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee Charles Fuschillo has invited the Long Island Contractors’ Association (LICA) to participate in a public hearing advocating for the serious need for public-private partnerships.

The hearing comes on the heels of an opinion piece the Senator wrote for the Albany Times Union, in which he stressed the advantages of public-private partnerships, also known as P3s.

Fuschillo wrote that, “[P3s] enable governments to partner with the private sector in the design, construction and financing of transportation projects. Given the private sector’s vested financial interest in completing projects on time and under-budget, P3s often perform more efficiently than their counterparts and save money. The federal government has encouraged states to turn to P3s for these reasons.”

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Discussion at the hearing will include how New York State can utilize public-private partnerships in order to expedite and better fund infrastructure projects throughout the state.

Speaking in support of Senator Fuschillo, LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst stated, “LICA commends leaders like Senator Fuschillo who understand the value of investing in our State’s infrastructure and are willing to explore alternative funding options such as public-private partnerships to ensure that future improvements and repairs do not go ignored. Quality infrastructure is the backbone of this country; we cannot afford to let our roads, bridges and tunnels be neglected.”

The public hearing, which will be held by the New York State Senate Standing Committee on Transportation, will take place on Monday, May 16th at 10:00am in Hearing Room A of the Legislative Office Building in Albany, NY.

**LICA Member Recognized as “Commercial Builder of the Year!”**

Congratulations to LICA Member **E.W. Howell Co., LLC** on being awarded Long Island Business News’ “Commercial Builder of the Year”!

E.W. Howell is the proud recipient of the LIBN Real Estate and Development Award for the following projects: Top Green Project: Interdisciplinary Science Building at Brookhaven National Laboratory and Top Education Development: Simons Center at Stony Brook University.

One of the many projects Plainview-based E.W. Howell is working on at the Brookhaven National Laboratory is the $46 million Interdisciplinary Science Building, an 87,000-square-foot LEED-certified Gold facility, where improvements to the transmission and storage of renewable energy will be developed.

The new energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable laboratory building will provide high-accuracy laboratories and group existing energy research scientists into one facility to foster and realize the scientific benefits of multidisciplinary collaboration.

The second project that E.W. Howell was recognized for was the new Simons Center for Geometry and Physics at Stony Brook University. The project creates a dynamic environment for interaction, academic study and collaboration between the two schools of thought. Elements include a 250-person lecture hall/auditorium, office space, seminar rooms, a multi-story atrium and open discussion areas. A pedestrian bridge joins the new center with the existing math tower and physics building.

E.W. Howell is a well established General Construction and Construction Management firm celebrating 120 years of building excellence in 2011. With offices in Manhattan and headquarters on Long Island, they provide construction services throughout the region to a diverse group of clients including retail, education, government, cultural, and healthcare organizations.

To view the complete list of recipients of LIBN's Real Estate and Development Awards, [click here](#).
 Reserve Your Spot for LICA’s 2011 Annual Golf Outing

Nothing beats a game of golf for networking and business development... except a relaxing game of golf played among friends and colleagues who share a common interest.

That’s why you should attend the Long Island Contractors’ Association’s 2011 Annual Golf Outing, to be held on **Monday, July 18th** at the beautiful Huntington Crescent Club (host) and the Huntington Country Club right here on Long Island.

Come join us as, together, we advance the goals of Long Island’s highway and infrastructure professionals. Spend the day enjoying a challenging round of golf, fun skills competitions, a delicious dinner, and, of course, the camaraderie of those who support the Long Island Contractors’ Association.

Sponsorships and donations are greatly appreciated as this is the only fundraiser for our association. LICA is a not-for-profit organization and we need your help to continue to serve you and our industry throughout the years to come.

July 1st is the deadline to RSVP, so be sure to make your reservation as soon as possible if you have a golf course preference. Please fax your reply to Assistant to the Executive Director Josephine Magee at 631-231-4291 or email her at jmagee@licanys.org.

Memorial Day Holiday Schedule

Please [click here](#) for the LICA and GCA holiday schedules.
### Bid Results

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<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Bid Amount</th>
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<td>Town Of Islip - D.P.W.</td>
<td>Bimasco Inc</td>
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<td>Various Town Roads</td>
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<td>Site/Playground - Loretta Pk, Hemlock Pk, Oak Pk Elem Schools</td>
<td>Brentwood Union Free School District</td>
<td>Laser Industries Inc.</td>
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