This 12-page special section commemorates the LIA’s members, history, accomplishments, events and priorities for the future.

Kevin S. Law, President & CEO
www.longislandassociation.org
The Long Island Association ("LIA") is a non-profit and non-partisan entity. It is the leading business organization in the region and one of the most well-respected in the state. The mission of the LIA is to support growth and economic development while also advocating for tax reforms and regulatory relief to improve the business climate in our region.

We have been advocating for the business community and the best interests of the region since 1926. Many of the challenges we confront today are similar to ones the LIA confronted early on – issues like transportation infrastructure, energy, taxes and land-use. Back then, it became clear rather quickly that the economic future of Long Island was intertwined with the operations of the Long Island Rail Road (much like today!).

The LIA championed the completion of Sunrise Highway and Jericho Turnpike as well as construction of the Triborough Bridge and Queens Midtown Tunnel, manifestations of the need to connect our Island with the City. We also led the way for the development of Mitchel Field, the opening of the Throgs Neck Bridge and the construction of the Nassau Coliseum.

In the decades that followed, the LIA advocated for our heritage industries of commercial fishing and farming. As the region’s economy came to be dominated by national defense contract procurement and companies like Grumman sprouted, we were there to support its ascension. Now in the year 2016, the LIA is playing an instrumental role creating an innovation economy that builds upon our world-class research institutions and universities.

Due to the advocacy of the LIA and working with our New York State Senate delegation, last year we helped secure hundreds of millions of state dollars that will fund critical infrastructure projects on Long Island. This is a significant step toward the LIA’s efforts to establish a research corridor that will further accelerate development of the region’s burgeoning innovation economy. Funds were also provided to major infrastructure projects at the Nassau and Ronkonkoma Hubs.

The LIA successfully supported the extension for an additional four years of the 2% property tax cap. We have also successfully advocated for various measures of state tax relief affecting businesses, middle class families, manufacturers, energy consumers and others. We also supported efforts to increase the Environmental Protection Fund as a healthy environment is essential to a vibrant economy for Long Island. Additionally, the LIA Research Institute (which we established last year) produced several key studies to analyze issues integral to the future growth of Long Island while the LIA led efforts to move forward with key redevelopment and transit-oriented projects in order to meet our region’s demographic challenges and the shortage of affordable housing for our region.

Amidst all of this activity, the LIA continues its tradition of hosting nationally known and prominent business leaders and government officials. Most recently, we welcomed former Massachusetts Governor and the 2012 Republican nominee for President, Mitt Romney, New York Yankees legend, Derek Jeter, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and former Florida Governor Jeb Bush. As CNN describes us, “the LIA is a popular stop for former Presidents and White House hopefuls.”

This year, we are celebrating our 90th anniversary. As we look back, we can take great pride in the role our organization has played in helping transform our region into a dynamic and attractive destination to live, work and play where families are building their lives and entrepreneurs are cultivating a high-tech, 21st century economy. While the future may be uncertain, I am confident the Long Island Association will continue to help shape our region and its economy.

Kevin S. Law
President and Chief Executive Officer

www.longislandassociation.org
About the LIA

The Long Island Association:

- Actively advocates the interests of, and promotes cooperation among, the business, labor, educational, scientific, environmental, not-for-profit and civic communities.
- Seeks to create and retain balanced economic opportunities and jobs in a clean, healthy and safe environment.
- As Long Island’s Chamber of Commerce, provides valuable services and programs to its membership organizations, particularly the small business community.

Advocacy:
The LIA brings Long Islanders together to make Long Island a better place... for all of us. LIA starts with small businesses; as small businesses are the bedrock of Long Island’s economy. The LIA also includes many of the Island’s largest businesses, as well as hospitals, colleges, universities, research laboratories and non-profit organizations.

Non-profit and non-partisan, the LIA helps businesses succeed so they can create and retain jobs here. It also identifies the issues our entire region faces so Long Island itself can be successful: taxes, housing, energy costs, education, transportation, economic development and many others.

The LIA acts as the voice of the business community, encouraging government—at all levels—to do what is right for Long Island. Long Island is a great place to live, work, and do business, but we need to keep it that way.

The LIA helped launch:

- Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- Long Island Housing Partnership, which builds affordable housing.

LIA Mission Statement

The Long Island Association is the leading business organization on Long Island. Founded in 1926, the mission of the LIA is to support growth, economic development and infrastructure investments on Long Island and to advocate for tax reforms and regulatory relief to improve the local economy and strengthen our business community.

www.longislandassociation.org

"Since its inception in 1926, the Long Island Association has been dedicated to supporting growth, economic development and infrastructure investments on Long Island. The LIA and its President & CEO Kevin Law are carrying on the organization’s 90 year tradition of influencing public policy at the federal, state and local levels to ensure businesses can start here, stay here and expand here. I would like to applaud the LIA for its commitment in shaping the Long Island economy. I am confident that the LIA will continue to work for the betterment of our community for many years to come."

Charles Schumer
U.S. Senator

"Happy 90th Anniversary to the Long Island Association. The LIA continues to look out for the best interests of the region to ensure Long Island stays a place where people want to live and work."

Thomas DiNapoli
New York State Comptroller

This publication was written, produced and paid for by the Long Island Association, and did not involve the reporting and editing staff of Newsday. The Long Island Association provided all of the material in this publication and is responsible for its content. Newsday’s Advertising Department was contracted to print and distribute this publication.
Since 1926, the LIA has worked tirelessly to make Long Island a great place to live, work and visit; supporting and stimulating area businesses and improving the quality of life for residents and families. I commend LIA President & CEO Kevin Law, the terrific Board of Directors and your dedicated staff for all the good things you do for the businesses and people of Long Island and New York State.

Andrew Cuomo
Governor
2016

Wayne Grossé
President & CEO
Bethpage Federal Credit Union

LIA ANNUAL AWARDS GALA
HARRY CHAPIN HUMANITARIAN AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Named for the late Long Island entertainer, the Harry Chapin Humanitarian Award for Community Service is presented to a person who reflects Chapin’s spirit of compassion, enthusiasm, tenacity and belief in the Long Island community. “The LIA is proud to recognize individuals, their companies and their employees for exemplifying all that is good about Long Island,” said Kevin S. Law, President & CEO of the Long Island Association. “Our honorees are community-oriented, philanthropic business leaders who have spent their lives and careers working to make our region a better place.”

2016 Winner: Wayne Grossé, President & CEO, Bethpage Federal Credit Union

I would like to congratulate the Long Island Association for celebrating its 90th anniversary. Long Island is undertaking major transformational infrastructure projects and cultivating a 21st century, innovation economy thanks, in no small part, to the efforts of the LIA. Just as the LIA was integral to developing the economy in 1926 and the years to follow, the LIA is continuing to influence the direction and future of Long Island for decades to come. I commend the LIA’s commitment to supporting local business, while providing a level of leadership and service that is indispensable to our state. Please accept my best wishes for many more years of continued success.

Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator
Member Strategic Committees

**Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee**, co-chaired by Michael Maturo, President and CFO for RXR Realty LLC and Matthew Whalen, Senior Vice President, Development for AvalonBay Communities, Inc. and vice-chaired by Ellen Rudin, Managing Director for CBRE and John Gutleber, President and CEO of Castagna Realty. The Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee looks at ways to grow Long Island’s economy and create jobs while also evaluating issues that include transportation, housing, real estate, minority- and women-owned businesses and international trade.

**Energy and Environment Committee**, co-chaired by Robert Catell, Chairman of the Advanced Energy Research & Technology Center and Gene Bernstein, Chairman of Northville Industries NIC Holding Corp. and vice-chaired by John Bruckner, Senior Vice President, Electric Distribution Operations at National Grid. The Energy and Environment Committee considers a variety of issues, including green jobs and generation, efficiency, groundwater protection, agriculture and clean air.

**Financial Services and Tax Policy Committee**, co-chaired by Jeffrey Alter, CEO of UnitedHealthcare Commercial Group and William Savino, Partner, Rivkin Radler LLP and vice-chaired by Miriam Tanenbaum, Market Executive, Head of Long Island/Queens, Commercial Banking, Capital One Bank and Carolyn Mazzenga, Partner-in-Charge, Marcum LLP. The Financial Services and Tax Policy Committee explores tax, insurance and banking issues and the impact of various proposals and regulations on the region.

**Health, Education and Not-for-Profit Committee**, co-chaired by Dr. Samuel Stanley, Jr., President of Stony Brook University and Robert Isaksen, LI Market President of Bank of America and vice-chaired by Dr. Drew Bogner, President, Molloy College and Linda Army, SVP of Corporate Affairs, Bethpage Federal Credit Union. The Health, Education and Not-for-Profit Committee discusses health insurance and accessibility, education issues and ways to foster the work of not-for-profit organizations.

**Small and Mid-Sized Business Committee**, co-chaired by Katherine Heaviside, President of Epoch 5 Public Relations and Ernie Canadeo, President of The EGC Group, Inc. and vice-chaired by Crisler Quick, President, The Finance Department. The Small and Mid-Sized Business Committee advances positions that support the great majority of Long Island’s business community; our small and mid-sized businesses.

**LI-BIO**, co-chaired by Dr. Bruce Stillman, President, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and Seymour Liebman, Executive VP, Chief Administrative Officer & General Counsel, Canon U.S.A., Inc. Our newest committee, LI-BIO, will serve as a platform to help expand Long Island’s burgeoning sector of companies focused on biotechnology, pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, cosmeceutical and life sciences.

**Long Island Association’s Women’s Collaborative** is an innovative new model that is bringing together, empowering and engaging Long Island’s leading businesswomen while encouraging partnerships and providing support, education and growth opportunities. In turn, the businesswomen involved in the Collaborative are informing the LIA about issues important to them and the region’s economic vitality, such as equal pay for equal work and making child care and early education opportunities more affordable and accessible to working families.

**Young Professionals Committee** which is comprised of a diverse group of employees ages 22-35 who are designated by members of the LIA Board of Directors. The LIA is thus helping train the next generation of business leaders and integrating their input in confronting the challenges facing young people on Long Island while giving them an opportunity to learn, network and collaborate with each other.

The Long Island Association has been an invaluable resource for Long Island employers and our regional economy for nearly a century. It has been an honor to work alongside them during my tenure in Congress, and I know their expertise, advocacy and innovation will ensure that Long Island’s economic future will be a bright one.

Peter King
U.S. Congressman

The Long Island Association is one of the most well-respected organizations in New York State and a staunch advocate for improving the state’s business climate. As Long Island’s economy continues to grow, it will be the LIA leading the way just as it has for the past 90 years. Congratulations on your anniversary!

Eric Schneiderman
New York State Attorney General
1. Triborough Bridge (now the RFK Bridge)
2. Queens Midtown Tunnel
3. Extension of the LIE and service roads
4. Preservation of the Central Pine Barrens to protect clean water
5. New research corridor linking our innovation economy
6. Supporting our local farms and agriculture industry
7. Advocated for the viability of commercial fishing
8. Construction of original Nassau Coliseum and its current redevelopment
9. Establishment of a new Ronkonkoma Hub along with other key housing and transportation projects
10. Development of Mitchel Field and the defense and aviation industries
11. Completion of Sunrise Highway
12. Fighting for federal resources for Brookhaven National Laboratory
13. LIRR Double Track to boost service and reliability (Farmingdale to Ronkonkoma)
14. Now supporting the LIRR Third Track
15. Fighting for federal resources for Brookhaven National Laboratory

Long Island Association: Shaping Our Island

Since 1926, the LIA has worked tirelessly to make Long Island a great place to live, work and visit; supporting and stimulating area businesses and improving the quality of life for residents and families. I commend LIA President & CEO Kevin Law, the terrific Board of Directors and your dedicated staff for all the good things you do for the businesses and people of Long Island and New York State.

Andrew Cuomo
New York State Governor

Happy 90th anniversary to the LIA! I look forward to continue working together to deliver results for Long Island and fight for our region’s fair share of federal funds.

Kathleen Rice
U.S. Congresswoman
Long Island’s economy in 1926 would be almost unrecognizable today. The eastern and central portions of the island were largely agricultural. And even western Long Island was mostly rural. Leisure and hospitality, taking advantage of Long Island’s extensive beaches, was the other main industry at the time. Yet the seeds of change were already being sown. The decade of the 1920s was a time of strong economic growth. The stock market was booming, unemployment was relatively low and a sense of optimism prevailed. This was a period when the development of Long Island’s economy began in earnest. Reflecting this growth, the population of Nassau County more than doubled from 1920 to 1930, and grew by more than 50 percent in Suffolk.

Between the 1920s and 1940s, the Long Island Railroad and Long Island’s parkway system expanded, paving the way for the development of a strong manufacturing sector and the first suburban communities in the United States. Thus, the GI Bill and the development of “America’s First Suburb,” Levittown, helped to start greatly expanding homeownership for middle-class families.

Charles Lindbergh’s historic 1927 flight from Roosevelt Field on Long Island to Paris ignited interest in the aviation industry. Roosevelt Field was the largest and busiest civilian airfield in America by the 1930s, with more than 150 aviation businesses and 450 planes based there. Lindbergh also chose the already-recognized expertise of Long Island’s growing number of aircraft builders and repairers – the pioneers of what would become the region’s dominant industry and a vital contributor to countless air battles. Grumman and Republic in particular were two large defense and aeronautics firms based on Long Island that were major employers during this period. Aircraft built on Long Island played a vital role in helping America win World War II, and then later, Long Islanders constructed a Lunar Module that landed the first astronaut on the moon.

Yet with the end of the Cold War came the downsizing of Long Island’s defense industry and the thousands of jobs that it provided. But in the 1980s and 1990s, Long Islanders reinvented their economy on the innovative and entrepreneurial energies of thousands of smaller businesses, from high-tech manufacturers to low-tech tourism and a host of financial service sector concerns in between. The strength of Long Island’s economy became its diverse base of businesses, in a wide range of fields, with a coveted labor force trained in first-rate schools and colleges.

In more recent years, Long Island’s economy has developed and expanded in many areas. Major industries now include health care, education, manufacturing, construction, business and professional, and financial services, among others. Long Island is quite prominent in science and biotechnology, being home to leading research institutions and universities. Investment in hi-tech and biotech industries is a priority and a catalyst for future growth as Long Island’s economy continues to expand and evolve.

At the same time, Long Island retains its leisure and hospitality components of the local economy. And agriculture, though a much smaller share of the economy today, retains its important presence, especially apparent with the development of Long Island’s fine wineries.

The growth and diversification of Long Island’s economy reflects its demographic changes. Long Island’s residents number approximately 3 million today, almost 10 times the population in 1926. The population has grown more ethnically diverse and much more highly-educated. One can fairly say that the past 90 years have witnessed the transformation of Long Island’s economy from rural farming and tourism to the large and diversified economy of today; an economic engine in its own right.
The Long Island Association has been serving our local business community for decades and understands the need for a strong economy. Congratulations to the Long Island Association on their 90th anniversary.

Lee Zeldin, U.S. Congressman
Since its inception in 1926, the Long Island Association has been dedicated to supporting growth, economic development and infrastructure investments on Long Island. The LIA and its President & CEO Kevin Law are carrying on the organization's 90 year tradition of influencing public policy at the federal, state and local levels to ensure businesses can start here, stay here and expand here. I would like to applaud the LIA for its commitment in shaping the Long Island economy. I am confident that the LIA and its President & CEO Kevin Law will continue to work for the betterment of our community for many years to come.

Charles Schumer
Senator

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LIA Top 10 Current Priorities

1. Support the creation of a Research Corridor from Yaphank to Uniondale and two major redevelopment projects at the Nassau and Ronkonkoma Hubs, leveraging billions of dollars in public and private investments while creating thousands of construction and permanent jobs.

2. Help launch the “Right Track Coalition” to support Governor Cuomo’s proposed Long Island Rail Road Improvement Program: Floral Park-Hicksville Expansion (formerly known as the Third Track) while supporting additional investments in the LIRR.

3. Build support for the expansion of Long Island MacArthur Airport with new airlines and destinations and strengthen its connectivity to the LIRR station at Ronkonkoma while making it a focus of tourism efforts. Also, continue to support the growth of Republic Airport under its new private operator.

4. Launch “LI BIO” – a new committee of the LIA that will serve as a platform to help expand Long Island’s burgeoning sector of companies focused on biotechnology, pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, cosmeceutical and life sciences and that will act as a forum to network, collaborate and educate the LIA about the concerns of their businesses.

5. Participate in the Integrated Resource Plan being prepared by PSEG-LI and support a new, comprehensive energy master plan for Long Island to guide energy policy decision making in the region while promoting diverse energy supplies and projects. Also, support efforts to address climate change and create a clean energy economy on Long Island by encouraging the growth of the region’s wind and solar industries.

6. Advocate for a more equitable share of federal and state government funding as Long Islanders send $28 billion more to Albany and Washington, D.C. in tax revenues than we receive in state and federal aid and benefits in return.

7. Support more investment in sewage infrastructure in the region that allows for mixed-use and transit-oriented development projects, especially those that will increase the supply of rental housing on Long Island. Also, support the work of the groundwater resource protection plans being prepared as our economy is strengthened by a healthy environment.

8. Build on the success of the LIA’s Women’s Collaborative by supporting businesswomen’s issues and supporting efforts to make child care and early education opportunities more affordable and accessible to working families as they are critical to economic development.

9. Support state legislation that would allow municipalities to implement a “professional certification” program in order to save commercial landlords time and money when they are making non-complex changes to their buildings in order to attract or keep tenants.

10. Help ensure fair and equitable state and federal rules to expand and promote sustainable agriculture, fisheries, wineries, aquaculture and tourism industries, particularly on the East End.

“The Long Island Association has been an invaluable resource for Long Island employers and our regional economy for nearly a century. It has been an honor to work alongside them during my tenure in Congress, and I know their expertise, advocacy and innovation will ensure that Long Island’s economic future will be a bright one.”

Steve Israel
U.S. Congressman

“Kudos to the Long Island Association for its storied history as a unifying voice for Long Island. What the LIA says matters. They have their finger on the pulse of what businesses need to succeed and what government can do to help grow the region, facilitate the creation of jobs and spur economic activity.”

Steve Bellone
Suffolk County Executive

“I commend the LIA for everything they do to improve the business climate and grow our economy. Under the leadership of its President & CEO, Kevin Law, the LIA’s mission and advocacy are more important than ever.”

Edward Mangano
Nassau County Executive
WE LOOK OUT FOR LONG ISLAND

The Long Island Association watches out for the interests of Long Island business in Albany, in Washington DC, and at the local level, too. Join today and add your voice to ours.

To learn more, call 631-493-3020 or visit Longislandassociation.org

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Long Island Association
LEADING LONG ISLAND

Kevin S. Law
President & CEO