

# LICA's Latest

BIWEEKLY E-GRAM THAT CONTAINS THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION VITAL TO LICA'S MEMBERS

## With the One-Year Anniversary Looming, LICA Praises Members for Continued Sandy Recovery Effort

The Long Island Contractors' Association presents their "LICA Sandy Umbrella Award" to Matthew Frank of Ronkonkoma who accepts it from David Thornhill, Foreman with United Fence and Guard Rail, as they work along the Ocean Parkway.



Under threatening skies, it was more than a little appropriate that a year after Superstorm Sandy the **Long Island Contractors' Association (LICA)** should honor its members, **United Fence & Guard Rail Corp.** and **Grace Industries LLC**, for their roles in helping restore the region.

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*The Voice of Long Island's Highway & Infrastructure Professionals*

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While offering large umbrellas to their workers, (not that they would have helped in the storm), **LICA Chairman James Pratt, III**, stated, "LICA members and their employees, working tirelessly during the past year, have been instrumental in bringing normalcy back to our region after the devastating effects of Superstorm Sandy. We would like to thank all for their extraordinary effort and commitment, as many of us have endured personal losses and, yet, we continue to be focused on helping rebuild our communities."

United Fence & Guard Rail is working to replace existing rustic guiderails along a 13-mile stretch of Ocean Parkway in the Town of Hempstead in Nassau County and the Towns of Babylon and Islip in Suffolk County. Existing guiderails will be replaced with guard rails that meet current engineering standards. In addition, new sections of guiderail will be added, if warranted, to ensure the safety of the traveling public. The estimated completion date for this project is slated for December 2013.

The reconstruction of the Long Beach Boardwalk is well underway thanks to Grace Industries' unflagging effort to restore the City of Long Beach's iconic landmark. The scope of this \$44 million project called for the reconstruction of the 2.2 mile long boardwalk that was destroyed by Superstorm Sandy. This 200-day fast-tracked project is on time and on budget.

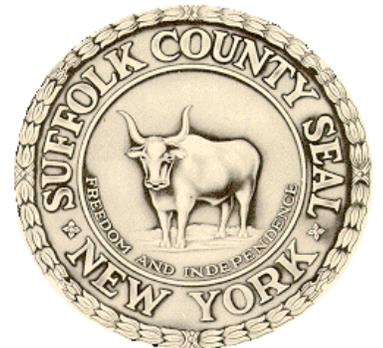


*Meanwhile down at the Long Beach Boardwalk, Bryon Holland, foreman, of Huntington Station (left) and Project Engineer William McDonald of Grace share the Superstorm Award of a massive umbrella for the work they are doing on a project that is helping to restore Long Beach.*

## Suffolk and Smithtown Underscore the Loss of Municipal Infrastructure Investment

Hard times mean hard luck for Long Island roads and the industry that exists to repair our public infrastructure; but in Suffolk County, that investment has run off into a ditch according to a study recently completed by the Long Island Contractors' Association (LICA).

"The trend lines speak for themselves," stated **LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst**. "We have found that road improvement spending per resident has been flat or declined over the past four years within many town and village jurisdictions, a reflection of the recession and government's inability or unwillingness to invest in its infrastructure." However, Herbst says it is in Suffolk County that an analysis shows the most obvious drop. "In 2008, Suffolk County was investing \$33.68 per resident per year in its county roads and bridges. In 2012, that number was \$18.65." The Town of Smithtown has also seen a dramatic drop which Herbst is calling, "the statistical poster child of infrastructure abandonment." In 2008, the Town was investing \$49.09 per resident, and in 2012, the number was less than half that amount, \$21.50.



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LICA says there are some findings which suggest some public officials are at least seeking to maintain their investment in road and bridge repair. Nassau County basically held steady with \$56.61 per person in 2008 and \$60.85 in 2012. The Town of Oyster Bay is up from \$109.79 in 2008 to \$164.86 in 2012, while the largest town by square miles, Brookhaven, was flat, showing \$57.07 spent per resident during 2008 and \$60.70 in 2012.

Herbst cautions, "These investments quantified per person don't suggest that the dollars are actually adequate for the purpose of staying ahead of an aging infrastructure, but they do provide a snapshot of spending trends and municipal focus. Our data was based on official reports submitted to the **Office of the State Comptroller** from municipalities putting dollars into highway capital projects, capital and equipment outlay and contracted services, but they exclude costs for administration, right of way landscaping and snow removal."

North Hempstead spent \$21.70 in 2008 and four years later the number is \$45.91. In Hempstead the number remains flat, standing at \$45.63 in 2008 and \$47.34 in 2012. The City of Glen Cove stood at \$106.58 but plummeted to \$65.49 in 2012. In Suffolk, the Town of Islip inched down from \$56.33 to \$52.67, Babylon fell from \$59.42 to \$42.74, while Huntington fell from \$44.32 to \$31.72 in 2012 on expenses per person for infrastructure.

Herbst explained, "The recession, the loss of tax revenue, the harsh winters and severe weather that pummeled our roads, and the lack of funding priorities because infrastructure does not have a 'constituency,' have all affected how and when and who puts dollars into this area. These numbers reflect the vagaries of the budget process and the need for a strategic appreciation that a sustained commitment to our roads and bridges is crucial if we are to protect the economic underpinnings of Long Island."

## LICA Participates in HUD's "Rebuild by Design Public Conversation Workshop"



LICA's Executive Director Marc Herbst presented the group's insight and experience during his participation on a panel looking at infrastructure needs during a recent "Rebuild by Design Public Conversation Workshop" hosted by the **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** that discussed three major topics, including emergency response, health care/senior care and infrastructure.

Rebuild by Design is a multi-stage, competitive regional design organization that will develop innovative approaches to enhancing resiliency in Hurricane Sandy affected communities. Ten international teams of designers and resiliency professionals have embarked on an eight-month research and design process that will generate innovative planning and design approaches to the region's post-Sandy challenges. Personal experiences related to Hurricane

Sandy's impact and post-event effects on local communities will serve as essential underpinning for resilient recovery projects in our region that are both fundable and achievable with an eye to rethinking the construct of our cities and towns.

Herbst spoke on the need for appropriate financial investment in our communications, energy, housing, clean and waste water systems and transportation.

"Whenever there is tension placed on any system, the likely point of failure will occur at the weakest points of vulnerability. We experienced that during Superstorm Sandy," said Herbst. "Essential systems that failed, most notably the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant, had been neglected through unsustainable deferred maintenance and lack of necessary financial investment."

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Herbst explained that in spite of desires to rebuild bigger and better following the storm's wake of destruction, the overall financial regulations still favor mere replacement of infrastructure. The reconstruction of Ocean Parkway and the barrier beaches is an example of how federal reimbursement timetables, as well as the economic-driven beach season, dictated the completion date of construction, which ultimately precluded any hardening measures to prevent future erosion.

### ***And now we're paying the price...***

LICA member **Bove Industries, Inc.**, the state Department of Transportation emergency contractor, mobilized over the weekend and is working around-the-clock to repair a gaping hole left in a dune along Ocean Parkway by pounding surf and nor'easter winds.

It would be easy to blame New York State for the decision not to harden portions of Ocean Parkway from future storms but it wouldn't jive with the facts. The federal government provided only enough funds to restore what had been lost after Sandy, not to improve or strengthen our infrastructure. Our local heavy construction firms were actually encouraged by the state to include in their bid for emergency repairs specifications to create hardening measures, such as pile driving steel sheaving and subsurface concrete barriers to deter future erosion. Obviously, those options were not executed because, in spite of efforts to "build smarter" after natural disasters, the federal reimbursement methodology and bureaucratic malaise still do not permit the needed repairs to take place. New York State was not enabled to enact the appropriate repairs they clearly desired to implement. And our heavy contractors are now repeating the repairs instead of working on other much needed infrastructure jobs that ensure the safety and quality of life for every Long Islander who depends on their roads.

"Long Island contractors want to build bigger and better. We do not want to simply dig holes to waste our taxpayer dollars; instead, we want to invest and build for our future," said Herbst.

## **Former NYSDOT Regional Director Joins SIMCO Engineering, P.C. as Executive Vice President**



LICA congratulates **Subi Chakraborti, P.E.** on joining **SIMCO Engineering, P.C.** as their new Executive Vice President. After a successful career in the **New York Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)** over 28 years, including the last 10 years as a Regional Director, Chakraborti brings to SIMCO his broad technical knowledge and management experience in transportation planning, design, environment, construction, traffic and safety, maintenance operations and airport management.

SIMCO Engineering, P.C. provides high quality services in traffic engineering, parking, highway engineering, transportation planning, environmental assessment, resident engineering inspection, construction management and bridge inspection services to both public and private sector clients. SIMCO is a certified D/MBE by all major tri-state transportation agencies.

For more information on SIMCO Engineering, P.C. [click here.](#)

# CFMA Hosts Breakfast Discussion on Contract Claims – Notice & Damage Recordkeeping Requirements

The **Long Island Chapter of the Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA)** would like to invite LICA members to join them this **Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 10:30am** for a breakfast and panel discussion on “Contract Claims - Notice & Damage Recordkeeping Requirements - Key Issues, Concerns, and Best Practices” at the Inn at Fox Hollow in Woodbury.



LICA member **Erik Ortmann, partner at Goldberg & Connolly** will be the featured speaker. The breakfast and registration will begin at 8:30am, with the discussion starting at 9:00am.

**Click here** for more information on this event. If you are interested in attending, please email **Debbie O'Rourke** at [debbie.cfma@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.cfma@gmail.com) or call her at 631-617-5150.

## LICA Members Show Support for Long Island's Fight Against Hunger

LICA members **Holzmacher, McLendon & Murrell, P.C. (H2M)** and **Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.** will be participating again this year in the Canstruction® Long Island 2013 competition in which design teams compete to build structures made entirely out of canned foods.

The Canstruction® Long Island design/build competition puts a visual spotlight on hunger while showcasing the Long Island design community's best and brightest. Teams of engineers, architects and construction professionals come together to defy



LICA member Greenman-Pedersen took home three awards last year for their “Avenge Hunger” can-struction: Juror’s Favorite, Most Cans (7,241) and People’s Choice.

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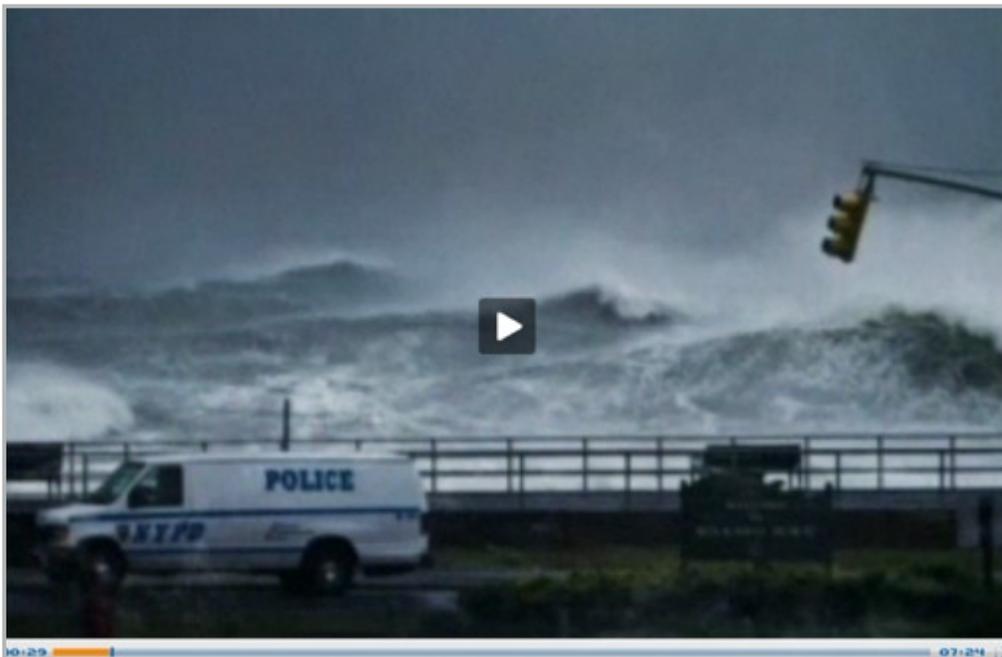
expectations as they build fantastic sculptures from thousands of cans of food while raising awareness of the fight against hunger in our local communities.

The resulting structures become an art exhibit open to public view. At the end of the exhibition, the food used in the structures are donated to **Long Island Cares, Inc., The Harry Chapin Food Bank** to be distributed to food pantries across Long Island. Since 2007, Canstruction® Long Island has donated over 232,000 cans of food, the equivalent of approximately 93 tons of food, to help feed the hungry in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

LICA members who have participated in the past include **Grassi & Company, Greeman-Pedersen, H2M, The LiRo Group** and **Lockwood, Kessler & Bartlett, Inc. (LKB)**. Grassi & Company took home the award for "Honorable Mention" in 2011. H2M won two awards in 2011 for "Most Cans" (6,675) and "Honorable Mention" for their giant colorful Care Bear, "Care-A-Lot Can Bear" creation and won last year for "Structural Integrity." Greenman-Pedersen won big last year, taking home awards for "Juror's Favorite," "Most Cans" (7,241) and "People's Choice."

Canstruction® will host a Cocktail Reception and Awards Ceremony on **Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>** at the RXR Plaza in Uniondale, New York, celebrating the designs and for industry networking. All structures will remain on daily public display from **October 25<sup>th</sup>** through **November 6<sup>th</sup>**. Cost of admission is one can of food, but visitors are encouraged to bring as many cans as they can!

For more information on this event, please [click here](#) to visit Canstruction® Long Island's website. If your firm is interested in sponsoring this event, please contact **Sponsorship Coordinator Tracy Lobdell** at [tracy@canstructionli.org](mailto:tracy@canstructionli.org). Your donations will be used to purchase cans which will ultimately make their way to local food banks to help the hungry right here on Long Island.



***[Click here](#) to watch our video on the impact of Hurricane Sandy and contracting efforts to repair and restore damaged parts of Long Island.***

# Bid Results

\*\*Numbers in red represent the winning bid \*\*Highlighted and bold companies represent LICA Members

Project Name	Owner	Contractor	Bid Amount
Reconstruction of Indiana Ave Pump Station - Hurricane Sandy	City of Long Beach Public Works	<b>Philip Ross Industries Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 460,000</b>
		Bensin Contracting Inc.	753,000
		WHM Plumbing & Heating Contr. Inc.	837,500
		RJ Industries Inc./RJI Mechanical	948,800
2013-14 On Call Snow Plowing Svcs - Central Area Parking Fields	Town of Hempstead	Green Island Tree Service	<b>\$ 324,092</b>
		<b>Stasi Brothers Asphalt Corporation</b>	<b>409,726</b>
2013-14 On Call Snow Plowing Svcs - Southeast Area Parking Fields	Town of Hempstead	Landtek Group Inc.	<b>\$ 317,608</b>
		Green Island Construction Group	413,094
		<b>Stasi Brothers Asphalt Corporation</b>	<b>520,608</b>
Cedar Creek WPCP Influent Screening Facility Improv	County of Nassau Office of Public Works	WHM Plumbing & Heating Contr. Inc.	<b>\$ 11,554,350</b>
		<b>Posillico Civil Inc.</b>	<b>12,253,244</b>
		Stratis Contracting	12,594,300
		Primer Construction Corp.	13,835,850
Golf Irrigation Systems @ N. Woodmere & Bay Parks - Sandy	County of Nassau Office of Public Works	<b>Bancker Construction Corp</b>	<b>\$ 515,000</b>
		Rocon Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	1,488,000
Hillside Replenishment @ Amagansett Drive	Town of Brookhaven, Purchasing Division	Biltwel General Contractor Corp.	<b>\$ 49,429</b>
		<b>Quintal Contracting Corp.</b>	<b>52,400</b>
		Gatz Landscaping Inc.	58,819
		Fort Hill Industries Inc.	82,500
		Saracino Construction	87,800
		Amma Construction Corporation	89,000
		<b>Laser Industries Inc.</b>	<b>110,500</b>
Rebid-Kings Park Hike & Bike Trail Extension	Town of Smithtown	H & A Landscape of Long Island	<b>\$ 55,695</b>
		Fasco Asphalt Paving	62,000
		Gatz Landscaping Inc.	62,850
		Saracino Construction	68,900
		KJB Industries/Eagle Asphalt Maint	93,639
		<b>KPI/Kings Park Industries Inc.</b>	<b>94,389</b>
		<b>Laser Industries Inc.</b>	<b>98,750</b>
		<b>Araz Industries</b>	<b>101,800</b>
Tri State Paving LLC	126,587		
Install Traffic Signal (CR 35) Park Ave @ East 5th Street	Town Of Huntington Purchasing Dept.	<b>Hinck Electrical Contracting, Inc.</b>	<b>\$ 276,722</b>
		Commander Electric, Inc.	277,134
		Welsbach Electric	282,200
		<b>Pratt Brothers Inc.</b>	<b>298,765</b>
		Eldor Contracting	312,697
		<b>KPI/Kings Park Industries Inc.</b>	<b>324,845</b>
Reconstruction of Tanner Park Marina General Contractor	Town Of Babylon-Purchasing Dept.	<b>J Anthony Enterprises</b>	<b>\$ 2,686,430</b>
		Rockmore Contracting Corporation	2,968,000
		<b>Gibson &amp; Cushman Contracting</b>	<b>3,787,180</b>
Electrical		<b>Johnson Electrical Construction</b>	<b>\$ 175,000</b>
		Welsbach Electric	182,300
		LEB Electric	192,187
		Mainline Electric Corp	224,000
		Baltray dba Bancker Electric	226,800
		JP Daly & Sons Inc.	229,600
		Eldor Contracting	230,550
		Rolands Electric Co.	249,700
		Commander Electric, Inc.	274,000
		Palace Electrical Contractors Inc.	281,000
North Queens Ave Area - Road & Stormwater Improv	Village Of Lindenhurst	<b>J Anthony Enterprises</b>	<b>\$ 663,350</b>
		<b>Pratt Brothers Inc.</b>	<b>670,670</b>
		<b>Araz Industries</b>	<b>672,543</b>
		<b>Laser Industries Inc.</b>	<b>698,150</b>
		PSL Industries, Inc.	866,025
Comfort Station & Shower Bldg @ Hither Hills St Park General Contractor	New York State Parks & Rec-Long Island Region	Shri Construction Corp.	<b>\$ 1,053,100</b>
		Hi-Tech Waterproofing & Restoration Inc.	1,099,651
		Ravco Construction	1,140,000
		JNS Contracting LLC	1,172,000
		Irwin Contracting Inc.	1,244,202
		<b>North Star Concrete Construction</b>	<b>1,355,848</b>
		Saracino Construction	1,457,000
		Baruti Contracting Corp.	1,475,000
		Advanced Construction Concept	1,534,000
		Construction Consultants of LI	1,544,000
		Bensin Contracting Inc.	1,584,400
		Lipsky Enterprises Inc.	1,609,279
		Austin Interiors Inc.	1,646,000
AFL Construction Co. Inc.	1,693,192		
Biltwel General Contractor Corp.	1,972,900		

