

## LIFOCUS

## ■ Commercial Real Estate/Architecture/Engineering/Construction Ones to Watch



JAMES BRITZ



JOSEPH CASTAGNA

**James Britz**

Executive Vice President  
Long Island Housing Partnership

In his role with Hauppauge-based Long Island Housing Partnership, James Britz focuses on the implementation of multiple affordable housing development and supportive programs. His duties include budget preparation, negotiations with builders, screening of applicants, marketing, grant proposals, monitoring of construction, preparation of drawdowns from funding sources and compliance with various funding requirements. He was recently named to the affordable housing advisory council of the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York. The University of Scranton graduate is a member of the 2010 Class of The Energeia Partnership-the Academy for Regional Stewardship at Molloy College.



LARRY HABER



AJ JOHNSTON

**Joseph Castagna**

Associate Partner  
Sidney B. Bowne & Son

Joseph Castagna is a professional engineer with four decades of experience in the engineering industry. He was recently promoted from design engineer and project manager to associate partner at Sidney B. Bowne & Son, an engineering firm headquartered in Mineola. Castagna heads up the firm's highway design department, overseeing all highway and drainage projects for municipal clients. For the past several years, Castagna has been involved in the Garvies Point waterfront revitalization project in Glen Cove.



THOMAS LANDHERR



BRIAN SARATH

**Larry Haber**

Managing Partner  
Abrams Garfinkel Margolis Bergson

As managing partner of the commercial real estate department at Great Neck law firm Abrams Garfinkel Margolis Bergson, Larry Haber represents both tenants and landlords. He focuses primarily on commercial lease negotiations, real estate acquisitions and dispositions, construction and architectural contracts and due diligence advisory services. His expertise includes the representation of borrowers and lenders in loan transactions and various national entities in leasing, sales, development and joint venture transactions. His experience includes decades of commercial real estate ownership.

**James Ashley (AJ) Johnston**

President and Founder  
Metropolis Property Group

AJ Johnston recently launched Metropolis Property Group, a privately owned real estate investment and development company in Huntington. Over the last dozen years, Johnston has worked in diverse roles in the real estate industry. Most recently, he was vice president of acquisitions and development at the Engel Burman Group in Garden City, responsible for the sourcing, land use entitlements and development of assisted living, multifamily and retail communities. Prior to that, he was director of real estate for King Kullen Grocery Co. He previously held positions with Blumenfeld Development Group, Sunrise Senior Living and Pulte Homes.

**Thomas Landherr**

Chief Financial Officer  
BEB Real Estate

As the new CFO for Port Washington-based BEB Real Estate, Thomas Landherr oversees financing, accounting and reporting for the firm's operating, development and property management activities. In his most recent role, the certified public accountant served as CFO for Corigin (formerly Coalco NY), a Manhattan-based company specializing in real estate and private equity in the New York area. His previous positions included serving as vice president and director of development accounting for Douglaston Development; vice president and controller at Reckson Construction; and controller at Triangle Equities.

**Brian Sarath**

Senior Director, Queens Division  
NAI Long Island

Based in Melville, Brian Sarath heads up NAI Long Island's newly established Queens division. Sarath, who is a new addition to the full-service commercial real estate firm, is responsible for investment property sales and real estate services in Queens. Previously, Sarath served as director of the capital markets group for Cushman & Wakefield. Over the course of his career, he has sold more than 220 buildings and loans with an aggregate value of \$620 million. He was named a top sales broker by CoStar Group in 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012.