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Giamo: Banking on Long Island

by Commentary

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Chris Giamo

By Chris Giamo

When TD Bank entered Long Island in 2002, it was a time of growth for financial institutions.

Although the nation has since been challenged with a difficult economic downturn, Long Island has continued to be a vibrant and welcoming community to build and grow a business.

For proof of this I look no farther than TD Bank's own journey.

Tomorrow TD will open our 1,300th and 1,301st stores right here in Syosset and North Massapequa, bringing our store count on Long Island to 54.

We've come a long way. Just 10 years ago our leadership team was working from their cars as we secured office space and identified the most convenient real estate for our stores.

Now, we're working from the road because we're visiting the thousands of Long Island businesses and customers who work with TD Bank.

The secret of our success in Nassau and Suffolk counties is actually very simple: Invest in Long Island, and Long Island will invest in you. As we've grown our store network and employee base over the past 10 years, we've also grown our support of the community we serve, donating over $400,000 to local organizations in 2011 alone.

As members of the community, we have supported the growth and development of Long Island because it is more than just a location – it is a place to live, to work and to raise your family; it is a place where tourism thrives, and it provides a great opportunity for businesses to succeed.

We encourage businesses on Long Island to grow with us and give back to this community, because growing business is a sign of triumph for Long Island. We have, and always will, work with our business neighbors to fuel the upturn of a down economy.

In collaboration with our chambers of commerce and collectively with the Long Island Association, we will continue to act as cheerleaders for this community and the businesses that call Long Island home.

We are truly thankful to Long Island for the 10 tremendous years we've had, and we look forward to many more.

Giamo is the regional president, metro New York, for TD Bank.

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