

Long Island Business News

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Trump's America

By: Adina Genn November 11, 2016

[excerpt]

In the moments approaching President-Elect Donald Trump's victory, half the nation, eager for sweeping change, cheered. The other half, heart-broken that they hadn't just elected the nation's first woman president, began a path to soldier on. Meanwhile, stocks plummeted across the world. The Canadian immigration website crashed, overwhelmed by traffic from those exploring citizenship. In the middle of the night, a veil of uncertainty hung over the nation's future.

Trump will enjoy a Republican majority in both houses of Congress. In the Senate, Republicans maintain a two-seat majority. New York Democrat Charles Schumer will serve as its minority leader.

Locally, the financial impact of Trump's victory has raised hopes but also concerns about the impact of such wide-ranging policies on economic trade, immigration, healthcare, the military and more.

On the morning after, local leaders showed that Long Island's resilient optimism is alive and well and that they are ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work, pushing forward, whether their candidate won or lost.

"The votes are in and the winner of this presidential race is infrastructure," said Marc Herbst, executive director of the Long Island Contractors Association. "It was the only topic both sides agreed on."

Still, the novelty of each candidate – a woman, and a businessman – captivated Long Islanders.

"Growing up always questioning why women could not have the same jobs, hold the same offices and have the same opportunities, having a viable qualified woman on the ballot of a major political party to become the POTUS is very exciting for me," said Carolyn Mazzenga, partner-in-charge of Marcum, in Melville. "It also is exciting to see that someone with no political experience at all can also rise to become the candidate of a major political party. Both of these are what makes this country so great."

Clearly, voters wanted change...