

# The Bulletin



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## The Bulletin

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For general inquiries,  
or *Bulletin* submissions,  
contact us at  
[bulletin@erausa.org](mailto:bulletin@erausa.org)  
or on our website at  
[erausa.org/contact](http://erausa.org/contact)

Editorial Staff:

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## This Month's Cover Photo:

In a scene long-gone from  
old-town Brussels, Bel-  
gium, Standard motor 1263  
(Tramways Bruxellois, 1936)  
is operating on the 28 route  
to St Lambert at the  
Rue du Marché aux Poulets  
stop on 8/13/1968  
(Photographer unknown,  
from Eurotrams listserver)

**In This Issue:**  
**Michael Hertz,**  
**NYC Subway**  
**Map Designer,**  
**Passes Away at**  
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## FORMER ACTING LIRR PRESIDENT RAYMOND KENNY PASSES AWAY

Former Acting LIRR President Raymond Kenny, a Lindenhurst resident whose childhood fascination with trains led to a railroading career that spanned a half-century, died April 18 from complications of COVID-19, his family said.

His family said Kenny was admitted to Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center about a week earlier with symptoms of the coronavirus, and later tested positive and was put on a ventilator. Kenny, who most recently headed rail operations for NJ Transit, was 69.

In a 2014 interview, Kenny said he became interested in the LIRR while riding the train between his Cedarhurst home and Molloy High School in Queens. He began working at the railroad as a summer ticket clerk in the early 1970s, while pursuing a bachelor's degree in business administration from John Jay College. After graduating, he was hired full-time on the management side of the LIRR as a junior industrial engineer.

Kenny worked in various management roles until being promoted in the early 2000s to Chief Transportation Officer. When then-LIRR president James Dermody retired in September, 2006, Kenny served as Acting President for ten months. In the role, Kenny was charged with

leading the railroad's response to the concerns raised by a *Newsday* investigation about the dangers of wide gaps between trains and station platforms.

"I was not stressed, because I had a lot of help. Everybody was pulling the same weight," Kenny said in 2014 about his time as Acting President. "I really did enjoy the job. I tried to bring the place together."

After Helena Williams was appointed as the railroad's 38th president, starting on June 18, 2007, Kenny took on the position of Senior Vice President of Operations. Williams, who is now a Deputy County Executive in Nassau, acknowledged leaning heavily on Kenny's experience and wisdom as her "right-hand man."

Kenny was credited with coming up with key strategies for the LIRR's Double Track project between Farmingdale and Ronkonkoma and for its East Side Access link to Grand Central Terminal.

After serving as a "champion" in the railroad's recovery from superstorm Sandy, according to Williams, Kenny retired from the LIRR in 2014. He

worked in the private sector until being hired by NJ Transit in January of 2019 as Senior Vice President and General Manager of Rail Operations. (*Newsday*, April 18)



**Raymond Kenny.**  
*Railway Age* photograph