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By: Claude Solnik O October 30, 2014 🗪 0

Jericho-based Sanders Thaler Viola & Katz is merging Plainview based Eliot H. Lebenhart CPA, a fiveperson practice, into its business.

The two firms recently signed documents to make the merger effective as of Nov. 1, growing Sanders Thaler to around 35. Lebenhart's firm, which specializes in wealth management for entertainment and sports clients, is moving into Sanders Thaler's Long Island office.

"We're starting to add niches in our firm," Managing Partner Scott Sanders said. "This niche works perfectly."

After working at firms specialized in providing tax services to the sports and entertainment industries, Lebenhart in 1983 launched firm focusing on sports, entertainment and fashion clients.

He is a member of the executive board of directors of the New York State Society of CPAs' Nassau Chapter and co-chairs its Small Firm Management of an Accounting Practice Committee and Practice Continuation Committee.

Sanders Thaler, which also has a Manhattan office, several months ago merged the business of a Northport-based firm into its operations.

Sanders said that the firm is in talks with another accounting firm that could merge with it later this year.