

CHAMBER BRIEFS

SPRING 2020

Where business and opportunity meet.

What's inside

President's Message	2
Member News Briefs	2
Upcoming Events	3
New Members	4
Helping Those in Need	5
WIBI	6
OMNI	6
Member Spotlight	7
2020 Census	7
MRCC Directors	8
Speed Networking	8
Mental Health Tips	9
MRCC Events	9
MRCC Golf Outing	9

Register today!

TUESDAYS IN MAY

Tuesday Trivia Hours

5 - 6 p.m.via Zoom

Quick! Brush up on your trivia! It's an hour of fun and games every Tuesday evening to end your day on a high note.

THURSDAYS IN MAY

Lunch & Learn

12 noon - 1 p.m.via Zoom
A different topic every week to build your skillset while we all socially distance.

Save the Date!

SEPTEMBER 15

MRCC Golf Outing & Humanitarian Dinner

New York Country Club
A great day of golf at an exciting new venue. Join us!

Register at mrcc.biz

MRCC PROGRAMS GO VIRTUAL

Social distancing hasn't put a damper on MRCC programs - we've just reinvented our style. Throughout May, we'll have online Zoom events you're welcome to enjoy. Each week we'll have Tuesday Trivia Happy Hours and Thursday Lunch and Learn meetings. They're both BYO, of course.

Top right: at our April 28 Tuesday Trivia event, Matt Lask of LB Entertainment served up the questions; the winner received a gift card from prize sponsor Blue Foundry Bank.

Each Tuesday Trivia meeting features a new trivia topic, so come join the fun next week as we explore different decades.

CLICK HERE egister for our Tuesday Triv

to register for our Tuesday Trivia Happy Hour

Beginning May 21, MRCC also invites you to join us for a three-part Lunch & Learn webinar series on Zoom, where Donna Miller and Karen Yankovich will share strategies for running and growing your business during these uncertain COVID times.









GREAT BUSINESSES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The 2020 MRCC Directory is online to members, a useful guide to excellent regional businesses.

Just sign on to your account at mrcc.biz to access it.

CLICK HERE for member login

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS JUNE 12

MRCC supports local students with annual scholarships at a number of higher learning institutions in the region. This year we will be offering scholarships to Eastwick College, Lincoln Technical Institute, and Ramapo College of New Jersey.

Do you or one of your employees have an immediate family member who will be a full-time student attending Lincoln Technical Institute or Ramapo College of New Jersey in the fall of 2020?

Do you or one of your employees have an immediate family member who will start school at an Eastwick College campus full time in July 2020 or October 2020? If the answer is yes, scholarship applications are now being accepted and are due to the Chamber office on or before Friday, June 12, 2020; 3:00 pm.

CLICK HERE to download a Scholarship application.

DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT

Maggie Grande Konica Minolta Business Systems U.S.A., Inc.



A Bergen County native, Maggie joined the MRCC Board of Directors in January 2019 and serves as AVP of Marketing. Maggie represents one of MRCC's Corporate Sponsors, Konica Minolta, a technology leader based in Ramsey, New Jersey. As Konica Minolta's Public Relations Manager, Maggie develops and implements public relations programs in support of the company's business strategy to reshape and revolutionize the Workplace of the FutureTM through its expansive product line ranging from printers to industrial printing presses to IT Services. Maggie joined Konica Minolta from North Jersey Media Group, where she worked from 2009 to 2018 as a Marketing Manager and eventually Marketing Director, responsible for driving brand growth through campaigns, events, digital marketing and public relations. Maggie attended Rowan University, where she studied advertising and public relations. Outside of work, Maggie enjoys any and all outdoor activities including hiking, golfing, skiing and obstacle course racing. She lives in Vernon with her husband Joe and two cats.

"It is not enough that we do our best. Sometimes we must do what is necessary."

- Winston Churchill, to the British people during the Blitz.

MAHWAH REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COM-

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we approach our third month of the Covid outbreak, I want to reassure you that the MRCC remains here for you. Our staff and volunteers have been diligently working together to provide information and resources to help all members impacted by the nationwide crisis. We are all in this together, and together we will overcome the unprecedented obstacles before us.

While all of our normal, in-person activities have been postponed or cancelled temporarily, our members have still been collaborating with each other remotely. We launched the 5/5/5 initiative in March and it has quickly become one of the most beneficial programs we have offered. In addition, we have many virtual events on our calendar, including events hosted by our WIBI, YPN, and OMNI groups. Combined with some virtual trivia and happy hour from home networking, I'm certain there is something of value for everyone.

Be sure to keep an eye on your inbox and to visit our website frequently for updated information on our virtual events, tips from our community, and curated information about the programs available to help you and your business navigate these troubled times.

The Chamber remains here for you If there is anything we can do to further assist you during this time, please reach out to me or a member of our staff. Together we will continue to adapt and overcome the unprecedented challenges ahead.

Thank you and stay well.













MEMBER NEWS BRIEFS

• Certified Coach Dianne McKim of **Precious Stones LifeCoach** is proud to announce the publication of her ongoing article "Ask the Coach"in the Digital Rivertown Magazine. This first article provides answers to questions such as What happened to the life I knew? I don't know what to do with all



Dianne McKim

the fear, worry, stress, and anxiety I am feeling. Who can help me?

You can read the article here: https://rivertown-magazine.com/ask-the-coach-with-dianne-mckim/. If you have a question you'd like answered or need some help with professional or personal challenges, please send an email to dianne@PreciousStonesLifeCoach.com. All questions will be answered, but no guarantee they will be published.

• On April 1st, THE MAX Challenge's corporate team and franchise owners paused their daily



companywide Zoom video call to display handwritten messages of gratitude to all essential workers.

"Thank you – you truly are our heroes," one message

read. "Thank you for holding up the sky and making this possible for ALL OF US. We are so grateful!" said another. Many of the signs also had drawings of hearts, smiley faces, and the American flag alongside these heartfelt words.

Nearly a month ago, the fitness franchise shut their doors before it was government mandated to do so in an effort to protect their members. They shifted to a virtual model practically overnight, and to help facilitate this change, Founder/CEO Bryan Klein has been holding daily coaching calls with owners.

Together, THE MAX Challenge team decided that the Zoom call was the perfect opportunity to show their appreciation for essential workers – many of whom are members at various locations.

 Guardian Digital just announced its cloud email security solution has identified and blocked more malicious emails targeting Office 365 users in April of 2020 than in any other month in the

company's twentyyear history. Amid the uncertainty surrounding this pan-



demic, cyber criminals are seeking to capitalize on our heightened anxieties, while the FBI warns mobile users of increased attempts to steal sensitive financial information and engage in extortion.

Their latest solution updates its AI-driven threat intelligence, capable of handling in real-time the exponential increase in phishing and ransomware attacks against all industries during this crisis. They're also offering a free email security assessment for businesses at hello@guardiandigital.com.

• On February 22, **Business Machine Technologies (BMT)** participated in the Seaside Heights Polar Bear Plunge. Our 3rd year taking



the plunge, we are excited to announce we raised over \$9,000 for Special Olympics New Jersey.

We wanted to thank all who contributed to our efforts. This feat would not have been possible without the overwhelming generosity of our clients, friends, and family. Over the past three years, the BMT Ice Cubes have raised over \$26,000 for Special Olympics New Jersey!

This year's Polar Plunge attracted over 8,000 participants to the beaches of Seaside Heights, raising over \$2.4 million for Special Olympics New Jersey. All monies go towards year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

• As the COVID-19 outbreak continues, businesses are looking to ramp up with return-

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to-work necessities. **Estis Promotional Marketing** is working with trusted promotional suppliers who have re-purposed factories to supply face masks, gloves, PPE (personal protective equipment) and signage, designed to keep employees safe as they return to the workplace.

Showdown Displays, leader in tradeshow displays and signage, is now producing face masks and floor sign graphics, plus donating gowns to the medical community; all are produced in the USA.

3M is the adhesive notes expert, but they make also face shields for crisis times. They are now working at full capacity to supply respirators, masks, hand sanitizers and disinfectants, as well. Recently they supplied 500,000 respirators to hard-hit areas, like NYC and Seattle.

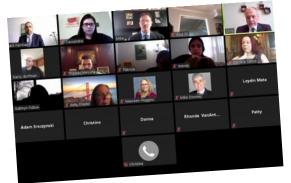
Ariel, a leader in promotional supplies, is producing hand sanitizer lotions in the USA and supplying face shields for use by local businesses.

As businesses gear up for the next phase, they need trusted sources to supply reliable equipment that is readily available. Our goal is to keep employees safe and protect their health as the new "norm" for business evolves.

• MRCC Board Member Rena Rothman joined forces with Jessica LoPiccolo and 35 volunteers from MahwahStrong to help sew 500 headbands. After reading a post on Facebook from a Mahwah Nurse looking for help in sewing headbands to help her unit, MahwahStrong stepped in and purchased the headbands. These headbands help with the discomfort of healthcare workers ears after wearing masks for an extended period of time. MahwahStrong was able to gather and organize this effort with the enthusiastic volunteering of community members who assisted with this project by sewing buttons onto each

headband for the masks to attach to. Mahwah-Strong and their volunteers were not only able to help the nurse from Mahwah but also hundreds of other healthcare workers all over the county.





April 14 -Our online webinar offered attendees Tips for the New Normal



YPN meetings in April saw young business people sharing ways to cope with unexpected health and job issues, all while cheering each other on

MRCC GOES VIRTUAL

Networking, sharing, learning and fun were all part of MRCC's response to the new stay-at-home social distancing rules.

Join us for many new virtual events all through May.







WIBI meetings on April 15 and 22 featured speaker Jill Cruz of Health is Freedom, LLC, who educated attendees on SIRT Foods and how they will help you boost your health.



UPCOMING EVENTS

All MRCC events will be virtual via ZOOM until further notice.

- MAY 5 Tuesday Trivia: Cinco de Mayo Happy Hour; Mixologist Sponsor: Mahwah Bar & Grill, Prize Sponsor: Visions Federal Credit Union, Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 7 Lunch & Learn: Protecting Email In Times of Crisis & Working Remotely Presented by Betty Friedel, Guardian Digital, Inc.
 - 12 Member Benefits Overview
 - 12 Tuesday Trivia: Pop Culture; Prize Sponsor: Columbia Bank, Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 13 Women In Business Initiative (WIBI); Sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospital, M&T Bank, TD Bank and Valley Health System
 - 19 Tuesday Trivia: Decades; Prize Sponsor: M&T Bank, Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 20 Women In Business Initiative (WIBI); Sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospital, M&T Bank, TD Bank and Valley Health System
 - 21 Lunch & Learn: Connecting & Growth while "Disconnected" Part 1 of 3 Presented by Donna Mille, C3Workplace & Karen Yankovich, Uplevel Media, LLC
 - 26 Tuesday Trivia: Cars; Prize Sponsor: TD Bank, Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 28 Lunch & Learn: Connecting & Growth while "Disconnected" Part 2 of 3 Presented by Donna Mille, C3Workplace & Karen Yankovich, Uplevel Media, LLC
- JUN 2 Tuesday Trivia: Geography; Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 4 Lunch & Learn: Connecting & Growth while "Disconnected" Part 3 of 3 Presented by Donna Mille, C3Workplace & Karen Yankovich, Uplevel Media, LLC
 - 9 Tuesday Trivia: Movies; Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 11 Lunch & Learn
 - 16 Tuesday Trivia: Bergen & Rockland; Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 18 Lunch & Learn
 - 23 Tuesday Trivia: TV Shows; Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment
 - 25 Lunch & Learn
 - 30 Tuesday Trivia: Food; Trivia Sponsor: LB Entertainment

*Sponsorships still available. Please inquire at the office.

All dates and events are subject to change. Please visit mrcc.biz for up-to-date information and to register for all events.

THANK YOU, FRANCES PERKINS

If you know someone who is drawing unemployment these days, they owe it in part to the forward thinking of the first woman to serve in the U.S. Cabinet. FDR's Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins served for the 12-year duration of his presidency and was responsible for creating not only our unemployment system, but also Social Security, the 40-hour work week, the 8-hour work day and protective child labor laws. When charged with developing and executing the National Recovery Act (NRA) after the Great Depression, her credits include the WPA, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the thousands of roads, dams, bridges, libraries, post offices, public buildings, schools and park facilities we still rely on today.

Bergen County's Premier Chamber of Commerce™

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

A Message from our Membership Committee

Now is the Time...to be Connected!

There has never been a more important time to connect with fellow professionals and friends in your community. The MRCC, serving over 550 members in 90+ communities, is active and ready to serve you! With virtual events designed to educate and inform, plus entertainment to keep your spirits high, we are proud to be a premier networking resource during COVID-19. Many virtual events are free of charge, with the option to support the MRCC at any level that fits your budget. Visit MRCC.BIZ to register today for events that will connect you to the extraordinary people and businesses in our vibrant community.





Member Benefits Overview

New and prospective members enjoyed MRCC's quarterly Member Benefits Overview for a look at the many opportunities the Chamber offers its members. Please join us May 12th or August 11th for a virtual overview.

MRCC welcomes these new members and invites you to visit them at mrcc.biz

Armor Refractory & Gunite Corp.; New City

Arrow Park; Monroe
CBH Care: Hackensack

Christie's International Real Estate;

Franklin Lakes

Columbia Bank; Fair Lawn

Dial America; Mahwah

Habitat for Humanity of Bergen County;

Westwood

Kids 'R' Kids Inc.; Mahwah

Levity Live West Nyack; West Nyack

Mazteck IT; Mahwah

Novino Restaurant; Mahwah

StateFarm; Ramsey

Tuxedo Park School; Tuxedo Park

Warwick Valley Winery; Warwick

Warwick Winery/Black Dirt Bourbon Barn;

Central Valley

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HELPING THOSE IN NEED



• "At Table to Table, a non-profit food rescue organization serving the hungry in Bergen, Hud-

son, Essex and Passaic, we have not allowed the pandemic to slow us down one bit. Each day refrigerated trucks pick up produce, meat and dairy from donors like Inserra ShopRites, Whole Foods and Hello Fresh. Normally, the food picked up is distributed to over 250 partners feeding the hungry.

In the last six weeks, we have seen over 2/3 of our partners close, grocery stores with empty shelves leaving little to donate. Our Gala, which usually offers immediate financial support to the operation was canceled, while the hunger rate soars and the calls for food increase. None of this has slowed us down. We have found new ways to distribute food, our donors have been working harder than ever to get us what we need and our drivers have continued to work daily with donated masks, hand sanitizer and wipes.

These are unbelievable times, but we have seen communities coming together, mourning together and watching out for each other. We will get through this and we will come out stronger.

Please visit www.tabletotable.org to make a donation.

Julie Kinner, Director Recipient Relations & Community Affairs

 Since the outbreak of COVID-19, Family Promise has continued to provide safe shelter and support to working families who are homeless. Due to COVID-19, we cannot shelter families via

FamilyPromise our volunteer-based Family Promise Network program. As a solution, we are now sheltering home-

less families in motel rooms with kitchenettes. Case managers provide constant, personalized support virtually. We also continue to address hunger in our community. For weeks after the outbreak, our volunteers served people in need by providing meals every evening at the Family Promise Walk-In Dinner Program at the county shelter in Hackensack. That shelter is temporarily closed; we now deliver prepared dinners each night to the former residents who have been relocated to nearby motel rooms. We also serve "to go" meals from the loading dock at the shelter. Our promise to the community – we will continue to provide food and shelter to our most vulnerable neighbors. http://bergenfamilypromise.org











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WIBI

WIBI attendees at both February events enjoyed learning the top 10 tips for taking photos on an iPhone by Danielle Richards of Danielle Richards Photography. Spotlight speakers for February were Mary Ziegler of Certified Financial Services and Jill Cruz of Health is Freedom, LLC.

"Getting to Know You!"
Our WIBI ladies got to know
each other sharing their "luckiest"
business stories!

Fun and Sharing at the March WIBI as the ladies got to identify each other in the WIBI video and share their "luckiest" business stories with each other!





Our OMNI group held a networking, dinner, and comedy night on February 13th at Levity Live in West Nyack, one of our newest members. Many more great events to come!

OMNI



Omni Chair Mike Fidlow reminds you:

Spread the word...something great is happening at the









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HAVE YOU BEEN **COUNTED?**

Great progress is being made in the 2020 Census count. More than half of U.S. households have responded to the 2020 Census — that's 53.4% of households or 79,000,000 households so far!

If you have already responded to the 2020 Census, thank you! If you have not yet responded for your household, we encourage you to respond today. Answer a simple questionnaire about yourself and everyone who was living with you on April 1, 2020.

Support Small Business. Complete the Census.

The 2020 Census will provide data to small businesses that is essential to help them grow and succeed. This data can help businesses better understand how to serve their customers, where to open new locations, and where to find a skilled workforce. Respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail for a complete and accurate census.



Shape your future START HERE >

WWW.2020CENSUS.GOV

It has never been easier to respond to the census. You can respond online at 2020census.gov — without ever having to leave home or meet a census taker.

"We are living in unprecedented times, but the 2020 Census remains constant in our democracy. Together, we will meet our constitutional duty and count all persons in all communities across our vast and diverse nation."

— U.S. Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham, April 18, 2020

CLICK HERE to go to the Census

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

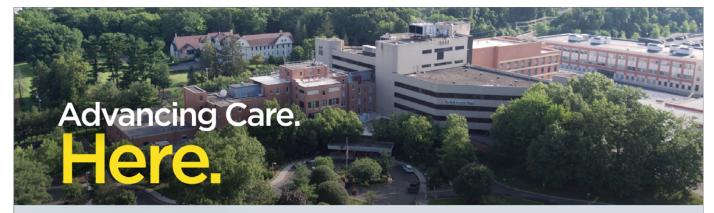
DANIELLE RICHARDS PHOTOGRAPHY



Danielle Richards

Danielle is an award-winning photojournalist who started her own event and portrait studio after 28 years in the newspaper world.

With almost 40 years experience as a professional photographer, Danielle has had a front-row seat to history and has seen the tremendous shift from film to digital technology and the impact it has had on our culture. A member of the chamber since 2013, she volunteers on the Marketing and Golf Committees, and photographs all the major MRCC events. In addition to event and portrait photography, Danielle also has a photo booth company, Bestie Booth, which specializes in corporate and non-profit events.



Another reason to feel good about Good Samaritan Hospital.

At Good Samaritan Hospital, a member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network, our mission is to care for you. With compassion, skill and innovation — in a convenient community setting - and with access to the respected expertise of the area's leading specialists.

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SPEED NETWORKING

On February 10th, Members and Non Members enjoyed our Annual Speed Networking event hosted by Valley Health & Wellness Center



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Mahwah Chamber Briefs

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mrcc.biz



MAINTAINING YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

Dr. Judy Persichilli, the Commissioner of New Jersey's Department of Health, recently offered some useful mental health advice to help us through the current stay-at-home orders.

- Take breaks from the news.
- Stay in touch with family and friends.
- Try to maintain a routine.
- Get in some healthy exercise.
- Eat healthy.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- If you can work from home, do it.

Staying busy and focused will help with better mental health.

If you'd like to speak to someone who can be helpful and supportive, New Jersey has several free hotlines there to help you.

NJ Cares Mental Health Hotline

866-202-HELP (866-202-4357 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week

St. Joseph's Hearing Impaired Helpline

973-870-9677

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday







YPN

On February 27th our Young Professionals gathered at Stumpy's Hatchet House of Upper Saddle River for lots of competition, laughs and networking.



FEBRUARY LUNCH

Cheyl Katz of Fashionista Friends was our guest speaker at our Image Empowerment Luncheon on Februay 28th. Attendees learned tips for enhancing their image!







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