



Summer • 2017

Chamber Briefs

2016 MRCC Golf Committee

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MRCC GOLF OUTING

Showcase your business at the MRCC's 26th Annual Golf Outing & Humanitarian Dinner, Monday, September 18, 2017, being held at our member club, the Ramsey Golf and Country Club. Mike Azzara, Senior Consultant at Foley Proctor Yoskowitz, Past President and CEO of Valley Health System and Past Chair of BVMI, is our 2017 Humanitarian of the Year and will be honored at the evening program. Mike has chosen Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative BVMI to receive the charitable donation from this event.

Golf and Dinner sponsorships are still available. Join fellow members and local businesses who have already committed to a sponsorship: Konica Minolta, Bergen Magazine, Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Good Samaritan Hospital and M&T Bank. Hole-in-One sponsors committed for our par 3's include Liberty Hyundai, Celebrity Motor Car Co: Bergen Maserati. There is room for two more.

Golfers enjoy a hot breakfast, morning putting and chipping contests, and the opportunity to win prizes all over the course. It is a full day packed with food, beverages, and lots of fun. The golf clinic has helped many a Chamber member become a participating golfer over the years.

In person is a great way to get to know your fellow members and community leaders, so be sure to sign up for golf, a golf clinic, or to attend the dinner. We welcome donations of prizes, promotional items for the goody bags (including golf balls), and, of course, take advantage of the advertising opportunity in the Commemorative Journal that will be created just for this event. All sponsors will be listed in the Journal and evening program, and get special recognition in the electronic journal that plays throughout the evening, as well in as our membership directory next year. All other company donations will be acknowledged in our evening program.

"Golf spots are filling up at this point in time; dinner only and dinner packages are being committed as well. I encourage anyone who wants to be a part of this high impact event to sign up soon as I expect this to be another sold out event," said Deborah A. Richin, CFP®, VP-Golf Outing.

Easy, secure registration is available at Mahwah.com/golf, or call the Chamber Office at 201-529-5566.

mahwah.com/golf



JOIN US. SUPPORT US. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

MRCC thanks everyone who sponsored, volunteered and attended the race and we look forward to seeing you again next year, along with your family and friends.

**Mark your calendar
for next year's race on
May 20, 2018**



YPN DELIVERS FIRST AID

This year, the Chamber's Young Professionals Network (YPN) has chosen World Wide Community First Responders as our 'give back' partner. We are collecting monetary donations to purchase first aid kits to be delivered to those in need throughout our region as well as overseas when disaster strikes.

Founded in 2011, Worldwide Community First Responder (WCFR) is a charitable organization with a mission "to prevent deaths worldwide through education and training."

We are collecting donations until August 15 and welcome your participation. Please reach out to the MRCC office for more information.



MRCC 5K ROCKS THE COMMUNITY!

This year's MRCC/Trail Conference 5K Race & 3K Walk was a huge success from beginning to end. 330 runners and walkers of all ages, sizes, and abilities came out for a good time, great raffle prizes and refreshments. Trophies and gift cards were awarded to the top three males and females overall and medals were handed out to the top three males and females in multiple age groups.

Proceeds of the event benefited MRCC's Scholarship Fund, adding \$2,000 scholarships to students attending Bergen Community College and Lincoln Technical Institute, plus a \$6,750 donation to the NY/NJ Trail Conference for their continued work in restoring and maintaining the Darlington School House & local trails.

More photos on page 5

Register today!

SEPTEMBER 18

26th MRCC Golf Outing & Humanitarian Dinner Ramsey Golf & Country Club

Enjoy a great day on a lovely course while you support MRCC and BVMI, the Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative.

Save the date

OCTOBER 11

Tailgate Luncheon & Car Show

Mason Jar, Mahwah
Great cars, great food, and great networking.

NOVEMBER 6

Taste of the Region & Business Showcase

Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Suffern
Sample the delights of the best local kitchens and vineyards – be sure you come hungry!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you are all enjoying your summer with your friends and families!

I would like to thank everyone for your continued support and all that you do. Times are changing and it seems we have more and more on our plates and are being pulled in a lot of different directions. I want to take the time to tell you that we appreciate the time you spend volunteering, serving on committees and networking at our events.

Our Chamber continues to grow and evolve because of the dedication and support from you. We will continue to look for ways to engage you, introduce you to those you want to meet and help you grow your business. We are excited about the launch of an Education Committee and for our events coming up this year. We will do all that we can to continue to add value to you and your businesses.

Thank you again,



Shannon Lazarre
MRC President
M&T Bank



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MEMBER NEWS BRIEFS

- **Grassi & Co.**, the 70th largest accounting firm in the U.S., recently relocated their New City offices to Park Ridge and have other locations on Long Island and in New York City. Founded by CEO and Managing Partner Louis C. Grassi almost 40 years ago, the success of the firm lies in their focus on entrepreneurialism, both in how the firm is run and how clients' challenges are addressed. With so many well-qualified CPA firms practicing in today's marketplace, the professionals at Grassi & Co. consider themselves "Success Consultants" as they offer advice and analysis to help clients achieve their desired level of success—however they define it. This approach is called, "The Grassi Difference."



This year the firm is rolling out an exciting initiative, the Grassi Performance Institute, to simplify the progression for client success through organizational engagement and execution using experience, processes and actionable intelligence. For more information about the firm, contact Michael Hochman, Partner-in-Charge of Park Ridge office, at mhochman@grassicpas.com or 201-808-9800.

- Hudson Valley Magazine has named Jackie Cassagnol its June 2017 'Hudson Valley Hero.' With most of her family practicing in the medical field, Spring Valley resident Jackie Cassagnol always envisioned herself in the industry. Today, as a registered nurse and internationally practicing professor, Cassagnol not only fulfilled that dream, but furthered it. Following the devastating 2010 Haiti earthquake, she founded **Worldwide Community First Responder, Inc.** (WCFR). The organization strives to prevent global fatalities by extending two main programs to developing communities in the event of an emergency. One is devoted to health education and prevention tactics, while the other focuses on first response and first aid training.



Jackie Cassagnol

- Phillip E. Goldstein, managing partner of **Goldstein Lieberman & Company LLC**, Benjamin Mills, Partner, and Lisa Marshall, Controller, recently visited Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange and Sullivan's Goshen offices to make a generous donation as part of the firm's Cares Program. The trio presented a check for \$1,000 to Dr. Dean Scher, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Orange and Sullivan. The funds will be used to support the non-profit agency's anti-poverty programs which include emergency food and shelter assistance for residents in need in Orange and Sullivan Counties.



L to r: Phillip Goldstein, managing partner at Goldstein Lieberman & Company; Lisa Marshall, controller; Dr. Dean Scher, Executive Director, Catholic Charities; GLC partner Benjamin Mills

Goldstein Lieberman & Company LLC, the region's largest and fastest growing business advisory and certified public accounting firm, traces its roots back to 1946, as a full-service Certified Public Accounting and Business Advisory Firm organized to specifically address the needs of closely held businesses and their owners. The firm strives to provide outstanding results through personalized service delivered within a family-friendly culture.

- On July 11, 2017 Bonnie Yam, CFA, CFP, gave a speech at the NY Public Library which was presented by the Financial Planning Association of New York.



Bonnie Yam

Bonnie reviewed the basics of credit reporting and credit scores. She discussed time-tested methods for getting out of credit card debt and about legitimate organizations that can help if you are unable to do so on your own.

Ms. Yam graduated from Smith College with a BA in Math and Economics. She received her MBA in finance from University of Chicago. Before starting her own company, she was a financial manager for Time Magazine and a Hedge Fund Analyst for Cheetah Investment. She started her own RIA, Pension Maxima, with the objective to provide cost transparency and a platform that can truly benefit clients first.

- NJBG, the member support group for the **New Jersey State Botanical Garden**, teamed up with the Bergen County Audubon Society earlier this year to install a new butterfly garden. Filled with milkweed and other pollinator-friendly plants, it supports these important members of the ecosystem, and provides visitors with good ideas for attracting more butterflies to their own gardens. You can learn more about these flying jewels at the Audubon Butterfly Fest at NJBG on August 13.



Monarch butterfly on milkweed

The New Jersey State Botanical Garden is filled with beautiful flowers, shady paths, toe-tapping concerts, woodland walks and gorgeous garden tours this summer, and preparations are well underway for the big fall Harvest Fest and December's stunning Holiday Open House.

NJBG is open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Garden admission is free. Visitors, volunteers, private patrons and corporate sponsors are always welcome. Please visit njbg.org for more.



Cruising on the Spirit of New Jersey

MAHWAH REGIONAL CHAMBER SUPPORTS LOCAL STUDENTS

The Mahwah Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that three \$2,000 scholarships were recently presented to outstanding students.

Clockwise from right:

- Deryn McKenna of Mahwah for Bergen Community College (member affiliation - Mahwah Board of Education)
- Jesse Pastore of Upper Saddle River for Lincoln Technical Institute (member affiliation - Prestige Family of Fine Cars)
- Alisa Harada of Hillsdale for Ramapo College of New Jersey (member affiliation - Lee, Nolan & Koroghlian, LLC/ Mass Mutual)



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Shanti & Associates

Our mission is to provide our clients with professional and competitively priced taxation, accounting and financial solutions. Our vision is to exceed client expectations and build trusted business advisor relationships through exceptional service. We focus on developing a reputation for professional excellence through the high quality of service we provide to our clients. We ensure compliance with the highest professional standards and are committed to maintaining the highest continuing professional education standards as required by the professional institutions, federal and state agencies.

What make us unique are our professional approach, personal attention, commitment, and energy we bring to each client relationship. We work to maximize our clients' advantage within the applicable regulatory framework. We are committed to providing cost effective accounting, tax preparation, and advisory solutions round the year. We take great pride in helping our clients identify new opportunities to reduce tax incidence and lowering their overall costs of doing business.

R & D Legal Bookkeeping, Inc.

Rochelle DeJong, CFO of R&D Legal Bookkeeping, Inc. is a QuickBooks and Bookkeeping Specialist who assists small to medium businesses throughout the Hudson Valley, NY, Northern New Jersey and Bergen County, NJ, with their bookkeeping, payroll, business administration and all financial needs, including budgeting.

Rochelle has worked in the accounting services field for over 35 years with several corporate firms before starting her own business. Professionally, she enjoys the challenge of identifying and solving problems, listening to the needs of businesses and managing their bookkeeping and financial needs.

"Being a member of the Mahwah Chamber for over 7 years has helped me move my business in a forward direction and allowed me to meet with other business owners and share our experiences. As a sponsor of several events per year we meet with many companies and individuals whom we can assist with their business needs."



Shanti Chitlangia



Rochelle DeJong

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US AND INVITE OTHERS!

- JUL** 13 "Inspirational Women's Luncheon" with Rockland Business Women's Network and Westrock Women's Alliance; Sponsored by R&D Legal Bookkeeping, Inc.; HNA Palisades Premier Conference Center
- 25 "Built to Sell – 8 Things that Drive the Value of Your Company" Webinar by Gene Bohensky, The Alternative Board; Sponsored by R & D Legal Bookkeeping, Inc. and Ten Foot Digital
- 26 Business After Hours; Hosted by Mahwah Bar & Grill
- AUG** 8 Member Benefits Overview; Chamber Office
- 24 "Memory" Breakfast; Mahwah Bar & Grill
- SEP** 6* County Executive Luncheon; Sponsored by M&T Bank; Park Ridge Marriott
- 18* 26th Annual Golf Outing & Humanitarian Dinner Honoring Mike Azzara; Sponsored by Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc., M&T Bank, Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center; Ramsey Golf & Country Club
- OCT** 11* "Tailgate" Luncheon & Car Show; Mason Jar
- 19 Young Professionals Networking with NJSCPA; Sponsored by TD Bank; Mahwah Bar & Grill
- NOV** 6* Taste of the Region & Business Showcase; Hosted by Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center; Sponsored by M&T Bank, TD Bank, and Prestige Family of Fine Cars

**Sponsorships still available. Please inquire at the office.*

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

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Bergen County's Premier Chamber of Commerce™ WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



Right, 1 to r: MRCC director Beth Donalds of Business Doctor of North Jersey (Ringwood); Carolyn Johnson of Not So Common Application Service (Ramsey); Michael Wares and Stephen Ganpat of Merrill Lynch/ Bank of America (White Plains); MRCC director Peter Gallo of Envision Video Services (Hasbrouck Heights); and Wendy Cotes of MRCC

Below, 1 to r: Shelley Kohen-Frank of Creative Solutions (Wanaque); David Du Pont of HEPCO, Inc. (Saddle Brook); Sharon Rounds of MRCC, and Antonio Levato of HEPCO, Inc. (Saddle Brook)



NEW MEMBERS

Effective July 19, 2017

MRCC welcomes these new members, and invites you to visit them on the Chamber website.

- Bergen IT LLC**, Glen Rock
- Cartridge World Mahwah**, Mahwah
- Cenzino Ristorante**, Oakland
- Coldwell Banker Residential Brokers**, Ramsey
- Fashionista Friends**, Montebello
- ICA Risk Management Consultants, Inc.**, Mahwah
- Merrill Lynch/Bank of America**, White Plains
- nd pro media inc.**, Monticello
- Reliable Bookkeeping, LLC**, Bayonne
- Right Now Life Coaching**, Woodcliff Lake
- Schmidt Surveying, LLC**, Dumont
- The Boisset Collection**, Nanuet
- The Views at Mt Fuji**, Hillburn

Right: MRCC director Mark Fairman, LUTCH, CLTC of New York Life Insurance Company (Saddle Brook) welcomes members and perspective members at MRCC's quarterly Member Benefits Overview. The next one is scheduled for August 8, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.



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For more information:

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973 463 1011

The information contained herein has been obtained from sources considered to be reliable, but no guarantee of its accuracy is made by NAI James E. Hanson.



5K RACE & 3K WALK



MRCC thanks the many generous sponsors who helped make this event so successful.

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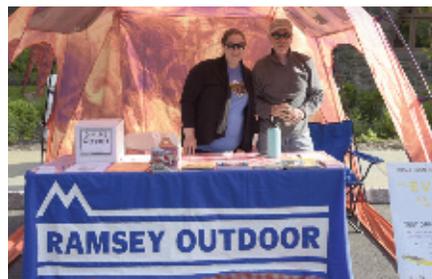
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SNAPSHOTS

from Chamber Events



Media Panel

A great "Media" Luncheon was held at the Sheraton Mahwah Hotel and moderated by Pattie Simone of marketing-advantage. Guest panelists included representatives from Patricia Start Communications, BigFish Digital Solutions, NJBiz, The Record of North Jersey, and News 12



Bergen Biz Expo

MRCC exhibited at Bergen Biz. (top: Crystal Springs Golf Resort; bottom: promarkdirect inc)

YPN

MRCC's YPN held "The Psychology of Success vs Satisfaction" networking event in conjunction with Ramapo College of New Jersey, hosted by TD Bank



Meet & Greet

MRCC's spring Meet & Greet was held at Ramapo College of New Jersey and sponsored by TD Bank.



At the Office

Wendy Cotes' son, Roberto Antonio, worked at the Chamber office on "Bring Your Child to Work" Day



Robotic surgery at Good Samaritan Hospital.

Here at Good Samaritan Hospital, a member of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network, surgery has taken on a whole new shape. Surgeon-controlled Robotic Surgery. For our patients that means smaller surgical incisions, less pain and faster recovery. And for our surgeons, it means a heightened level of precision and accuracy, leading to better outcomes. To find out if robotic surgery is right for you, call us at **833-22-ROBOT**.



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To learn more visit goodsamhosp.org/roboticsurgery.

Westchester Medical Center Health Network includes:
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 GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL | BON SECOURS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL | ST. ANTHONY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
 HEALTHALLIANCE HOSPITAL: BROADWAY CAMPUS | HEALTHALLIANCE HOSPITAL: MARY'S AVENUE CAMPUS | MARGARETVILLE HOSPITAL

Social Media Day



The results are in - our second annual Social Media Day Conference was a success!

Almost 150 people from diverse NY and NJ companies (and one from Texas!) gathered at the Mahwah Sheraton for an immersive day of expert advice about Twitter, LinkedIn, email marketing, SEO/Local Search, content marketing and more, from 22 terrific presenters. There was lots of time for networking, and our fabulous Media Panel and Frances Cole Jones, our Keynote Speaker, got rave reviews. Stay connected with us year round at MahwahChamber on Facebook and @TheMRCC on Twitter - hope to see you at next year's Conference!



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COMMUNITY SPIRIT SHOWCASE

Forty non-profit members exhibited, shared their accomplishments – and their needs going forward – at our 2017 Community Spirit Showcase. This event was hosted by the Sheraton Mahwah Hotel

Above:
Sara Subramanian, CMP,
Sheraton Director of Sales



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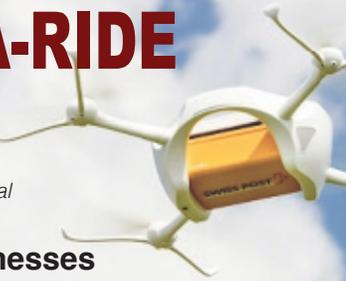
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WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING:



“Since we became a member in 2016, MRCC has been a great way to connect with the local business community and share our capabilities. As a digital development firm, it is amazing to see how digital has affected so many businesses, and how we can help our MRCC members grow.”

Jason Farrar • All Things Media

“Being a member of the MRCC has given the Mahwah Public Library the opportunity to network with the community and has exposed us to the business community, as well as other nonprofits. Membership has connected me to Chamber members when we have needed services that we know we can trust.”

Denise Laude • Mahwah Public Library



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