

## **CHAMBER BRIEFS**

SPRING 2025

mrcc.biz

Where business and opportunity meet.

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## Register Today

#### **JUNE 6**

#### **Scholarship Luncheon**

Ramapo College of New Jersey
Sponsored by: Bergen Volunteers,
Good Samaritan Hospital, TD
Bank

#### JULY 9

#### **Summer Bash**

Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah Mix and mingle at our big summer celebration

## Save the Date!

## **SEPTEMBER 9**

#### **Golf Outing**

New York Country Club

Register at mrcc.biz



## 2025 HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

MRCC is delighted to announce its 2025 Humanitarian of the Year, an honor accorded to regional business leaders who combine their marketplace acumen with a true give-back attitude.

#### 2025 Honoree Shannon Lazare

Shannon has been with M&T Bank for 12 years where she started as a Senior Relationship Manager, became a Team Leader in Bergen and Passaic and is now Regional President for NJ. She has over 20 years of banking experience. Shannon is the proud mother of 11-year-old twins and has lived in

Mahwah for 18 years.



Shannon received her BS/BA in Marketing from West Virginia University and her MBA in Management from Montclair State University.

She serves as Director for Pony Power Therapies and Pursuit. Shannon also serves as an Honorary Commander for the United States Air Force.

We hope you will be inspired by Shannon's passion for life, and join us to help raise funds (and have fun!) at MRCC's 34th annual Golf Outing on September 9.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Our 2025 Business Growth
Conference was a tremendous success
— and we're excited to announce that
we're doing it again! Mark your
calendars now for our 2026
Conference, returning to Ramapo
College on Thursday, January 15, 2026
(snow date: January 16).

Are you interested in being a speaker or workshop presenter? We're now accepting applications! The selection

committee will begin reviewing submissions in June, so be sure to apply no later than Monday, June 16, to be considered in the first round.

We can't wait to build another incredible event to support the growth of our local business community!



## DIRECTOR'S SPOTLIGHT



Amrita Khurana
The Falcon Group
at Keller Williams

Amrita Khurana is a powerhouse entrepreneur, realtor, speaker, real estate investor, wife, and mother of three young boys—proving that resilience isn't just a trait, it's a way of life. In real estate, she's built a reputation for being the calm in the storm, guiding families and investors through major transitions with expertise, heart, and an instinct for what truly matters. As an investor herself, Amrita understands the power of building lasting wealth through real estate!

Beyond business, she is deeply rooted in her community, championing local initiatives, schools, and small businesses that create stronger communities and futures.

As a speaker, Amrita brings raw honesty and undeniable energy to every stage, using her own journey of resilience to ignite others to face challenges head-on. Her storytelling is fearless, real, and unforgettable — reminding audiences that growth often begins when life feels most uncertain. Whether she's negotiating deals, raising her boys or leading conversations that spark change, Amrita shows up with grit, grace, and a contagious belief that no setback can outshine the human spirit.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we welcome the spring season, I hope you're enjoying the warmer weather and the beautiful signs of renewal around us. Just as nature is blossoming, so too is our MRCC community, and I'm excited to share the wonderful things happening as we move through this vibrant time of year.

First, I'm pleased to report that our Annual Luncheon in March was a tremendous success, with many members coming together to connect, collaborate, and share ideas. It's always inspiring to see the energy and enthusiasm that fills the room at these gatherings.

Our Annual 5K Run and 3K Walk was held on Sunday, May 18th at the scenic trails of the Ramapo Reservation. Whether you joined us to run, walk, or simply cheer on the participants, this event was a fantastic opportunity for fitness, fun, and community spirit.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events on the horizon. Our Scholarship/Recognition Luncheon is scheduled for June 6th at Ramapo College. This event is a time to celebrate the achievements of our scholarship recipients and honor those who have made significant contributions to our community.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you to continue making this spring a season of growth, connection, and success. As always, our upcoming events are a great opportunity to meet new people, expand your network, and be a part of something truly special.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events! Warm regards,

Pele

Peter Gallo
MRCC President
Envision Video Services



















### **MEMBER NEWS BRIEFS**



- Due to the generosity of MRCC members, **Eastwick's Feed The Hungry** program got off to a great start. Now, 11 years later, MRCC members have continued to support the program, Tom Eastwick still matches every donation, and we finally have a logo! Thank you for hanging in there with us. You've helped provide two million meals for local families. Maybe the logo should have included "Bon Appetit!"
- The Mahwah High School Robotics Team is a team of bright, driven Mahwah High School students who compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition. The team, founded in 2005, is celebrating its 21st anniversary of innovation, collaboration, and competition with this year's underwater theme, Reefscape sponsored by Qualcomm.

Students design, build, test, and improve a robot with minimal help from their adult mentors, providing a real-world learning experience. It provides a valuable experience to students that cannot be found anywhere else, nurturing the next generation of Mahwah engineers. This year, we have been extremely successful, having won the Rising All Star Award, which celebrates the team that has persisted through challenges, despite the difficulties of having a new beginning, as we have expanded the team to over 50 members this year. Additionally, we won the Innovation in Control Award, which recognizes innovative control systems, for the skillful automation of our robot.

With the support of our sponsors, the team is able to consistently create a phenomenal robot each year. A huge thank you to our sponsors: Mahwah Township Board of Education, Orange&Rockland, The Gene Haas Foundation, Shock Tech World Safer Group, Optimum, Inserra, Bergen Fence, Hytorc, and individual donors!



• Bergen IT LLC has won the 2025 award for Best Tech Services in the (201) Community's Choice Best of Bergen competition.

Since 2009, Bergen IT has strived to be the trusted technology partner for the Bergen County community. In today's interconnected world, reliable and efficient tech support is not just a convenience, but a necessity. Whether it's ensuring seamless business operations or creating a connected and secure home environment, Bergen IT is dedicated to empowering clients with the technology needed to thrive.

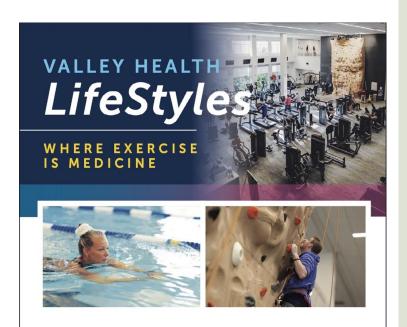
This marks the seventh consecutive year that Bergen IT has been recognized as either a winner or finalist in the Best of Bergen competition.

Bergen IT offers personalized service combined with enterprise-grade tech services tailored to meet diverse needs. For businesses, Bergen IT's robust managed services ensure smooth and efficient IT infrastructure, proactive cybersecurity solutions to protect against evolving threats, and expert computer, networking, and office tech support to keep operations running seamlessly. Residential services include WiFi improvement to eliminate dead zones, professional sound system and TV installations for immersive entertainment, security camera setups for peace of mind, and smart house resources to automate and simplify daily life.



The Mahwah High School Robotics Club and their awards.





# Schedule a Tour of the Fitness Center Today!

The Valley Center for Health and Wellness 1400 MacArthur Boulevard, Mahwah 201-389-0839, ext. 3

ValleyHealthLifeStyles.com





#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

JUN 3 Young Professionals Networking (YPN) "BBQ Ribs Cooking Class"; Sponsored by Valley Health System; Fink's BBQ Roadhouse, Suffern

- 6 Scholarship & Recognition Luncheon; Sponsored by Eastwick College and TD Bank; Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahwah
- 11 Women In Business Initiative (WIBI); "Glowing into Summer!"; Sponsored by TD Bank and Valley Health System; mrcc Office, Mahwah
- 24 Lunch & Learn "Transform Your Business into a Profitable Self-Sustaining Enterprise"; Presented by Carl Shoemaker, Action Coach; mrcc Office, Mahwah

JUL 9 Summer Bash; Sponsored and Hosted by Crowne Plaza Suffern
- Mahwah

23 Inspirational Women in Business Luncheon; with BCPWN; Ramsey Golf & Country Club: Ramsey

#### **2025 SIGNATURE EVENTS**

JAN 16 Business Growth Conference, Ramapo College of New Jersey

MAR 21 Annual Luncheon, Nyack Seaport

MAY 18 5K Run & 3K Walk, New York New Jersey Trail Conference

JUN 6 Scholarship & Recognition Luncheon, Ramapo College

JUL 9 Summer Bash, Crowne Plaza

JUL 23 Inspirational Women in Business Luncheon, TBD

SEP 9 Golf Outing & Humanitarian Dinner, New York Country Club

NOV 10 Taste of the Region, Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwa

DEC 12 Holiday Luncheon, Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah

\*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.





## **WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS**

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

4Ever Young; Ramsey
City Lifestyle Magazine; Morris Plains
Hope Changes Everything Inc; Mahwah
Hope Christian Services; Wyckoff
MN Interior Designs; Mahwah
Novino Restaurant; Mahwah
The Snob Group; Tuxedo Park
Your Perfect Event; Mahwah
ZenBusiness; Austin, Texas

Effective April 15, 2025



## New Members received their plaques at our Annual Luncheon

Front row, l to r:

Wendy Cotes, mrcc Membership Coordinator; Joanne Parnofiello, M. Tripp Consulting, LLC; Alexandra Singer, Singer Agency; Hope Rothenberg, Your Perfect Event; Jeffrey Kontak, Provident Bank/MRCC Director

Second row, l to r::

Don Weise, New York-New Jersey Trail Conference/MRCC Director; Timothy Bohlke, Howard Hanna Rand Realty

## **Bergen County's Premier Chamber of Commerce**



## **ANNUAL LUNCHEON**



A wonderful afternoon at our Annual Luncheon on March 21 at the Nyack Seaport! Attendees picked up their 2025 Membership Directories, explored exhibitor tables, made valuable new connections, and reconnected with familiar faces.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this memorable event!



























MARCH 21 | NYACK SEAPORT



### **LUNCH & LEARN**



We wrapped up April with an insightful Lunch & Learn at the MRCC office on April 29th. Dr. Joe and Dr. Pilar Labriola of The Chiro Health Spa shared valuable tips on the secrets to proper ergonomics for a healthier, more productive workspace.











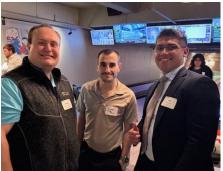
## **PINSTRIPES!**

Our YPN young professionals came together on April 22 for an evening of bowling, networking, and great conversations at Pinstripes in Paramus!









## APRIL SPEED NETWORKING







The MRCC hosted a dynamic Multi-Chamber Speed Networking event at the Valley Center for Health & Fitness, bringing together members from several area Chambers for a morning of rapid-fire introductions and new connections. A big thank-you to the Valley Center for generously hosting!



July 9, 2025 5:30-7:30p

Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah 3 Executive Blvd. | Suffern NY

- All you can eat BBQ
- 1 Free Drink Ticket + Cash Bar
- Raffle Prizes

## **COMING UP IN JUNE**



JOIN US FOR A FUN AND FLAVORFUL COOKING CLASS AT FINK'S BBQ ROADHOUSE

**CLASS** 

YOU WILL DIVE INTO THE ART OF MAKING MOUTHWATERING RIBS



\$40 Members \$45 NonMember

**REGISTER AT** MRCC.BIZ/YPN

#### PROGRAM SPONSOR:





JUNE 3rd 5:30 - 7:30 PM



Fink's BBQ Roadhouse 32 Orange Ave Suffern, NY

## mrcc

#### SIGNATURE EVENT



2025 scholarships will be awarded to students from Ramapo College, Lincoln Tech, and Eastwick College.

We'll also recognize our Member and Volunteer of the Year.

REGISTER TODAY! \$60 members | \$75 nonmembers

SPONSORS:





**Bank** 

America's Most Convenient Bank®

## Recognition Scholarship Luncheon

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS are available at mrcc.biz

FRIDAY | JUNE 6 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Ramapo College of New Jersey **Trustees Pavilion** 505 Ramapo Valley Rd. | Mahwah NJ



#### Glowing into Summer

Summer is around the corner, and it's the perfect time for a fresh, vibrant look!

As the seasons change, so should your beauty routine. Learn expert tips and techniques to help you look your best with the right colors, products, and application methods

Leave feeling gorgeous and ready for the season! 💄 🔅











REGISTER AT www.mrcc.biz

\$20



Jackie Romano Makeup Artist & Hair Stylist



**JUNE 11TH** 8:15 - 9:45 AM



**MRCC Office** 505 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ 07430

Women in Business Supporting Women in Business

## MICC LUNCH AND LEARN

### TRANSFORM YOUR BUSINESS INTO A PROFITABLE, SELF-SUSTAINING ENTERPRISE.





#### Discover the Proven 6-Step Framework Trusted by Thousands of Business Owners Worldwide.

Are you ready to take your business to the next level? Join us for an exclusive seminar where we'll guide you through the 6 Steps to Building a Better Business. This proven system has helped countless entrepreneurs eliminate chaos, achieve sustainable growth, and create businesses that work for them -not the other way around.

#### **NETWORK & LEARN - TUESDAY JUNE 24TH**

12:00 - 1:30PM

Lunch provided

#### MRCC Office

505 Ramapo Valley Rd. | Mahwah NJ mrcc.biz - REGISTER TODAY! \$15 members | \$25 nonmembers

#### Here's what you'll learn:

- ·Business Mastery Gain control and eliminate chaos in your operations.
- ·Business Growth Build sustainable, profitable cash flows.
- ·Business Systems Learn how to create more with
- ·Team Performance -Structure your team for future growth.
- ·Synergy Create a well-oiled, synergistic growth machine.
- ·Freedom Achieve personal growth and the freedom to focus on what truly matters.

#### MRCC Board of Trustees

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Don Weise New York-New Jersey Trail Conference AVP 5K

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WIBI ladies know how to have a great time while making connections









April is Brunch Month! Our WIBI group celebrated with a lively gathering at Mahwah Bar & Grill on April 23rd—sharing great food, meaningful conversations, and valuable networking connections.



## mrcc Chamber Briefs

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