November has always been a full packed month for the chamber and I. Baseball, football, apple pie, the Comedy Show and new membership drive. As we prepare ourselves for the Scholarship fund raiser at Branches the Membership Committee is getting ready to ask our valued members to renew for 2012.

Please take a moment to rejoin the chamber as soon as you can, not only will you get a discount if you join early, but you remain committed to having our Chamber prosper for another business year. This year, we have offered a Wine Tasting event for new members that supported the Community Hope Fund, a Business Expo for members to show case their business and network, A ShrimpFest in which our members can participate and get more recognition for their company and give back to the community - not to mention, it was fun and delicious, a Golf Outing that you can sponsor and play with other local business people, 3 events that we shared with other neighboring Chambers and a scholarship fundraiser that provides funding for scholarships that all of our member’s, and their employee’s children can apply for, and a variety of breakfasts, lunches and after hour business card exchanges for the membership’s convenience that included round-robin introductions (instant networking) and topical speakers. We will continue to grow our chamber as long as you want us to, and bring you a variety of options for you to get involved, and means for you to offer your suggestions.

We just finalized plans for our Holiday After Hours event, which will be held at the Sheraton Eatontown Hotel on Wednesday, December 7th, beginning at 5:30. It will be a relaxing eve amidst the holiday finery of the Sheraton. We encourage you to come out and mingle, network and enjoy the food and beverage.. and bring an associate or two. The more the merrier!

I wish everybody a happy Thanksgiving!

I look forward to seeing at our next event, lunch at Soul Focus on November 29th. See our ad for full details.

All the Best,

Sincerely,
Nicholas A. Blanda, CMB NMLS #227173
President, GOTCC
Senior Loan Officer & Reverse Mortgage Specialist
nblanda@auroralending.com
Reservations are still available for Jumping Brook Country Club’s Thanksgiving Buffet. Seating will begin at 1pm, every half hour, ending at 4pm. There will be a cold station, soup and breads, chef manned carving stations, gourmet chafing dishes and elaborate dessert station. The price is $27.95 for adults and $15.00 for children ages 3-9, before tax and 20% gratuity. For reservations call 732.922.8200 ext. 39 or visit their Website for the complete menu at www.jumpingbrookcc.com.

Mathnasium of Ocean is offering a comprehensive MCVSD preparation program for students who will be applying to the Monmouth County Vocational School District and plans to take the January 21st exam. The new session will be offered on Saturday afternoons from 3 pm-5 pm beginning on 11/27. Mathnasium has a high rate of success in MCVSD exam prep. For more information, please call them at 732.493.6284 or visit their Website at www.mathnj.com.

GOTCC Board Director, and local lawyer Thomas W. Madden, Esq., will be giving a free divorce seminar at the Monmouth County Library’s Eastern Branch on Wednesday, December 7th from 7 to 8 pm. He will discuss “What to expect when divorcing,” designed to give the attendee an insider view of the mechanics of the divorce process. It will include everything from filing, complaint through trial and everything in between; followed by a question and answer session. The library is located at 1001 Route 35 in Shrewsbury. For more information, contact the library at 866.941.8188 or visit their Website at www.Monmouthcountylibrary.org.

Have Breakfast with Santa at Jumping Brook Country Club on Sunday, December 4th from 9 am - 12 noon. Seating will be every half hour. Adults $16.95 and Children 3-9 years age of age $9.95. Tax and gratuity not included. The menu includes chef manned omelet station, a variety of breakfast entrees and sides meats, sauces, muffins, pastries, bagels, juices, desserts and coffee and tea. For reservations call 732.922.8200 ext. 39 or visit their Website for the complete menu at www.jumpingbrookcc.com.

Adpro has announced the winner of their Facebook Old Logo contest, All Pools & Spas, located in Oakhurst, NJ, who has been a long time customer of Adpro in Ocean. They were randomly chosen from a handful of applicants to have their logo reworked by our design team, and have marketing collateral printed with their new logo. We would like to thank all of our long-time, loyal clients who entered our contest last month. For more information on Adpro, visit them at www.adproimprints.com.

The Lakewood BlueClaws have launched a brand new online ticket store where you can order your ticket packages straight from your home computer. You can order Half Season plans, Bushels, Grass Passes, Thirsty Thursday Club memberships and All-you-Can-Eat plans too! The BlueClaws Speaker’s Bureau can come to your next event and speak to you about the BlueClaws and whatever topic you like! They attend men’s groups, Rotaries, college classes and more. For more information, visit them at www.blueclaws.com.

Branches Catering in West Long Branch. For more information, contact John Lombardo at 732.859.7567.

Cowleys Termite & Pest Control Services wants to remind you that though the “scary” holiday is over (Halloween), bats are still amongst us. Bats do not like cold winters. Some leave for warmer climates, and others go into shallow hibernation in their nesting sites. Since female Little Brown Bat of North American has one or two pups every spring, the colonies get bigger and stronger every year. A typical bat will consume and burn or expel its body weight in insects a night, which in large colony numbers will eat through most building materials, including wood, insulation and sheetrock and leave a pungent odor. When it accumulates, it poses a serious health threat to humans, including histoplasmosis, an air-borne fungus that is introduced through the eyes and lungs. If you think you might have a bat problem, contact Hank Johns at Cowleys Termite & Pest Services at 888-405-5801 or visit their Website at www.cowleys.com.

On Halloween morning, The LADACIN Network had a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new accessible playground, The Ryan Bell Playground, at their Schroth Center in Ocean. The culmination of a long-term funding project, the facility was named after Ryan Bell, a former student of the Schroth Center who passed away in 2006, the dedication included Ryan’s family who were quoted as saying “The services he received and the commitment of the staff had an extraordinary impact on Ryan’s life.” The new playground includes wide ramps, specialized equipment and rubberized surfaces, play panels that allow wheelchair bound children access alongside their typically developing friends. Funding for the playground began in 2007 by Ryan’s parents, Marlene and Stephen Bell, and his brother Matt, when they established the Ryan Bell memorial Walk and wheel-a-Thon to bring together family and friends to celebrate Ryan’s memory and raise funds to help other children. For more information about The LADACIN Network email or visit their Website at communityrelations@ladacin.org or www.LADACIN.org.

The Rugby School at Woodfield, which serves students with special needs, is celebrating their 35th year in operation. They will celebrate their legacy and raise funds with a Gift Auction Fund-Raiser on May 18th, 2012 at the Waterview Pavilion in Belmar. They are currently in the planning process, and are seeking donations for their gift baskets, or make monetary donations. The funds raised will be earmarked for the acquisition of a new school vehicle. For more information contact Mathnasium at 732.493.6284 or visit their Website at www.mathnj.com.

If you would like to Publicize! your business, please e-mail Kim Horn Blanda at gotcc@optimum.net.
Several hundred people agreed that the way to spend a once-in-a-lifetime evening, 11-11-11 was comedy for a cause. And so it was, that three national touring comedians, Jeff Norris, Johnny Goumba and Jim Dailakis, played at Branches Catering to a very packed house, many of whom had attended the event for over 20 years.

During the cocktail hour, guests previewed and dropped tickets in the gift auction, which boasted many sought after items, including 4 golf outings and a Gold Coast Cadillac Calloway walking golf bag with accessories, $250 automobile detailing from Ray Catena Lexus, $5000 in radio and Internet advertising packages, family portrait from Janet Studios, birthday parties, 4 overnights with concert tickets and dinner and much more. The buffet dinner was truly delicious, followed by dessert and coffee during the show.

Lou Russo, the host of 94.3 The Point’s “Lou & Liz in the Morning”, once again did an admirable job as emcee of the event. Everyone enjoyed the show, which culminated with a very funny Jeff Norris’s impromptu drawing of the gift auction winners.

This event enables the Chamber to provide 5-6 scholarships per year to deserving high school students who excel in community service as well as academics. The applicants must either reside in the Township of Ocean, regardless of whether they go to public, private, vocational or parochial high school, or be the child of a GOTCC member, regardless where they reside. Recipients are selected through a blind application process.

Events like this require a lot of dedicated volunteer time, in this case provided by our Chairman, Nick Blanda (Aurora Lending) and Scholarship Committee – Dana Agrios, Marlo Byrne (TD Bank), Cathy Fahey, Robert Feil (Waterfront College Planning) Laura Huderwitz (The Provident Bank), Brandi Landgraff (Servpro of Marlboro/Tinton Falls), Jacqueline Leiva (FirstService Residential Realty), Kim Rise Somerville (Two River Community Bank), Hally

PICTURED ABOVE: 1) Jeff Norris 2) crowd shot during dinner and show 3) Board member Tom Madden, Esq. (second from right) with wife Annette and friends 4) Event Chairman Nick Blanda with committee members Jacqueline Leiva and Cathy Fahey 5) Committee member Maria Valentino Sant, Board members Maria Sporn and Brandi Landgraff and Executive Director Kim Horn Blanda 6) Gift auction // Photo credits: Nick Gradone, Atlantic Kitchen & Bath.
Roman (Legal Link), Robby Setrin, Marie Siciliano (Gavin Agency), Marcy Spiegelman (American Express), Marla Sporn (IOA), Teri Sciamarelli (Case Remodeling), Maria Valentino Sant (Avon) and Lois White (Piccola Italia). We thank them all and appreciate their dedication.

Sponsors play a vital role in the success of this event, and we sincerely thank our partners and friends: TD Bank, Waterfront College Planning, The Provident Bank, Clearview Cinema Middlebrook Galleria, Monmouth Medical Center – Barnabas Health, The Asbury Park Press – NJ Press Media and 94.3 The Point – TownSquare Media.

Without our gift donors, the auction would not have been possible. We urge our members, guests and readers, to support our sponsors and gift donors - those who support our children and the community. Our event program is posted on our Website, www.gotcc.org, for all to see our gift donors, too many to mention here.

Finally, we wish to send special thanks to The Township of Ocean – Mayor William Larkin, Town Manager Andrew Brannen and Director of Human Services Dr. Richard Ponton and his staff; Superintendent of Schools John Lysko and Debbie Amato and the OT Board of Education; Richard Kay and Robert Collins of Super Foodtown of Ocean; Michelle Hurley of TownSquare Media; the PTAs and Principals of all the Ocean Schools; Regina Longo of The Asbury Park Press – NJ Media Solutions; Cheryl Bednar-Carlisle of Greater Media Radio; Alan & Minnisoeh’s Fabulous Florals; Michelle Smith-Tibbetts of Rumson-Fair Haven Community Bank; Jordan Blanda and Scott Emerson.

Everyone is mobilizing. Our lives, both business and personal, have become dependent on our smartphones and other mobile devices such as iPads, tablets, etc. This makes our mobile devices and the data they contain just as important as our laptops and desktops. Add a direct Internet connection, and the likelihood of physical loss or theft and you’ve got a recipe for disaster. Viruses, spyware, phishing scams, data loss and theft are all serious threats to your smartphones security. Here is a list of security measures that will help you to protect your mobile devices:

1. Set up a password / pin code.
   It’s the simplest step you can take to help protect your smartphone and also one of the most effective.

2. Use mobile antivirus software.
   The number of virus attacks on smartphones has dramatically increased over the past year. Antivirus will detect and remove viruses and other forms of malware. There are a number of new mobile antivirus programs available and you can find them by searching in your App Store.

   As you should back-up data on your computer, you should back-up data on your smartphone. Enough said.

4. Install updates.
   Smartphone developers often discover security vulnerabilities in their operating system after a smartphone has been released. They address and fix these problems by issuing updates, which you should always install once one becomes available. You should also update any apps that you have on your smartphone as they also might have security updates.

5. Turn off both Bluetooth and Wi-Fi when you are not using them.
   Hackers use open Wi-Fi and Bluetooth networks to steal information from your smartphone. Be careful when you are in a coffee shop or an airport lounge as this is where they have been known to target. You should never connect to untrusted Wi-Fi points. It may be tempting, but it’s an easy way for people to gain access to your smartphone.

6. Don’t unlock your phone (referred to as “jailbreak” –ing).
   It might be tempting to unlock your smartphone, but you should remember that it can make your phone vulnerable to security threats.

7. Enable Remote Wipe.
   If you’ve added a passcode/password/pattern to your smartphone and you’re still paranoid, it may be time to explore remote wipe. Remote wipe does what the name implies - it remotely wipes the data on your phone and restores it to the factory settings. This is not something you want to do every day, but should be prepared to initiate should your phone fall into the wrong hands.

   **iOS** - Setting up remote wipe on an iOS device is easy, but only if you have all the right ingredients. You need a paid MobileMe account that’s currently active on your iOS device if you’re running a version of iOS prior to 4.2. You also need to Enable Push and Find My iPhone.

   Here’s how:
   Open the Settings app -> “Mail, Contacts, Calendars” -> “Fetch New Data” -> Enable Push. When you’re done, go back to the “Mail, Contacts, Calendars” screen and choose your MobileMe account. Click “Find My iPhone” on the next screen you’ll see an option to enable Find My iPhone. Do that and you’ll be all set. Once Find My iPhone is enabled, you’ll be able to log into MobileMe and wipe your iPhone.

   **Android** - Remote wipe is a built-in possibility on an Android device, but it requires Android 2.2. Additionally, you need to have Exchange set up. In the event Exchange is set up, a remote wipe can only be performed by an administrator. You can also add remote wipe via the Mobile Defense app. It’s free in the Android Marketplace and you can wipe your Android phone from the Mobile Defense website.

   “Tech Talk” is authored by Chamber member John Kalli, proprietor of Trinity Worldwide Technologies, and will cover important technical topics that we believe can help our members/readers. Typical topics can range from be alerted to possible threats, to learning how to get the most out of your system/network and learning about new technologies, software and online offerings. Basically, our goal is to provide you with the knowledge that can save you time, money and potential disaster. Trinity is a Microsoft Certified Partner, Microsoft Small Business Specialist and has vast experience in all realms of computer networking, repairs, installation and more. If you have a suggestion for a topic or would like to submit a question for possible inclusion in a future column, please contact John at JKalli@trinityww.com. To inquire about their services and see if you qualify for a no cost, no obligation assessment of your business’ technology, you can reach them at services them at 732-780-8615 or via www.trinityww.com.