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Local News, For The People, By The People

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THE ALL-NEW CLINTON ACURA

See ad on back page

Anju D. Jessani Starts Term as President of New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators



Anju D. Jessani of Clinton, New Jersey, has started her term (October 1, 2005 to

September 30, 2006) as President of the New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators (NJAPM). Previously, Ms. Jessani served as President-Elect and Accreditation Chair for the association.

NJAPM, with nearly 350 members, is the state's largest mediation organization, and the only New Jersey mediation association with its own accreditation process. Members of NJAPM come from diverse backgrounds and include attorneys, mental health professionals, accountants

and other professionals. The majority of members are either solo practitioners or work for small firms. As a result, NJAPM serves as the voice for professional mediators in the state. The organization has offices in Hillsborough, New Jersey.

Mediation is a court-approved process in which a trained neutral person, called a mediator, encourages and facilitates the resolution of a dispute between two or more parties. The framework provides parties the ability the opportunity to negotiate mutually beneficial agreements. Mediation is informal and non-adversarial, with the objective of helping parties reach a mutually acceptable and voluntary agreement. It is almost always faster and less costly than traditional litigation. According to Ms. Jessani, during her tenure she sees "fostering excellence

in the field of mediation and promoting mediation to the public as the preferred method of dispute resolution" as her twin goals.

Ms. Jessani succeeds Gale Wachs, Esq., APM of Bridgewater as President of NJAPM. Other officers for the 2005-2006 term include Anthony P. Limitone, Jr., Esq., APM of Morristown as President-Elect, Carl J. Cangelosi, JD, APM of Princeton as Secretary, Armand Bucci of Voorhees as Treasurer, and William H. Donahue, Jr., Esq. APM of Westmont as Vice President.

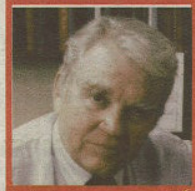
Prior to founding her mediation practice, Divorce with Dignity Mediation Services, in 1997, Ms. Jessani was a Vice President with JP Morgan, and a management consultant with Price Waterhouse. She has an MBA from the Wharton School (1983),

and a BA from Douglass College, Rutgers University (1979). She is an Accredited Professional Mediator (APM) by NJAPM, and is also an Advanced Practitioner with the Association for Conflict Resolution, reflecting her high level of training and experience in the field of mediation. She serves on the New Jersey Supreme Court roster of mediators for both family/divorce and civil/business cases.

Her interest in mediation arose from her own divorce through mediation in 1994. She is married to Erik Purasson. Together, they have two children, Tara, age 17, and Luke, age 7.

For more information about NJAPM, please call (800) 981-4800 or visit their website located at www.NJAPM.org. Anju D. Jessani can be contacted at (908) 303-0396 and is available for interviews.

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Delaware Valley Regional High School Superintendent Search

Community Input Session

DATE: Tuesday, November 1 TIME: 7:00P.M.
PLAC E: High School Auditorium

The Board of Education invites you to attend a critical issues input session to gather information to be used to set criteria for the background, training and experience necessary for the new superintendent of schools. Our search consultant, Diane Morris, New Jersey School Boards Association, will explain the search

procedure, the roles played by the Board, the staff and the public in the process, and the calendar for the actual search. Discussion will center on the strengths, concerns, on-going issues and future initiatives which will face the new superintendent. Information gathered, together with input from other focus groups, will be used to

shape a variety of candidate review documents and the interview questions.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING.

For more information please call the Board Office at 996-2727 or Diane Morris at 973-403-3434

RVCC Foundation Receives Grant From Target

The Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) Foundation has announced that it received a \$2,000 grant from Target to help fund RVCC's Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Department's exhibit, *No Country*

is an Island: Issues of Freedom and Diaspora in Caribbean Art, which was on display September 12-October 20 in the College's Art Gallery.

See RVCC on page 5

Family Fun Fall Food At Local Farm Markets

By Carol Bernotas

The fall season is a special time in this region of the country, as we experience the glorious foliage, the fall harvest and fun at our local farm stands.

One of my favorite activities with my son when he was young was pumpkin picking. You just can't beat feeling of the wind in your hair while sitting on a hay bale, riding out to the pumpkin patch. I always let him get the biggest pumpkin he could carry by himself. He must have been lifting weights in pre-school because we always had a huge

pumpkin. Each year we gave it a personality and carved it into a jack-o-lantern on Halloween Eve.

Peaceful Valley Orchards on Pittstown Road in Pittstown is one of the many places in the area that offers family fun on the farm this time of year. In addition to a wonderful selection of home grown apples, apple cider and pumpkins, they have a three and a half acre corn maze, hayrides for pumpkin picking, sheep and a goat for the kids to feed, and even a moon bounce.

See Family Fun on page 5