

SOUTH JERSEY MAGAZINE

Teachers Strike Back

Men of the Year

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 8

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cooking in
Cherry Hill

**James
van Riemsdyk**
off the ice

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On politics,
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DON MELNICK

As managing partner for Israeli Krav Maga in Cherry Hill, Melnick teaches the local community the art of this self-defense discipline. But his lessons extend beyond those looking

for a new way to exercise. In addition to offering women-only training seminars, Melnick also works with local law enforcement personnel. That includes working with local police officers, state troopers and federal agents. He's trained the Mount Laurel and Evesboro Township SWAT teams, and worked with local schools and the Boy Scouts to instill a sense of confidence and safety.



JOSEPH DEVINE

For nearly 25 years, Devine has been part of the Kennedy Health System, currently serving as senior vice president of administration and external relations. In his role, Devine is respon-

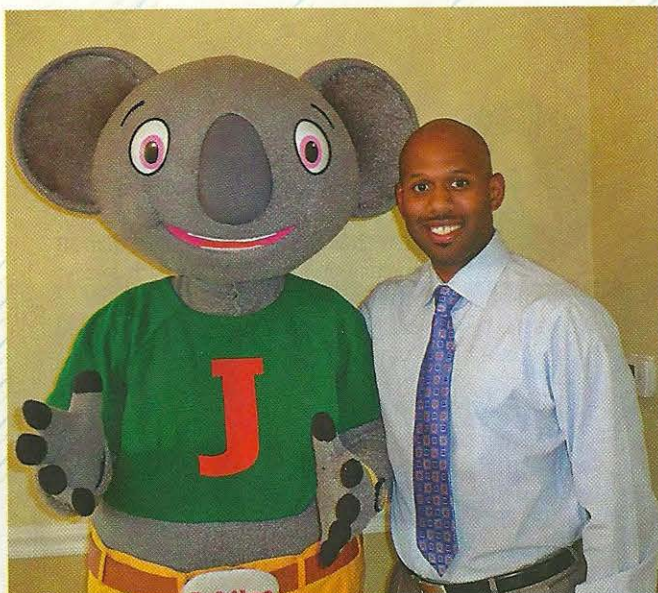
sible for helping Kennedy grow and develop new business while maintaining government and community relations. The Washington Township resident was named 2010's Business Person of the Year by the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce, of which he is a board member. Devine also serves as a commissioner of the South Jersey Transportation Authority and is a chairman for the South Jersey Heart Walk.



DAVE CHEW

Ask anyone in Gloucester Township who Dave Chew is, and you're bound to get more than a few different answers. The former owner of Chew's Florist, now in its third generation as a family-

owned business, Chew is a dedicated community volunteer who founded the Blackwood Pumpkin Festival 20 years ago. The festival attracts 10,000 visitors annually and has become a destination event in South Jersey. Affectionately known as "Mr. Blackwood," Chew is a founding member of the Blackwood Rotary, the Blackwood West Development Corporation, the Gloucester Township Holiday Parade and the Blackwood Farmers Market.



AL HALL

Looking to inspire and mentor young children, Hall came up with a pretty memorable idea when he launched Jubilee Children's Entertainment in 2008. That's because when going around to area schools, churches and hospitals to deliver his positive messages, the Burlington Township resident does so dressed in a seven-foot-tall koala bear costume. Along with the help of his wife, Alicia, Hall travels from Trenton to Camden offering advice and the occasional song and dance to help encourage future generations to realize their full potential.



DR. BHUPESH VASISHT

This plastic surgeon has helped many patients in

his Voorhees office gain confidence through cosmetic and reconstructive surgeries. But, his real passion are his yearly mission trips overseas that help those in less fortunate situations gain a sense of normalcy. Last year, he ventured to the Philippines to administer his services for free, helping repair a cleft palate on a 6-year-old girl, among more than 40 other patients he treated. And this past April, Vasisht traveled to Northern India to help women who were the victims of domestic violence and needed plastic surgery to restore their anatomy.