

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009

CommunityReporter

LOCAL NEWS

## 'Puma's Kitchen' to benefit African education

By **KEITH RUSCITTI**  
*Staff Writer*

JACKSON — The Kiwanis Club of Jackson and Hope Presbyterian Church will host "Puma's Kitchen" and serve a meal of unique Congo foods on May 23 beginning at 4 p.m.

Proceeds from the meal will benefit educational efforts in Africa.

The meal will be served at the church, at 617 Hope

Chapel Road in Lakewood.

Prior to serving the meal, Mbuyu "Puma" Wa Mbuyu, founder of the Able and Willing International Educational Foundation (AWIEF), will discuss the preparation of food used in the meal.

The dinner will be followed by a discussion of educational initiatives in Africa.

Mbuyu "Puma" Wa

Mbuyu is a master electrician living in Washington, D.C. Every summer since 1995, Puma has organized the AWIEF projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He works as an electrician in the United States during the rest of the year.

Among the stated purpose of AWIEF is to build schools in areas where access to basic education is

limited and to educate the public about the various cultures of other countries.

The suggested donation for the event is \$35.

Tickets are available from Al Manus, 732-267-7266, or Fran Polito, 732-904-8341.

AWIEF is a nonprofit, IRS 501(c)(3), nondenominational, volunteer-run organization with headquarters in Frederick, Md.