Family Services to host Family of the Year Awards

The Ruge family and Don and Jill Veith to be celebrated for community contributions

Two local families with decades of service in the community have been selected as recipients of Family Services’ 2020 Family of the Year Awards. The Ruge Family, of Ruge Automotive, with locations in Rhinebeck and Millbrook, is being recognized with The Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their significant impact throughout the Hudson Valley. Don and Jill Veith, of Veith Electric in Poughkeepsie, have been selected for The Good Neighbor Award for their dedicated community work as “unsung” heroes.

The Ruges and Veiths will be celebrated at the Family of the Year Awards on Thursday, April 30, from 5:30 to 9 p.m., at The Grandview, 176 Rinaldi Boulevard, Poughkeepsie.

Family Services will honor the Ruge family, left, and Don and Jill Veith as its’ Family of the Year honorees. -Courtesy photos

Magnuss Divorce Mediation offers intelligent alternative to ‘battling it out in court’

By Diane C. Magnusson

No doubt about it. Divorce can be ugly. But wouldn’t you rather discuss, collabo- rate, and agree on the terms of a divorce agreement rather than have them dictated to you by the court? I’m Diane Magnusson. I launched my divorce mediation practice, Magnus Divorce Mediation, to provide the alternative to traditional adversarial divorce. I received a law degree from Vermont Law School, with a major in Family Law; clerked for a federal Judge and hold certification as a divorce mediator; and have over 25 years of strategic negotiation and conflict resolution experience.

So, what is divorce mediation? During a series of sessions, you and your spouse talk directly with each other to work out the terms of a divorce or settlement agreement. Issues discussed include real estate and personal property, retirement benef- its, investments, spousal support, health insurance, taxes and pet custody. And if you have children, custody and visitation, child support, parenting plans/schedules, health insurance, college education, vaca- tions and holidays, grandparent visitation and extracurricular activities. Divorce mediation will also spare your children the trauma of seeing their parents “battle it out” in court.

So, if you think you’re headed for divorce, ask yourself these four questions:

1. Do you want a process that gives you more control over your future?
2. Would you consider a process that is emotionally protective of your family?
3. Would you like a process that focuses on the best interests of your children?
4. Are you able to work through your separation or divorce in a spirit of cooperation for the most part?

If you answered yes to most of these questions, then we need to talk. For a limited time, I’m offering a free 30-minute office consultation. I can be reached at Diane C. Magnusson, Magnus Divorce Mediation, 414382-3268 dacmagnuss@gmail.com, www.vorcemediation.com, 2537 Rte. 52, HES Blvd. 1, Suite 1 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533.

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