

Mark L. Blum / The Press and South Jersey have a strong future

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Twenty years after leaving The Press of Atlantic City - I served as its controller from 1989-93 - I returned last week as publisher.

It felt like coming home to me. And home feels good.

South Jersey is a great place to be publisher of a newspaper. This region is newsy, the people are vibrant, businesses are unique and innovative, and politics is as fervent and passionate as anywhere in the country.

So, going forward, just how will

- The Atlantic City Alliance and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority are clearly working steadily toward developing Atlantic City's future. When I left here 20 years ago, the Atlantic City Expressway gateway into the city was a depressing sight. Driving into town today one can't help but feel upbeat about Atlantic City's future. CRDA projects are paying off.
- In Cape May County, those dangerous traffic lights on the Garden State Parkway are finally being removed. If memory serves, this project was actually being discussed way back when I left the area in 1993. Finally, it's happening.
- Health care as an industry is flourishing in the region. We are very fortunate to live in an area where we all have access to some of the best health care options and technology in the state.
- The Richard Stockton College