

Up-and-Coming Reporter Hails Hometown Westfield

By STEVEN KRKAUER
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — Have you seen Aimee Nuzzo? She's from Westfield and graduated from Westfield High School (WHS) in 1991. She wrote for WHS School's newspaper *Hi's Eye*. And interestingly enough, she also just happens to be the newest on-the-scene reporter for CBS channel 2 in New York.



Aimee Nuzzo

After Ms. Nuzzo graduated from WHS in 1991, she went on to Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. She originally majored in journalism but found her real love to be broadcasting. She took up an internship at New York 1, the 24-hour news network, in New York City during the summer when she was in college, which later helped her to land her first job, a Peoria, Ill. broadcasting position.

After spending two quality years in Peoria, Ms. Nuzzo crossed the country in search of finding broadcasting gold in California. She achieved success in San Diego, at CBS' KFNB TV. She worked as a reporter for the station for three years.

Finally, in early summer of this year, Ms. Nuzzo moved back to the east coast. Taking a position at CBS channel 2 in New York City, she started reporting with the station on July 6. She now reports at various hours over the course of a day for

CBS news in New York. Although she enjoys the success that broadcasting has ensued, she said, "(broadcasting) is extremely hectic and high-pressured. It's very high energy, almost like being on a roller-coaster."

Although she was brought up in the suburbs of Westfield, Ms. Nuzzo described living in Manhattan as "pretty incredible." Why you may ask?

"It has so many great restaurants!" she said.

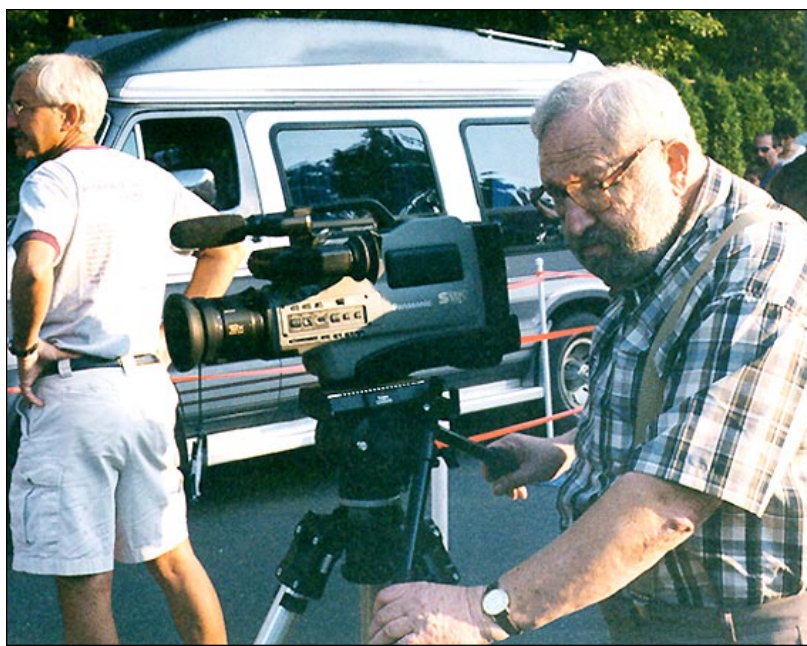
The awesome experience of working at CBS in the Big Apple has humbled Ms. Nuzzo greatly. She said she's totally focused on doing the best job she can right now, and overall just feeling worthy of working there.

Ms. Nuzzo still has family living in Westfield. Her mother, Jo Nuzzo, said, "We're thrilled to have her back in the area. We really enjoy watching her on TV."

Feeling the vibe of her upbringing in New Jersey on a daily basis makes the job all that much rewarding for Ms. Nuzzo. She said, "It's exciting reporting news in an area where I grew up. I've been a TV reporter for five years now, but this is a whole new experience."

She has already reported on many exciting and major issues in her short tenure with CBS 2 in New York. Just last week she covered the New York City police officer shootings.

Although her job warrants her to live in the city, she describes herself as a "suburb person". "One day," she said, "I hope to move back to Westfield."



Setting up a TV production...George Weiss of Fanwood/Mountainside TV station Channel 35 prepares to tape the Contact We Care 5K race which will be aired on Friday, August 25, and Sunday, August 27, at 8 p.m.

4-H Invites Adults to Train As Master Tree Stewards

WESTFIELD — The seventh annual 4-H Master Tree Steward Program of Rutgers Cooperative Extension is accepting applications for its training classes.

Adult participants will learn about the germination, growth and reproduction of trees; how to plant them; their importance to the environment and fun ways to share this knowledge with children.

Homework will involve easy reading and a simple project, with no exams or quizzes. In return for this free training, participants will

be asked to volunteer 30 hours of time to teach school-aged children about trees. All teaching materials will be supplied.

Classes will be held every Wednesday from September 6 to December 20, (except for November 22), from noon until 2 p.m. at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension office, located at 300 North Avenue, East, in Westfield. Monthly field trips will take place from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For more information and a complete schedule of classes, please call Jim Nichnadowicz at (908) 654-9854 or e-mail to nichnadowicz@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Williams Nursery to Hold Tomato Contest for Kids

WESTFIELD — Williams Nursery, located at 524 Springfield Avenue in Westfield, will hold its fifth annual Kids' Tomato Contest this Saturday, August 26, at 11 a.m.

The contest is open to all children ages 14 and under. The heaviest tomato wins \$100 and the most un-

usual tomato wins \$25.

Every child who participates will also be entered into a drawing for one of several Beanie Babies, including Ariel, USA, Squirmy, Wise 2000, Righty and Lefty.

Judging will begin at 11 a.m. and the winner will be announced at noon.

Last year, the winning tomato weighed almost three pounds, but because of wet summer weather this year, the nursery expects the winning tomato will be much smaller.

For further information, please call (908) 232-4076.

Wedding Gown Exhibit To Close September 3

SCOTCH PLAINS — The final exhibit day for the collection of 15 period wedding gowns at the Osborn Cannonball House Museum will be Sunday, September 3, from 2 to 4 p.m.

According to the curators, this display will not be featured again for three years. The wedding gowns date from 1815 to 1949.

Costumed docents will guide visitors through the circa 1760 saltbox farmhouse and surrounding gardens, located at 1840 Front Street. There is no admission fee.

Contact We Care's 5K Draws Record Crowd At La Grande

By BRIAN JOHNSON
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

FANWOOD — CONTACT We Care, Inc. hosted its Fifth Annual 5K Road Race and Kid Sprint last Saturday at LaGrande Park in Fanwood. The race drew its biggest turnout to date, with 514 registered runners — 389 for the 5K race and 125 for the children's sprint — at the starting line for the 6 p.m. event.

Seventeen-year-old James Grufferty of Cork, Ireland, took the blue ribbon overall, breaking the tape in a blistering 16:03 for the 3.1 mile USATF course, while 38-year-old Myrna Rosa of West Orange crossed the line first for the women in 19:58. Grufferty's mile pace was recorded

at 5:10, as Rosa's mile pace was recorded at 6:26 for the mostly flat course and fair weather conditions.

Robert Wallden, 16, of Scotch Plains completed the course in 17:02 to place fifth overall. Nick Klastava, 18, of Scotch Plains, a recent graduate from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, finished eighth in a time of 17:21. Steve Steinbergher, 22, of Scotch Plains crossed ninth in 17:30.

Denise Stevens, 30, of Scotch Plains became the 60th runner to cross the line, with a time of 20:51. Lena Hollmann, 49, of Scotch Plains finished in 21:51 for 93rd place, and Rachel Ackerman, 17, of Westfield finished 99th in 22:12.

Perhaps the most intriguing finish was that of Tim Werenko, 30, of North Plainfield, who finished 55th in a brisk 20:28 while pushing his newborn child in a stroller the entire race.

The day's event was topped off by the children's sprint for ages 2 to 12 years old.

Based in Fanwood, CONTACT We Care is a 24 hour, seven-days-a-week crisis intervention hotline service staffed by highly trained volunteers.

The volunteers, who are supervised through a 50-hour training course, help those in need with de-

pression, loneliness, stress and other human conditions throughout the communities of Union, Middlesex, Somerset and Essex counties. The 24-hour helpline's telephone number is (908) 232-2880.

CONTACT We Care, Inc. is in need of volunteers. Interested individuals may call (908) 889-4140 for more information.

The CONTACT We Care 2000 Event was sponsored by The Summit Bank, Children's Specialized Hospital, Schering Plough, Ethicon, Family Investors, Fanwood Dental Group, A&P of Fanwood, The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times, Alpine Aromatics International and the Rotary Club of Elizabeth.

It was coordinated by Chairwoman Joan Bonner and volunteer coordinators Judy Topf and Bridget Oveson.

The race will be televised by Channel 35 at 8 p.m. on Friday, August 25 and Sunday, August 27.

Temple Emanu-El Sets Special Shabbat

WESTFIELD — Temple Emanu-El, located at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield, has invited new and prospective members to attend a special Shabbat Service on Friday, August 25, at 8 p.m.

Attendees will have an opportunity to meet clergy, board members and staff of the temple before the service, at 7:30 p.m., and at the Oneg Shabbat afterwards.

Newcomers are welcome to attend all Shabbat services. Summer Shabbat services will continue through August 25 on Friday nights at 8 p.m. Beginning on Friday, September 1, Shabbat services will be held at 8:15 p.m.

For more information about the August 25 service or the temple, please call Carolyn Shane, Executive Director, at (908) 232-6770.



Taking eighth...Nick Klastava, 18, of Scotch Plains finishes the Contact We Care 5K race in 17:21.



First woman...Myrna Rosa of West Orange crossed first for the women in the Contact We Care 5K race in 19:58.

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