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Sonia V. Owchariw approached residents and visitors to Westfield, asking, "What do you like about Westfield." The results of her survey may be found interspersed in this publication in boxes such as the one pictured at left.

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## Publisher's Note

### Neighborhoods and Places To Be

Welcome to *This Is Westfield*, our 28th annual edition. The town's historic architecture and neighborhoods are featured this year. Traces to the village days a few centuries ago hint at an explanation of the benefaction bestowed on the town today by scores of generations. Also within, the staff chose the "Ten Historic Spots in Westfield" today. Do you agree?

The year 2000 finds Westfield booming. In a way, it's a paradox because nearly all land of the town and of its neighbors is developed. So, the boom is not growth in architecture. The boom is in the spirit and energy of the people. Too, they dream in all ways that makes them human. Also, the Town is engaged with many aspirations, and it eagerly embraces the challenges that define civilization of our times.

Our 110th year of newspaper publishing doesn't reach the full 300 year history of the humble beginnings for the town. But, we're going to try to catch up over the next century. Thank you for the support: yesterday, today and tomorrow.

If you have the lingua for French, thank Michelle LePoidevin for the fine job as editor for this edition. I thank her, the entire staff and the many contributors for this labor of love.

Everything we publish, over the last century and now, is made possible by you and by our advertisers. As readers, you provide the ultimate validation. It's a great team where all benefit.

Look for us in print and on the Internet, [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com). We like hearing from you. Send your e-mails to [press@goleader.com](mailto:press@goleader.com). Better yet, stop in and say hello. Thank you.

Horace R. Corbin  
Publisher

## This Is Westfield

### 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Edition

A special section of *The Westfield Leader*  
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The cover of our 28th annual edition of *This Is Westfield* depicts Westfield architect Robert Algarin as if he were the original designer of Arcanum Hall. Mr. Algarin's son, Christopher, interrupts his father briefly to show him a copy of *The Westfield Leader* which he is delivering to townspeople. John Russell of Westfield sketched and crafted our cover with its unique Normal Rockwell flavor.

Members of the community contributed their time and input for the layout and Mr. Algarin and Christopher's period attire. Cynthia Meryl, founder of the Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre, offered advice and research regarding the proper dress for the period during which Arcanum Hall was erected. Brunner Opticians in Westfield loaned Mr. Algarin's eyeglasses for the photosession. The Thrift Shop of the Westfield Service League donated Mr. Algarin's shirt.

Our special thanks to Ralph Jones, of the Westfield Historical Society, for his tireless and valiant efforts in assisting the staff of *This Is Westfield* with its research.

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**Wendy W. Thode, Associate for Christian Education**  
**James A. Simms, Director of Music**  
**M. Elizabeth McDiarmid, Associate for Mission**

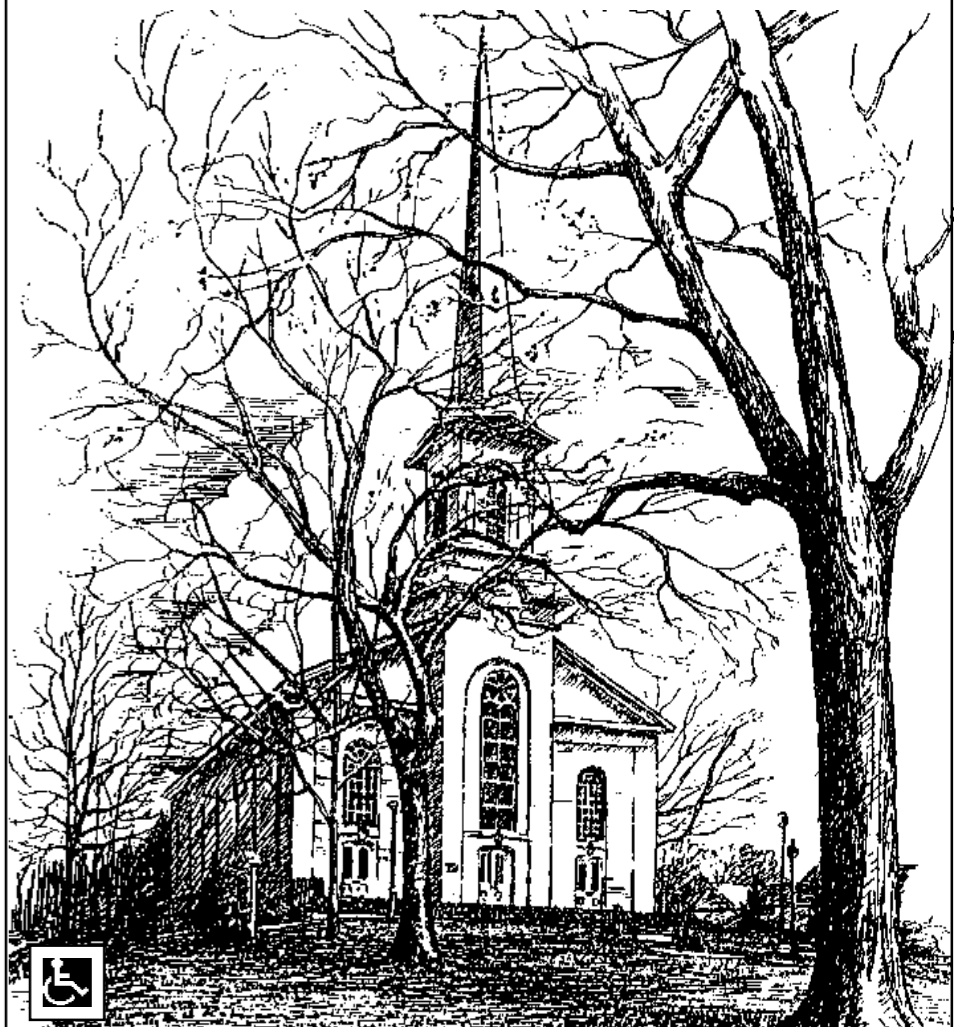
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