

# An Evening at Northside Trattoria

16 Prospect Street, Westfield (908) 232-7320

By FRED K. LECOMTE  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**WESTFIELD** — On September 5, 2001 Judge John M. Boyle walked out of a local attorney's office with his sons Christopher and Timothy. He had just concluded the purchase of the Northside Trattoria and the building in which it is located on Prospect Street.

"This is one hell of a country," he said wryly as a smile crossed his face, "when two Irishmen can buy an Italian restaurant!"

Seeking a location for a relaxed evening of dining after a hard day's work, Horace Corbin, Publisher of The Westfield Leader and The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Assis-

in hushed tones. Their bustling open-air kitchen is located in the front dining room, giving everyone that oft coveted "chef's table."

We were first treated to Bruschetta, two toasted slices of freshly baked bread topped with diced fresh plum tomatoes marinated in vinegar, fresh mozzarella and fresh basil, finished with a healthy drizzle of extra virgin olive oil.

Next, we tasted their special salad of the evening. This most refreshing dish included shaved Pecorino Romano cheese, oven-roasted tomatoes, grilled scallions with a generous dollop of pesto vinaigrette.

While savoring these flavorful



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times  
**DINING NOOK...** Christopher and Timothy Boyle, the owners of Northside Trattoria in Westfield, are seeking a permit to create a dining space in the alcove next to their building, where diners may share a tasty meal and quiet conversation in a unique atmosphere. The owners are pictured, above, with Horace R. Corbin, far left, Publisher of The Westfield Leader and The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

tant Publisher and Sports Editor David Corbin, and Advertising Director Fred Lecomte chose the Northside Trattoria.

Hostess and waitress Chantelle Schreck personally greeted and directed us to an atmospheric dining room lined with vintage advertising posters. Although the special menu had an air of a fine dining establishment, the mood was inviting and comfortable.

The restaurant had a free and easy feeling, like eating at home with friends rather than speaking

selections, our charming waitress Chantelle served up a unique dish of Eggplant Rolotini, a dish comprised of thinly sliced baked eggplant, provolone, and roasted red peppers with marinara sauce. We rounded out our appetizers with a thin crust pizza, which was topped with bacon, caramelized onions, white cheddar and whole grain mustard.

We were then served seared filet of salmon over pesto risotto, sautéed jumbo shrimp and roasted

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## Inside This Edition: Will Insomnia Put You to Sleep or Wake You Up?

# ARTS ENTERTAINMENT

## Head to Toe White Breaks Your Grandmother's Rules ... Beautifully

By JENNIFER PINTO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times



Jennifer Pinto for The Westfield Leader / The Times

**WESTFIELD** — Everyone is familiar with the saying, "Rules are made to be broken," and until this spring season, I have always been a fan of the rebellious statement. But, I admit that I was deeply worried by one particular trend. After all, seeing a woman wear white shoes in late February would scare anyone.

Then I saw fashion spreads in magazines that pictured celebrities like Sarah Jessica Parker, looking phenomenal in head to toe white. I didn't know what to think of this craze. Just like most people, I wear black all of the time and, ironically, I was still

deeply intrigued by the carefree white craze.

Nevertheless, everyone is conscious of the fashion rule, "You can't wear white shoes before Memorial Day," a decree that I could live with since it has been the only consistent fashion

right material that drapes you in the most flattering way.

When shopping for your white pieces this season look for three types of fabrics: cotton, lace and no linen could be complete without linen. Banana Republic and Ann Taylor both offer some great affordable linen pieces.

There are also tons of beautiful light blouses and skirts to look for. It's all about looking carefree and soft. If the white suit is not for you, think about a solid white capri with a lace/cotton blend blouse.

As far as skirts are concerned, this season you can get away with skirts of all lengths, have fun and look for a frilly skirt with lace or ruffles, remember the whole peasant look is still very popular, so keep that in mind when purchasing a skirt.

Most importantly, have fun with the trend and remember that you don't have to spend a lot to look great. Get a key item and work it.

Add some flavor to all of your whites by sprucing up your outfit with a chunky turquoise necklace or with a fun handbag. If head to toe white is not your thing, break it up with gingham or pastels and remember rules are made to be broken.



guideline for woman over the years.

However, for all you good girls, who don't like to break rules, don't feel guilty. It's now past Memorial Day, I can fully accept the trend and I suggest that all women do. After all, who could resist a killer white pantsuit, which is definitely the key item for all women this summer.

A white pantsuit can take you anywhere this summer and that is why I recommend investing in a nice straight leg or cigarette pant with a matching fitted blazer. Look for stretch when picking a suit; make sure the pieces move with you.

Wafa Rizk, Personal Shopper at Lord & Taylor in Westfield, recommends a cotton and nylon blazer (\$198) and the matching straight leg pant (\$168) by Ralph Lauren. Both pieces are extremely versatile and can be broken up with your summer wardrobe.

When purchasing a white suit look for something breathable and invest in quality material. Remember any woman can wear white; it's just a matter of playing with different cuts and finding the



Jennifer Pinto for The Westfield Leader and The Times



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## The Book Nook

With Marylou Morano

### Kids Learn Value of Dollar, Cope With 9/11 Reading New Literature

By MARYLOU MORANO  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Books that intertwine information between their covers are called concept books. Unlike textbooks that almost always present information in dry, chronological and methodical order, concept books teach in different, intriguing ways. The following two books are examples of how factual information can be presented in wonderfully refreshing new ways.

#### Fun Concept Books

What makes you cough, sneeze, burp, hiccup, blink, yawn, sweat, and shiver? Find out by reading Jean Stangl's book of the same name, offered by the "My Health" series by Franklin Watts. (2000).

This is a great book for readers age 9 to 12, and a fun, yet informative way, to learn about the human body. How does a kid learn about money? Read the "Be a Zillionaire" series

published by the Rosen Publishing Group.

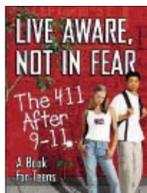
Some of the titles in the series include "The Young Zillionaire's Guide to the Stock Market" by Charles Caes, "The Young Zillionaire's Guide to Taxation and Government Spending" by Marie Bussing-Burks, "The Young Zillionaire's Guide to Money and Banking" by Clare Tattersall, and "The Young Zillionaire's Guide to Investments and Savings" by Meg Green. These books are also geared towards readers age 9 to 12.

#### New Picture Books

Hot off the press from Moon Mountain Publishing are two beautifully illustrated picture books with multi-cultural flavor.

"Fatuma's New Cloth" by Leslie Bulion explores many themes: the relationship between mothers and young daughters, the adventure of visiting an bustling East African market and perhaps the most poignant,

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## Pen & Ink

By Michelle H. Le Poidevin

### Shopping in a Society Where Our English Language Is For Sale

By MICHELLE H. LE POIDEVIN  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

One set of my great-grandparents emigrated from Poland, while the others came from Ribera, Sicily. In order to purchase their families' food and clothing, earn a decent living, and communicate with their neighbors, their move made acquiring a thorough knowledge of the English language both a necessity, and more importantly, a privilege.

Flash forward to modern day America, our local shopping centers have become flooded and overrun by a melting pot of Americans who refuse to learn the English language and a society that has kowtowed to translating shopping signs, never demanding that a new batch of emigrants adopt English as its own.

Just the other day, I was shopping in Union County department store when my ears became bamboozled by families speaking everything but English, reading signs in their language. Suddenly, it occurred to me, I was the foreigner. The importance of knowing the English language was as cheap as the shirt I'd been eyeing on the sale rack. Only, I wanted the shirt, I could do without the world I stepped into that I could not understand.

"Dia del Padre" replaced the "Happy Father's Day" sign over the greeting card selection. "Puerta Automatica" took precedence over the "Automatic Door/Enter" sign. Nearly everywhere you shop, signs ask primarily English-speaking customers if they would rather have everything in another language, instead of forcing us to share the same mainland tongue.

When people notice my last name and attempt to decipher its origin, I reveal my French roots, knowing that most Americans consider French people to be rude, most especially when they travel overseas. Do you know why the French dislike Americans so deeply when they go abroad? Because most travelers haplessly fumble through their French-American travel dictionaries, lazily succumbing to a slander of the Romance language because it's just too much work to learn.

What I admire about the French is that they will not turn their country upside-down to accommodate inhabitants who speak another language. Do you want that loaf of bread? Do you need to buy a new sofa for your studio apartment? Do you want to meet that cute guy at the café table nearby? Well, you'd better learn how to speak the language or it won't happen.

While the beautiful fabric of our great nation is rooted in our individual multi-cultural and multi-ethnic strands, it is also cemented in the tradition of speaking one language in public places. It is not only rude, but disruptive to expect an English-speaking nation to become a Tower of Babel. If you don't know it, learn it. My ancestors did.



IS THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR SALE?...While visiting local retail meccas, shoppers are noticing that the English language is not the mainland tongue.

This summer, something cool is coming to your computer: The A&E website. Stay tuned in.



## My Take on It

With Kerriane Spellman Cort

### Tonys Boast Broadway's Staying Power Since 9/11

By KERRIANNE SPELLMAN CORT  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

**FANWOOD** — Several weeks ago, I had written that there had been a collective sigh of relief that finally, finally, award season was over. But there is always that one last show that pops up in late May or early June. Almost as if they are waiting for the dust to settle or to have the inevitable starlet wannabes pack up their Vera Wang dresses and run tail-between-legs back to Hollywood. Movies have become summer blockbusters. The television Emmy awards won't be back until next spring.

What is left? The Tony Awards. The quintessential theater award. The Antoinette Perry award. The bomb.

To win an award, no, let me rephrase...to even be nominated for an award that recognizes excellence in theater...that is the ultimate dream come true for an actor. There is no doubt. Sure, the Oscars represent glamour

and arrival in Hollywood...the Golden Globes symbolize preeminence based on foreign notoriety in diverse markets...and, of course, the coveted Emmy Award depicts distinction on the small screen.

But the Tony Award...to be recognized and celebrated by a group of die-hard theater buffs...there is no comparison. All of an actor's hard work and dedication is finally, finally acclaimed.

This past Sunday night 2002 Tony Awards presentation was graceful, elegant and glory be...short. The Tony Awards wrapped it up in under two hours. Beautiful.

There weren't too many shockers. While some felt that the incredibly original and groundbreaking *Urinetown* should have won best musical, that nod went to the original production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, a tap-dance fable that is based on a forgettable Julie Andrews movie from



Gregory Hines



Bernadette Peters

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## Clubhouse

### ANTIQUES & FURNISHINGS Mountainside, NJ

You are cordially invited to explore our six rooms of fine antiques, classic reproductions, one-of-a-kind chandeliers and unique gift items. We are purveyors of Crabtree & Evelyn Bath & Body Products and maintain a vast selection of top quality candles. Clubhouse Antiques & Furnishings is your destination for fine products and exceptional values.

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