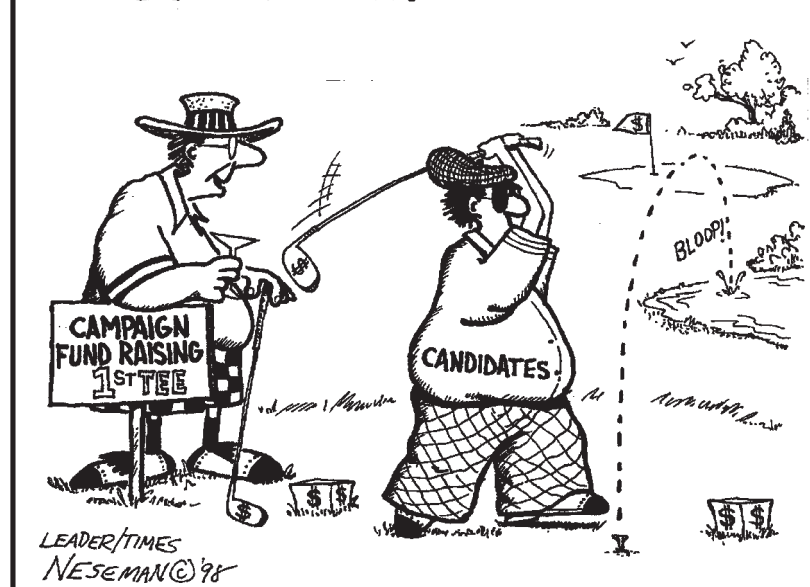


GOING FOR THE "GREEN"



INTERNATIONAL EFFORT... These Rotarians recently helped plant 3.5 miles of more than 2,800 trees, shrubs and flowers to beautify Indianapolis during the Rotary International Convention held there. Pictured, left to right, are: Narinjan Singh, President of his Rotary Club in Punjab, India; Dr. D. Michael Hart, President of the Rotary Club of Westfield, and V. Bazeer, President of his Rotary Club in Sri Lanka.

Dr. D. Michael Hart Joins Rotary Beautification Effort

Dr. D. Michael Hart, President of the Rotary Club of Westfield, was among some 18,000 Rotarians and guests from 116 countries who gathered in Indianapolis, Indiana from June 14 to 17 for Rotary International's 89th annual convention.

Participants focused on literacy, poverty and hunger, international humanitarian projects, exchange programs and planning for Rotary's future through plenary sessions, workshops and panel discussions.

In a unique community beautification effort, more than 1,500 Rotarians attending the convention planted 700

trees, 100 shrubs and 2,000 perennials throughout Indianapolis in one day.

The project, stretching 3.5 miles and covering some 50 city blocks, provided an example of Rotary's Preserve Planet Earth program and honored the city for hosting the convention.

Award Winning Cartoonist, Journalist Join *Leader/Times*

Watchung Communications, publishers of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*, has announced the addition of weekly editorial art cartoonist Dale Neseman and staff writer Jeanne Whitney.

Mr. Neseman, of Buffalo, New York, and *Leader/Times* journalist, Ms. Whitney of Manhattan have linked up over the Internet to provide the newspapers with editorial cartoons each week.

Mr. Neseman has won four New York Press Association awards over the past five years for his work with *The Sun* and *Erie County Independent*, in Hamburg (near Buffalo) New York.

Editor of *The Sun*, Eileen Hotho confirmed that Mr. Neseman's cartoons "inspire anything from a chuckle to an outright belly-laugh." Mr. Neseman began drawing for *The Sun* in 1987.

"Oh, so you're the guy that draws the cartoons. That's the usual reaction I get from people who have found me out," Mr. Neseman revealed.

In 1991, he co-authored a book of editorial art on government spending called, "So That's How They're Spending Our Money!" He also owns a design and printing company in his hometown of Hamburg, on Lake Erie.

"I am very happy and excited to be invited to illustrate my thoughts for *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times*," Mr. Neseman said. "Working with Jeanne and the Westfield staff over the Internet is great fun in assuring community editorial perspective. Obviously, drawing cartoons and being paid for it is about the best job anyone could hope for. If I can provoke a smile or a thoughtful 'hmm...' I have succeeded."

Not bad, for a fellow who admitted his first real job was — drawing windshield wipers.

Ms. Whitney is known in the community through her reporting for *The Leader* and *The Times* over the past four years. Ms. Whitney, currently covers the Scotch Plains Township Council as her regular beat, "reverse commutes" from Manhattan to Westfield as well as "cyber commutes" to Buffalo with Mr. Neseman. Prior to moving to Manhattan, Ms. Whitney lived in Westfield.

She is a graduate of Syracuse University and attended the Newhouse

School of Communications.

She worked for Hearst Publishing, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill and Steven Brill of *Brill's Content* in New York.

She is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) and the National Press Club.

Horace Corbin, Publisher of *The Leader* and *The Times* explained, "We found Dale by searching the Internet. Now, Jeanne and Dale work great together by e-mail. Sometimes they even drop back a technical notch and use the phone or fax. A while back, I seem to recall a 'snail mail' (postal letter) from Dale — but they don't do that any more."

"Jeanne could not really leave Westfield, even though she went to the 'Big Apple' in pursuit of her journalism career. Now, we're pleased to announce that we have her back full-time with our newspapers. She and the rest of the staff enjoy chatting with residents when they drop in to the office on Elm Street," Mr. Corbin said.

Mr. Neseman and Ms. Whitney can be reached by e-mail at press@goleader.com.

Mark Hemmingway Departs on Mission Aboard Navy Carrier

Navy Petty Officer Third Class Mark Hemmingway, the son of Maceo S. Hemmingway of Scotch Plains, recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Abraham Lincoln*.

Officer Hemmingway is one of more than 5,000 sailors and marines aboard the ship, which departed its home port of Everett, Washington, to lead the *USS Abraham Lincoln* Battle Group.

The battle group is comprised of 10 tactical air squadrons, five surface combatants and two submarines.

Carriers, like the *USS Abraham Lincoln*, are forward deployed around the world to maintain a United States presence and provide rapid response in times of crisis.

They serve as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors and, if deterrence fails, offer the most versatile and powerful weapons available.

The *USS Abraham Lincoln* Battle Group can travel more than 500 miles a day while simultaneously deploying to separate geographic regions.

Officer Hemmingway, a 1992 graduate of Saint Patrick's High School in Elizabeth, joined the Navy in September of 1992.

Local Organizations Donate Funds for First Night '99

First Night Westfield '99, a community-wide New Year's Eve celebration for people of all ages, recently received grants from several local organizations.

The mission of First Night Westfield is to strengthen the community by promoting a public, alcohol-free festival of the arts that is affordable to all.

This evening is funded by donations from organizations as well as from private individuals, according to First Night spokeswoman Karen Simon.

The Westfield Service League, which donated a \$250 grant to First Night Westfield, is comprised of women who are residents of Westfield and the surrounding area. It was formed to assist local charitable, volunteer, civic and service organizations through volunteer service and monetary contributions.

The Westfield Municipal Alliance/Preventing Alcohol, Narcotic and Drug Abuse has joined the Westfield "Y" and the Westfield Foundation in supporting First Night West-

field '99 by awarding a grant of \$1,000 to help fund this New Year's Eve celebration of the arts.

The alliance is an organization that involves the community in the fight against alcoholism and drug abuse. Working through the schools and the community at large, it provides programs which heighten community awareness of the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.

For more information on First Night Westfield, or to make a contribution, please call Julia Black at the Westfield "Y" at (908) 233-2700.

Susan Pastir Among Dean's List Students

Susan Pastir of Westfield recently achieved Dean's List status for the Spring 1998 semester at The College of New Jersey in Ewing.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must complete 12 or more credits carrying letter grades, and earn a 3.5 grade point average or above for that semester.

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