

INSIDE: INTERVIEW WITH RAYMOND WOJCIK, EVENTS LISTING "GET OUTTA THE HOUSE", AND PORTRAITURE AT NJCVA IN SUMMIT



WHERE DOES WESTFIELD WORSHIP?...Jane H. Annis, celebrated watercolor artist and Mountainside resident, crafted this gorgeous new print, "Westfield Steeples." The piece, which displays all of the houses of worship in Westfield, will be exhibited during the Art in Westfield show in the downtown on Saturday, May 12.

Jane Annis Immortalizes Westfield Houses of Worship In Latest Watercolor

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE — When Jane Annis of Mountainside visited North Carolina, she was struck by a painting of a church steeple peeking over the treetops. It reminded her of the status-escue steeples of Westfield's houses of worship which beckon residents and visitors from nearly every angle and approach to the town.

Over the course of seven months, Mrs. Annis underwent an intricate creative process which led to the birth of a dream-like watercolor entitled, "Westfield Steeples."

"Westfield Steeples" was conceived when I thought of all the beautiful houses of worship in our community and that it would be nice to record them as a reminiscence of Westfield," said Mrs. Annis, a resident of Westfield and Mountainside for 35 years.

The amazing range of colors and accuracy of architectural cause the eye to jump eagerly between all 15 buildings. There is the lofty steeple of The Presbyterian Church of Westfield that seems to touch the textured azure sky depicted by Mrs. Annis. A modest cross atop the steeple of Redeemer Lutheran Church rises against brilliant green trees. And, Temple Emanu-El is nestled beside Echo Lake Church of Christ.

Mrs. Annis told *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood* that she felt her first print and off-set lithograph, "Westfield Steeples," is both "architectural and emotional" in representation.

"These beautiful buildings are part of what gives Westfield a very special feeling," she said.

Mrs. Annis revealed the process

and techniques used in developing "Westfield Steeples." She took photographs of the buildings, later sketching small drawings of each one. Then, she cut out the drawings, laying each one on a page, and moved them around until the ideal assemblage had been achieved.

She further noted that the process of drawing the final collage of buildings was done three to four times



SHARING HER ART...Mountainside resident Jane H. Annis exhibited during the Art in Westfield event held in downtown Westfield last year. The show was sponsored by the Westfield Art Association and the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Annis is a member of the art organization.

before the color scheme was selected.

Mrs. Annis painted "Westfield Steeples" twice because she wasn't quite satisfied with the first version. The first version of the watercolor is depicted in the postcard pictured with this article. The second version was at the printer when Mrs. Annis had the postcards made up.

The signature style of Westfield's steeples has always commanded attention. Several different entities have

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1-First Baptist Church of Westfield • 2-Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church • 3-Temple Emanu-El • 4-Echo Lake Church of Christ • 5-Redeemer Lutheran Church • 6-St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church • 7-Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church • 8-St. Luke's AME Zion Church • 9-St. Paul's Episcopal Church • 10-First Church of Christ Scientist • 11-The Presbyterian Church • 12-Bethel Baptist Church • 13-Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church • 14-First United Methodist Church of Westfield • Congregational Church of Westfield.

Guest Editorial

WITH KERRIANNE SPELLMAN CORT



Ma and Pa Cort: How Does Your Garden Grow?

By KERRIANNE SPELLMAN CORT
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

FANWOOD — After years of living in Manhattan, my husband finally convinced me to move to the suburbs two and a half years ago. It was a nightmare during this process and it is a miracle that my wonderful spouse still speaks to me.

I didn't want to leave the city. I was afraid that I would lose the incredible energy that the city gave me. I didn't want to give up my cool urban status. Blah, Blah, Blah. Darling, I love you, but give me Park Avenue.

The obvious reasons aside, (such as owning a home and having our mortgage payments be exactly what we were doling out in rent,) I think the main reason I agreed to give up my city digs was so that I could expand on my love of gardening.

Even in Manhattan, my husband and I were avid gardeners. It's amazing what you can do with a fire escape and a bag of Miracle Gro.

The first year we were married, we were living in a rather small one-bedroom apartment in Hell's Kitchen (now the desirable area called Clinton), and all we had to work with was a third floor fire escape that looked down upon a small courtyard and some train tracks. We started small that year, with just a few tomato plants and some cayenne pep-

pers in standard terra cotta window boxes.

Peppers are brilliant. You could grow peppers in your mailbox if you wanted to.

Tomatoes are a bit more difficult and need loads of sun and the proper amount of water. You also need to keep on top of pruning tomato plants, making sure to cut any "suckers" that are not producing flowers and thus taking away from the growth of the rest of the plant.

Pruning on a fire escape is fun.

Trust me, if you can cut branches off of a tomato plant on a third story fire escape while trying to keep your cat from jumping out the window, you can do anything.

Still, despite our limitations, we managed to grow about 15 to-

matoes and a nice crop of hot peppers.

Moving up in the world, we moved to a bigger apartment that had a terrace! We felt like the Rockefeller and couldn't wait until spring so we could begin our favorite pastime. We actually had quite a bit of space and planted tomatoes, peppers, snow-peas, sunflowers (they were huge!) basil, summer savory and rosemary.

Herbs are wonderful and can really be grown anywhere as long as they have sun. If you have limited space, do not despair. Most herbs can be grown indoors on a sunny windowsill.

The terrace was a huge success and, in addition to several out-door barbecues (not very common in Manhattan), we had quite a nice crop that year as well.

If you would like to garden but don't have sufficient space, tomatoes and small peppers can really do well in a container on your porch or patio. My cat loved the terrace as well and kept the pigeons from soiling our plants.

Okay, there was one other reason why I agreed to move to New Jersey. If my cat assaulted one more pigeon I think the Manhattan pigeon police would have thrown him in kitty jail.

We have now had two incredible seasons at our home in Fanwood. Just this past weekend, Ma and Pa Cort planted their garden once again.

While most gardening manuals tell you to wait until Mother's Day to begin your planting, you are really quite safe to start in late April when the danger of frost has passed.

Cool weather crops such as spinach, swiss chard and salad greens

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Commercial on Quimby Street: Sweet & Sour

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — Representatives from a production company filming a test commercial for Starburst candies were tight lipped about the reason why the atmosphere was "lights, camera, action" early Thursday morning.

Four teenage boys in skateboarder-style garb were filmed walking from the corner of Central Avenue near Express, to the mid-block section of Quimby Street. The crew broke for busy morning drivers confronting the hectic traffic push down the road. The drivers dodged orange cones and heeded direction from a Westfield police officer.

The filming, which lasted for only one day, could only be described as "sweet and sour" in nature.

"It's really sweet," said a representative from the production company when asked why the crew chose Westfield for the test shoot. "It looks like America."

The representative also opined that the company thought it was "very sweet" that *The Westfield Leader* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood* stopped over to cover the event.

Although reluctant to report other details, the representative did note that they would not know for a while if the commercial would be picked up.

It was revealed that Westfield was the only location selected for the test commercial.

Starburst is part of the Mars Incorporated family which also produces Skittles and M&Ms, among other sweet treats.



TAKING OVER THE STREET...A production company filming a test commercial for Starburst candies took Quimby Street by storm on Thursday.



David Palladino's

Music Corner

The Perfect Wedding of Voice, Orchestra Achieved by WSO

By DAVID PALLADINO
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — This past weekend saw another highly successful production by the Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO) under the direction of Maestro David Wroe at

The Presbyterian Church in Westfield. This partially staged rendition of *The Marriage of Figaro* would have pleased the composer himself — Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

The overall effect offered an excellent fusion of orchestra, voice and staging. Maestro Wroe's production was consummated joyfully without a hitch and earned a rousing and well-deserved standing ovation.

Casting of the voices was a special highlight and a distinct talent of Maestro Wroe. Vocalists included Kyoko Saito as Susanna; Timothy Blevins as Figaro; Erma Gattie as Cherubino, Madeline Gray as Marcellina; Timothy Truschel as the Count; Pamela Kuhn as the Countess; John Easterlin as Don Basilio and William Walker as Dr. Bartolo.

Exciting and engaging stage directions were created by James Marvel.

Hardly exhibiting anything stuffy or highbrow about this opera when Mozart debuted it in Vienna on May 1, 1786 — it most certainly remained true-to-form this past weekend in Westfield.

Baritone Blevins was perfectly cast as the brazen Figaro. Jumping, stomping, wooing and most certainly crooning, the strong baritone provided the anchor for the performance. His Figaro was a real person, somewhat of a rogue and prone to mischief.

Certainly not so much though, that the serious emotional moments were lost. Mr. Blevins is a seasoned actor, bringing experience

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Artist of the Week



Carol Burnett (1933-)

By MICHELLE H. LePOIDEVIN
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

Variety shows certainly had their place in television history. Most of us remember *The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour* on CBS in the 1970s and, more currently, Tracey Ullman's HBO series "Tracey Takes On." During these programs, the celebrity hosts twist and turn themselves into a marvelous range of characters in an hour-full of skits.

Nobody did it better, however, than San Antonio, Tex. native Carol Burnett in her self-titled variety show. The show, which ran from 1967 to 1978, took home 25 Emmy Awards. Burnett invited herself into our living rooms in different identities and no matter who she was, we always wanted her to stay.

Bringing joy to others through comedy must have come from an untapped source for Burnett because her childhood was no laughing matter. The daughter of parents battling alcoholism, she saw them divorce at the age of 4. "Nanny," Burnett's grandmother, took little Carol and her mother into her Hollywood home. But, we're not talking 90210 and all of the glamour most associate with the zip code. She grew up in a boarding house on welfare. Her parents died when she

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Special Announcement:

A&E's Contemporary Music Correspondent Andy Goldenberg and his wife, Lisa Krauss, recently announced the birth of their son, Harrison Steven Goldenberg. Harrison was 8 pounds, 12 ounces at birth.

We are thrilled to welcome Harrison to the A&E staff and look forward to his freelancing for us soon!

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Art in Westfield

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