

Spring Concert At St. Paul's: Simply Superb And Exquisite

By HORACER CORBIN
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

On Sunday evening, May 6, St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Westfield presented their 9th Annual Spring Concert to a packed audience.

That evening, performers included The Saint Paul's Choir and the orchestra with members of The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra conducted by Charles M. Banks.

Featured in the choir were soprano Laura Heimes, mezzo-soprano Ani Yervanian, tenor Randall Reid-Smith, baritone David Murray, and clarinetist Karl Herman.

The repertoire included three selections from composer Franz Peter Schubert — *Mass in E-flat major*, *Offertorium in C major* and *Tantum ergo*.

Latin was the language for the evening performance, and there was a printed English translation offered in the program. Reaching back to my training in Latin made me aware that it traversed too many years. Also, it was totally unnecessary for me to follow the English translation. I just closed my eyes and became mesmerized by the experience; pausing to consciousness only for the intermission.

I attended as a person and do not pretend to be reviewer. But, I was so impressed by the exquisite concert, the finest anywhere — this needed to be written.

The audience was treated to a champagne reception following the performance.

Put this concert on your "Don't Miss" list next year.



'Art in Westfield' Show, Sale Prepared in Downtown

WESTFIELD — The "Art in Westfield" Sidewalk Art Show and Sale will be held in downtown Westfield on Saturday, May 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Over 65 fine artists, local and regional, will exhibit on the sidewalks. By late morning, over \$1,500 in

orable Mentions, the show will feature a Purchase Award for a scene of Westfield which will be permanently exhibited in the offices of the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC).

All attendees can vote for the People's Choice Award at the Westfield Art Association (WAA) information booth at the corner of East Broad and Elm Streets. Voting will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The People's Choice ribbon will be presented to the winning artist at 3 p.m.

Throughout the downtown, entertainment will be provided by the bands of The New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, Dixie All-Stars, Brass Ensemble, Rick Langmaack Trio, Joel Chassen Trio, and songwriter Julianne Sutton.

Ms. Paynter will demonstrate a portrait in charcoal. Ms. Wygledowski will paint a nature study of a bird in oil.

A directory for the art show will be available at the information booth at the corner of East Broad and Elm Streets. The raindate is Saturday, May 19.

The event is co-sponsored by the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and DWC. For further information, please call (908) 233-3021.



EXHIBITING ARTIST...Rosalie Zakutansky will display many of her pieces of artwork during the "Art in Westfield" Sidewalk Art Show and Sale on Saturday, May 12.

awards will be presented to the winning artists following judging. Christina Saj of Upper Montclair will judge the show. In addition to Awards of Excellence, Awards of Merit and Hon-

orable Mentions, the show will feature a Purchase Award for a scene of Westfield which will be permanently exhibited in the offices of the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC).



WESTFIELD RECOGNIZES SYMPHONY'S SUCCESS...Westfield Mayor Gregory S. McDermott, center, was on hand at the Westfield Symphony Orchestra's (WSO) Season Finale to present a Mayoral Proclamation congratulating the symphony on its 2000-2001 season. The proclamation was given to WSO Board President Stephen E. Barcan and Symphony Friends President Deirdre T. Malacrea.

Guest Editorial

WITH KERRIANNE SPELLMAN CORT



Writers Guild and Alliance Avert Disaster In Entertainment Industry With Tentative Pact

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

FANWOOD — Everyone that works in the entertainment industry breathed a collective sigh of relief this past Friday when a tentative contractual agreement was made between The Writers Guild of America (WGA) and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP).

For months, fear of a total work stoppage plagued the City of Angels when writers threatened a strike that would affect virtually everyone that makes their living in film and television.

Similar to the recent highly publicized actors strike, the writers of our favorite television programs and feature films were asking for more remunerative compensation within their contracts with the AMPTP.

Writers, like actors, make the bulk of their money in residual payments that add up over time and depend upon the amount of times an episode airs on network television. This residual system is in effect with feature films as well. We all know that most movies eventually air on television, as well as on cable, in video releases and overseas markets.

When a writer creates a product, it is sold to the producers and essentially becomes the property of the network or studio. Producers then have the freedom to air the episode or re-release the film, sell it to cable and video packaging as often as they see fit.

The writers were asking that they be recognized monetarily for their work, as actors are, each time some-

thing runs or airs. Just because a movie or television show airs several times, why should the creators of such products be forgotten just because they have sold their work to a studio?

It is a delicate situation and both sides have very strong arguments. It is true that some writers make an incredible living, but the majority of professional screenwriters (like the majority of professional actors), work

things were considered some of the most difficult in history.

The work stoppage that could have happened due to a writers strike would have been an economical disaster. The shutting down of studios would not only affect actors and directors, but also stage managers, lighting technicians, boom operators, costume designers, make-up artists, production assistants, casting directors, drivers, caterers...the list goes on and on.

It takes a lot of hardworking people to get a movie or television show made. As viewers, we only see the actors at work, but there are countless people behind the scenes making it all possible.

SAG and AFTRA released a statement this past weekend that said, "SAG and AFTRA welcome the news that the WGA and the AMPTP and TV networks have reached a tentative agreement on a new three-year contract, and we applaud their careful efforts to come to a new agreement without a work stoppage."

Since the AMPTP and TV networks have reached an agreement with the writers, SAG and AFTRA look forward to analyzing the new WGA deal in detail to see if it will be helpful in finding a way to address the specific needs of actors in our upcoming negotiations.

As a professional actress and writer myself, I am thrilled with this recent development. It makes me feel that maybe, just maybe, actors and writers are finally being recognized for the professional, creative individuals that they are.

This business is hard enough without having to fight like dogs just to put food on the table. I think this is a very positive gain for an industry that I am so proud to be a part of.



Famous Moms

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of our poor people. But, I am grateful to receive the Nobel in the name of the hungry, the naked, the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the lepers, of all those people who feel unwanted, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone.

Mother Teresa exemplified another maternal trait — *unconditional love*. She never asked for anything in return, but gave everything of herself. That's a mother.

Judy Garland, mother of Liza Minelli and Lorna Luft, was determined to keep her children at her side for better or worse throughout her life. For Luft, however, motherhood was reciprocal because she spent a chunk of her earliest years caring for the mother who was supposed to care for her.

But, Luft is far from bitter and saw her relationship with her famous mother as unique. "I'm so grateful for what she left me," Luft once stated. "I have a legacy of movies and recordings and performances I can always turn on. Mostly I'm grateful for the things she taught me to be as a human being."

"Everybody knew her as a legend or an icon. I knew her as a mother. She was a great mother — the best mother she knew how to be," she proclaimed.

While mothers may not always live up to a paragon of excellence, three of the greatest traits demonstrated by the mothering interrelationship of Luft and Garland were *humanity, acceptance and friendship*.

Finally, any woman who would put superstardom on hold in order to have a baby possesses another valuable maternal quality — *selflessness*.

Titanic songstress Celine Dion announced about a year before she became pregnant that she would leave the spotlight temporarily in order to raise a family with her husband, Rene Angeli. Angeli was recovering from a bout with throat cancer when Dion made the decision. They had been trying to have a child for quite some time.

Dion was on the top of the world and the tip of every tongue when she made the decision to take her break and become a mother. Instead of trying to juggle stardom with marriage, whirlwind touring with diapers, Dion reserved the proper amount of time to focus on being the best mom she could be.

Four diverse women in varied walks of life, Kennedy, Dion, Mother Teresa and Judy Garland all share the common path of motherhood.



Judy Garland



Celine Dion

Editorial

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membrane of me" is written in the last cell.

The *Leader's* Editor, Jim Willse, explained in a column that they pulled the strip "with regret" because it compromised a "basic principle of the newspaper." He also noted that they answer to "a higher law." Who is the higher power when I have seen more anti-religious material published in their pages that doesn't point to one?

Articles, for example, about Pope John Paul II are continuously editorialized, pointing to his frail health, as if he were about to collapse on the spot while pursuing world peace. While Willse's letter states that the newspaper would not allow the writers to "turn a news story or a column into a private religious tract," letters to the editor have pointed to the contrary for years. Why are they given ink?

If we are going to start letting the ax fall on cartoon strips that offer a religious message, as Hart's has done since the 1980s, let's turn the harsh spotlight on "Family Circus" by Bil Keane. Even the late Charles Schulz used his beloved strip "Peanuts" as an editorial pulpit. And that's just what it is, folks, an editorial. You don't have to agree with what it says. You don't have to love it, marry it, support it, or even read it.

But, to censor it, to succumb to the pressure of some irate readers and organizations, is just plain robbery. It steals away the First Amendment rights of a cartoonist who is not disrespecting anyone, but expressing his opinion. It robs the reader's right to read a cartoon strip that has been loved by millions over the years. It was a decision that has compelled many families I have spoken with to proudly cancel their subscriptions.

The editor further stated that the publication of the comic strip on Easter has caused him to realize a glitch in the editorial process. A closer watch on the material published is assured in his letter of explanation. I wonder if that careful eye will also include rejecting anti-Christian letters and articles. I also wonder if any of the other "funnies" promoting an anti-Christian message would just happen to fall through the cracks and make it into the paper.

For Johnny Hart, his cartoon is an arena for him to express his own convictions — convictions which continue to sustain readers for decades. Convictions which earned him Best Humor Strip in America, six times over from The National Cartoonist Society. Convictions which gave him the title of Cartoonist of the Year from the Society, the Yellow Kid Award for Best Cartoonist from The International Congress of Comics, Best Cartoonist of the Year from France, the Sam Adamson Award, which is Sweden's international award for graphic artists, and the Elsie Segar Award from King Features Syndicate. Convictions expressed in his "Wizard of Id" comic strip which, one writer once told him, caused her to turn away from thoughts of suicide.

While editors deserve the right to edit, do they also have the right to silence one's convictions or point of view? I think the answer to that question was written somewhere in a little document called The U.S. Constitution.

Since when did having the courage of ones convictions merit censorship? From where I stand, Johnny Hart is the bigger person.

Moonglowers

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"The Moonglowers defeated 'Group 4' schools that are almost twice as large as ours," he said.

"Half of the high school is in the music program," Mr. Turturiello noted, citing over 500 students taking part in music activities out of about 1,100 pupils enrolled at SPFHS.

At the time of the interview, Mr. Turturiello was not certain as to whether the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school board would recognize the Moonglowers for their achievement during an upcoming meeting.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Office of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol B. Choye did confirm that a resolution recognizing the group's accomplishment would be included as an agenda item.

While the Moonglowers were scheduled to mark their achievement during a performance at a school assembly, the event was cancelled because students in the ensemble were scheduled to attend a field trip to Great Adventure to mark the 19th Annual Physics Day. The Moonglowers' performance was not rescheduled.

To Mr. Turturiello's knowledge, the first place achievement by the Moonglowers would not be recognized in any future edition of the SPFHS newspaper, *The Fanscotian*, as the final issue is dedicated to the senior class as a collage keepsake.

"There's no real room for stories," confirmed *Fanscotian* advisor and English teacher Catherine Jameson Hoffman when speaking with *The Leader/The Times*. The May issue, which will go to press on Monday, would not be able to be reworked in order to fit in a story about the Moonglowers, she advised.

The SPFHS sign board posted the band's achievement, thanks to DECA Advisor Donald Cababe. Mr. Turturiello reported.

Scotch Plains Mayor Martin L. Marks and members of the Scotch Plains Township Council will recognize the Moonglower's statewide sweep with a special resolution at an upcoming meeting.

During the state competition, the Moonglowers also captured the title of Best Trombone.

"The key word in our program is 'flexibility,'" said Mr. Turturiello. "We will go the extra mile, bend over backward, do whatever we have to do to keep a kid in the program."

The Moonglowers' first place honor culminates a labor of love for teacher and students that finally paid off.

Need to Reach A&E?

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Scholarship Recipients To Perform at Meeting Of Musical Club

WESTFIELD — Five graduating seniors will perform at the meeting of the Musical Club of Westfield on Wednesday, May 16, at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church on Elm Street, Westfield. The scholarships recipients include Cormac Egerton, Brad Gillet, Rachel Mendez, Laura Muller, and Gerald Pregenger.

Cormac is a viola performance major at Vanderbilt University. Brad is a music education major with a concentration on trumpet at the University of Miami, Fla. Rachel is a music education major with concentration on flute at the Mason Gross School at Rutgers University. Laura is a music education major with concentration in voice and viola at the Mason Gross School of Rutgers University. Gerald is a composition major at SUNY Purchase.

The program is open to the public. For more information, please call (908) 241-6210.

THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

James S. Little-Director



PRE-CONCERT LECTURE BY DR. JOHN SICHEL
7:00 PM

SOLOISTS CHORUS ORCHESTRA

Andi Campbell, Soprano
Sharon Morrison, Alto
Gary Pate, Tenor
Dale Livingston, Bass

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2001-8:00 P.M.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WESTFIELD - MOUNTAIN AVENUE AT BROAD STREET
*15+/10-TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR - FOR INFORMATION CALL 908-654-5737

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State through a grant administered by the County Director of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Funding has also been made possible in part by a grant provided by the Essex County Board of County Freeholders, Scotch Plains, Director.