



Horace Corbin for *The Westfield Leader and The Times*
KICK-OFF... Supporters gather at The Crossroads in Garwood last Wednesday evening to attend a re-election campaign kickoff event for incumbent Assemblyman Jon Brannick of Westfield (LD-21), inset.

Trailside Announces Hayrides, Campfires

MOUNTAINSIDE - Tickets are available for Friday night hayrides and campfires at Trailside Nature and Science Center on October 5, 12 and 19, as well as November 9.

The events also will feature hot chocolate, marshmallows for roasting and musical entertainment.

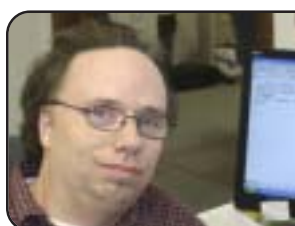
Seating is limited. Rides begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance; no tickets will be sold at the hayrides. Tickets cost \$5 for Union County residents and \$10 for out-of-county participants. They can be pur-

chased any day from 1 to 5 p.m. at Trailside, located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside, or weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Union County Administration Building's Parks Department, second floor, Elizabethtown Plaza at Rahway Avenue in downtown Elizabeth.

Further information is available by calling Trailside at (908) 789-3670 or the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities at (908) 527-4900, or by visiting



Susan Cook for *The Westfield Leader and The Times*
WALK ON... On Saturday, September 15, participants in the Rock-On Walkathon prepare to complete the two-mile walk, which benefited cancer-research foundations. Assemblywoman Linda Stender, center, was a co-sponsor of the walkathon, which kicked off the daylong Union County MusicFest '07 at Nomahegan Park in Cranford.



Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of *The Leader/Times*

State GOP Aims to Provide NJ With a 'Choice for Change'

New Jersey State Republicans, the minority party since 2002, will run on a platform of providing New Jersey voters with "The Choice for Change."

Included in the platform are initiatives that would cut the state budget by \$1 billion, oppose any new tax increases, cap spending increases at the rate of inflation and enact reforms that would ban pay-to-play and suspend indicted public officials without pay.

The platform also proposes requiring two-thirds of the legislature to approve new taxes or increases in existing taxes, voter approval for all future state debt, creating a new school-aid formula that is "fair and equitable" for all districts and making it easier for voters to recall elected officials.

Corzine Names Hudson's Doria Commissioner Of Comm. Affairs

Governor Jon Corzine has appointed State Senator Joseph Doria of Hudson County as director of community affairs. Mr. Doria, who is not seeking re-election, served 24 years in the assembly, according to nj.com. He will resign as mayor of Bayonne when he takes his new office on October 9.

Sandra Cunningham, the Democratic senate candidate and wife of the late Jersey City Mayor and Senator Glenn Cunningham, will likely replace him.

Seton Hall Pulls Plug on Talk By Tom DeLay Before GOP Club

Seton Hall University has denied a request by the College Republicans to have former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay speak on the South Orange campus. The university spokeswoman said, "The university felt the legal and ethical questions surrounding him did not make him an ideal choice to speak on campus at this time."

College Republicans President Christopher Stark called Seton Hall's actions "unconscionable," noting that four years ago, the university invited the former president of Iran as a guest, "a man who began the nuclear weapons program and had documented human-rights violations - yet Tom DeLay is clearly more controversial and less intellectually in tune with

academia for him to appear on campus."

Merkt Wants Singh to Quit Race Over Pension Abuse

Assemblyman Richard Merkt, a Republican from Morris County, said he wants State Senate candidate Seema Singh to drop her bid for the 14th district seat (Mercer County) after her involvement in what Mr. Merkt called "possible public pension abuse," according to Politicsnj.com.

This follows a *Trenton Times* report that Ms. Singh, the former state public advocate, had hired her former chief of staff, Leora Mosstown, as a \$125-per-hour consultant after her ex-staffer had retired. State officials ordered Mosstown to pay back \$86,000 in pension funds.

Guttenberg Mayor, Wife Arrested for Fraud, Extortion

Guttenberg Mayor David Delle Donna and his wife, Anna, were indicted last week on charges of mail fraud and extortion, according to politicsnj.com.

Authorities said Delle Donna allegedly took bribes from an unnamed local bar owner in the form of thousands of dollars in tickets to campaign events in exchange for helping the bar get approved for a variance and to rid itself of property violations the town cited.

He is the fourth north Jersey mayor arrested this month by U.S. Attorney Chris Christie.

New Jersey Sues Bush Over Children's Health Fund

Governor Jon Corzine announced Monday that the state has filed a lawsuit against the Bush Administration for limiting eligibility for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The suit says 10,000 New Jersey children would be affected by the new eligibility rules, according to a press release on the New Jersey State Democratic Committee website.

The President said in a White House statement that the Congressional bill he vetoed would raise spending from \$35 to \$50 billion and turn a program aimed at poor children into one with family incomes of \$83,000 and pull kids currently covered by private health insurance into a government-run system.



HATS OFF TO COMMUTERS... Westfield United Way (WUW) trustees and agency representatives recently greeted morning commuters at the Westfield train station, where they distributed information on ways to give to the non-profit organization. Pictured, left to right, are: Steve Cordes, Maureen Kaufman, Chet Feinberg, Judy Sturm, Christine Alger, Donna Dolce, WUW Executive Director Linda Maggio, Rick Malacrea, Rich Brautigam, Scott Cassie and Jet Taylor. Donations can be made online at westfieldunitedway.org, by phone at (908) 233-2113 or by e-mail to contact@westfieldunitedway.org.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

James M. Foerst for Reelection, Westfield Town Council, Ward 4

As a father, husband, homeowner and businessman, I fully understand the importance of careful budgeting and spending. While only \$1 in every \$6 of your tax bill is allocated to the town (21 percent is allocated to Union County and 62 percent to the board of education), I work hard to stretch these limited funds while continuing to provide top quality services that exemplify Westfield.

One of the town's largest expenses is salaries and wages. Through prudent, yet fair, collective bargaining with our union employees, we have been able to save money. By working with the unions, we negotiated health-insurance-plan changes, which yield premium increases below 5 percent (state average increases for public entities were approximately 12 percent). This is a savings of more than \$280,000 in 2007 alone, and these savings were similar in 2006. Our employees continue to earn fair salaries and benefits, and we save hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

Also, over the last four years, I have worked to save you money by reducing the number of town employees. As an example, when I was first elected to council, we had one full-time employee in our TV-36 television department. Through attrition, we eliminated this full-time position and brought in a more experienced, part-time employee, saving more than \$25,000 annually. However, we did not compromise quality of services to achieve this savings. On the contrary, every time

you turn on TV-36, you see the improved variety of programming, enhanced visual clarity and greater capacity to disseminate important information.

Finally, we have been very aggressive and effective in seeking grants of varying size, use and nature that are available to the town. For example, we obtained more than \$200,000 of grant money to fund operations and equipment upgrades in our police and fire departments and more than \$160,000 for improvements of our parks and fields. Also, this year, we secured \$36,000 from the Safe Routes to Schools program to fund plans and improvements that otherwise would have required funding through your taxes.

These measures have the net effect of saving money for each and every property taxpayer household in Westfield. These are only a few of the examples of ways, which I have worked and will continue to work to save money and keep your taxes in check. I will continue to view every dollar in the budget as my own and work hard to find new ways to save money and obtain additional local, state, federal and private aid to fund many of the improvements that we have and will continue to make to our infrastructure.

It has been my honor to serve the people of the Fourth Ward for the last four years. I hope that you have seen and felt the improvements we have made and will allow me to continue to serve as your councilman by supporting me on Election Day.

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Smart Wines

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<p>CHATEAU TURCAUD ENTRE-DUEX-MERS \$13.99</p> <p>White Bordeaux is all too frequently over looked in all the hype and hysteria about the reds from there. It is also frequently a great value. This blend of 60% sauvignon blanc, 35% Semillon and 5% muscadelle is crisp, dry and delicious. It is filled with lime-citrus tones and has a wonderful mineral background. Try it with a lighter chicken or fish dish, or as a sipping wine before dinner. Real bang for the buck.</p>	<p>ARGIANO NON CONFUNDITUR TOSCANA 2005 \$19.99</p> <p>A combination of fine winemaking and an excellent vintage have made this a quiet and affordable star. This blend of 40% cabernet sauvignon, 20% merlot, 20% syrah and 20% sangiovese spends a year aging in oak and four more months in bottle before it is released. It is rich and complex without being overly heavy. You will keep finding different dark fruit flavors in it as you sip it and it gets more air on it. A real gem.</p>	<p>SEIDELBERG CHENIN BLANC \$11.99</p> <p>Chenin Blanc is the grape that first made South Africa a famous wine producing country in the 18th century. This is filled with guava and peach with floral accents. The hint of mineral and the crisp acid make it perfect for light poultry and fish dishes. Very nice before a meal, cheese and crackers, or just on its own. They have doing this since 1692 - they get it.</p>
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Your Favorite Wines

Blackstone Merlot	\$8.99	750ml
J Lohr Chardonnay	\$10.99	750ml
Simi Chardonnay	\$13.99	750ml
BV Coastal Cabernet/Merlot	\$7.99	750ml
Hess Select Chardonnay	\$9.99	750ml
Toasted Head Chardonnay	\$10.99	750ml

Wine Of The Week

Domaine La Rose des Vents Coteaux Varois \$14.99

This complex red comes from the Provence in the south of France. The location, at the top of the Saint-Baume Mountains provides both excellent drainage and maximum sun exposure. A blend of syrah, Grenache and cabernet sauvignon, this has got all kinds of both red and black fruits. The limestone and clay soils provide lots of mineral and add to the structure provided by ripe tannins. Decant for a half hour and serve with a grilled steak.

Your Favorite Value Wines

Mondavi Coastal Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$16.99	1.5L
Beringer Founders Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$15.99	1.5L
Woodbridge Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$10.99	1.5L
Vendange Cab/Merlot/Chardonnay	\$6.99	1.5L
Fetzer Cabernet/Chardonnay	\$12.99	1.5L
Cavit Pinot Grigio	\$12.99	1.5L
Walnut Crest Cabernet	\$8.99	1.5L
Cesari Pinot Grigio	\$10.99	1.5L
Bolla Soave	\$10.99	1.5L
Beringer White Zinfandel	\$8.99	1.5L
Franzia Burgundy/Chablis/Chianti	\$10.99	5L
Carlos Rossi Burgundy/Chablis/Paisano/Sangria	\$9.99	4L
Opici Homemade Barbarone	\$11.99	4L

Your Favorite Scotch

Dewars White Label	\$29.99	1.75L
Chivas Regal	\$57.99	1.75L
Johnnie Walker Black	\$57.99	1.75L
Johnnie Walker Red	\$29.99	1.75L
Clan MacGregor	\$16.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Whiskey

Jack Daniels	\$37.99	1.75L
Jim Beam	\$25.99	1.75L
Seagrams 7	\$15.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Gin

Bombay Sapphire	\$36.99	1.75L
Tanqueray	\$32.99	1.75L
Hendricks	\$28.99	750ml
Beefeater	\$29.99	1.75L
Gordons	\$15.99	1.75L
Seagrams	\$16.99	1.75L

Your Favorite Rum

Captain Morgan	\$25.99	1.75L
Bacardi Silver	\$19.99	1.75L
Bacardi Gold	\$19.99	1.75L
Malibu	\$25.99	1.75L

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