

## Chamber of Commerce Names Leader Business of the Year

WESTFIELD—The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce has announced that *The Westfield Leader* has been named "Business of the Year" for the 1999 "Faith In Westfield" Awards.

"We are pleased to be honoring Horace and Gail Corbin for the outstanding job *The Leader* does each week delivering news about the Westfield area," said Darryl Walker, Chairman of the Chamber's Board of Directors.

*The Leader* has served Westfield since 1890. The paper, published every Thursday, is one of the few newspapers in Union County designated for legal advertising. It also publishes *The Times of Scotch Plains - Fanwood*.

Mr. Corbin noted that that having such a designation requires *The Leader* to follow certain rules and U.S. Postal Service regulations, and also gives the paper a level of credibility with readers.

Mrs. Corbin began working for *The Leader* in 1991 as a part-time employee, when Katherine and Kurt Bauer owned the newspaper. She attended Union County College, earning a 4.0 average and selection into *Who's Who*.

In June 1996, Mr. and Mrs. Corbin purchased the newspaper, and Mrs. Corbin became the General Manager as well as owner.

mated accounting, staff training, faxing and e-mail capabilities," Mr. Corbin said. "The paper is now printed completely from (computer) disk."

The newspaper also can be read over the Internet, a Web site that has doubled the readership of *The Leader*. People all over the world now read about Westfield at [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com).

"Many people who used to live in Westfield and those who are thinking of moving to Westfield, find our newspaper on line," said Mrs. Corbin.

"Ours is one of the most modern newspapers because the entire newspaper is on the Internet," added Mr. Corbin.

Mr. Corbin, as Publisher of *The Leader*, handles the financial responsibilities of running the business. In addition, he owns a chemical engineering business in Parsippany.

He spends evenings and weekends at the newspaper's Elm Street, Westfield office, and even when he's traveling he can stay in touch through the "cyber world" with e-mail and the newspaper's Web site.

*The Leader* staff was honored when Governor Christine Whitman officially announced her candidacy in their office in 1993 when the Bauers owned the paper. She visited the office again when she was running for re-election in 1997.

The staff of *The Leader* includes Paul J. Peyton, Managing Editor; Suzette F. Stalker, Assistant Editor; Peter Billson, Vice-President of Operations; Michelle H. LePoidevin, Arts and Entertainment Editor; David B. Corbin, Sports Editor; Joanna B. Marsh, Marketing Director, and Karen M. Hinds, Office Manager.

The paper also has a professional group of 10 freelance writers who write stories on different topics as assigned. Local politicians will write specifically for *The Westfield Leader*, and community organizations submit articles about ongoing activities and projects.

"We invite the community to be a part of this gala celebration," said Mr. Walker.

A dinner honoring *The Leader* will be held this Monday, October 25, at The Primavera in Stirling. Tickets are \$50 per person, and include beer and wine, a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing. The dress is business attire, with black tie optional.

To make reservations for the dinner, please call the Chamber office at (908) 233-3021.

## Mountainside Council Approves Proposal To Merge Local Boards

By KIMBERLY A. BROADWELL  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

MOUNTAINSIDE—An ordinance to combine Mountainside's Planning Board and Board of Adjustment was approved on first reading by the Borough Council Tuesday evening.

Mayor Robert F. Vigilanti noted that the council and members of both boards discussed the proposed merger for the past couple of months in an attempt to "streamline government and expedite paperwork."

The Mayor also noted that this merger would save the borough money by requiring a secretary and an attorney for just one meeting rather than two. With Mountainside now about 90 percent developed, he said "there is not the need to have two separate boards as there was years ago."

Mayor Vigilanti also stated that in recent years, other small boroughs such as Kenilworth had combined both boards successfully.

During the council's agenda meeting last week, Councilman Paul Mirabelli, who serves as Council Liaison to the Planning Board, announced that he, Mayor Vigilanti and Borough Attorney John Post recently met with Planning Board Chairman John Tomain and Board of Adjustment Chairman Fred Picut to discuss the merger.

During the agenda meeting and again Tuesday night, Mr. Post noted that in order for the boards to merge, each representative from the two bodies must resign his or her position, thus giving the Mayor the job of reappointing board members. He noted Tuesday evening that almost all representatives had resigned their positions.

In other business, it was revealed that a Community Development Block Grant of \$75,000 will enable Mountainside to develop a Community Bus to help transport the borough's senior citizens who are currently unable to travel to medical facilities or stores.

Mayor Vigilanti noted that the bus is expected to be running by late winter or early spring of next year and would also be available for recreational purposes. He added that the council is currently looking at similar programs in Berkeley Heights and Long Valley to see how these programs are operated.

## Westfield Police Collar Car Burglary Suspects

By SUZETTE F. STALKER  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD—Westfield authorities arrested two Scotch Plains residents last week who they believe may be responsible for at least 25 motor vehicle burglaries in three communities over the past two months.

Christopher Steibing, 19, and Jeremy McDonald, 20, were arrested at their respective homes last Thursday following an investigation initiated by Detective Sergeant Robert Compton and Detective Nicholas Norton of the Westfield Police Department.

Sergeant Compton said searches by police of each of the suspects' homes turned up between 40 and 50 items alleged to have been stolen from unlocked vehicles in Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

The recovered items, he revealed, included laptop computers, cellular telephones, radar detectors, tools, cameras, portable compact disk players and disks. Sergeant Compton placed the total value of the recovered items between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Westfield police charged both suspects with four counts of burglary to a motor vehicle and theft in connection with incidents which occurred on Aus-

tin and Downer Streets, Dorian Road and Shackamaxon Drive, Sergeant Compton said.

It was unknown if Scotch Plains police intended to charge the pair, and no charges were pending in Fanwood as of press time, a police spokesman there said.

Sergeant Compton added that police were alerted to the suspects after McDonald was arrested the previous weekend for allegedly burglarizing a car in Winfield.

The suspect had a credit card in his possession at the time which police believe was taken during one of the Westfield incidents, according to Sergeant Compton.

Steibing was released on \$1,000 bail on the Westfield charges, while McDonald was released on his own recognizance.

Sergeant Compton said that 90 percent of the recovered items have not been claimed, adding that police believe many individuals did not report that their vehicles were burglarized.

Anyone who believes that their possessions may be among the items confiscated by police are asked to call Detective Norton at (908) 789-4012.



Horace and Gail Corbin

At that time, and for many years prior to the Corbins' purchase of the paper, the layout of *The Leader* was done each week in a "cut and paste" fashion. The office had one main computer for running off news articles and several small desk-top computer units used for typing in the stories.

Mr. and Mrs. Corbin developed a four-year plan to change every operation of the business, from accounting, communications and production, to journalism, advertising and staff responsibilities.

"Our four-year plan is reviewed and revised as needed, and we're right on track with our new computers, auto-

matic accounting, staff training, faxing and e-mail capabilities," Mr. Corbin said. "The paper is now printed completely from (computer) disk."

The newspaper also can be read over the Internet, a Web site that has doubled the readership of *The Leader*. People all over the world now read about Westfield at [www.goleader.com](http://www.goleader.com).

"Many people who used to live in Westfield and those who are thinking of moving to Westfield, find our newspaper on line," said Mrs. Corbin.

"Ours is one of the most modern newspapers because the entire newspaper is on the Internet," added Mr. Corbin.

Mr. Corbin, as Publisher of *The Leader*, handles the financial responsibilities of running the business. In addition, he owns a chemical engineering business in Parsippany.

He spends evenings and weekends at the newspaper's Elm Street, Westfield office, and even when he's traveling he can stay in touch through the "cyber world" with e-mail and the newspaper's Web site.

*The Leader* staff was honored when Governor Christine Whitman officially announced her candidacy in their office in 1993 when the Bauers owned the paper. She visited the office again when she was running for re-election in 1997.

The staff of *The Leader* includes Paul J. Peyton, Managing Editor; Suzette F. Stalker, Assistant Editor; Peter Billson, Vice-President of Operations; Michelle H. LePoidevin, Arts and Entertainment Editor; David B. Corbin, Sports Editor; Joanna B. Marsh, Marketing Director, and Karen M. Hinds, Office Manager.

The paper also has a professional group of 10 freelance writers who write stories on different topics as assigned. Local politicians will write specifically for *The Westfield Leader*, and community organizations submit articles about ongoing activities and projects.

"We invite the community to be a part of this gala celebration," said Mr. Walker.

A dinner honoring *The Leader* will be held this Monday, October 25, at The Primavera in Stirling. Tickets are \$50 per person, and include beer and wine, a cocktail hour, dinner and dancing. The dress is business attire, with black tie optional.

To make reservations for the dinner, please call the Chamber office at (908) 233-3021.

**fiLOFAX**  
Organizers and Accessories Created for Individual Lifestyles  
Now Available for the New Millennium  
The Papery of Westfield  
East Broad Street at Elm  
Westfield, New Jersey  
(908) 928-1300  
"The Ultimate in Social Expression"

Organize Your Life with Style  
**fiLOFAX**  
Organizers and Accessories Created for Individual Lifestyles  
Now Available for the New Millennium  
The Papery of Westfield  
East Broad Street at Elm  
Westfield, New Jersey  
(908) 928-1300  
"The Ultimate in Social Expression"

Sometimes it pays to have all your eggs in one basket.

**AT&T PERSONAL NETWORK CALLING PLANS**

Newly expanded wireless home calling area\*, covering Maine to Virginia! \*Please see your authorized dealer for details.

**FREE** Case & Car Charger with Activation

**YOUR HOME LONG DISTANCE AND WIRELESS ARE COMBINED INTO ONE EASY-TO-READ BILL! REWARDS PROGRAM FOR USAGE!**

**Just 7¢ A Minute**  
FOR DOMESTIC HOME LONG DISTANCE. AT&T DOMESTIC CALLING CARD, RESIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL 800 ARE 10¢ PER MINUTE.

FREE WIRELESS DIGITAL FEATURES! VOICEMAIL WITH MESSAGE, WAITING INDICATOR, CALL FORWARDING/ CALL WAITING, TEXT MESSAGE VIA E-MAIL

**FREE ON A DIGITAL MULTI-NETWORK PHONE!**

**CELLULAR SIGNAL PLUS**

MONTHLY CHARGE	INCLUDED MINUTES	ADDITIONAL MINUTES COST
\$39.99	200	30¢/min.
\$49.99	400	30¢/min.
\$89.99	600	25¢/min.

132 East Broad Street • Westfield, NJ  
**908-789-5302**  
[www.cellsig.com](http://www.cellsig.com)

Ask about Worldnet Internet Access for \$14.95/mo.  
6 e-mail addresses and 6 personal web pages included

©1999 AT&T Personal Network is available in most areas. Additional \$14.95 monthly fee applies for Internet telephone access and other charges and taxes may apply. Other terms and conditions apply. Additional \$4.95 monthly fees apply to 150 hour included Internet access. 10 cent rate applies to quality AT&T Calling Card calls. AT&T 800 calls and direct dialed long distance calls from home within the US, 10 cent international rate applies for qualifying AT&T Calling Card calls and direct-dialed calls from home when placed to Canada, the United Kingdom and the border cities of Mexico. Conditions apply to qualify for one bill and AT&T Personal Network. Wireless service requires credit approval, activation fee, an annual contract, a Digital multi-network phone and subscription to AT&T Wireless Services long distance for your wireless calls. Billing address must be within AT&T Personal Network Home Service Area. Roaming charge is 69 cents a minute outside your home area. These wireless rates are not available for credit card and international calls. Wireless airtime measured in full minutes and rounded up to the next full minute. You must remain an AT&T residential long distance customer with combined bill for AT&T residential and wireless services to remain on AT&T Personal Network's wireless plan. Full terms and conditions are in the AT&T Wireless Service Welcome Guide or Calling Plan Brochure. Offer may not be combined with any other promotional offers.

Working with the  
Mayor for a better  
**Westfield**

**Elect Joe Stoner Democrat for Second Ward Councilman**

Paid for by Stoner for Town Council, Arlene J. Gardner, Treasurer, 219 Sunset Avenue, Westfield, NJ

**COMCAST @ Home**  
High Velocity Internet Service. It's Here.

- No More Dialing
- No More Busy Signals
- No More Phone Lines
- Internet Using TV Cable
- Instantaneous Connection
- 3 E-Mail Addresses

<http://westfieldnj.com>  
[speed@westfieldnj.com](mailto:speed@westfieldnj.com)  
908-654-4100 (24 hrs)