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SCOTCH PLAINS

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HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY



Public Lands Clean Up Day scheduled for May 1st

The Scotch Plains Clean Communities Advisory Committee has announced that the township's third annual Public Lands Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 1. In years past, this very special community event has drawn hundreds of people interested in spending the day in a most worthwhile way. The litter pick up, which begins at 10 am will be followed by a picnic lunch and entertainment at Union Catholic Regional High School. Registration is required and all groups who participated in 1992 will be mailed registration forms. If you would like to join us, call 322-6700 ext. 243 and request a registration form be mailed to you. The Public Lands Clean Up is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy's Clean Communities Program.

BUSINESS UPDATE

See pages 8-11.



WHAT'S IN A NAME? In 1991 the name was updated to Irma's Hallmark, but to many locals it will always be the "Bag". It's still the same great store it's been for nearly 20 years.

Scotch Plains exchange student enjoying Madrid

Bram Poquette of Scotch Plains is spending this school year abroad as an AFS exchange student. He is living in Madrid with an AFS host family and is attending high school there.

"The life of an exchange student is very different," he writes. "At first, everything is different...you don't know anybody...everything is in a different language...it is indeed a time of learning. During the second month, school started. For me, it was the hardest time and the time when I missed home the most. I was very worried because I really didn't understand anything and I thought I would never pass anything."

"During November, it was basically the same, but I got past the homesickness. You also start to understand some things in school. December is a weird month...after vacation...it was really



AFS exchange student Bram Poquette in Madrid.

good because (I don't know why), I understood a lot." Bram continued. "How are the schools? Very different...a day starts at 8:30 and ends at 2:10. Even though you have 6 classes a day, you have 9

classes in all." He explained he takes Physics/Chemistry, English, Math, Philosophy, History, Ethics, Literature, Music and Phys. Ed. "The kids don't eat lunch in school. If a teacher is absent one

day, there is no substitute so you don't have a class," he commented, and you are free to leave the school."

Bram went on. "The food in Spain is very different. There is a lot of pork and seafood. Some typical foods are: jaman...a type of ham that you eat directly from the pig's leg; cocido - very Madrilenio, a kind of stew with meat, beans and vegetables cut in big pieces; callos - a sausage of pig's blood and rice; pig's feet - it explains itself. The times when people eat are very different. Breakfast is basically the same, at about 7:30. Lunch is eaten at about 2:20 or 3:00 and is the main meal. You eat the most at this time. Dinner is eaten about 10:00 and is very light. After lunch, some people take a siesta."

Bram will be returning to Scotch Plains this spring and will resume his studies here next fall.

Ungar honored at County Women's gala

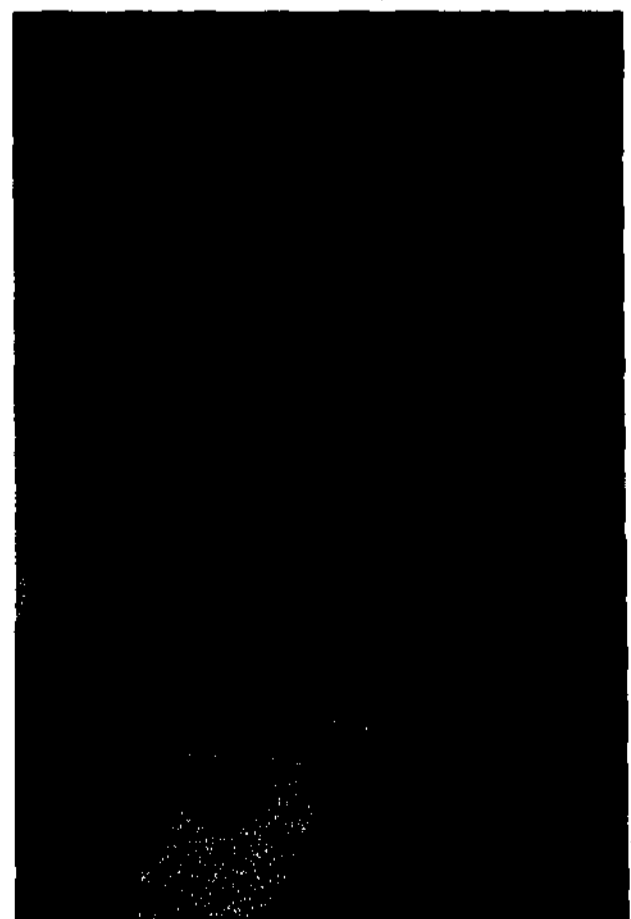
Manya S. Ungar of Scotch Plains was one of ten women honored by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women at a dinner last Friday night at the Grand Centurions in Clark.

Ungar was cited for her life-long career as a volunteer, mostly in cases involving children. Shortly after moving to this area, she became involved in a project for handicapped Cub Scouts. She soon joined the local PTA and 30 years later in 1987 was elected president of the National PTA, serving until 1989.

She is currently a member of several national and state boards dealing with education and is a trustee of the Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountainside, Fanwood and Toms River.

In her acceptance speech, she said she has a basic belief "that children

are our only future as a nation and they deserve



MANYA S. UNGAR

not only a hand, but a voice to ensure that they receive the best education, health and general well-being. There is a little plaque that hangs on the wall in our kitchen that quotes an unnamed philosopher and comes as close to a credo as I have: 'I shall pass this way but once. Therefore, any good that I can do or kindness I can show, let me do it now for I shall not pass this way again'."

Also honored by the commission were: Patricia Fleming, business; Deborah Wolfe, education; Patricia Morris, entrepreneur; Ann Baron, government; Sister Jacinta Fernandes, human services; Ann Conti, law; Mary Rabadeau, law enforcement; Nancy Jaekle, journalism and Dr. Sorosh Roshan, medicine.

