

She finds similarities worlds away

By Casey Hens
staff writer

As a teenager in Rota, Spain, Leena Mangrukar enjoyed a different sort of freedom.

She's back now to the Michigan and the snow she said she missed while on the five-month trip. But she's also back to borrowing the car — and having to use it to go everywhere from her Farmington Hills home.

The 16-year-old Mercy High School senior recently returned from a Youth for Understanding trip to Spain — her choice of destination as an exchange student because she had studied Spanish in school.

It was also one of the few countries that allowed her to study for only a semester so she could return and graduate with her class in June. "I looked forward to going to school," she said. "They were so open and warm. I wasn't expecting them to be that way."

IN THE small coastal city in southern Spain, she was free to walk anywhere — safely — most any time. "You could walk anywhere," she said. "It makes you so much more independent."

Teenage communication, which relies heavily on the telephone in America, was different in Spain, where Leena and her new friends met daily in cafes for their lengthy chats. The slower pace and lifestyle also led to impromptu ideas. Rarely were activities planned, she said.

It took a few weeks, but she quickly became accustomed to life in Rota, a U.S. Naval base town, despite a few surprises.

"For a couple weeks, it was hard

— you were embarrassed about your accent," she said.

She soon adjusted to her host family of mother, father and two brothers, who had all the modern conveniences from a microwave to a computer — something Leena didn't expect.

"It surprised me a lot," she said. "You go there and think it will be like the movies, with everyone taking a siesta."
ALSO THE custom of calling everyone by their first names — including teachers and her host parents — was different.

Weekdays were spent in school where she made friends quickly. Weekends found Leena and her friends at local bars and discoteques, where the group quickly expanded as they ran into people they knew.

Youth for Understanding organizers also sponsored weekend trips to various parts of Spain, where the American students could meet up with others and discuss their experiences.

Special events Leena enjoyed while in Spain included the Christmas holiday and her 16th birthday.

DESPITE THE small-town flavor and different culture of Rota, the basic differences between teenagers were few, she said.

"I was surprised at how similar we are," she said of her Spanish friends. "You don't need to speak the language well to communicate."

Blind food, big meals and delicacies such as octopus and squid made her happy to get home to a traditional diet of spicy Indian foods from her family's heritage — and an occasional meal at Taco Bell.



Leena Mangrukar, a Mercy High senior, at her home in Farmington Hills. The posters and ceramic bowl in the foreground are souvenirs from her trip to Spain.

RANDY BORNST/Staff Photographer

Heart transplant patient dies at 26

Randall Lee Stern, who made headlines on the sport pages while a member of Farmington High School's wrestling team, then later on the front pages as a successful heart transplant recipient, died of unknown causes Jan. 27 in Tampa, Fla. He was 26.

Services were held in Heenev-Sunquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Mr. Stern said his son "never looked better" than when he visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stern of Farmington Hills, early this winter. He had returned from a cruise in the Caribbean Islands a few days before his death.

He had just returned to his home from working out in a spa, recommended as a fitness routine following heart surgery, when he was overcome with a dizzy spell. A friend administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation while waiting for an ambulance, but Stern was pronounced dead on arrival at Tampa General Hospital.

Stern was the third person to receive a heart transplant in Tampa General. That was in August 1985. He had "a remarkably smooth recovery," doctors said, that allowed him to leave the hospital after 28 days.

STERN WAS born Feb. 22, 1960, in Morgantown, W. Va. In 1978, he graduated from Farmington High School with high honors and as a member of the all-state wrestling team. He graduated from Michigan State University in 1982 with a degree in business administration.

loan officer for Southeast Bank of Florida in Tampa from 1984 until his death.

Stern, as well as several family members, became members of NOTE (National Organization Transplant Enlightenment) after his surgery. The organization provides financial and emotional support to recipients of human organ transplants and their families.

Last year, Stern raised \$40,000 to help a woman in need of a heart transplant through the organization. The family requests memorials in his name be sent to: NOTE, P. O. Box 25478, Tampa, Fla. 33622.

In addition to his parents, Stern is survived by his wife, Christine Morl-Stern, of Tampa; his twin brother, Ron of Tampa; his brother, Michael of Farmington; and his sister, Debbie Mense of Alexandria, Va.

GET OUT OF THE DARK.
The Consumer Information Catalog will enlighten you with over 200 factual, consumer-oriented publications. Many are free and all are helpful. Get your free copy by writing —

Consumer Information Center
Dept. TD, Pueblo, Colorado 81099
U.S. General Services Administration

For your Valentine

"ROMANCE BASKET" ... A dozen Sweetheart Roses and Baby's Breath in a white ceramic handled basket. ... \$32.50

"CUPID'S DELIGHT" ... A styled arrangement of colorful fresh flowers with a red glittered heart. ... \$16.50 to \$30.00

"VALENTINE MUGALOOON" ... Fresh flowers in a Valentine Mug with a Valentine Mylar Balloon attached. ... \$23.50

"HAVE-A-HEART BUD VASE" ... A red metal Heart Bud Vase with red Roses, Baby's Breath & Candy Hearts. ... \$12.50 to \$18.50

"LOVE IN BLOOM" ... A styled arrangement of red Anthurium, the heart-shaped flower of love from Hawaii. ... \$15.00 to \$30.00

"ROSES AND SWEETS" ... A vase of Red Roses and Baby's Breath with a box of assorted Chocolates. ... \$31.50

Teleflora's "VALENTINE BEAR BOUQUET" ... Fresh flowers arranged in a red heart container hugged by a white plush bear in red top hat and tails. ... \$26.50 & up

PREMIUM ROSES
Gift Boxed or beautifully Arranged in a Vase. ... and very reasonably priced. ... from \$30.00 a dozen.

FTD
"SWEETHEART BOUQUET"
Pastel flowers in a decorated porcelain Powder Jar with Lid. ... \$25.00 & Up

Harry Miller
FLOWERS

DEARBORN 1480 Michigan Ave. 581-2328
DETROIT 181 Woodward Ave. 961-4503
FARMINGTON HILLS 2789 Orchard Lake Rd. 553-4444

Now! Denture Relines While-U-Wait!

only during speaking.

Pesis Family Dental Center
Call for free consultation 28800 W. Eight Mile Farmington Hills, MI 48024 (313) 478-1650

if you want to be a Farmington Observer carrier, please call 591-0500

Responsibility and how to budget. His money are two skills Brian feels he has acquired on his paper route.

Brian is the son of Michael and Lorraine Thomas. He has one sister, Luanne, 17.

He hopes to become an orthodontist.

His hobbies are basketball, baseball, football and collecting baseball cards. He is a member of the Our Lady of Sorrows football, basketball and baseball teams.

The Thomas P. Baahan Jr. High School eighth grader's favorite subjects are history and math. He received first honors in school for two years.

Brian Thomas, 13, has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.

He has delivered the Observer in Camelot Courts subdivision since December 1985.

He has been named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for February.