



PAINT THE TOWN BOWS MADE — Volunteers at the Greater Hazleton Senior Citizens Center have made 300 bows for the Paint the Town Red White and Blue 2000 Project. Working on the project, are, from left: Dora Charnigo, volunteer; Joann Yannuzzi, executive director, Civic Partnership; Louise D. ...

Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership awarded Townie award for 1999 project

The Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership has been awarded a Townie Award for its Paint the Town Red, White, and Blue Project 1999.

Jo-Ann Yannuzzi, Executive Director of the Civic Partnership accepted the plaque at the PA Downtown Center's annual conference in York on June 6, 2000.

The Townie was presented to the Partnership in the category of Promotions and Public Relations.

Other state winners won in the categories of organization excellence, physical improvement and design, economic restructuring, and special events. The awards are presented for outstanding achievement in downtown areas by the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. The PA Downtown Center promotes and supports the vitality of PA's traditional downtowns and neighborhood business districts.

The goal of Paint the Town Red, White, and Blue was to increase community pride by displaying flags, decorations, and paintings of red, white, and blue flowers, beginning in the downtown and continuing city and into the

adjoining communities of the Greater Hazleton Area.

Throughout the downtown and the surrounding towns, boroughs, and townships, volunteers prepared the soil and planted flowers in various hues of red, white and blue.

Bows and buntings adorned homes and businesses and the streets displayed red, white, and blue stars.

The downtown merchants fully supported the project and their excitement overflowed to residents and other businesses. The success and enthusiasm of the project carried over to 2000.

Paint the Towns Red, White, and Blue 2000 began in March under Chairperson Eileen Whitaker. Donations of flowers for Paint the Towns Red, White, and Blue 2000 were received from Boscov's, the Flower Tents, Big K-Mart, Lowe's and Walk-Mart; paint and rollers from Hazleton Painting and Wagner Bros. Hardware; lumber from Conyngham Builders; the ribbon for the bows from Berwick Industries and delivered by committee member Larry Crawford. Senior Citizens volunteers, the Hazleton Housing Authority residents, Keystone Job Corps,

Mary Jane Ricco, as well as committee members Alice Kender, Pat and Jerry Matteo, Renee Cherico, Ellie Whitaker, Debbie Pavuk, Karen Wallace, and Jow and Yannuzzi created hundreds of bows. In addition, George Ator, Penny Cannella, Monica Barletta, Lena and Todd Kotansky, Ann and Jim Schnieder planted Memorial Park. The Key Club of HAHS, under director Rick Marchetti, painted all the signs throughout the area. The Youth Service Agency assisted in additional plantings at City Hill and downtown Hazleton. Empire Cleaners donated their services for the cleaning and pressing of the two buntings hanging in Memorial Park. Broad Street became colorful with the planting of flowers by Carl Frankel and Anne Coyle. The committee is continuing to construct bows for those residents and businesses desiring to hang a bow on their homes or business. For further information, please call Yannuzzi, 455-1508.

Funfest received the Townie Award in the category of Special Events in 1999 at the Downtown Center conferences in Wilkes-Barre.

6-16-00