



Members of the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership's Scholarship Committee are, from left: Jo-Ann Yannuzzi, executive director, Civic Partnership; Gina Corazza, Human Resources Generalist, Summit MFG.; Jack St. Pierre, Scholarship Committee chairman; Martha Herron, Community Development director, PPL Corp. and president of the Civic Partnership; and Pat Purvis, First Federal Bank, vice president and Human Resource manager, and committee member.

Greater Hazleton Civic Partnership accepting applications for 2000-2001 scholarship program

The Greater Hazleton Civic Partnership's annual scholarship program is set to begin accepting its first applicants for the inaugural 2000-2001 scholastic year.

With the help of local manufacturers and businesses, funding is beginning to stream in, making the long plans for a scholarship a reality.

The primary purpose in establishing the scholarship is to keep our young people in the area after graduation by providing the chance to qualify for well-paying job opportunities without necessarily having to have a four-year college degree.

The scholarships are available for students already enrolled in post-secondary technical programs such as Industrial Maintenance Technician, Electronics, Electro-Mechanical and similar programs offered by any institu-

tion such as Luzerne County Community College, Penn State University, Penn College of Technology, Johnson Technical Institute or any other similar institution anywhere in the country.

Students beginning their second year of a two-year program or entering the third year of a four-year program are eligible to apply.

One-year technical programs will also be considered if any candidate presents such a program.

Scholarship awards will be \$3000 annually, depending on the continued financial support of local manufacturers, businesses, foundations, banks and potential individual benefactors.

It is hoped that several scholarships can be awarded annually.

The initial thrust into the technical area is the result of indus-

try's severe shortage of trained, qualified maintenance technicians to fill numerous high-paying job openings in a variety of manufacturing settings.

The sophistication of today's manufacturing equipment requires highly competent, well-trained technicians to set up and keep this machinery running in top condition.

These well-paying careers are becoming increasingly popular and necessary to all industries.

The major requirement for a scholarship recipient is that he or she must sign a contract with the Civic Partnership to remain employed in the Hazleton area for a minimum of three years after graduation.

Manufacturers have expressed a willingness to not only hire graduates, but also to provide summer and vacation employment opportunities to recipients of Partnership scholarships.

Applications can be obtained from the Partnership office in the Chamber of Commerce suite on the third floor of the Can-Do building, or from the Hazleton Job Service office.

Further information is available from the Partnership director, JoAnn Yanuzzi, by calling 455-1508.

The deadline for applications is June 15.

Awards will be made as soon as possible after the close of application acceptance and certainly no later than mid-August.