



Top academic students from four area schools were honored at the Academic Achievement Banquet. Shown at the banquet are, front row: Tiffany Bellitts. Back row, from left: Bob Skulsky, executive director Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership; Michele Bellitts, mother of Jason; Jack St. Pierre, chairman of the GHACP Scholarship Committee; Jason Bellitts, scholarship recipient; Terry Moran Bauder, chairperson of the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership; and John Gouldstone, committee member.

Civic Partnership committee announces first recipient of \$3,000 annual scholarship

The Greater Hazleton Civic Partnership Scholarship Committee announced the recipient of its first \$3,000 scholarship which was presented to Jason Bellitts of Treskow at the annual Chamber of Commerce Academic Awards banquet. Total value of the Scholarship is \$6,000 over two years.

The scholarship, the culmination of an 18-month project aimed at creating an annual scholarship for a deserving student pursuing a career in the technical skills area, is aimed at beginning to help to solve the Hazleton manufacturing community's shortage of trained skilled personnel.

The recipient is required to remain in good academic standing and to sign a contract with the Civic Partnership to return to Hazleton and remain employed in the Hazleton area for at least three years. If the manufacturing com-

munity continues to support the program financially, it is hoped that more than one scholarship can be given annually to further help alleviate the skilled personnel shortfall.

Jason is the son of Gary and Michelle Bellitts of Treskow and has a younger sister, Tiffany. He is a recent graduate of the Hazleton Area Career Center and will be pursuing an Associates degree in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning at Lehigh-Carbon Community College in the fall. While in school, Jason held jobs at Giant Foods and McAdoo Lumber to help finance his further education.

Anyone interested in learning more about the scholarship program or in making a contribution to the fund can contact Bob Skulsky at 570-455-1508 or at the Civic

Partnership office located within the CAN DO Building at 1 S. Church St. in Hazleton.