Bradford holds Homemaker's Day

DURELL - Over 100 homemakers left spring work behind to attend the annual Extension Homemakers Day at the Towanda Gun Club in Durell, May

The program, planned by members of the Home Economics Advisory Board-Cathy Bakalar, nutrition home economist, and Shirley Beard, home economistincluded a mixture of information on the Elder Guild which exhibited their crafts, a talk about cancer awareness by an oncology nurse, a speech by a volunteer from the Towanda Women's Center, Inc., and an appraisal of antiques by Tony Nard, local antique dealer.

Georgia Grison, director of Elder Guild, Inc. of Bradford County, stated that the Department of Aging survey reveals that the four county Northern Tier region, one-third of the older people live on below poverty level incomes, and 45% have marginal economic resources.

The Elder Guild was started as a cottage industry four years ago as a cooperative of senior citizens who pay \$2 a year dues to belong. They sell their crafts on a consignment basis to meet expenses of running the store.

Membership of the Guild is centers closer than Loudres presently 500 members and in addition to the store in Towanda, there is a store in Mansfield (Tioga County), and in Montrose (Susquehanna County). In the two years that the Towanda store has been opened, sales have doubled to a present \$24,000 a year.

The Department of Aging furnishes twenty other programs, including in-home volunteer services for older people, transportation, friendly visiting, an ombudsmen service for advocacy of patients in nursing homes, and

Marie Preston, R.N., head of the oncology floor at the Robert Packer Hospital in Sayre, Pennsylvania, thoroughly reviewed all the facts and myths about cancer, stating that a woman should know her own body well enough to know when there are unusual changes that persist. Early detection of cancer has a much better chance of recovery One person in five survive beyond five years in 1930, and in 1980, one in three was cured (Cured is considered five symptom free years.)

When asked about hospice care available in the county, Preston replied that there are no hospice Hospital near Binghamton, but people and volunteers working for the Bradford County Citizens Health Service in Towanda have been trained on this service

After a buffet luncheon, Toni Diantonio, a volunteer for the Towanda Womens Center, said that since the hot line to the Center was established in April of 1981, 175 people have called in.

Volunteers have been trained to answer the hotline call for help and provide support for women and teen-agers to work out their problems legally, attend support groups, find temporary homes, and many other services.

Eighty percent of the problems of abuse are caused by the use of drugs and alcohol, mostly by men who have never been able to control their anger, according to Diantonio. The Volunteer Center is based in North Towarda and can be reached by calling the Bradford County Emergency Dispatch Center 265-9101 or 265-5333

The last speaker was Tony Nard, owner of the North Branch Country Store in Milan. He stated that the popularity of antiques is due to the world changing so rapidly that people are looking to old objects



Shirley Beard, right, new home economist in Bradford County this year, looks over a picture scrapbook of antiques with Tony Nard, a local antique dealer. Nard was one of the speakers at the Bradford County spring homemakers day held recently in Durell

for stability. He appraised a large many future sewing classes, a variety of small antiques brought by the women guests

Beard closed the day by stating that there will be an upholstery workshop, a quilting workshop,

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newsletter on "Your Life Alone" for widowed and separated people. and two newsletters for new parents The next Homemakers Day is scheduled for a few weeks before Christmas-J B



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