

POST PHOTO/M.B. GILLIGAN

Bonnie Silvetti, left, and Shirley Ceitner helped Margaret Bakker welcomed guests and handed out nametags.

Land trust (continued from page 1)

have one square inch of developable land left. "We don't want

that to happen in Pennsylvania,"

said Ayers. The organization changed its name several years ago to reflect a broader focus. The NBLT now works with people and communities in the three counties where the north branch of the is a gateway to the largest por-Susquehanna River flows -Luzerne, Wyoming and Susquehanna. It mainly helps landowners by drafting a legal document to be permanently affixed to a deed. This conservation easement details the uses and activities prohibited on that land in perpetuity. This guarantees that the land will be forever protected according to the wishes of the

"A land trust can offer a third the back to serve as offices." party protection to land owners,' explained Will Conyngham, another original member. "It is the only type of organization that can do that."

According to information in the group's brochure, Pennsylvania lost one million acres of farmland and forest to development between 1992 and 1997. The state's top economic products are farming and tourism. Land trust members are looking for ways to preserve the landand attract tourists.

The NBLT is growing and now has about 400 members. In addition to educating people about sustainable growth and offering guidance for preserving family lands, they help expedite land use programs like the Luzerne and Wyoming County farmland preservation programs, assist municipalities with land use decisions, help sportsmen conserve their hunting grounds and

"We guide townships and mucan offer in ordinance writing so

12 crowd. The young players

were thrilled with anything they

won, whether it was a pack of

cards, a Barbie, or a Home De-

pot tool set. Everyone went

home happy and full of Christ-

mas cheer including the par-

as this are "a nice alternative to

door-to-door selling." Meeker

Mendygral graduates

Air Force Airman Justin T.

Mendygral has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio,

Texas. During the six weeks of

training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization,

and customs; performed drill and

ceremony marches, and received physical training and special

training in human relations. In

addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward

an associate degree through the

Community College of the Air

ents, who said fundraisers such all together. We'll profit well over

added, "They said they would cluding the freshman-sopho-

see us next year which is always more semi-formal dance.

Toy bingo

nice to hear.'

basic training

(continued from page 1)

state of New Jersey will not communities can develop wisely," said Avers.

The organization has also undertaken the reconstruction of the Noxen Railroad Depot, which was built in 1863, and stands along Bowman's Creek in Wyoming County. The project fits into their mission of preserving land and historical sites. It tion of State Gamelands in Pennsylvania. Noxen is surrounded by 100,000 acres of preserved land made up of gamelands, Ricketts Glen State Park and several private properties conserved through the land

"The station will serve as a museum and conservation center for the area," said Ayers. "We will have some railroad cars in

NBLT is also offering a new educational project for schools, scout groups and interested adult groups. EnviroScape is a watershed demonstration model complete with mountains, residential areas, sewage treatment facilities, a golf course and streams. Sprinkled cocoa turns into muddy rivers when the model is "rained" on with spray water bottles. The discussion and demonstration include information on the effects of pestiscapes that produce our food cides and fertilizers, land use and types of pollution and is a great way to show how everything we do affects the environ-

A Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener grant provides the funds necessary and Donna Thomas of Sweet Valley takes the environmental demonstration on the

For more information about this or any NBLT program or to become a member, call their office in Trucksville at 696-5545 nicipalities through expertise we or visit their new web page at

The Hunlock Creek Fire De-

partment helped the freshman

class keep costs down by lend-

ing the school their bingo ball

blower. "This was our largest

turnout and our biggest profit,"

Meeker said. "We spent like \$60

\$400." The money will be spent

on various class activities, in-

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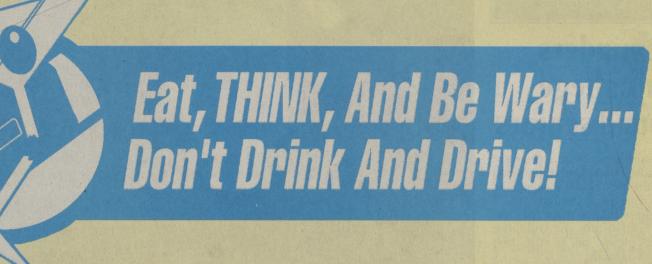
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If you're going to drink alcohol this holiday, plan ahead so you aren't behind the wheel. Stay where you are, arrange for a designated driver, call a cab or a friend just don't drive drunk.

And remember - Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk

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Holiday trash pickup schedule DAMA wishes to remind customers that there will be no collection of trash or recyclables on: New Years Day-Tuesday, Jan. 1

a 2001 graduate of Lake Lehman High School.

For both holidays, Tuesday collection will be on Wednesday. DAMA is pleased to announce there will be a no bag limit on trash through Monday, Dec. 31. The normal two bag limit will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2002.

Mendygral is the son of Jill Mendygral of Harvey's Lake, Pa. He is