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Co-op students go to work

Betty Ellsworth Birchwood Terrace

"How important is education?" was once a question Betty Ellsworth asked herself.

She felt she needed her grade 12 education so she could pursue a professional career. Betty always wanted to become involved in Geriatrics, which is working with elderly people.

Not only did Betty attend night school, she was also the oldest co-operative education student at Lake Superior High School. Betty's co-op was at Birchwood Terrace in the Activities department with Supervisor Jayne Santerre.

Betty's duties change daily. She was in close contact with the residents, running the tuck cart, collecting shopping lists, and running errands for the residents.

Her other duties include helping out with the various activities such as Bingo, playing cards, checkers, bringing the residents from their rooms to the cafeteria for lunch and just being an adult companion by being available for the residents to talk to.

Betty was an adult companion for the few residents who keep to themselves. She brings them from their rooms to the lobby to motivate them to become involved in activities with the other residents.

The fact she really enjoys the elderly was one reason Betty chose Birchwood for her job placement. But her main objective in choosing Birchwood Terrace was to find out first hand if she wanted to make a career out of this field of work.

It's working out so far as she

Mark Mannisto Ministry of Natural Resources

Mark Mannisto is presently working at the Ministry of Natural Resources in the Fish and Wildlife Department with supervisor Linda Ferguson. Mark will earn one credit following 120 hours of work at the MNR.

His duties are to help the conservation officers by doing odd jobs on the out board motors and the four wheelers, such as general tune ups.

Mark also stated the part of the co-op he enjoys the most is being outdoors. He also said there is also a little bit of work to be done inside. After he is finished his co-op, he plans to attend a Military College, then after college he would like to work for the government.

Not only has Mark learned how to tune up outboard motors and four wheelers, he has learned how to stock fish, what kinds of fish you can fish and what you cannot fish.

He has helped assist the MNR in stocking just under 100,000 fish. It was a new but different experience. Mark finds that now he has a greater appreciation for nature and its habitat.

How old is a moose and how you can tell its age, was another question that was answered through this placement. Mark has learned how to do an age card for moose, how their age is determined by doing a section on the

has discovered she likes all aspects of her co-op. She considers each resident as a "nice, beautiful person." Not only does she enjoy the residents, but she also enjoys all the staff she works with. She said they are, "a really enjoyable staff."

Betty feels a lot of satisfaction when she makes someone smile. Jayne also says that she can rely on Betty to follow up on activities. If Jayne were ever away she feels she could depend on Betty to be there.

Jayne also stated when, or if Betty misses a day, the residents always ask where she is because they really enjoy her company.

Not only was Betty the oldest co-op student, she is involved with the Red Cross as a home-maker.

Betty is also a housewife with

three supportive children.

When asked how her family felt about her going back to school, she said she had a lot of co-operation and support. The family accepted it.

During the first semester Betty was attending day courses. Surprisingly, her son Shane, who attends the same school, was not bothered by the fact his mother was going to the same school.

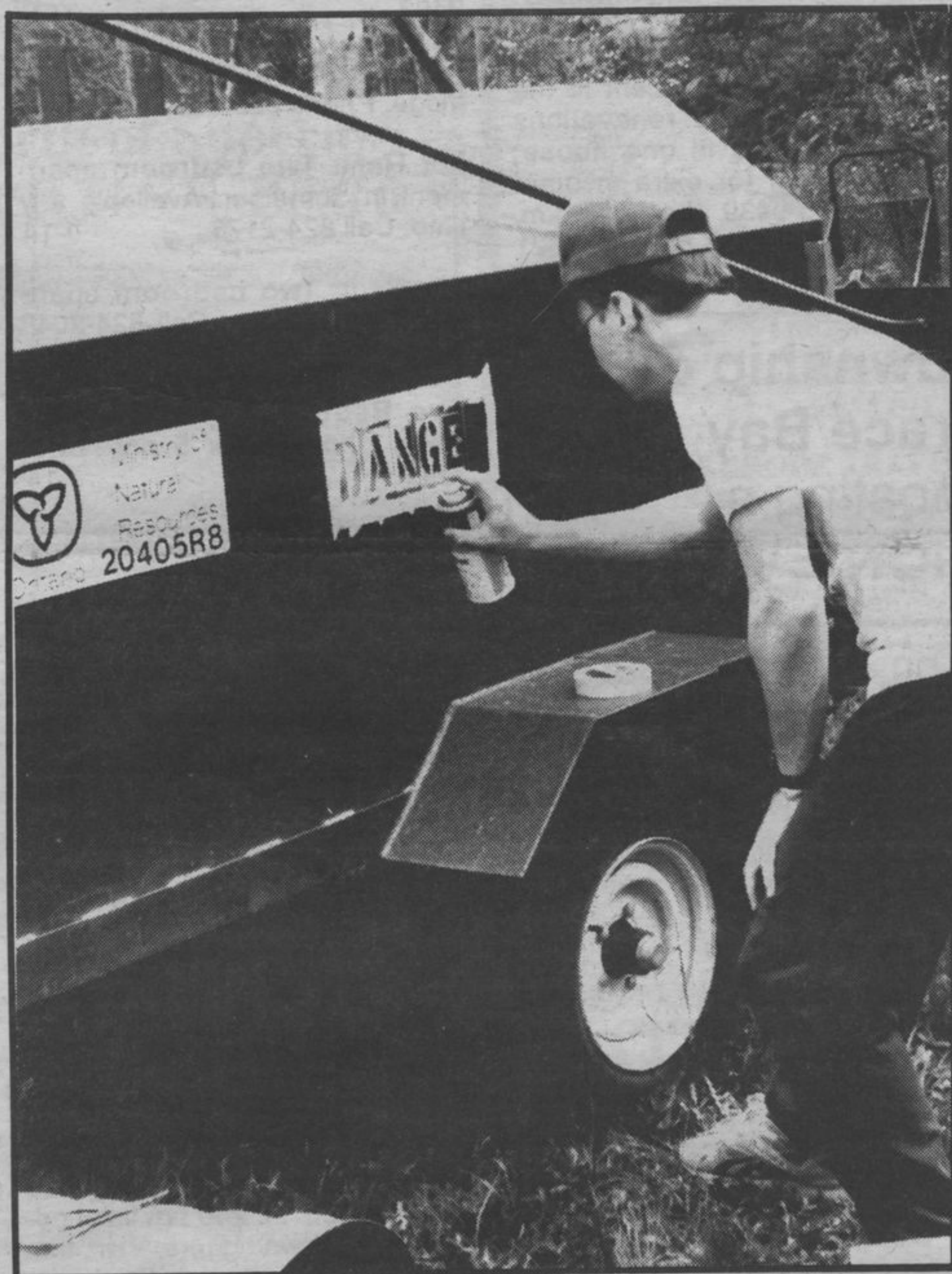
As well as family support, she said the teachers at the school helped a lot when she needed it. Betty added the students have been really good as well.

Betty has received one credit for the 120 hours of work that she put in at Birchwood Terrace.

Possibly even better, she has gained a valuable insight, as the result of hands on knowledge, about the career she is considering.



**Co-op Students
Feature
Stories & Photos by
Connie Sodaro**



"It is almost like counting the rings on the tree." Another way of telling how old the moose is by what is called the "wear-age" which is the appearance of the size of the jaw.

Mark has also learned how to outline the traplines and had to know where the trappers' areas are. He personally does not care for trapping because "it is not much of a challenge."

He also assisted in stocking the Caldwell Bay and Prairie Bay. The trips were made by ski doo. The yearlings were transferred in old milk canisters which are 7 to 8 gallons in size. His job was to

stay down at the hole and put the yearlings into the water.

When Mark is finished his co-op, he will be staying at the MNR and working there for the summer. He will then have to take a test for a Ministry license and learn how to do a circle check and drive properly. He will remain in the Fish and wildlife Department.

In addition, Mark said he really enjoys his placement and would highly recommend this for someone who does not really know what they would like to do.

"It gives you a chance to work both inside and outside."

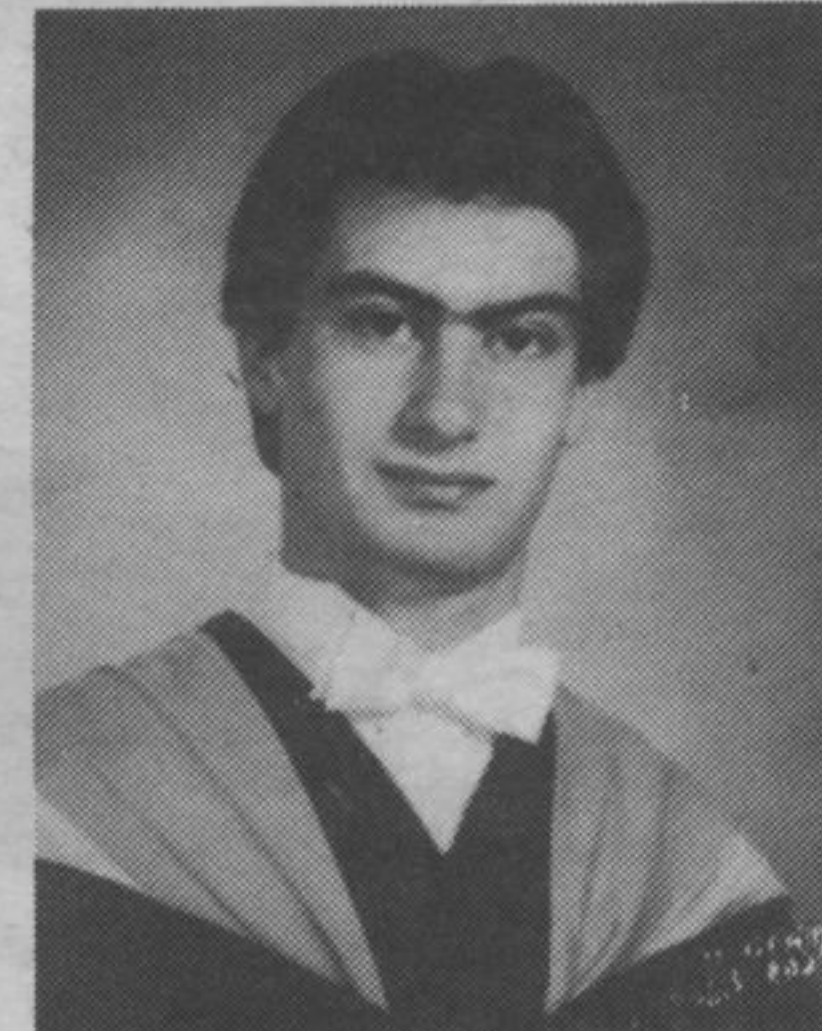
Graduation

Joe Caranci

Received his diploma in Engineering Physics at the May 26, 1989 Convocation at McMaster University, Hamilton Ontario.

Congratulations Joe on a job well done.

Tony & Felice Caranci



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