

# Alcohol cause of a lot of crime says corrections worker

by Darren MacDonald  
The News

Out of the 25 or so people assigned to Corrections Worker Mary Burnett, she says 85-90 per cent of them wouldn't be there if it wasn't for alcohol.

"The offense may have been assault, or it may have been public mischief, or it may have been vandalism," says Burnett, who lives in Rosspport. "But it wouldn't have happened if they hadn't been bombed."

Burnett has been a Corrections Officer—which she says involves basically the same duties as a probation officer—with a community corrections board under contract with the Ministry of Correctional Services for about seven years.

"I got interested just because I was interested in social issues," she says. "There had been some vandalism in Rosspport, so I sat on the corrections board to see how the system helped these people—or didn't—and to

find out how to prevent these things from happening again."

A corrections worker job became available, and Burnett says she applied for it and got it.

"We're based in Nipigon, and I'm under their supervision," she says.

Her interest in social issues stems from a political background, Burnett says. Her father was the Reeve of her hometown of Elora, Ont., which is near Guelph.

"But it was when I became involved in the women's movement that I really became politicized," she says.

She was involved in a group called Project Mayday, which in 1982 lobbied for a transition house for abused women, she says.

"There was no place for an abused women to go at the time," she says.

The group also did a survey of the way women in single industry towns view their lives, she says.

"We found out a lot of little things," she says. "Like side-



Corrections worker Mary Burnett

walks—trying to push a baby carriage on the side of the gravel because there were no sidewalks."

In her current job, Burnett has amassed enough qualifications and training that she's now certified as an addictions counselor.

"I went off and took a whole bunch of courses on addiction," she says. "And now I have a certificate that says I'm part of the Addiction

Intervention Association."

In addition to dealing with people on probation, her job also involves making presentations to secondary and public schools and other groups on alcohol abuse.

"I think the last presentation I did was for the Catholic Women's League," she says.

As far as her experience with the justice system, she says it does a pretty good job of fulfilling its role.

"I haven't seen any great irregularity in it," she says. "I think it works."

That most people in the area respect the law helps, she says.

"In the seven years I've worked in the system, I've seen maybe four or five people who I consider criminals," she says. "The rest are just people who are in trouble with the law."

# Land use plans have evolved since the day of the lone ranger

by Darren MacDonald  
The News

The Rosspport Islands Management Group is an example of citizen's empowerment, and is the end result of a process that has been developing for decades, says Will Robinson of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

In the MNR's first incarnation, the Ontario Forestry Branch (OFB), Chief Rangers would decide on a case by case basis

whether or not you would be allowed to use crown lands, Robinson says.

"Planning was based on what you happened to look like that day when you walked into the office," he says. "It was based on the Ranger's gut instinct."

By the 1960s, the OFB had become the Ministry of Lands and Forests, and land use plan-

ning was in its embryonic stages, Robinson says. "Crown land was laid out into blocks," he says. "In DD1 and DD2 zones, there would be things like forestry and mining, but those zones were never opened up for cottages, commercial out-post camps and commercial

tourism." In other the other "open" zones, Robinson says that basically everything was allowed. "It was an attempt to plan, but again, the reasoning just wasn't there," he says.

"And we found that times were changing, and that people were demanding a much more intense look at what happens on crown land."

In the early 1970s, Lands and Forests gave way to the MNR, which came up with the Ontario Strategic Land Use Plan (OSLUP), a document that set out general guiding

principles for the whole province.

"And then they went down to a regional plan," Robinson says.

A plan was drawn up to cover all of the northwest which, while more relevant to the area than OSLUP, was still fairly broadly based.

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## W. OZ WAS WOW I

Once again, Terrace Bay was treated to a delightful weekend of theatrical entertainment when the Wizard of Oz played to sold-out crowds. This year's production was truly a community event, with both elementary and high school youngsters from Schreiber & Terrace Bay participating. The acting was fine, the singing was great, the band was grand, and the backstage crew kept everything running like clockwork.

Our thanks to the Alexanders, Kim & Howard, for their long hours of hard work in rehearsing & staging the play. Your efforts paid off, guys -- Oz was a smash!

And a note of special thanks to Jim Culverhouse for coming out of retirement, all the way from Sault Ste. Marie to play in the band.

Gerry & Cathy Withers

## Thank You

On behalf of the Schreiber Beginner Hockey Players I would like to thank the following for their generous donations and personal time given towards making the annual Times News Tiny Tots Tournament a success this year: Schreiber Food Market, Spadoni Bros., Cebrario's Hardware, Beno Insurance, C.P. Rail, O.P.P. Schreiber Detachment, Voyageur Gift Shop, Local 665 U.P.I.U., Ian Fummerton Fuels, G. Figliomeni & sons, Minnova Mines, Northern Store, Bank of Montreal, Township of Schreiber, Dearborn Chemicals, Old Dutch Chips, Bay Beverages, Kimberly Clark, Mikus Fuels, M.N.R., Schreiber Recreation, Michelle Godin, Joyce Gauthier, Mike and Edith Cosgrove, Trichilo's Trophies & Engraving, Hockey parents who volunteered at door and clock workers, Dave, Stanley, Philip, Darren and Donald who refereed, and the staff of the kitchen. A very special thank you to the Times News for their continued support for without them this tournament would not exist.



Thank you very much.  
Ted Speziale  
Tournament Organizer

