

■ **POLICING:** Youth to help local police force

Ten students chosen for Youth in Policing program

Out of 65 applications, 10 local students were chosen to participate in the Youth in Policing Initiative. The Gananoque Police Force received a grant of \$34,000 to pay for the program. Each week two members of the team will write a report on the week's activities.

OLIVIA GUINEY AND NATASHA MUTTOO

Special to the Reporter

During our first week working as Youth in Policing Initiative Students (YIPI Students) we had a lot of fun; it was a very busy week with CPR training, Canada Day, Huck Finn Derby, Craft Fair, Rib Fest and River Rat Rally.

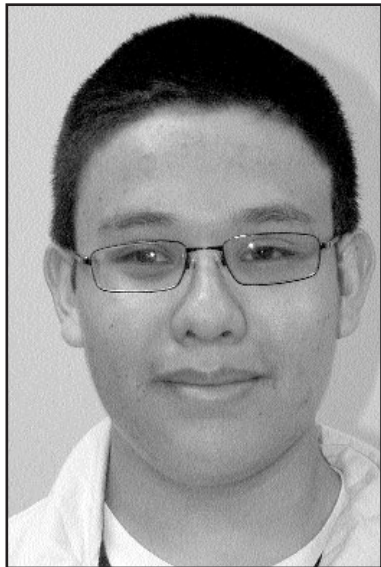
First we had our CPR class, with Cecil Dixon as our instructor, it was unlike any normal boring class. It had everyone enthused about learning emergency CPR and first aid. It was unanimous that everyone enjoyed his teaching styles.

On Canada Day both A and B platoons were helping Sue Smith and Terry (husband) set up and run events in the town park. Some things we participated in included: the craft table, using the helium tank to fill balloons, decorations and setup in the morning, and filling sand bags for fireworks. Through this experience we learned to appreciate the amount of work that goes into organizing events such as these.

Some of the YIPI students working at the Rib Fest (A Platoon) got to participate in the Huck Finn Derby. At the

Huck Finn Derby there were lots of great costumes to see and many eager little anglers. It was kind of a smelly job but we still enjoyed it. We also participated in the Rib Fest (A Platoon) and the River Rat Rally (B Platoon) the past weekend. During the Rib Fest the YIPI students assisted with many different jobs such as; 50/50 ticket sales, working in the food tent, the raffle in the park with the craft fair, and the best job ever garbage duty! While the other group down at the River Rat Rally kept busy too. They spent the weekend working with security, doing registration, raffle and parking.

It has been a terrific first week. Everyone worked very hard and really enjoyed what they were doing. We hope that this will be a good start to a wonderful summer.



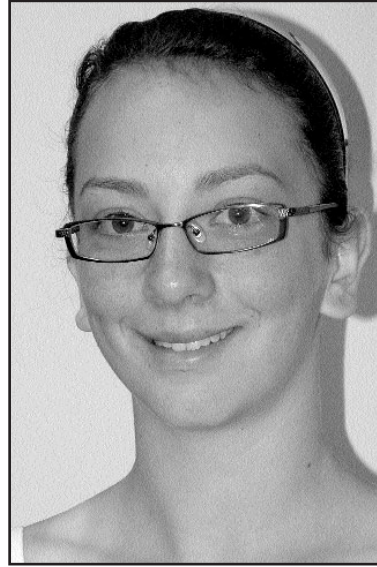
Manny Belsham

The Grade 12 student attends Regiopolous Notre Dame and is hoping his experience with the program helps him become more comfortable talking to people. "I'm looking forward to working in the town," the 16-year-old adds, "and gaining more confidence in myself." Belsham enjoys reading, playing guitar and spending time with family.



Nick Burwood

The recent Thousand Islands Elementary School graduate is moving on to Gananoque Secondary School this fall. "I've want to be a police officer since kindergarten... This is a great way to get involved. I really want to help organize community events. It will help build my confidence. Burwood, 14, enjoys playing in his band and sports.



Ashley Elder

The Linklater Public School graduate is moving on the Gananoque Secondary School in the fall. "I was surprised to be picked," the 14-year-old said. "I'm good at handling situations and keeping calm. That's what I bring to this... I want to learn to interact with people." Elder enjoys drawing and singing in her spare time.



Olivia Guiney

The 16-year-old Gananoque Secondary School student is excited about the job and is leaning towards law enforcement as a career. "It sounded like a fun job and I'm hoping to acquire more people skills. I have a positive attitude and am able to approach people." Guiney also enjoys skiing and swimming.



Elizabeth Jeroy

The 15-year-old attends Gananoque Secondary School and said she is interested in law. Jeroy said this is a "unique job" and she brings a leadership quality to it. "I'm really looking forward to going to the events and helping people out. I want to show what Gananoque has to offer." Jeroy enjoys beading, acting and singing.



Alayna Langfield

The 17-year-old attends Gananoque Secondary School and is going into Grade 12 in the fall. "I wanted to get a job around town so this was perfect," she said, adding she likes to help people and is excited about the opportunity. "I really wanted to get out in the community and work." In her spare time she likes scrapbooking.



Rebecca Micallef

The 17-year-old attends Gananoque Secondary School and is going into Grade 12. She is one of the team leaders. "I'm excited about being a team leader," she said, adding she wants to become a police officer. "I really want to learn what a police officer does." Micallef also enjoys cross country, soccer, curling and acting.



Natasha Muttoo

The 15-year-old is going into Grade 10 at Gananoque Secondary School. She is looking at working in the crime scene investigation field in the future. "I want to build my people skills and also want this to put on my resumé... I'm excited about this." In her spare time Muttoo enjoys sports and computer animation.



Drew Phillips

The St. Joseph School graduate is attending Regiopolous Notre Dame in the fall and said he applied for the job to help around the town. "I'm very active and really want to help people. I excited about going to town events and riding in police cars." Phillips enjoys ball hockey, golf, swimming, boating and all water sports.



Sara Vidal

The St. Joseph School graduate is moving on to Gananoque Secondary School this fall. The 14-year-old heard about the job at school and applied. "I became interested in policing after the VEP program in Grade 6... I can be a good friend to people. I like to be co-operative and active." She also enjoys music, singing and sports.