


The Newsletter of the
**Brantford and District Association
 for Community Living**

**48 Years of
 Building Community**

1952 - 2000

Images



24th Edition 1,000 Circulation Fall 2000

A LESSON FOR US ALL

Seneca has been participating in the Brantford and District Association for Community Living's School to Work Transition Program for the past year. During this time, he graduated from Tollgate Technological Skills Centre where he was very proud to have received his Life Skills Certificate.



One of Seneca's school placements was at Lorne & Cindy's Food Basics on King George Road. Seneca really enjoyed this placement and the staff at Food Basics loved having him there. When Seneca was asked what he would like to do now that he is finished school, he said that he wanted to work at Food Basics.

When Lorne at Food Basics was approached, he was more than happy to have Seneca back in the store. Seneca was willing to work on a volunteer basis one afternoon per week, with the hope that there was the possibility of a paid position later on.

Seneca started back to work in July. He was

given his own staff shirt and name tag that he proudly wears to work every Friday afternoon. Seneca is responsible for stocking and organizing the dairy products and cart retrieval. He is an exceptional worker who does his best every time he works.

One staff commented to me that Seneca works harder than any other staff in the store. This statement was wonderful for Seneca to hear, as well as myself. Even though he is not being paid, he does the best job he can because he wants to, not because he has to. Seneca should be an example to us all. Keep up the great work Seneca.

Michelle Job, Program Assistant

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Ten years ago, this July, Seneca Henhawk began his employment at Food Basics, King George Road location in Brantford. Seneca began his job at Food Basics as a co-op student through Tollgate Technological Skills Centre and after graduation from high school he approached the manager of the store for an employment opportunity. Seneca had proven his skills and work ethic as a student and was offered a position working in the dairy department. Seneca takes a lot of pride in the work that he does every Friday and Saturday and says the dairy department just doesn't look the same when he's not there. Seneca's favourite job in the dairy department is stocking the milk fridges, this job requires him to check the expiry dates, rotate the stock and assist the customers. Another favourite part of Seneca's job is to have a coffee break with his co-workers.

Bill Balazs, the store manager of Food Basics, says that Seneca has had a positive influence on his co-workers, and he's seen many come and go. Having Seneca on staff not only provides him with an extremely reliable employee with a strong work ethic, it has also created awareness and an acceptance of differences among the staff. Bill says he wishes more of his employees were like Seneca; he truly enjoys his work and wants to be there, he has a great work ethic.

Working at Food Basics, Seneca has also established a consistent presence with other local

establishments in the strip mall. He is a regular at, The Beat Goes On, where he spends much of his paycheque on one of his passions, music. Seneca is also well known at the Little Caesars in the plaza, where he often buys his lunch while at work.

Seneca has made a lot of friends over the years while working at Food Basics and has seen many co-workers come and go. Recently, Seneca celebrated his thirtieth birthday and the store had a small celebration to help mark this milestone in Seneca's life.

