First woman appointed

Conservationists go coed

Staff photo: ED BAS

"Rathryn Bezotte was following in
her family's footsteps when she
became a conservation officer with the
state Department, of Natural
Resources (DNR) last year.

She also broke a barrier in the for-merly male-dominated agency. Ms. Bezotte is the first woman con-servation officer for the DNR. It was a male who suggested she apply for the prestition.

"My father, John, is with the DNR as area supervisor in Marquette. He told me the department was going to hire a new officer and that I should apply," she said. One of her brothers, John, is an equipment operator for the DNR forestry division at Sault Ste. Marie.

Even though Ms. Bezotte was familiar with the work involved, it was no easy task for her to get the job. She and 5,000 others took a civil service test. Only after scoring high on that and going through interviews and

Cassidy-Weber

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Cassidy, furmerly of Southfield, now living in Japan, announce the engagement of their daughter Catherine Ann to Robert Michael Weber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Weber of Saginaw. The bride-elect, a resident of Ann Arbor was graduated from Southfield High School in 1973 and from the University of Michigan in 1977. She is employed at the graduate library at U-M.

Her flance was graduated from

M. Her fiance was graduated from Michigan State University in 1976 and is employed as an English teacher at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor.

A July wedding is planned.



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Naser-Massab

servation officers around the state.

MARCH 5 WAS when Ms. Bezotte came to Oakland County where she's responsible for state-owned land south of Ms9 (north of South Boulevard or Twenty Mile Road). She works out of the DNR district headquarters for Oakland, Wayne, Macornh, St. Clair and Monroe counties.

She wears contentation officer bedge 157 and a uniform identical to the ments, just tailored more. She said she applied for the job because of her low of the outdoors. The said she applied for doors. The said she applied for doors. The said she applied for doors. The said she is a possible of the outdoors. The Ms are the said in the Upper Peninsaid. She's a comping and bicycling enthusiast and has a lasting interest in a late of the said of t

art. In fact, she spent 4½ years at Northern Michigan University in Marquette majoring in art. "Now it's a hobby," said the 25 year-old Ms. Bezotte. "I do three dimensional ceramics, metal

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Naser of Arden Park Street, Farmington, announce the engagement of their daughter, Helen Ann, to Charles George Massab, son of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Massab of Mark Lane,

George B. Massau G. Machinel Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Harrison High School and her fiance graduated from Stevenson High School.

They plan a June wedding in St. Mary Orthodox Church of Livonia.

background investigations for a year was she hired.

Then her training involved eight weeks in police work and 12 weeks in the field, working with other con-servation officers around the state.

work and jewelry making." She never graduated from college.

"What would I have done with a bachelor's in fine arts?" she asked. Instead, she left school and became a branch manager for a hardware store even though, she knew nothing about hardward and lumber. "I learned about the business from the beautiful to the day, and when she went on a two week vacation that extended into a three month sailing trip in the Bahamas. While crewing the sailibact with friends, she received her application for the civil service lest. Her life has never been the same.

NOW INSTEAD of working 9 to 5 in

NOW, INSTEAD of working 9 to 5 in

NOW, INSTEAD of working 9 to 5 in a lumber store up north, she's on call 24 hours a day to help citizens and park supervisors maintain DNR regulations.

"I'm responsible with enforcing all the Michigan natural resources laws. I, and the other three officers in Oakland County, cam make arrests and issue tickets. I help parks enforce the cultes if they need my help."

Ms. Bezotte mostly works at parks in Highland and at Pontiac and Proud lakes.

Her husises casens the still it for

In the control of the ed species."

gered species."

Paper work also takes up a large portion of her working hours. She fills out reports and prosecutions out of her Waterford Township home. She has to read to keep up with the laws that change every few months.

Ms. Bezotte does find time for lei-



KATHRYN BEZOTTI

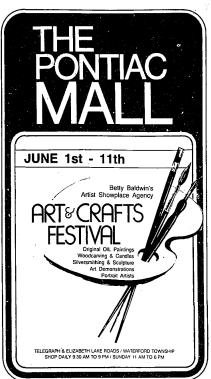
NATHEW BEJOHT

Sure. She dabbles with her art, reads "Andubon" and "National Wildlife," and explores her new home grounds. Though she's an Upper Peninsula lover, she's beginning to enjoy heit in the "soulf." Sure is a mused by some natural differences in the land, however. "The lakes here are much different from Marquette. People here live all over the lakes. In Marquette which is on Lake Superior you find lots of beach with even the propel. Here it's just the opposite."

Ms. Bezotte doesn't think her being Ms. Bezotte doesn't think her being

with few people. Here it's just the opposite."

Ms. Bezotte doesn't think her being a woman conservation officer is unusual. It's the type of job, she said, any qualified person could hendle. But her working in the lower pentirsula, where people are familiar with women law enforcement officials, is a silent benefit.



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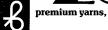
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