

Youth at risk get skills they need

Jobs program offers ‘glimmer of hope’

Anam Latif, Record staff

KITCHENER — Amanda Bygrave is known as the soup queen.

The 19-year-old chops vegetables with finesse and knows how to substitute ingredients when she’s out of others.

“I just really like to make soup,” the bubbly teen said. “You can do so much with it.”

Over a month ago, the extent of Amanda’s knowledge about cooking soup was tearing the wrapper off a microwaveable cup.

Now she can whip up a mean butternut squash — the soup that sealed her claim to the regal title.

Amanda is one of 14 young people in an employment program at Onerooft, a local non-profit that offers services to youth at risk of homelessness.

Since 2008, the program known as “social enterprise effecting social action in Waterloo Region” (SEE-SAW) has helped youth who face barriers finding employment.

Through Lunchbox, a catering service, and Street Designs, a screen-printing project, the program teaches youth transferable skills.

The eight-week paid training program offers a “glimmer of hope” for youth who have trouble finding work, said program co-ordinator Kandice Seymour.

“It’s awesome, because youth feel like they are a part of something ... it’s setting them up for success.”

It also helps them save money toward



Brittany Lightowlers, 20, left, and Amanda Bygrave, 19, fold T-shirts at Onerooft Friday.

MATHEW MCCARTHY, RECORD

long-term goals like housing, she added.

The program is funded by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada and United Way.

After training at Onerooft, participants move on to 11-week work placements.

Amanda spends her days in the kitchen at Onerooft. She preps lunches for youth and assembles veggie trays, soups and sandwiches for customers.

But for those who aren’t keen on the kitchen, Street Designs is a little office at Onerooft where youth can learn about graphic design and customer service.

The small-scale facility, just the size of a small room, offers customized merchandise made by participants using an in-house silkscreen printing machine.

“It’s allowing youth to use their creative talents and take ownership,” Seymour said.

They fill orders from bachelorette party shirts to uniforms for local sports leagues.

The enterprise is so popular that Seymour hopes to expand to a storefront in the near future, if funding becomes available.

Lunchbox and Street Designs doesn’t only teach young people at risk valuable skills and provide them with income, it also

brings in revenue that goes back into Onerooft’s services.

Youth who are at risk of being homeless face numerous challenges.

Some of them lack structure, routine and often face isolation, Seymour said.

There isn’t much of a routine when youth are just surviving on a daily basis, she added. But the employment program helps ground that sense of structure.

“It gives them a sense of purpose and meaning to their days,” she said.

Amanda was referred to the program from Argus Residence for Young People in Cambridge. She said she had a hard time finding a job.

“Before I came here I thought I wasn’t good enough and I couldn’t do anything right,” she added, her eyes welling up at the memory of how she once felt.

But she said working at Lunchbox has given her a sense of accomplishment and confidence she didn’t have before.

“It’s such a great learning experience ... it makes you feel good, like you’re part of a family.”

Each year the program employs 42 youth from Argus and Onerooft. Participants also receive certificates in food handling, CPR, first aid and Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS).

“When you come here you feel welcome and you realize it’s not you,” Amanda said.

“I come here every day and I’m devoted every day.”

For inquiries about orders from either Lunchbox or Street Designs, contact Seymour at 519-742-2788, ext. 204 or visit the website at www.onerooft.org.

alatif@therecord.com, Twitter: @LatifRecord

Highway 401 closure Saturday delayed

Record staff

CAMBRIDGE — Highway 401 won’t close Saturday night as originally planned in Cambridge.

Instead, it’s now expected to shut the next two Saturday nights as part of rebuilding the Fountain Street North bridge over the highway.

The 401 shutdown also means Highway 8 must close between Sportsworld Drive and the 401 for the overnight work.

Originally, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation planned to close the 401 at 10 p.m. Saturday and reopen it by 9 a.m. Sunday.

Workers replacing the 55-year-old bridge are awaiting new girders to hold up the new, longer bridge needed to make space for widening Highway 401 below it.

Girder delivery is now delayed until overnight Aug. 22-23, said Christina Martin, a ministry spokesperson.

New bridge deck sections are tentatively scheduled for installation overnight the following Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 29-30, when highways 8 and 401 must close again.

When the 401 is closed, traffic will detour along King Street, Sportsworld Drive, Maple Grove Road and Hespeler Road.

The new Fountain Street bridge remains on schedule to open for traffic in November.

Sopinka also a mentor

► **Judges** continued from B1

She’s also a mentor to law students — she’s founder of the Sopinka Cup Society, which organizes annual trial advocacy competitions across Canada — and was the creator of a one-day seminar for women charged with prostitution-related offences.

Sopinka, who could not be reached for an interview, is the daughter of the late John Sopinka, a former trial lawyer and Supreme Court judge who once played for the Toronto Argonauts and Montreal Alouettes.

Parry said whether he’s defending an accused or preparing to preside over criminal cases, it’s the human element of the law that draws him in.

“We deal with the core issues that drive us, whether it’s anger or love, greed or generosity. It’s those core human elements that we deal with every day in court. It’s compelling.”

gmercer@therecord.com, Twitter: @MercerRecord

Some urged byelection

► **Council seat** continued from B1

Seiling’s reasons for recommending Clarke include the fact that she ran for election.

Despite coming in fifth place, he said she gained considerable support from the public.

“The election was held recently,” he said. “She ran the election and she plays very close.”

Clarke was 416 votes behind Coun. Geoff Lorentz.

Tuesday’s meeting heard from members of the public who argued a byelection would be the most democratic option.

“As with any issue there is always two sides,” Seiling said.

Wetlaufer was elected to Region of Waterloo council on Oct. 27 and held his seat for six months before he died of a heart attack in June.

Regional staff estimated a byelection would cost the region between \$150,000 and \$270,000.

If council votes to appoint Clarke at the meeting on Aug. 19, she will assume the post on Aug. 25.

According to the Municipal Elections Act, should council move forward with a byelection instead, a nomination deadline must be within 60 days.

Voting day would be 45 days after nomination, which could put a vote on filling the vacancy into November or early December.

End of summer is expected to be a bit warmer

► **Hot** continued from B1

Normal temperatures for middle August in the Kitchener area are highs of 25 C and overnight lows of 13 C.

So far in 2015, there have been six days of 30 C or higher temperatures.

Normally, eight or nine 30 C days happen in the Kitchener area annually.

The average temperature so far in

August is 17.8 C. Normal for the month is 18.9 C.

As of 2 p.m. Friday, 54 millimetres of rain has fallen at the Breslau airport weather station.

The norm for August is 83.9 millimetres.

The end of summer is expected to be a bit warmer than normal.

So far this summer, there hasn’t been as much severe weather as Coulson

would usually expect. Six tornadoes have been confirmed in Ontario; normally there are 12.

The stormiest day so far was Aug. 2, when four twisters touched down.

“It’s definitely been a little bit quieter,” Coulson said.

“July and August tend to be our busiest months. Fortunately ... we haven’t seen as many storms as we would to expect to cause damage.”

Brighten the Future with the Excitement of Technology!

CraZ TechZ Technology Camp is a fun-filled, week-long interactive tech experience for kids 6-14. Learn skills to last a lifetime at one of our energetic, hands-on classes!

Summer Break Programs:

- Video Game Creation (Flash or Game Maker)
- Animation Creation
- Digital Scrapbooking
- Interactive Website Creation
- Computer Programming
- Over 16 Programs to Choose from!

Camps located in Kitchener & Waterloo. Programs Start at **\$169**

CraZ TechZ

Learn more: **519-571-7464**
www.craztechz.com

R0013381703

Harmony Lunch Turns 85!

Show your Harmony Spirit...

Bring your family in to celebrate with ours. Tell us how many generations of your family have been enjoying Harmony burgers and receive a free keepsake. Limit one per person.

Open All Summer!

Dine In Or Take Out
90 King St N., Waterloo
Mon. - Wed. 6am - 7pm,
Thurs. - Sat. 6am - 8pm

519-886-4721
harmonylunch.cedarcreek.ca
Like us on Follow us on

R0013384707

Trinity Village

The Community That Treats You Like Family

Adult Day Program

- Therapeutic Recreation
- Nutritional Lunches
- Social Activities and Interaction
- Trained Staff
- Offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to 1:00pm

Call **519-893-6320 ext. 235** • **www.trinityvillage.com**
2727 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener

R0013384617

Life Is Good... Pets Make It Better!

LINCOLN VILLAGE
Animal Hospital

AAHA
ACCREDITED
The Standard of Veterinary Excellence

Cat Friendly Practice

New Manager Same Caring Vet!

Let us show you how we'll love YOUR pets like crazy!

370 University Ave. E. Suite 101, Waterloo
519.746.7557
www.lvah.ca • lvahcrew@lvah.ca

R0013389929

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF UNION GAS LIMITED

Union Gas Limited has applied for approval to change its gas commodity, storage and transportation rates effective January 1, 2016.

Learn more. Have your say.

Union Gas Limited has applied to change its rates to better reflect how it supplies natural gas to its customers. The proposed changes include the following:

- A change in the reference price used to set rates on a quarterly basis for a majority of its customers; and
- A change to how it allocates costs to the different types of customers that it serves.

An average residential customer would see the following annual bill impact, but these impacts would only start in 2018:

Residential Customer – Service Area	Approximate Bill Impact
Southern Ontario (Windsor to Hamilton)	Decrease of \$20
Northern Delivery Area (North Bay to Kapuskasing)	Increase of \$26
All Other Delivery Areas	Decrease of \$1.50 – \$51.50

Other customers in Union Gas Limited’s service area, including businesses, will also be affected.

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will hold a public hearing to consider the application filed by Union Gas.

We will question Union Gas on the case. We will also hear arguments from individuals and from groups that represent the customers of Union Gas. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide whether to approve the changes that Union Gas has requested in this application.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process.

- You can review the application filed by Union Gas on the OEB’s website now.
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing.
- You can become an active participant (called an intervenor). Apply by **August 25, 2015** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB’s decision and its reasons on our website.

LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is **EB-2015-0181**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file letters or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please select the file number **EB-2015-0181** from the list on the OEB website: **www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/notice**. You can also phone our Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings – oral and written. The OEB will determine at a later date whether to proceed by way of a written or oral hearing. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **August 25, 2015**.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and e-mail address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.

This hearing will be held under section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998 c.15 (Schedule B).

Ontario Energy Board / Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario