

Students get tuition help from store

By Mandy Larade

Four dollars for a bag of clothing is a steal, some might say.

This past week, shoppers in Belleville were able to jump on this sale at Belleville's Thrift Store.

The thrift store, which is located in Hilden Square on Sidney Street, and has been active and running for about nine months now, is a non-profit organization to benefit Belleville Christian School and is owned and managed by Tineke Bouma.

"The purpose of the store is to raise money for tuition assistance because I feel bad that there's families who would love their children to have Christian education but can't afford it," Bouma explains.

Belleville Christian School is one of many private Christian institutions in Canada.

"It's always been a struggle because it's fairly expensive. Tuition is fairly high. It's difficult for people to make that."

Although she recognizes that there are many distinguished and well-operated public schools in Canada, Bouma says that the most important things to her about Christian education are the morals that are taught along with the smaller class sizes that help each student benefit from the attention.

"I find that at the Christian school, there do seem to be smaller classes and the kids get more attention, more one-on-one learning. They're taught morals that I would agree with."

The clothing sale was made possible by the excess amount of clothing that has been recently donated to the store this season.

The store's racks and shelves are filled with secondhand goods such as unisex clothing, books, music, children's toys and even small furniture.

"It's totally run by volunteers. There's no paid staff, and everything that's in the store has been donated, so we're not buying anything. All the profits go directly to the school. There isn't any person that profits from what's sold at the store."

There are many seniors and teenagers who are currently volunteering at



Photo by Mandy Larade

Anna McPaul, granddaughter of Tineke Bouma, who owns Belleville's Thrift Shop, peeks out from the racks of clothing during the store's sale on Feb. 16. The proceeds of the store go directly towards tuition assistance for students at Belleville Christian School.

Belleville's Thrift Store, but help is still needed.

"We're still always in need of more volunteers. We can always use more donations of small furniture or whatever."

The group of volunteers who serve also include Bouma's granddaughter, Anna

McPaul.

"Sometimes I hang up the hangers. I greet customers sometimes, and usually I help out in the back and in the trailers," McPaul says. "I really like sorting."

Bouma has been directly involved with

Belleville Christian School for several years.

"Five of my children graduated from Belleville Christian School and right now I have five grandchildren attending."

Any profits from the store that Bel-

leville Christian School doesn't need for tuition assistance will go towards building a bigger school.

Belleville's Thrift Store, located at 393 Sidney Street, is open Monday to Saturday. For more information call 613-967-1371.

Event supports 1 Billion Rising

By Brianne Ste Marie Lacroix

Thousands of 1 Billion Rising events were held across the globe to represent collective strength, solidarity across borders, dance, and rise up to end violence against women.

One Billion Rising is a one-day event created by the same woman who started V-day, Eve Ensler. There were thousands of events in over 200 countries where women and men stood together and danced to support the movement. One of those events was here, in Belleville. Darcelle Runciman, author and business coach, decided to host this event.

"I thought about how it would be a great opportunity to host one here, in Belleville. I've lived in this area for years so I thought it was a good opportunity. I just wanted to address violence against women and help the community have a voice, so I decided to put the event together," said Darcelle Runciman.

The movement's intention, according to their website, was for this to be a global strike and an invitation to dance, a call to men and women to refuse to participate in the status quo until rape and rape culture ends. It was to be an act of solidarity, demonstrating to women the commonality of their struggles and their power in number, a refusal to accept violence against women and girls as a given, a new time and a new way of being. There were also live streams from events across the globe online.

Belleville's 1 Billion Rising event was held at

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the Quinte Ballet School of Canada (QBSC). The event started off with speakers sharing their stories as well as motivating the crowd, of approximately 50, to take action and rise up. There was also group meditation and it ended off with dance. A group of dancers from the QBSC joined in to help teach the choreography to those who chose to dance the 1 Billion Rising dance.

"Globally, I think it's very important. There are women that are rising today that could be arrested or killed for rising up and dancing. I think that it's really important for us in Canada to get up and have a voice and help out women

around the world," said Runciman.

There were many speakers and topics ranged from violence against women globally to the violence happening in Canada. Kim Maracle, one of the speakers, took the time to bring awareness to the Annual Day of Justice for Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and the room held a moment of silence.

Janice Chrysler led the group through meditation "to connect spirits and be of one consciousness." She later discussed her own personal struggles with sexual assault.

"I had forgiven my abuser a long time ago but I hadn't forgiven my family and friends who, I felt, had failed to support me after it happened," said Chrysler.

"I had a close family member state that she wondered how long it would take for him to try something with me; because he was 'like that.' He did that with everybody... and then she laughed. I couldn't believe she laughed. Then she went on to tell me, that he did things like that with children. I had two children. I didn't laugh," continued Chrysler.

Many of the speakers spoke of how society often blames the victim and that they often have very little support.

"I do think that it's an issue that still makes women stay quiet because they're ashamed or they feel as though it's their fault. It was important for me to do this event to be able to tell people, it's not your fault and you didn't ask for it and say that this has got to stop," said Runciman.



Instagram Picture of the week

Thanks to @rightswrong winner of this week's Pioneer Pic, with a satirical photo of the Pioneer Pic contest.

Make sure to follow us @LoyalistPioneer.

To see all the Instagram submissions, search #PioneerPics through Instagram. The deadline is each Tuesday by 5 p.m.

High schools take part in Junior Iron Chef competition

Up-and-coming chefs exhibit their talents at Loyalist event

By Tijana Martin

Tensions grew high as things heated up in the kitchen at Loyalist College this past Saturday.

The college hosted its 12th annual Junior Iron Chef Competition, and its fifth annual Food and Beverage Show.

Two high schools were competing in the finals of the competition: St. Theresa Catholic Secondary School from Belleville and St. Peter's Secondary School from Peterborough.

By the way they acted in the kitchen, you would have never guessed the competitors were still in high school. MaryAnn Greenhorn, a second-year culinary arts student at Loyalist, said she believes that there are some very talented up-and-coming chefs in high schools.

The competitors during the semi-finals "were a little intimidated, but they didn't let it show, they just kept on going. They did an amazing job, kept their heads down, kept focus, kept their head in the game and they just pulled it off. It was amazing," she said.

Reagan Leween, a student from St. Theresa's, said this competition has



Photo by Tijana Martin

St. Peter's team members (from L-R) Kealan Ryan, Montana Scott, Michael Mierzejewski and Josie O'Brien celebrate after winning the 12th annual Junior Iron Chef Competition at Loyalist College on Saturday.

taught her a lot. She has learned "new knife skills, how to do teamwork better and how to work under pressure."

Loyalist second-year culinary students are the ones responsible for or-

ganizing the event.

Kristen McIsaac, a second-year culinary management student and also a project manager of the event, said, "We have worked on this for the past

six, seven months, and it's really awesome to see it all come together as it has. I don't think it could have gone off any better."

There was a good turnout to the

event, as people gathered in the cafeteria for the Food and Beverage Show while anxiously waiting for the results from the Iron Chef competition. Throughout the afternoon, there were live demonstrations happening, giving the guests a chance to take some recipes to try at home.

The demos ranged from Steak Diane to simple vinaigrettes.

You could also find children gathering around the "decorate your own cupcake" station. As for the adults, you could spot them near the winery stations, sampling a wide range of wines.

As the event was coming to an end, people crowded near the podium to await results. Marlayna Church, a second-year culinary student gave a speech before the results, while team members from St. Peter's sat together anxiously waiting to hear the results. They announced St. Theresa's as the second-place winners, and both teams reacted quickly to the results.

St. Peter's was overjoyed after they realized they took the first place prize.

Montana Scott of St. Peter's said, "We have been able to learn how to work well with each other and support each other a lot because that's really important."

Teammate Michael Mierzejewski added that the teamwork really showed through in this competition.