

The ROCKWOOD Miller

Hair for cancer

Somewhere, a child who has lost their hair to cancer will get a wig made from hair donated to Locks for Love by Rockwood's Alyssa Harvey.

On Friday, the 13-year-old donated her long dark hair to the organization that provides wigs to cancer patients, and although she was initially concerned how she would look after four years of having long hair, knowing she could help another child was enough to make her go through with the cut at the Village Boutique.

"My mom had a friend who had cancer and she did the breast cancer walk and I wanted to do something too," Harvey said as hair stylist Andrew Walker put her hair into two pigtails and prepared to cut them off.

Harvey said she made a snap decision to donate her hair, which she'd been growing for the past four years.

"It was long and I needed a cut so I decided to donate it – I don't know if I'm going to look good with short hair – but it's for a good cause, and it's only hair that will grow back."

Walker, who has cut hair to be donated in the past, said, "It is a wonderful thing."

"I think it's rewarding for the hairdresser as much as it's rewarding for the client whose donating the hair," Walker said, adding Harvey's hair will be sent to Locks of Love because it will be used to make wigs specifically for children with cancer.



LOCKS OF LOVE: Rockwood's Alyssa Harvey donated her hair to Locks of Love, an organization that makes wigs for children who have lost their hair during cancer treatments. Village Boutique stylist Andrew Walker was happy to help. – Frances Niblock photo

Will road work hurt businesses?

Worried the reconstruction of Highway 7 through Rockwood would ruin her business, Tanya Orton is relocating her gift shop/art gallery to Acton this fall.

The Ministry of Transportation plans to reconstruct the highway from the Eden Mills road to the Rockwood Conservation Area next spring/summer, raising concerns with some businesses that are worried customers won't be able to get to their stores.

Orton has operated the Bergamot gift shop/art gallery on Highway 7 in the village of Rockwood since last November, and while she'd like to stay in

the village, she thinks the highway project would drive away customers.

"There won't be any parking spaces and without parking my customers won't be able to get in front of the store – I carry large pieces and people won't be able to walk to their cars with them if they can't park out front," Orton said on Friday.

"It's going to only be one lane (traffic) and the smell and the noise – look at my store – it doesn't do dirt," she said, adding relocate to Acton once her lease in Rockwood expires at the end of October.

Orton said she would like to stay in Rockwood, but can't afford to since

summer is when she makes the money she needs to cover expenses for the rest of the year.

Orton said while she understands the need for progress – in this case reconstruction of the highway, the one lane traffic and proposed closure of Highway 7 for two days – is not fair to local businesses that are already having a tough time.

At the Village Boutique, owner Kas Weideman doesn't not have the same level of concern that Orton does.

"If people want to get to the hardware store or bake shop or here, they'll do it," Weideman said on Friday, noting the highway

was closed for almost the whole summer in 2004 and she, and other businesses, survived.

"The road needs to be fixed. We all bitch about the roads and sidewalks

but nobody wants to pay the price."

Jewel Stumpf will use the construction period to close her shop – All in a Basket – to do some renovations.

"I'm sure the closure will cause problems for a lot of businesses once they divert traffic, but I'm lucky and have a lot of established clients and while I'm closed I'll still offer gift baskets by appointment."

At a recent Guelph/Ermosa Township Council meeting, Councillor Doug Breen implored Ministry of Transportation officials to keep the road – at least one lane – open during construction.

Breen predicted that many village businesses would be forced to close if the highway is closed.

The Township asked the MTO to consider boring under the highway to replace a culvert at Richardson's Creek, allowing one lane of traffic to remain open, but officials said that was not possible because of the soil conditions and adjacent wetlands. The proposed MTO plan calls for a pre-built culvert to be installed which would result in a one week road closure as opposed to a three week closure.

MTO's preferred option for replacing the culvert is closing the highway, with traffic detoured along Halton Regional Road 32 to County Road 44 and then back to Highway 7, west of the village.



MOVING TO ACTON: Worried about how the proposed reconstruction of Highway 7 will affect her gift shop/art gallery next spring and summer, Rockwood business owner Tanya Orton will move her store, called Bergamot, to the former BIA office on Mill Street in Acton in November. – Frances Niblock photo

EAST WELLINGTON



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26th Annual General Meeting

The public, and all members of East Wellington Community Services – EWCS, are invited to attend the 26th Annual General Meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Rockwood Fire Hall, 5141 Wellington Road 27.

Please note that only members who have purchased their annual membership prior to August 31, 2010 will be eligible to vote at the AGM. Memberships can be purchased at the EWCS office at 45 Main Street, Erin or at 106 Church Street, Rockwood for \$10 each.

Everyone who purchased a Fill Up Your Tanks Raffle ticket in 2010 is also invited to attend EWCS's AGM