

# friendshipnews

## Kiwanis House Opens Its Doors To New Neighbours

In light of the great need to secure housing for approximately 200 refugee families arriving in our community this year, HOF partnered with Reception House of Waterloo Region to offer this house as a solution for a refugee family in need of a home. After renovating and upgrading this house in March, we opened the doors to welcome new neighbours in April.

It has now been five months since Saleh, his wife Awach and their five children made Kiwanis House their home. Arriving in Canada in February 2016, they came to Kitchener to establish a new future for their family. With the promise of a better life, they are so thankful for the support they have received. Saleh reflected on how this home provides them with the needed space and comfort for life as a family of seven, and how neighbours on their street went out of their way to graciously offer them help in the form of meals and household items.

School has been a bright light in the journey for their three eldest children, aged 6, 5 and 4. Awach tells how her kids are happy to go to school and how happy they are when they return home from a great day at school. Aya, their six year old daughter, uses her newly acquired English to tell me with a wide



Saleh, Awach and their children make Kiwanis House their home

grin, “I like Canada very much and I like school.” The smiling faces of these five children reflect the safety and peace of mind that this family has found in their new community of seven months.

While today they still feel like strangers in a new country and they miss their Syrian family who live in a variety of other countries, they anticipate the days ahead will include continued learning and changes, like learning English and establishing employment. Their dreams are alive and well as Saleh and Awach have ambitions in farming, knitting, and sewing. Of great importance to them is the chance for an excellent education for their children.

Kiwanis House is one important step in this family’s journey towards a promising future, and this is another way in which House of Friendship is honouring its legacy of extending the hand of friendship to our neighbours in need from ‘All Nations’.

**Coming Events**

**february POTATO BLITZ 2017**

**Don Cameron Potato Night**  
Friday January 27, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
The Aud, Kitchener  
Kitchener Rangers vs. North Bay Battalion

**Supermarket Blitz**  
Saturday February 4, 2017, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Throughout grocery stores in KW

**Community Potato Lunch**  
Friday February 24, 2017 Noon–1 p.m.  
St. Andrew’s Church, Kitchener



### In This Issue

**P2** Friendship Dinner  
Opening Up Food Hampers

**P3** The Buhr Legacy of Friendship  
A Warm Welcome

**P4** How Can You Help  
Friendship Fund

## 145 Happy Campers!



Over 200 of you persevered in hiking or biking at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual TREK 4 KIDS event in May. Your enthusiastic participation, along with the Summer Camp Sponsorship donations, allowed 145 kids that are living on low income to experience the wonder of summer camp this year. Thank you!



- Adventure Guide
- Kindred Credit Union
- Nelson J. Grigg from Hollis Wealth
- Roth Nowak Insurance Brokers
- St. Jacob's Printery Ltd.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Friendship GOLF TOURNAMENT

Over 160 golfers shared in fun and laughter while they took a swing at injustice during the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Friendship Golf Tournament to collectively raise over \$38,000 to provide food, supportive housing, and services to people living on low income! Thank you!



- Expressway Ford
- Gascho Automotive Ltd.
- Nelson J. Grigg from Hollis Wealth
- Mennonite Foundation of Canada
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc.
- Vertex Environmental Inc.
- Van-Del Contracting Ltd.
- Decortile Ltd.
- FaithLife Financial
- Menno S. Martin
- MTE Consultants
- T-Weber Co. Ltd.

21st annual

# Friendship Dinner

## Fellowship and Inspiration

BOOK CLUB SPECIAL  
Buy 7 Tickets and the 8<sup>th</sup> is FREE

Saturday, October 22, 2016

**Belong and Thrive!**

**Guest Speaker:**  
Terry Fallis

**Musical Entertainment:**  
Bel Air Jazz Trio

**Tickets: \$75 per person**  
(with maximum allowable charitable receipt)  
Proceeds to benefit House of Friendship's service to those in need

**Tickets:**  
<http://friendshipdinner21.eventbrite.ca>  
Shelley @ 519-742-8327 x 131  
[fundraising@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:fundraising@houseoffriendship.org)

**Event Info:**  
Dawn @ 519-742-8327 x 119  
[dawng@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:dawng@houseoffriendship.org)

**Rockway Mennonite Collegiate**  
110 Doon Road, Kitchener, Ontario

**Punch Reception at 6:00 pm**  
Dinner at 6:30 pm

**House of Friendship**

[www.houseoffriendship.org](http://www.houseoffriendship.org)

Charitable # 10749 3892 RR0001

## Steady Progress On Opening Up Food Hampers!

As the 'go-to source' for local individuals and families in need of emergency food assistance for almost 50 years, the renovations to the 807 Guelph Street, Kitchener property are now well underway! This updated facility will continue to be well-used, however now in a safer, more efficient and welcoming space that provides greater privacy and dignity for those it



Matt with volunteers Bruce and Marion who faithfully serve from the temporary site during construction.

serves. This \$750,000 project has been well supported with 75% of the funding raised. Only \$200,000 is needed to complete this project. **Please consider how you can get involved with this worthwhile project.** You can donate at [www.houseoffriendship.org](http://www.houseoffriendship.org) (choose "Opening Up Food Hampers") or call Margaret Lucas, Development Director, at 519-742-8327 x122.

# Honouring The Work of Neighbourhoods

Every year **The Buhr Legacy of Friendship** is awarded by House of Friendship's Board of Directors to a recipient who espouses HOF's values and makes significant contributions to both HOF and our community. This year we honoured the work of Neighbourhoods. Central to HOF's vision, neighbourhoods are key to an individual's and a family's sense of belonging. Our neighbourhoods shape us and allow us to contribute to each other's lives. It is our hope that everyone in our Region can be part of a neighbourhood where diversity is celebrated, and where individuals feel connected, included, safe and engaged. Healthy and accessible neighbourhoods build resilience. These types of neighbourhoods do not magically appear but are rather the outcome of the efforts of many committed citizens.



Members of our Community Neighbourhoods receiving **The Buhr Legacy of Friendship** for their commitment to a healthy community where all can belong and thrive.

## A Warm Welcome

We welcome our new Development Director, Margaret Lucas, to the team! After enjoying a Marketing career in the corporate world, Margaret chose to refocus her career to the social profit sector, to use her gifts to serve those in need in our own community. Most recently, she was Director of Marketing for Dare Foods Limited in Kitchener, and worked previously for Hershey Canada. She also taught at Wilfrid Laurier University as a part-time lecturer. Margaret has spent the past four years engaging with the social profit sector, both consulting and volunteering, and is excited to join the House of Friendship team this fall. Margaret can be reached at [margaretl@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:margaretl@houseoffriendship.org) or 519-742-8327 x 122.



**HOCKEY HELPS  
THE HOMELESS**

**Be a Game Changer**

The third annual **Hockey Helps the Homeless Kitchener-Waterloo Tournament** on October 28th at RIM Park is a one day pro-am hockey tournament where individuals share the rink with former NHL players and women Olympians. Participants fundraise for local homelessness organizations, including House of Friendship's Charles St. Men's Shelter, while receiving the full pro experience. **Sign up to play, sponsor, support a player, or donate a silent auction prize at [hockeyhelpsthehomeless.com](http://hockeyhelpsthehomeless.com)**



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**Dec. 2016**  
Christmas Hampers  
Turkey Drive  
#12days4good



To participate or donate, go to [www.houseoffriendship.org](http://www.houseoffriendship.org)



House of Friendship has built a commitment to our community to be there when needed, always. You can be a part of extending your hand of friendship to people in need in the coming years. A gift or bequest to **The Friendship Fund** endowment (1995) in support of House of Friendship's community outreach will enable you to continue to build a healthy community where all can belong and thrive, and comfort and support those in need. For more information, please contact MarilynJ@houseoffriendship.org or 519-742-8327 x133.

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## You Can Help

- **Charles Street Men's Shelter** needs men's shoes, socks, winter coats and boots, bedding, towels, razors and bus tickets. **Call Ashley, 519-742-8327 x332.**
- **Charles Street Men's Shelter Kitchen** needs meat, baking supplies (white flour, brown or white sugar, chocolate chips, nuts, cocoa, vanilla, coconut and cinnamon), jam, peanut butter, tea towels, dishcloths, BBQ sauce and ketchup. **Call Sandra, 519-742-8327 x334.**
- **Alcontrol Women's Residential Treatment Program** needs a hand-held electric mixer, non-stick frying pans, plastic mixing bowls, plastic and glass serving bowls for groups of 12, salad tongs, and new or slightly used running shoes and winter boots. **Call Jessica, 519-742-8327 x229.**
- **Better Beginnings Waterloo** needs pre-school appropriate, portable sized books, small toys, puzzles, and games. **Call Kelly, 226-989-8606.**
- **A family new to Canada** needs a sewing machine. **Call Margaret, 519-742-8327 x122.**

Donated groceries and prepared food from 'publicly inspected kitchens' are gratefully accepted anytime at the back door of the Charles Street Men's Hostel, 63 Charles Street East, Kitchener. Monetary donations can be mailed or made on-line at our website [www.houseoffriendship.org](http://www.houseoffriendship.org) Thank you!

## Staying In Touch

If you receive a copy of Friendship News through your church and do not wish to receive a copy through the mail; if your name or address need updating; if you prefer to receive future issues via email; if you donate more than once-a-year, but prefer only one receipt at the end of the year; or, if you would like to change how we communicate with you, please contact us at: **519-742-8327 x131** or [fundraising@houseoffriendship.org](mailto:fundraising@houseoffriendship.org)

**We want to see a mighty flood of justice, a torrent of doing good.**



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