



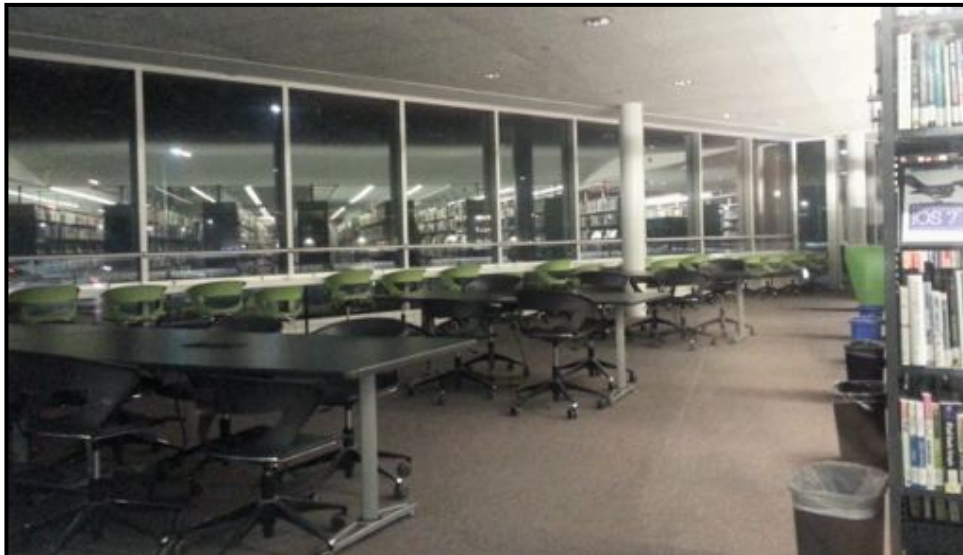
# LaurelwoodLiving

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**LAURELWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION**

ISSUE 41, WINTER 2016

## WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE JOHN HARPER LIBRARY BRANCH



The Harper branch now closes on Fridays and Sundays

For the past four years, the Library Board has been funding the extra service hours at Waterloo Public Library's John Harper branch without support from the City. The agreement with the City is that the branch will operate for 48 hours a week. However, after the library's opening, it was evident right away that 48 hours were not sufficient for the community's needs. Our former Ward Councillor, Karen Scian, fought hard to get more hours for the taxpayers who use that library. With the community's support, those extra hours of service came through on Fridays and Sundays.

In addition to funding the extra service hours, the Library Board also covered the increasing cost of books. The US dollar played a huge role in this as our currency's value decreased against our neighbours south of the border. While a regular book costs on average \$10-30, an e-book costs upwards of \$150 US for a limited amount of uses and requires renewals continuously. There is also the annual utilities/maintenance bill of \$150,000 per year, which is much larger than what was initially negotiated with the City. The funding shortfall will come into the next budget cycle.

The 2016-19 budget is proving to be an enormous challenge for the library. Besides cutting staff, the Library Board has taken an unprecedented step by rolling back employee benefits to 80% coverage level.

See Harper Library, page 6

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## EARTH WEEK AND NEIGHBOURHOOD CLEAN-UP

Earth Week is coming in April! One of the activities we do as a community is a neighbourhood clean-up. Last year, we had many Laurelwood residents help pick up unsightly litter at local parks and area trails. The volunteers were split into groups and cleaned up the forest edge in Laurelwood Park, the trail leading to Sobey's plaza and Old Oak Park.

Let's continue the tradition this year and make our neighbourhood even more beautiful. Gather your family and friends to make it into a fun event! Adopt an area, big or small, and pick up the litter. It's that simple! If you have any suggestions on other activities the community can do for Earth Week, please send us a message at [info@laurelwood.ca](mailto:info@laurelwood.ca).

## CALLING FOR ARTISTS FOR LWNA'S UPCOMING EXHIBITION "ART + COMMUNITY"

Here at Laurelwood Neighbourhood Association, we are always looking for ways to support our community. Back in 2012, we held a neighbourhood art show in Scotiabank at Laurelwood Commons with the support of Branch Manager Peter Krakowiak. It was an amazing event that gave artists an opportunity to showcase their works with the community and connect with peers.

In March, the LWNA will be continuing the tradition by holding another art exhibition called **Art + Community**. This month-long exhibition will be held at the Waterloo Public Library's John M. Harper branch.

We are accepting submissions from Laurelwood residents and residents of the surrounding neighbourhoods. Both established and emerging artists, including high school students, are encouraged to participate. We are accepting a wide variety of artworks: **photography, printmaking, collage, mixed media, drawing, painting, sculpture and ceramic**. The deadline for the submissions is **February 20th**.

The selected artworks will be handled with a professional hanging system and there will also be access to two small display cases for pottery or sculptures. The curation of the pieces will be done by Salome Perez and Nancy Peng, the Art + Community coordinators and members of the KW Society of Artists.

Reception for Art + Community will be held on **March 3rd** at John M. Harper branch's community room from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Everyone is welcome. Join us with family

and friends to meet the artists. Business cards and artist bios will be on display at the library.

Advertising for the reception and show will be through the LWNA website and the library website.

For more information, or to obtain the application and submission form, please email **Nancy at mnpeng@rogers.com or Salome at salomeperez@yahoo.ca**

## WATERLOO FIRE RESCUE REMINDS RESIDENTS: "HEAR THE BEEP WHERE YOU SLEEP. EVERY BED- ROOM NEEDS A WORKING FIRE ALARM!"

Ontario's second annual Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week ran from November 1-7, 2015, and Waterloo Fire Rescue wants to remind all residents again to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home.

Public Education Officer John Percy explains "the law requires that you have a working CO alarm adjacent to each sleeping area of the home if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, a fireplace or an attached garage. For additional protection, install a CO alarm on every storey of the home according to manufacturer's instructions."

Fuel-burning appliances can include furnaces, hot water heaters, gas or wood fireplaces, portable fuel-burning heaters and generators, barbeques, stoves and vehicles.

If you live in a condo or apartment building with a service room, CO alarms must be installed in the service room and adjacent to each sleeping area of all homes above, below and beside the service room. In condos or apartment buildings that have a garage, CO alarms must

be installed adjacent to each sleeping area of all homes above, below and beside the garage.

In Ontario, more than 80% of injuries and deaths from CO occur in the home. We want to make sure everyone is safe. Install alarms and take precautions to prevent CO in your home.

### What is CO?

- CO is known as the silent killer because it is an invisible, tasteless and odourless gas that can be deadly.
- CO is produced when fuels such as propane, gasoline, natural gas, heating oil or wood do not burn completely in fuel-burning appliances and devices such as furnaces, gas or wood fireplaces, hot water heaters, stoves, barbeques, portable fuel-burning heaters, generators and vehicles.

### Prevent CO in your home:

- Ensure all fuel-burning appliances in your home are inspected annually. Visit COSafety.ca to find a registered contractor near you.
- Check that all outside appliance vents are not blocked.
- Never use a portable fuel-burning appliance inside (i.e. barbeques, portable heaters and generators).

### Know the symptoms of CO:

- Exposure to CO can cause flu-like symptoms such as headaches, nausea, dizziness, as well as confusion, drowsiness, loss of consciousness and death.
- If your CO alarm sounds, and you or other occupants suffer from symptoms of CO poisoning, get everyone out of the home immediately. Then call 911 or your local emergency services number from outside the building.

See CO Alarms, page 6

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*Ian's charitable initiative for 2015 is to help support Lutherwood, & create more awareness in our local community about children's mental health. The campaign is called 'Selling Home\$ for Lutherwood'. For every home he sells in the Kitchener-Waterloo region in 2015 he will donate \$100 to Lutherwood's Children Mental Health Centre.*



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## LAURELWOOD NEIBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016

### Executive Officers (Nominated and Elected)

<b>President</b>	<b>Tim Osland</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Frank Anderson</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Antero DaSilva</b>

### Appointees of the Executive

<b>Special Events Coordinator</b>	<b>Deb Crawford</b>
<b>Street Rep Coordinator</b>	<b>Carrie Lovegrove</b>
<b>Communications Coordinator</b>	<b>Phillippa Smith</b>
<b>News Letter Coordinator</b>	<b>Soojin Choi</b>
<b>Technology Coordinator</b>	<b>Dave Dolson</b>
<b>Youth Coordinators</b>	<b>Emma Perston</b> <b>Annabelle Perston</b>

### Liaisons:

<b>Laurelwood Public School</b>	<b>Carrie Lovegrove</b>
<b>St Nicholas Catholic School</b>	<b>Cathy Kalisiak</b>
<b>Sir John A. Macdonald</b>	<b>Tim Osland</b>
<b>City of Waterloo</b>	<b>Kristy Smith</b>

<b>Members-at-Large</b>	<b>Lorraine Bauman</b> <b>Ian Inglis</b> <b>Poly Modak</b> <b>Salomé Perez</b> <b>Nancy Peng</b>
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## SLEIGH RIDE MARCH 2016



Dashing through the snow, in a two-horse open sleigh, over the hills we go, laughing all the way!

Our family sleigh ride will be offered again this year on Friday, **March 4th** from 6-8pm. Come tour through the sugar bush all snuggled up on the sleigh singing old favourites. There will be hot apple cider, cookies and of course, toffee on snow.

Mark your calendars and remember to RSVP at [info@laurelwood.ca](mailto:info@laurelwood.ca).

Hope to see you out.

## LET'S GET HOPPING!

Our Easter egg hunt is on the way! Keep your eyes opened, you may spot the Easter Bunny this year!! Bring your cameras just in case.

**Time:** 11am on Saturday, March 26th

**Place:** Old Oak Park / St. Nicholas school

**Cost:** \$2.00/ child; ages 8 and under please

**Registration:** [info@laurelwood.ca](mailto:info@laurelwood.ca)

**Sign in:** 15-20 minutes before the hunt

Registration ends on Monday **March 21st**; sorry, late registrations will not be accepted. If you are interested in helping with events such as these, please contact Tim Osland at [President@laurelwood.ca](mailto:President@laurelwood.ca). This will be the last year for the Easter Egg Hunt unless there is a group of volunteers to commit their time to support and run this very successful event. Laurelwood Neighbourhood has held this event for 14 years now.

We will hunt for eggs rain or shine, so remember to bring your baskets.

Hope to see you out!!

Waterloo

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**CO Alarms, from page 2**

- If your CO alarm activates and no one is suffering from symptoms of CO poisoning, check if the battery or the alarm needs to be replaced before calling 911.

**Know the sound of your CO alarm:**

- Your CO alarm sounds different than your smoke alarm. Test both alarms monthly and make sure everyone in your home knows the difference between the two alarm sounds.
- Don't be confused by the sound of your CO alarm's low-battery warning. Follow your CO alarm manufacturer's instructions so you know the difference between the "end-of-life" warning, and the alarm alerting you to the presence of CO in your home.

For more information, please contact John Percy,  
Public Education Officer:

519-884-6030, ext. 3009 TTY: 1-866-786-3941

Email: [john.percy@waterloo.ca](mailto:john.percy@waterloo.ca)

Web: [www.waterloo.ca/fire](http://www.waterloo.ca/fire)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/citywaterloo](http://www.twitter.com/citywaterloo)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/citywaterloo](http://www.youtube.com/citywaterloo)

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**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR THIS WINTER– BE  
SAFE AND COURTEOUS**

Sidewalks covered in snow and ice pose a great danger to pedestrians, especially seniors and those with mobility restrictions. If you know that your neighbours are away or perhaps dealing with an illness, please help out and clear their sidewalk if you can. It is also VERY important to clear the snow around the fire hydrant that may be on your front lawn. Try and clear at least 3 feet around the hydrant. If you see an unsafe condition, please contact the City. The snow clearing by-law requires that your sidewalks be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours AFTER a snowfall. Not clearing your sidewalk can result in city crews clearing them for you. Residents are then required to reimburse the city for the cost of the service. Depending on the size of your lot, this could cost you \$300-\$500. To report an un-shoveled sidewalk, please email [municipalenforcement@waterloo.ca](mailto:municipalenforcement@waterloo.ca) or call 519-747-6280.

**Harper Library, from page 1**

Currently, they are realigning resources and looking for innovative solutions to many financial challenges. Year after year, the demand for Harper branch services grows and our usage rates continue to escalate. This is our only public space on the west side of Waterloo and the Library Board knows the importance of library services to this community. They are drawing attention to the gap in the sustainable funding model due to lack of increased financial support from the City.

If you wish to convey your thoughts on the library's funding issues and services, please contact your Ward 2 Councillor, Brian Bourke, at 519-747-8784 or via email: [brian.bourke@waterloo.ca](mailto:brian.bourke@waterloo.ca)

**Contact Information for Local Politicians**

The Hon. Bardish Chagger, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Small Business and Tourism  
Member of Parliament for Waterloo  
Constituency office:

204-22 King St. S. (Temporary office)  
Waterloo, ON N2J 1N8

Email: [Bardish.Chagger@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Bardish.Chagger@parl.gc.ca)

Website: [BardishChagger.ca](http://BardishChagger.ca) (new office location will be posted on website when available)

Catherine Fife

Member of Provincial Parliament for Kitchener-Waterloo

Constituency office:

City Hall 100 Regina St. S., Suite 220 (New office)  
Waterloo, ON N2J 4A8

Telephone: 519-725-3477

Email: [cfife-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:cfife-co@ndp.on.ca)

Mayor Dave Jaworsky, City of Waterloo

Email: [mayor@waterloo.ca](mailto:mayor@waterloo.ca)

Phone (office): 519-747-8700

Brian Bourke, Ward 2 Councillor, City of Waterloo

Email: [brian.bourke@waterloo.ca](mailto:brian.bourke@waterloo.ca)

Phone (Office): 519-747-8784

Sean Strickland, Regional Councillor - Waterloo

Email: [Sstrickland@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:Sstrickland@regionofwaterloo.ca)

Phone (Regional Office): 519-575-4404 x3414

Jane Mitchell, Regional Councillor - Waterloo

Email: [jmitchell@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:jmitchell@regionofwaterloo.ca)

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## LAURELWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

To find out about news and events in our  
community, follow us on social media!



Laurelwood Na



@Laurelwoodna

## WELCOMING OUR SYRIAN NEIGHBOURS

As Syrian refugees arriving in Canada begin to make the Waterloo Region their home, many have asked how they can play a part in making the transition to a new life in a different country as seamless as possible. With this goal in mind, the Kitchener-Waterloo chapter of the Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) has partnered with a number of organizations across the tri-cities in order to bring about a more positive, lasting impact on our new Syrian neighbours.

In our region, MAC has focused their efforts in providing two types of support services as part of their 'Embrace Syria' newcomer initiative: the **family-matching program** and by providing **communicators**. The family-matching program is a volunteer program that aims to match families residing in the tri-cities to newcomer ones. The intent of this program is to provide newcomers with access to local residents who can support them with getting accustomed to life in the region. Suitable matching will be based on similar age groups and gender of their children, backgrounds, and common language (i.e. Arabic). Communicators will assist the newcomers in communication as they navigate through various government and region services. In addition, the MAC Kitchener Masjid, in partnership with the African Family Revival Organization (AFRO) and Remedy for Refugees, has transformed a 15,000 square-foot gymnasium into a "shop-for-free" location where sponsors and newcomers are invited to shop for used clothing and household items at no charge. For more information, or to sign up as a volunteer, helpers can visit [www.embracesyria.com/waterloo](http://www.embracesyria.com/waterloo) or contact the MAC Embrace Syria

Volunteer Coordinator, Dr. Emad Abuewimer via email at [ea-buewimer@macnet.ca](mailto:ea-buewimer@macnet.ca) or telephone 226-476-3366.

Waterloo Region has also created a comprehensive website, 'Waterloo Region Welcomes Refugees,' which provides residents with an abundance of resources related to helping refugees settle in the Waterloo Region, including ways in which one could **donate**, **volunteer**, **sponsor** or provide housing for newcomers. More information can be found by accessing the website, [www.welcomesrefugees.ca](http://www.welcomesrefugees.ca).

### What can I do now?

**Food Donations** (taken from [www.welcomesrefugees.ca](http://www.welcomesrefugees.ca)) Food donation items (with emphasis on Halal foods, cooking oils, dry milk, tomato sauce, canned beans/fish/vegetables and dry goods (beans, rice, chickpeas, etc.)), as well as financial donations are being accepted by:

- **Foodbank of Waterloo Region**, 50 Alpine Court, Kitchener 519-743-1380
- **Cambridge Self Help Food Bank**, 54 Ainslie Street South, Cambridge 519-622-6550

**Clothing Donation** (taken from [www.welcomesrefugees.ca](http://www.welcomesrefugees.ca)) Clothing donations (with emphasis on new or gently used winter coats, boots, warm clothes, baby supplies) can be dropped off at:

- **Salvation Army**, 1-300 Gage Ave, Kitchener, 519-745-4215
- In Laurelwood, clothing and footwear can be dropped off on the front porch of either 450 Gatestone Blvd., or 350 Erbsville Road, Unit #32 for delivery to the Salvation Army
- There is also a blue bin in the

Food Basics Plaza at the corner of Erbsville and Laurelwood that is designated for donations to the Salvation Army

### Gift Card/Furniture Donations

Gift cards, monetary donations, furniture donations as well as donations to be used towards the purchases of new mattresses are being collected by **Remedy for Refugees**. Please coordinate your donation by contacting them at [Remedyforrefugees@gmail.com](mailto:Remedyforrefugees@gmail.com) or via their Facebook page, 'Remedy for Refugees: Tri-Cities.'

Furniture drop-off is also available at St. Vincent du Paul, 519-744-1566:

- 75 Dundas Street, Cambridge, ON
- 74 Frederick Street, Kitchener, ON (Monday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.) \*No large furniture here please
- Large furniture: Lodge Street, Waterloo (Wilfrid Laurier site), Wednesdays, noon-1:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 8-9:30 a.m.

### Volunteer

General volunteer opportunities are found via Volunteer Action Centre: <http://www.volunteerkw.ca>

Individuals fluent in Arabic, Sorani, Kurmanji, Badinhi can be trained (at no cost) to become interpreters via **K-W Multicultural Centre** at 519-745-2531 or <http://www.kwmc.on.ca>

Family doctors, pediatricians, dentists, and other medical professionals able to take on refugees are asked to contact **Waterloo Wellington LHIN** at (519) 650-4472 or email [waterloowellington@lhins.on.ca](mailto:waterloowellington@lhins.on.ca).

Raneem Alhalimi  
MAC Embrace Syria Waterloo





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- drawing, painting, collage, plasticine, sculpture
- ages starting from 5 years old
- March Break, Spring, Summer, Fall period, PD days.

### Contact information

Salomé Pérez, Visual artist

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519 8886913

[www.laurelwood.ca](http://www.laurelwood.ca)



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### RENOVATIONS COMPLETED AT THE COURT AT LAURELWOOD

The Court at Laurelwood has been a fixture at the corner of Erbsville Road and Laurelwood Drive for a decade, celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June 2015. An independent retirement living community, The Court recently underwent a large-scale renovation, bringing new life to the building and reinvigorating the residents' love for their home. For 16 months, contractors, noise and dust were a part of everyday life as new amenity spaces were created and old spaces were given a facelift, sporting new flooring, lighting, paint and furniture. New spaces include a fitness studio, a theatre/chapel and a beautifully expanded library. The property around the building was also upgraded with new retaining walls along Erbsville Road, pathway lighting upgrades, paving and painting of the parking areas and a complete landscaping overhaul. Residents and staff alike were very patient during the renovation and are extremely happy with the results.



With the newly renovated building and top-notch services, The Court at Laurelwood remains a premier choice for well and active Waterloo seniors. Swing by and see the changes for yourself! Everyone is welcome.

**Nathan Greenlay**  
Community Relations Director  
The Court at Laurelwood



## IMPORTANT LETTER ON ROAD SAFETY

Dear parents of students attending Laurelwood Public School,

As your child(ren)'s crossing guard, my responsibility is to ensure they cross safely. Lately, I noticed some students are not using the crosswalk to cross the road. In most cases, especially in the afternoon, I see them running or crossing without looking both ways. Fortunately there have been no incidents but I would like to remind everyone, IF your student(s) chooses not to use the crosswalk, PLEASE ensure they STOP, and LOOK BOTH ways before crossing the road.

During the winter season, it is even more important as the roads can and do get slippery, especially at the corners, and cars are not necessarily paying attention or able to stop in time.

Thank you.

Teresa Palmer  
Your School Crossing Guard

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## LWNA'S FIRST HALLOWEEN PARTY!



The LWNA's first Halloween Party was a ghoulish success. So much so, we're thinking we might make this into an annual event!

Over 300 people came out, many in costume, to the Stork Family YMCA. They enjoyed pumpkin carving, trick-or-treating, crafts and games in the gym. The winners of our costume and pumpkin carving contests walked away with some great prizes. We're still trying to find out who the zombie guy was!

Next year we might have it at Laurelwood Public School so we can hold more people and have an even longer trick-or-treat parade.

Thank you to all the volunteers and YMCA for making our first party a great success.





## Daily Specials\*

**MONDAY**



**\$1.49 Original Cheeseburger**

**TUESDAY**



**Kids eat free!\*\***  
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**WEDNESDAY**



**\$1.99 Original Chicken Wrap**  
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**THURSDAY**



**\$1.19 Original Hamburger**

**Seniors Discount: 10 % for those 65 years of age and older**

\*Daily Specials may NOT be combined with any other coupon or offer



**The Boardwalk**

**\$6 MEAL DEAL**



**DQ Fan Food**

**\*At The Boardwalk location only**

You can access the Laurelwood Neighbourhood Association's website by scanning the QR code below on you mobile device!



### CONTACT US



info@laurelwood.ca



www.laurelwood.ca



Laurelwood Na



@Laurelwoodna

### LWNA CALENDAR

**March 3:**  
**Art + Community Exhibition**

**March 4:**  
**Sleigh Ride**

**March 26:**  
**Easter Egg Hunt**

**Month of April:**  
**Neighbourhood Clean-up**

**May 7:**  
**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Westmount Sports Park**

**May 7:**  
**Laurelwood Garage Sale**

### LAURELWOODLIVING

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