



# HELPING hands

giving back



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Another year draws to a close. What a dramatic year 2013 has been; Full of change both good and bad. As you count down to the New Year with family and friends and look forward to what the New Year will bring, enjoy the good cheer of the season. From all of us at Erb and Erb Insurance Brokers Ltd. we wish you a happy, safe and prosperous 2014.

Happy New Year!

## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Sometimes we get caught up in the holiday season. There are many things we may overlook from a safety perspective. Our latest blog entry has tips for your home, from throwing parties to avoiding burglaries, and tips for your car, from shopping and, with the weather we've had, to what you should have in your emergency car kit. Visit [www.erb-erb.com](http://www.erb-erb.com) and you'll see the holiday Safety Tips on the right side.

## FOODBANK DRIVE

Once again the staff at Erb and Erb challenged each other to collect the most food in support of the Foodbank of Waterloo Region. If you want to help the Foodbank please visit [www.thefoodbank.ca](http://www.thefoodbank.ca) for more information and help those who need extra support throughout the year.

To learn more about our organization visit [www.erb-erb.com](http://www.erb-erb.com)

## TALKING ABOUT...

Erb and Erb Insurance Brokers Ltd. and Waterloo Region Record are proud to share the Helping Hands community pages. You will find people in your neighbourhood working together to build a strong community and reaching out to support people in need. We hope that you will share your charitable stories with us by sending us photos for the next edition. It is our hope that these pages will give us an opportunity to shine the spotlight on our local heroes.



Ruth Hicks has a long history of giving back, to our community. Ruth Hicks began volunteering with the Waterloo Region Museum in 1994. For the past 20 years Ruth has been strong member of our Heritage Gardening program as well as helped out with our costume maintenance program and in our Museum as a greeter. In total Ruth has donated 2500 hours of service and has been recognized for this service by receiving a Heritage Community Recognition Certificate from the Ontario Heritage Trust.

**Ruth Hicks**  
Volunteer  
Waterloo Region Museum



Kerstin Reaume believes in giving back to her community. She began volunteering with the Waterloo Region Museum in 2004 and for the past ten years has been a dedicated volunteer for our costume program. Each month she spends over 100 hours knitting sweaters and sewing costumes. Kerstin has volunteered close to a total of 10,000 hours creating costumes for our Village staff and volunteers. In 2010 Kerstin received a Heritage Community Recognition Certificate from Ontario Heritage Trust for her contribution to the local heritage and Waterloo Region Museum.

**Kerstin Reaume**  
Volunteer  
Waterloo Region Museum

House of Friendship Executive Director, John Neufeld, Waterloo Mayor, Brenda Halloran and volunteer David Lucke at the House of Friendship fundraising dinner. A great evening generates big smiles!



Volunteers from KPMG ready to seat thousands of excited students that earned entry to KW We Day, a Free The Children annual youth empowerment event.



Kate Campbell and Jamie Haldenby pose for a photo during Volunteer Recognition Day and Country Christmas at the Waterloo Region Museum on December 1.



TriOS College volunteers enjoy an evening of fellowship and inspiration at the Friendship Fundraising Dinner for House of Friendship!



University of Waterloo's The Water Boys helped kick off Stuff-A-Bus with a cappella renditions of favourite tunes.



The Kitchener Rangers Atom AA hockey team worked hard to unstuff-a-bus so the food could be transported to The Food Bank of Waterloo Region!



The Social Action Team at St. Mary's High School donated over 1000 pounds to the Food Bank of Waterloo Region by taking part in "Halloween for Hunger", where students collected food items instead of candy on Halloween night.



Carolyn Dix and Inger Plassa pose for a photo during the Holiday Tree Lighting Fundraiser for the Food Bank of Waterloo Region at the Court at Laurelwood on December 5.

The Food Bank relies on both community and corporate food donations to help over 28,000 people needing food assistance in Waterloo Region. Recently The Food Bank visited Otter Valley Foods Inc and Solis to thank them for their generous support so no one goes hungry.



Joanna Sipos and Laura McShane selling My Life Matters t-shirts at a free presentation on building resilience hosted by the Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council.

Students and staff at Westheights Public School raised 922 lbs of food for The Food Bank of Waterloo Region. This will help provide over 1200 meals in our community.



Katheryn Merrell leads visitors in singing Christmas carols during Volunteer Recognition Day and Country Christmas at the Waterloo Region Museum on December 1.



Coldwell Banker Peter Benninger Realty Sales Representatives Dave Tidd and Tracey Appleton watch the growing pile of toys at the Annual "Trees for Toys" event.

Reg Sargent, Sandy Green and Doug Fyfe pose for a photo during the First Annual E-Waste Collection Day at Benton Street Baptist Church on November 30.



Look for the next Erb and Erb "Helping Hands" feature January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014!  
Deadline for photo submissions is January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014!

**SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!** We are looking for everyday moments in the charitable community! Submit your photo and a brief caption to [communitypages@therecord.com](mailto:communitypages@therecord.com) Please put HELPING HANDS in the subject line of your email.

In addition to our Helping Hands community page, we also feature a monthly community page for moments in the sports community, arts community and local business.