
BANAR

Blackburn Area News And Reports

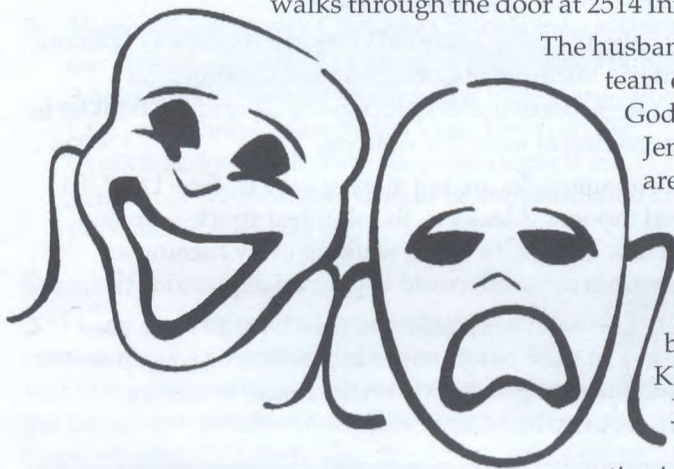
Vol. 31 No. 3

December/décembre 1997

Lights, Camera, Action!!!

by Sue Sheridan

That's just what you'll get when you step inside **Stagecraft**, our newest "Off Broadway", performance studio. Experience the delights of performing, act out a story or just make it up as you go. There is something for everyone who walks through the door at 2514 Innes Road.



The husband and wife team of Ken Godmere and Jennifer Keay are the owners and instructors of our newest local business. Ken and Jennifer have been

active in various aspects of the "business" of theater for a combined total of 50 years. Their abundance of enthusiasm and experience in stage, television, radio, Theatersports, The Second City, the University of Toronto, and various school boards throughout Ontario makes this an unbelievable opportunity that we should not miss.

Stagecraft is a unique and open performance studio bringing in students from any age, level or background. They will bring out the best performance on stage and on camera. Through believing, honest emotions and communication, students at Stagecraft find themselves in improvisation, scripts, intensive study and performance.

The studio caters to both the experienced and

beginner as I found out with my Brownie Unit. The girls of the 195th Brownies had a wonderful experience. Many were a little apprehensive to be "on stage" at first but Ken did a great job talking with them making them feel special and that yes, they could do anything they tried. All the girls were successful and my how they came out of their shell. This was a great motivational and self esteem builder. The energy in the room was amazing. Needless to say we all had a great experience. But don't take my word for it . . . drop by and see for yourself.

A wide range of programs are offered throughout the week: for serious actors, the Inner Game of Acting, Performance Power to corporate speakers, singers and musicians; One Act Plays and on Friday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Teen Improv, Saturday programs for children include Kids Improv from 10 - 11:30 a.m. and Kids Story Theatre from noon to 1:30 p.m. Programs run for six week sessions at a cost of \$99. Registration has started for the January-February sessions. Call 824-4884 for an experience to remember and grow from.

On Saturday, December 13, 1997 at 8:00 p.m. Stagecraft is inviting you to ON THE SPOT IMPROV — real live improv, comedy and music. The evening is a Fundraiser for the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard. Admission is by donation of nonperishable food or cash. All proceeds go directly and immediately to the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard.

Blackburn Community Association

Mailing address: P.O. Box 47062
Blackburn Hamlet
Gloucester, On K1B 5B0

Info Line: 786-1405

1997-98 Board of Directors

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Preserve Green Belt	Sue Sheridan	824-8936

The BANAR is published and distributed by the Blackburn Community Association six times a year to all residents of Blackburn Hamlet. Residents or affiliated non-residents may submit articles pertaining to activities within this community. Submissions can be sent in "Word" or "Wordperfect 5.1" to budd@cyberus.ca or delivered on disk with a hard copy to 5729 Kemplane Court. Call Evelyn Budd at 824-7517 if you have any questions. Illustrations must be of good quality. The editor reserves the right to make changes, when necessary. Production and layout are compliments of *Budd Graphic Designs*.

Advertising Policy

Please submit advertising as camera-ready artwork. Payment must accompany all advertising and classified ads when submitted. Please make cheques payable to: Blackburn Community Association. Contact Lois Kemp at 824-2903 to reserve your advertising space or for more information. Ads and payment are to be delivered to 2380 Cléroux Crescent.

Full page - \$224.00	2/3 page - \$172.50
1/2 page - \$120.00	1/3 page - \$94.25
1/4 page - \$67.50	1/8 page - \$37.50
Business card - \$25.00	

Display ads: With a contract for 1 year (6 issues) paid in advance - advertisers will get the 6th one free.

Classified ads: 20 words or less, \$3.00; 25¢ for each additional word

Deadline for articles and advertising

January 23rd, 1998

*May your heart and home be filled with
the joys of this wonderful season.*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Evelyn

Winter storage of B.B.Q. propane tanks

Many people are not aware of the danger of storing their B.B.Q. tanks indoors nor are they aware that it is against the law to do so. Section 5.26 of the Fire Code and regulations under the Fuel Safety Act stipulate that all propane tanks must be stored outdoors and must be at least 3 feet from a building opening, i.e. windows, doorways, etc.

A booklet called "Living Safely with Propane Appliances" put out by the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations offers safety tips on propane tanks and the booklet is free for the asking at most fire stations.

Leaks in propane tanks are not always easy to detect and if a tank stored indoors is leaking, the slightest spark—created either by static electricity when walking or by turning an electrical switch on or off, could trigger an explosion.

So please, this winter keep safety in mind! Don't store your propane tank in your basement or in your garage. Keep it outside and far enough away from the house to ensure maximum security for your family.

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President's message

I would like to start by saying "Hello" and thank you for this opportunity to represent the BCA as President. Many thanks to Michael Martin for his commitment over the years and to the great job he did as President. I am sure I will be calling for some advice now and then. We will miss you Michael, a job well done!



It has been a very busy few months for the Community Association and there are some more people who must be thanked for their efforts in helping our community:

- Iris Phillips and the Bavarian Fest committee for a fun 2nd Annual Bavarian Fest.
- Al Ross, Rainer Bloess, Clement Pelot (City of Gloucester) and the Recreation and Parks Board for their continued efforts in moving our community hall project along.
- A special congratulations to our Councillor Rainer Bloess on his successful second term win. We look forward to your continued support and help.
- Thank you to Mayor Cain and Council for pursuing our fight to save the Greenbelt in Blackburn Hamlet. At our All Candidates meeting the Mayor announced City protection for the Buffer Zone between the Church and Firehall. Everyone who signed the petition or wrote letters should be congratulated ... persistence does pay off!

Greenbelt

As I have learned over the years, Blackburn is a community which values its Green space. This was quite evident in the support given to protect the Green space between the Blackburn Firehall and the Good Shepherd Church Site. The site was for sale as development property and through a community effort of petitions, speaking to council and newspaper coverage we were successful, with the help of the Mayor and Council, to have this property removed from the open market. The City of Gloucester is now looking at the purchase of this land. Thank you to all who helped with this issue, we can make a difference.



Bavarian Fest'97

Bavarian Fest'97 was a fun and "warm" weekend for all who participated. The bands were great, the beer was flowing and the neighbourly spirit of Blackburn residents was evident in the tent. With the addition of a Craft Fair, Bake Sale and Children's activities the Bavarian Fest was fun for all. Financially we had to declare a loss of \$1,000 on the Bavarian Fest. We are moving in the right direction and



must make some changes for next year. The Bavarian Fest will probably be held for one night, and we can cut costs by having it inside at a local school (or our Community Hall!). Again, thank you to Iris Phillips for organizing a spirited community event.

Clearnet Cellular Standard

This fall Gloucester City Council approved construction of a Clearnet Cellular Standard to be erected adjacent to the Baseball diamond at the Blackburn Arena Park. The site will be behind the baseball bleachers just before the forest. No trees will have to be cut down and the site will be fenced off for safety. Councillor Bloess was able to negotiate for part of the rental cost of the land from the City of Gloucester. Over the next five years \$6,000 per year will be channeled into the community through the Blackburn Community Association. The Blackburn Tennis Club will be receiving \$5,000 per year towards resurfacing the tennis courts. This is a major structural cost to be incurred by the Tennis Club. Through their fundraising efforts and help from the City of Gloucester and the Blackburn Community Association, much needed structural maintenance can be completed.

Skating

Winter is here to stay and our community outdoor rinks will be up and skating around Christmas Holidays, weather permitting. This year the BCA will be booking community family skate times throughout the season. Every Sunday we will organize a family skate at the Bearbrook outdoor rink (behind the Tennis Courts) from 1 - 3 p.m. We will have different themes throughout the season and serve hot chocolate on special days.



Look for BCA Loonie skate days again in the new year. When advertised BCA membership card holders will be able to skate for a Loonie during public skating at the Blackburn Arena. Watch for the first BCA Loonie Skate over the Holiday Season.

Looking into the new year ...

In January 1998 control of Innes road shifts from the Region to the City of Gloucester. We will continue our efforts with the City and Region in getting the road upgraded to a safety standard we deserve.

Finally, I look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions.

I would like to wish all Blackburn residents a safe and happy holiday season. See you at the rink! Sue



1595 Telesat Court
P.O. Box / C.P. 8333
Gloucester, Ontario K1G 3V5
(613) 748-4119/837-5975

RAINER BLOESS
Councillor / Conseiller



To the Year 2000

First, let me thank all of you who turned out to vote on November 10 (or at one of the advance polls). I especially appreciate the support and encouragement from so many of you both prior to the election and at the ballot box. I am overwhelmed that over 84% of the voters in Blackburn Hamlet have endorsed my record over the past term. While looking forward to serving you for the next three years, I am also apprehensive of fulfilling such high expectations.

On the statistical side of the election, some numbers stand out. For instance, while the Gloucester average voter turnout was only 28%, in the Hamlet 34.4% of eligible voters exercised their rights. We had a high of 43.5% in the Centrepark/Silver Aspen/Bearbrook poll (other areas at 43% were Northpark & adjacent streets and Westpark & adjacent streets; the Eastpark & adjacent streets was at 40.19% and my own neighbourhood of Woodview/Southpark had a 40.32% turnout). On the negative side, in some polls, only 7% of the voters bothered to show.

Obviously, the challenge is two fold; namely how to please the 16% of the voters who are not satisfied with the past three years or with the direction in which we are headed and how to get more of the non-voters involved in the Hamlet to feel a sense of ownership in our community. On the first count, I look forward to feedback from any resident (particularly those who did not vote for me). On the second count, we can only keep trying through various community activities and programs to reach as many people as possible to participate and to contribute to our community.

Finally, as for this pending term, a number of priorities carry over from before. Primarily, we are faced with making Innes a safe street for our residents. We are also confronted with the financial shortfall for building a community hall which needs to be resolved to proceed with construction. And, an ongoing issue is the role of youth in our community. I intend to involve more young people in various events such as the FunFair and hope to make them more responsible for their own activities.

As usual, if you have any questions or issues, please call me at 748-4119.

Seasons Greetings

Community Centre Update

by Al Ross, Civic Affairs

In the previous BANAR, we reported that the Community Hall project was essentially at a standstill, since the tenders for the Arena Annex came in significantly over budget. This is still the case, but there has been some activity, and the community hall project is very much alive.

The last issue contained an article with a questionnaire and a ballot, and residents were asked their views with regard to support for the community hall project. The ballot asked the question - whether the community would support a tax increase of approximately \$4.00 per year over the next 15yrs, as a method of raising the necessary funds to see the completion of the hall with a budget of \$430,000. The City received responses from 79 households representing

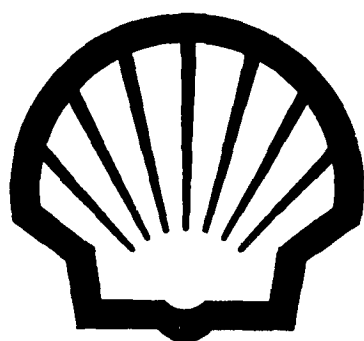
approximately 2.63% of residents. This figure does not give a true indication of the community since the sample was deemed statistically not representative of feedback from our community.

Of those who responded, 78.5% supported the community hall, 64.5% supported the current design, 14 % would like to explore other options. 62% of respondents were willing to contribute funds to the construction of a community hall. However only 49% supported the increase in tax proposal., and 13% said they would pay only if a second option were explored.

The BCA, RPB and the City met in November to discuss "where we go from here". A variety of options were discussed with the most favoured one being the addition of a second floor area over the arena

crush space. Others included the use of available space in some of the strip malls in the Hamlet, and the construction of a separate building at a location yet to be determined. The main problem concerning many of these ideas is the provisioning of adequate parking space. There are further meetings planned with the City, which will be reported in subsequent issues of the BANAR.

Regardless of which concept is selected, there will be a real need for our community to do some serious fund raising. There are some avenues that are being looked into by the BCA and Councillor Bloess, but we are looking for new ideas, and any suggestion would be appreciated. If you have an idea, please contact either Sue Sheridan at 824-8936, or myself at 837-1504, and we would be willing to discuss any fund raising activities you may have.



Blackburn Hamlet Shell

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Distribution of the Fun Fair

by Sherry Woodburn and Chantal Goyette

The Fun Fair was originally started as a Bearbrook Park Fundraising Event and in 7 years, \$38,754 was raised. In 1978 the Fun Fair was changed and the emphasis was put on the FUN. A Fun Fair Board was formed under the BCA. A "share value" (a portion of the Fun Fair earnings) was awarded to the various community groups who donated their time and energy to organize or run a Fun Fair event. Working the Fun fair was often perceived as a fundraiser for the community groups who have often have few funds. From 1987 to 1996 all the profits have been divided among the groups.

In 1997, in an effort to help Blackburn Hamlet establish a Community Centre, a portion (25%) of the Fun Fair proceeds were directed toward the Community Centre Fund. We were very pleased to see the many individuals and groups who worked at the Fun Fair, donating their "shares" to the Community Centre (see asterisk on list below). Bravo!

The following is a list of the share distribution for 1997. The Fun Fair "share" cheques can be obtained at the TD Bank. We hope to see you at next year's Fun Fair. New ideas, groups and individuals are always welcome. Come join in the Fun Fair - just for the Fun of it!

Private Piano Lessons



Classical and Popular Music
Conservatory Examinations

Students participate in
workshops, mini-recitals, music
clubs, recitals, and festivals.

Joan Klenavic
ARCM
824-4820

Blackburn Fun Fair 1997 Share Distribution

1st Blackburn Cubs	Pick-A Nugget	2	93.36	Club Jeunesse(Optimiste)	Fruit Stand	3	140.04
1st Blackburn Cubs	Pick-a Stick	2	93.36	Club Optimiste	Pancake Breakfast	4	186.72
1st Blackburn Scouts	Dunk Bozo	8	373.44	Club Optimiste	Bicycle Rodeo	2	93.36
1st Blackburn Scouts	Pony Rides	8	373.44	Girl's PeeWee Softball	Milk Bottle Toss	2	93.36
1st Blackburn Scouts	Midway Setup	4	186.72	Emily Carr School Band	Ring Toss	2	93.36
1st Blackburn Scouts	Security Fri & Sat	10	466.80	170th Sparks	Bingo	2	93.36
Rainbow Rangers	Craft Workshop	6	280.08	PeeWee Softbal	Colour Game	2	93.36
170 Brownies	Lollipop Tree	2	93.36	Girls Competitive Softball	Fireworks	2	93.36
179 Brownies	Book Table	6	280.08	Ladies Ringette-Goldiggers	Nail Driving	3	140.04
186 Pathfinders	BBQ Sat.	4	186.72	Gloucester Music Club	Bake Table	6	280.08
195 Brownies	Pet Parade	2	93.36	Ladies Ringette-Goldiggers	Candy Floss	8	373.44
202 Brownies	Milk Can Game	2	93.36	Huffin Puffins Ringette	Softball Tourn.	6	280.08
202nd Girl Guides	Petting Farm	2	93.36	Huffin Puffins Ringette	Teen Dance	4	186.72
Tree House Nursery	Pre-schl Play area	2	93.36	*Woodburn Farms	The Farm	4	186.72
Emily Carr School Band	Apron Ladies	2	93.36	*Woodburn & Keenan	Cow Plop	2	93.36
* Spencer. Kenward	Hoop Toss	2	93.36	Ladies Softball	Donut Corner	6	280.08
4e Cie St-Claude Guides	Info Booth	4	186.72	Ladies Ringette-Goldiggers	Euchre	2	93.36
4e Cie St-Claude Guides	Face Painting	2	93.36	* Men's Soccer	Facility Set-up	3	140.04
29e Rde St-Claude Jeannettes	Bean Bag Game	2	93.36	* Men's Softball	Clean Up	3	140.04
29e Rde St-Claude Jeannettes	Fish Pond	2	93.36	* Men's Softball	Chairs & Tables	3	140.04
29e Rde St-Claude Jeannettes	Pophottle Game	2	93.36	Newcomers	White Elephant	6	280.08
Boy's Big League Baseball	BBQ Friday	3	140.04	St. Mary's Sunday School	Plant Table	6	280.08
Blackburn Minor Hockey	Hockey Shoot	2	93.36	St. Mary's A.C.W.	Toys, & Games	6	280.06
Godd Shepherd Building Fund	Bed Races	2	93.36	Tennis Club	Decorating-dance	4	186.72
Old Timer Hockey	Kiddy Kars	4	186.72	Blackburn Minor Hockey	Pie in the Face	8	373.44
Blackburn Preschool	Children's Entertmt	4	186.72	Total Shares		210	\$9,802.80
Blackburn Senior Homes	Tickets	6	280.08	Share value \$46.68			
*Blackburn Community Assoc.	Bavarian Garden	10	466.80	* 31 Shares donated to Blackburn Community Centre \$1,447.08			
*Blackburn Community Assoc.	Dance - Bar	4	186.72	plus 25% of profits \$3,267.95 = \$4,715.03.			

Preschoolers and the holidays: celebration and giving

by *Gaston Barban*

Experiencing and learning about the events that mark the natural rhythm of the seasons help children better understand the world around them and their place in it. Just as their parents moved from raking leaves to shovelling snow, so have the children at the Blackburn Hamlet Preschool turned their attention from the themes of harvest and Halloween to those of winter and Christmas.

For many parents, the holiday season has become a stressful time. Whether it be the work of decorating hearth and home or the exhausting searches in far-flung malls and busy shops for those "perfect" presents, it is easy for us to lose sight of the true meaning of the season, especially the meaning it holds for our young ones. They too can get caught up in the frantic pace and miss what is special at this time of year.

Among the many activities the Blackburn Hamlet Preschool staff have planned for the children to better understand the season are two below which might also serve as timely reminders for parents.

Christmas is a time for celebration -- a time for families to celebrate together the gift of life and love and to commemorate their traditions. What better way to express this than by song. The preschoolers are hard at work preparing and rehearsing for the upcoming special family sing-along evenings. They are practising Christmas and Hanukkah spiritual tunes, as well as popular songs like Jingle Bells. In the last week before the break, parents and children will gather at the school and join their voices to sing these joyful holiday songs.

Christmas, of course, is also the

season for giving. How important to impart the fundamental notions that to give is often better than to receive and that there are so many around us in need. The Blackburn Hamlet Preschoolers will participate in the "Angel Tree" at Place d'Orléans, a project for needy children sponsored by the Salvation Army. The names of two children or "angels" will be selected from the tree and the preschoolers will be asked to bring their own pennies to school for these less fortunate little ones. In this way,

the children should gain a better understanding and appreciation of "giving", and perhaps of what is really at the heart of this special holiday season.

There are many ways to give. Remember that a loving smile or a warm hug can bring more joy to a child than the biggest box or the fanciest ribbon.

From the children and staff of the Blackburn Hamlet Preschool —
Happy Holidays!!

Dr. Louise Linney & Dr. Kathryn McFarland are moving December 6th

**one block east to Alexander Mall
110 Bearbrook (corner of Bearbrook & Innes)
Suite 200 (second floor – elevator is available)**

**We will have the same friendly staff, same hours,
and the same phone number.**

Monday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

After Hour Coverage 7 days a week

824-6318

Fun and adventure for Blackburn's Brownies

There are four Brownie units operating within Blackburn. All provide exciting programs full of fun and adventure for girls 7 and 8 years of age. Highlights this fall include:

For Fun...

An evening of drama and improvisation directed by Ken of "Stagecraft" and performed by both Brownies and leaders.

An "Heirloom" show-and-tell reflecting the diversity of our Canadian Heritage

Brownie sleuths decode secret messages from Braille and learn how to communicate through sign language.



For Adventure...

Exploring the Greenbelt and scavenger hunts . . . by flashlight!!
"Don't let the Bed Bugs bite"—A creepy-crawler sleepover at the Museum of Nature.

An evening at the Ballet. Les petits Ballet presents "Sleeping Beauty".

The fun doesn't stop here. Brownie units meet Tuesday and Thursday at various times. For information on Brownies or any other faction of Girl Guides of Canada operating in Blackburn call Bev Reynolds at 824-6013 or Sue Duncan at 837-7930.

Bev Reynolds new Blackburn District Commissioner

After 5 years of leadership, Sue Balint has passed on her duties as Blackburn District Commissioner to Bev Reynolds. As District Commissioner, Sue's dedication, organizational skill, knowledge, enthusiasm and encouragement have been greatly appreciated. Fortunately for Blackburn, after 14 years in guiding, Sue will continue on with the organization as training coordinator for the district.

As the new Commissioner, Bev Reynolds brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the district with 9 years of involvement in guiding. Blackburn District Guides welcomes Bev and wishes her the best in her role as District Commissioner.

Thank you!

I am deeply grateful for your confidence in re-electing me Mayor of Gloucester.

I look forward to serving you for the next three years.



Merci!

Je vous suis profondément reconnaissante de la confiance que vous m'avez témoignée en m'élisant à nouveau maire de Gloucester.

Je serai très heureuse de vous servir pendant les trois prochaines années.

Claudette Coen

Outdoor rinks opening

The volunteers on the Blackburn Hamlet Parks and Recreation Board (RPB) are pleased to announce the awarding of this seasons outdoor rinks contract to V.S. & Son Contracting. Mr. Brian Van Sickle, the owner, is a long time resident of Blackburn Hamlet and has agreed to provide the ice surfaces for: Bearbrook, Blackburn School, Orient Park and three surfaces in Chapel Hill. In addition, rink attendants will be present at Bearbrook and Blackburn School from 7pm to 11pm daily. Weather permitting, work will begin December 15th with expectations of skating no later than December 22nd. The ice will be maintained until February 22nd. All are encouraged to make use of these winter outdoor facilities. Organizations interested in booking the boarded rinks are asked to contact Brian at 841-6303, between the hours of 1-4pm, Monday to Friday.



The BCA has booked the Bearbrook boarded rink for a family skate on Sundays between 1-3pm.



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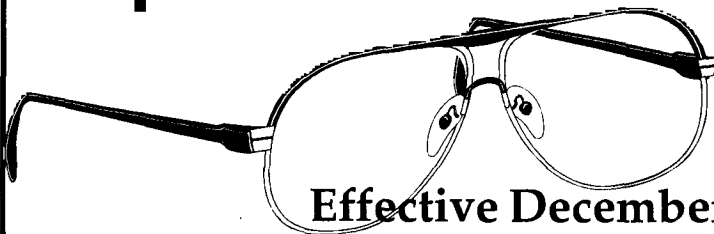
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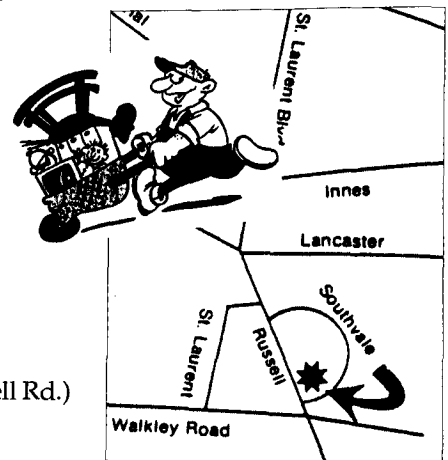


Effective December 1, 1997

Our new address will be:

2660 Southvale Crescent, Suite 206
Ottawa, Ontario K1B 4W5
(just minutes away, near Walkley & Russell Rd.)

Our new phone number: 247-20/20



We look forward to continuing to serve residents of the Hamlet at the above location

Business Buzz

by Gerda Birchard

Before I continue with updating the homefront on what's new in the Blackburn Hamlet business community, I would like to say that I welcome any new or re-located business to contact me and inform me of changes in location or services.

Bizz Buzz is not a venue for free advertising, but is meant simply as a welcome to the community. If I have missed anyone, I apologize.

We wish to offer a very special welcome to the **Denmoor Development Corporation** who will be building customized bungalows

geared to those of us ready to down-size. The homes will be located just off Valewood near the Hornet's Nest.

So, the grapevine informs me that **Stephanie Toste** has opened her new home based business catering to assorted flora and fauna for Hamlet residents and any others in need of services geared to pets and plants. Please take advantage of her professional services when necessary. Her number is 830-1992.

Also, the **New Horizon** has moved from its previous location as all eager crafters already know. They are now located on the east side of our Home Hardware in much more spacious quarters (pun) to accommodate heavies like myself. Horizon employees must be very happy to have more elbow room. Hard work and perseverance have paid off for this store.

Lastly I would like to let everyone know that there are local businesses out there who are still interested in some sort of sign at the entrance(s) of Blackburn. If there are any suggestions out there please call Lois Kemp. I can be phoned or faxed at 837-4823

Rollande's Esthetics



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Judi Paterson and Associates

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Laundered Shirts 99¢

(on hangers)
WITH DRY CLEANING

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Up to
30% OFF

Sale ends Feb. 28, 1998

* pre-payment only. Not combined with any other offer. Excluding specialty items.

Blackburn Shoppes • 2642 Innes Road • 824-0156

Gloucester Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale

Why buy a Lions Christmas tree?
The Lion Club volunteers return 100% of the proceeds to charities in our community and you receive a first quality Christmas tree.

The Lions have two locations — one just down the road at the Farmers Market on Innes Road near Blair Road and the other at K-Mart at Blossom Park.

The Lions Club are also accepting donations to the **Jason MacDonald Trust Fund**. Jason was paralyzed this fall during hockey try-outs and will be incurring a great deal of medical expenses on his journey to recovery.

Creative Writing for Kids

Children in Blackburn are invited to submit short stories (under 400 words) for our 1st Creative Writing for Kids Contest. Winning stories will be published in the BANAR and of course there will be prizes to be had. Deadline for entries will be January 25th, 1998. Age groups are 8 and under; 9-10; 11-12 and 13 to 16.

Entries may be dropped off at the Blackburn Hamlet Library. For more information please call Sue Sheridan at 824-8936.

Friendliest business — Less than 1 month left!

Say thank you to any Blackburn businesses that have given you good, friendly service and you could win a \$50 gift certificate to spend in the Hamlet. It's all part of the "Friendliest Business in the Hamlet" contest. You may nominate as many enterprises as you wish, both retail and home-based, however, each household may not vote for anyone more than once.

To suggest a candidate, simply fill in the form below, indicating how the establishment was so friendly. If the mail strike is over, you can mail it to PO Box 47060, Gloucester, ON, K1B 5B0.

Alternately, you can drop off your ballot to 28 Westpark Drive.

The deadline for nominations is December 31, 1997. The winning business and the winner of the \$50 gift certificate will be named early in the new year.



Friendliest Business in the Hamlet Ballot

Entrant's Name: _____

Address: _____

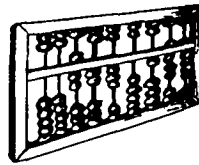
Telephone Number: _____

The friendliest business in the Hamlet is: _____

Why? _____

Either drop this off at your favourite business or mail it to the BBA at: PO Box 47060, Gloucester, ON K1B 5B0

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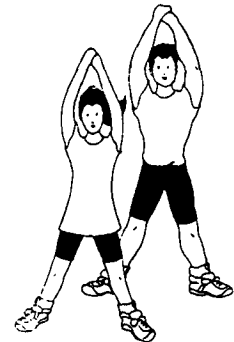
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For information, contact Jan Quinn 749-0911

A properly written will leaves nothing to chance

by R. Mitchell Rowe LL.B.

By means of a will, an individual – the testator – exercises their legal right to express their post-mortem objectives – to provide for their family, to distribute their assets, to secure the management of their estate.

The underlying importance of the will is the expression of the testator's intention. A poorly drafted will can cause endless litigation, expense and family bitterness.

Most people know who they wish to benefit by their will, but often they are not familiar with alternative methods of giving, such as specific gifts to beneficiaries and charities, life interests that pay a beneficiary an income for life, and trust funds.

The full disclosure of assets and debts is a vital starting point in the drafting of a will. The next important

decision to be made by the testator is the choice of one or more persons to act as executors. Executors are responsible for the administration of the estate and of any trusts established by the will.

In order to prevent any allegation that undue influence was exerted on the testator, the will should not be witnessed by a beneficiary or the spouse of a beneficiary. Marriage revokes a previously made will.

There are no succession duties in Ontario, but taxes can never be avoided. RRSPs without named beneficiaries are collapsed at death, become part of the estate income, and are taxed according to the estate's taxable income in that year, which would likely result in a high rate of tax. Life insurance policies usually designate beneficiaries but may designate the estate.

Matrimonial law provides relief for a

surviving spouse, who may choose to take either under the will or under the family law, which roughly speaking entitles a spouse to 1/2 of the net family property.

A testator may appoint one or more persons to be guardians of their children and of their property in the event of death. An application for an order of legal guardianship must be made within 90 days of death.

At the same time as the making of a will, the testator should make a power of attorney over his person and over his property. A power of attorney is an authority given by the testator – the donor – to a person – the attorney – to act on behalf of the donor with respect to his medical care and his property. The authority may be general or may be limited to specific acts. Powers of attorney may be revoked by the donor at any time, if the donor is mentally competent.



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Physically Disabled Parking Programme—Part II

By *Rollie Sanders*

Part I of this Programme was published in the October issue of the BANAR. It gave an overview of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton (RMOC) parking policy for the physically disabled.

City of Gloucester By-Law 1-96 Part "C"- Parking for the Physically Disabled goes into much more detail on this subject. Minimum number of spaces to be reserved, space size, signs, prohibited use of permits, offences and fines etc. are covered. Every person who is convicted of an offence under this by-law is subject to a \$100.00 fine.

For further information contact the City of Gloucester By-Law office at 748-4267.

Misuse Is Abuse

Some of the common abuses of this By-Law are:

- Parking in a physically disabled parking space, hereinafter referred to as a reserved space, without having an official valid permit issued by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario.
- Parking in a reserved space, when the disabled person named on the permit is not using the vehicle.
- Parking in a reserved space when the disabled person named on the permit is in the vehicle but someone other than the disabled person exits the vehicle.
- Parking two cars in the space designated for one vehicle: this prevents people using wheelchairs and other assistive devices from entering or exiting vehicles.
- Applying for and using a parking permit under false pretences. Although there are a number of reasons that can be used to qualify for a permit, only about 1 person in 40 actually use an assistive device such as a wheelchair, walker or a cane.
- Continuing to use a permit when the holder no longer really needs one.

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Home Stale Home

Most of us spend, on average, about 90 per cent of our time indoors, largely at home. Unfortunately, the modern home contains many substances that can be hazardous to our health. They range from minor irritants, such as dust and animal dander, to major irritants, such as the chemical vapours emitted by building materials and furnishings.

Of course, not everyone is outwardly affected in the same way by these hazards. Canadians generally fall into one of three categories:

1. Concerned about comfort and prevention: This is the largest category, and includes people who have no known reaction to low levels of contaminants. For this group, the goal is to improve the comfort of the home and to prevent potential health problems from occurring.

2. Concerned about known health problems: This group includes people with known sensitivities, or people who are at elevated risk. Included under known sensitivities are allergies, respiratory ailments, and chemical sensitivities. People with elevated risk are those who spend most of their time in the home, such as

children, women, the elderly and the sick. For this group the goal is to alter the home to lessen the effects of any known irritants and to cut health risks.

3. Concerned about serious health problem: This small group of the population is hypersensitive to many agents and reacts adversely to extremely low levels of exposure. For this group, the goal is to create an extremely clean home environment—a sanctuary from exposure to even the most minute levels of contaminants.

Over the past decade, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has undertaken a lot of research on indoor air quality. Useful information generated from this research is now available to the general public in the form of a booklet called *The Clean Air Guide*, and a companion video called *This Clean House*. The package, while not a cure all, does contain a series of step-by-step directions, which, if followed, will help improve the air quality in your home, and ultimately your health and well being. For information on how to obtain the guide and video call 1-800-668-CMHC.





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Understanding your RRIF

by Robert Real

Canadians are becoming increasingly aware of the importance and value of saving for retirement within an RRSP. But for many people, what happens once it's time to convert those savings to income is still a mystery.

Understanding your choices is critical, especially since the federal government lowered the mandatory age to convert RRSPs to retirement income from 71 to 69. Canadians who are 69, 70 or 71 in 1997 must convert their RRSPs by the end of this year. For many investors, the loss of the two extra years in which to accumulate retirement savings places added importance on sound retirement decisions.

Holders of RRSPs have three choices when converting to retirement income: they can withdraw all the money invested in their RRSP, which can be costly from a tax standpoint; they can buy an annuity, which is an interest-bearing investment locked in for life or until age 90; or RRSP savings can be rolled into a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF).

One of the key differences between an RRSP and a RRIF is that while an RRSP is a vehicle to gather together savings, RRIF holders use their plan to access retirement income. Like RRSPs, RRIFs can contain a number of investment products, including stocks, mutual funds, bonds and GICs.

While RRIF withdrawals are included in your taxable income, the remaining contents continue their tax-sheltered growth. Withdrawals need not be cash. For example, it may be more beneficial to remove a GIC or mutual fund units from your RRIF and hold that asset rather than casing it in.

Once your RRSP is converted to a RRIF, you don't need to make a withdrawal until the following year. Required minimum withdrawals are based on a

formula that includes your age and the value of your RRIF at the beginning of the year. For some investors, it makes more sense to use a your spouse's age to calculate the minimum withdrawal, although this must be decided before any withdrawals from the RRIF begin.

You can change the amount you withdraw from your RRIF, but any amount that exceeds the

minimum is subject to a withholding tax when you take the money or assets out. Some investors opt to take out a fixed amount every year or some index their withdrawals so that a set dollar amount increases annually. By choosing either of these options, you will decrease the value of your RRIF faster than if you opt for the minimum withdrawal system.

DID YOU KNOW?

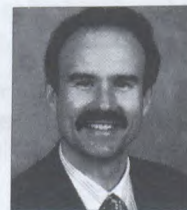
Due to the new government regulations regarding Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs), individuals who have turned 69, 70, or 71 years of age in 1997 must mature their RRSP by year end.

You have 4 options to mature your RRSP:

- Transfer to a Registered Retirement Income Fund
Your RRIF minimum withdrawal can be based on the age of the younger spouse. This gives you the ability to make your retirement savings last longer.
- Buy a Life Annuity
- Buy a Term Certain Annuity
- De-register all RRSP investments and receive a lump sum amount in cash.

To learn more about this and other retirement planning topics, please call for an appointment or drop by today to pick up our new RRIF brochure to receive additional information about this important decision.

Robert L. Real
2644 Innes Road
Gloucester, Ontario
K1B 4Z5
Bus 841-9315
Fax 841-9321



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Coming events

Blackburn Chorus Christmas Concert

The Blackburn Chorus and friends are presenting their annual Christmas concert on December 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. at the Orleans United Church. This year the chorus will be featuring the Chow family, the Murphy family, Cristina Lamare and Jeffery Boyd. Tickets are \$10 for adults and children under 12 are free.

Christmas Ideas for Children

by Aunt Idée

There are many special Christmas ideas to do with your children that are very easy to do and not messy or expensive.

Personalize your own Christmas ball:

You need: a clear Christmas ball (available at Floral Fantasia, Innes Road)
2 or more colours of liquid paint.

1. Very carefully, lift the gold clip out from the glass Christmas ball.
2. Pour a colour of paint (about 1 tsp) in the ball. Swish, and shake.
3. Add another colour. Do the same. Keep adding the colours until the ball is no longer clear.
4. Add a ribbon and hang it on the tree.
5. Your children will be very proud of their accomplishment. They'll look great on your tree, but also make great gifts for aunts, uncles, grandparents and teachers.

On Christmas Eve, make a reindeer refreshment for Santa's reindeer.

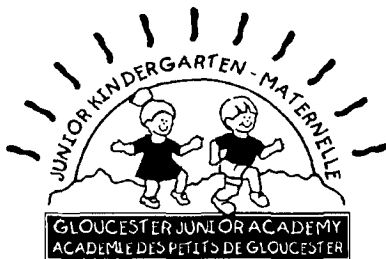
1. In a small paper bag measure 1/2 c granola, 5 chocolate chips, 10 peanuts, 15 M&Ms and 20 raisins.
3. Shake it and taste it.
4. Pour the food into a bowl and leave it at the door on December 24th. Check the bowl in the morning and eat the leftovers.



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The teachers have classroom training and experience from Grades Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6. Our program aims to prepare your child for elementary school. Our small class size ensures plenty of individual attention!

If it is Kindergarten instruction in a classroom setting that you are seeking for your child, we are offering precisely that!

Visit us at 2336 Orient Park Drive, Unit 100, Blackburn Hamlet K1B 4N5. **Cost \$10.00 per half-day.**

Spaces available commencing January 1997. Call us at 834-9789 for more information.

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Thanks and a tip of the hat

- To all the residents of BlackburnHamlet who bought BCA memberships—Your support makes a difference in the quality of our community.
- To the businesses at the Blackburn Shoppes for a donation (proceeds from a recent barbeque) of \$340.00 towards the Blackburn Community Center.
- To the Blackburn Arms Pub who held a Christmas auction which was a resounding success. This auction not only provides food, fun, and Christmas spirit for the volunteers, but especially for those selected families that deserve to enjoy Christmas the way it should be enjoyed. A special thanks to staff and management of the Arms and all their volunteers for this worthwhile effort.

BCA memberships available

The Blackburn Community Association raises its operating funds through a yearly \$10 family membership. These operating funds help pay for the cost of publishing the BANAR and many of the other projects you read about in the Banar. If you haven't purchased your BCA membership, please support the BCA by sending your name, address with postal code and phone number to:

Blackburn Community Association
P.O. Box 47062, Blackburn Hamlet,
Gloucester, Ontario K1B 5B0

Name

Address Postal Code

Phone

Yes, I'd like to help the BCA as a volunteer. Give me a call!

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Telephone Directory

Schools

Blackburn Hamlet Preschool	824-3251
Cairine Wilson (9-13)	824-4411
Carleton Board Office	721-1820
Carleton Catholic Office	224-2222
École élémentaire publique Séraphin-Marion	837-2216
École Ste-Marie (K-6)	824-3600
École intermédiaire Pauline-Vanier (7-8)	744-1922
École secondaire Louis Riel (9-13)	837-2216
Emily Carr Middle School (6-8)	824-5455
Glen Ogilvie School (K-5)	824-4014
Gloucester High School (9-13)	745-7176
Good Shepherd School (K-6)	824-4531
Lester B. Pearson High School (7-13)	741-4525
Norman Johnston Alternative High School	824-1581

Guides, Scouts, Brownies, Beavers, Ventures, Cubs

Guides and Brownies	Bev Reynolds	824-6013
	Sue Duncan	837-7930
Scouts (Registrar)	Mike Gossen	824-6324
Scouts (Chairman)	Doug Pritchard	830-2086

Mouvements Scout-Guides de St-Claude

Castors	Lucie Arcand	830-9209
Louveteaux/Éclaireurs	Jean St-Louis	824-9856
Jeannettes	Nicole andrecheck	824-9972
Guides	Viviane Côté-Maxwell	837-1839
Conseil de Gestion	Lyse Goneau	837-3941

Sports

BMX	Hedy Burton	824-1057
Badminton(Adult)	Ray du Plessis	824-2671
Bearbrook Pool	Christa Bennett	824-8300
Cycling	Graham Burton	824-1057
Football	John Rowe	824-6665
Hockey (Minor)	Tom Canham	837-1344
Hockey(Men's)	Roy Van Koughnett	824-3921
Little League Baseball	Ron Grossman	830-2349
Ringette (Girl's)	Al West	830-1401
Ringette (Ladies')	Jane Ross	837-1504
Skating	Terry Heaslip	824-3542
Softball (Girl's)	Gary Polomark	824-7010
Softball (Men's)	Stewart Shonfield	830-2445
Softball (Ladies')	Cheryl Toomey	830-3607
Tennis	Michael Haddad	834-1269
Volleyball (Ladies')	Erna Burns	824-9147

General Interest

Blackburn Arena		824-5197
Blackburn Chorus	Joan Hill	746-3973
Recreation and Parks	Jim Canning	824-1104
Block Parents:	Northeast-Doris Budd	824-1076
	Northwest-Susan Sheridan	824-8936
	South-Lynn Bissett	824-3938
City of Gloucester		748-4100
Information Gloucester		741-0770
Le Club Optimiste de Blackburn		
	Dominique Dufour-Jacques	837-4645
Les Chansonniers	Germain Asselin	837-3883
Library - Blackburn Branch		824-6926
Neighbourhood Watch	Donna Bond	824-1522
Newcomers' Club	Lynn Ragan	841-7402
St. Claude String Orchestra	Laura Backstrom	834-2027

Classified ads

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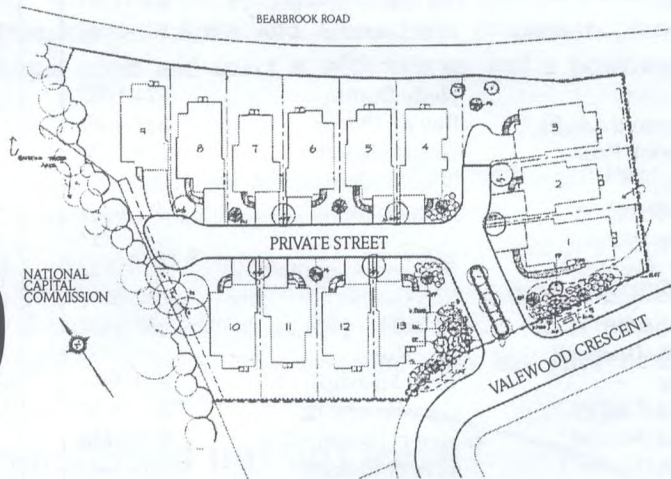
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