
BANAR

Blackburn Area News And Reports

Vol. 33 No. 3

February 2000

What's Happening at the COMMUNITY HALL?

by Al Ross

The Community Hall is being well used by groups in Blackburn and is booked practically every evening during the week. There are some daytime blocks available and we are looking for programs that would be useful to the community.



The community hall is the new location for a great game of bridge or euchre. Interested adults are invited to join this group of bridge players that meet every Tuesday afternoon at 1 pm. An evening of euchre has been planned for Saturday, February 5th.

Regular users include Guides, Sparks, and Pathfinders. The Blackburn Youth Association holds monthly dances, chess tournaments, bazaars, and many other functions.

There are also two quilting groups that hold their meetings once a week in our hall and the Gloucester Baha'i groups use it for their meetings on a regular basis. The hall is an excellent place for a private birthday party or team party and many Blackburn residents have taken advantage of this facility for family reunions, anniversary dinners, sleepovers and wedding receptions.

The City ran a daytime program during the summer on PD days and the Christmas break. They will be doing so again this year. They are also running a Yoga class on Mondays from 2:00 to 3:15 pm. Those interested in City programs should watch for announcements in the local newspapers, or call the City to get more information.

The BCA has purchased 25 card tables for use in the hall and a bridge group has started. This group meets on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and is open to anyone who wants to enjoy an afternoon of informal bridge and relaxation. Bill Durning has offered to direct the play and we have had up to 13 players show up without any formal notification. Euchre evenings have also been very successful and are being organized on a regular basis. See page 7 for more information on the next Euchre evening.

Students at Emily Carr are working on the artwork commissioned by the Gloucester Arts Council. It will be a wall mounted mosaic of coloured tiles depicting life in Blackburn and be mounted on the south wall. Paul Graham of the RPB is investigating various designs for reducing the noise echoes and will likely have something ready shortly. The air-conditioning of the hall was included in the first draft of the budget and will be done this spring before the warm weather is upon us. This will make the hall comfortable 12 months of the year.

There is still space available for weekend or daytime activities. It is open to any Blackburn resident, preferably a BCA member and rates are very reasonable. If you wish to book the hall for your group please call Jan Whitehouse at 830-8644.

Blackburn Community Association

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

Get the most up-to-date info
<http://members.density.com/blackburn>

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The BANAR is published and distributed by the Blackburn Community Association five 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 Microsoft Word to evelyn@buddgardens.com or delivered on disk with a hard copy to 5729 Kemplane Court. Call the editor, Evelyn Budd at 824-2538 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 Graphics*.

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 can be delivered to 2380 Cléroux Crescent or 5729 Kemplane Court.

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Full page - \$224.00 | 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 (5 issues) paid in advance - advertisers will get a 6th ad free.

Classified ads: 20 words or less, \$3.00; 25¢ for each additional word. Deliver cheque and ad to 2380 Cleroux Crescent. For more information call Lois Kemp 824-2903.

Annual BCA Membership

The 2000 Blackburn Community Association Membership drive is now underway. The BCA is a nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to serving the needs of Blackburn for over 40 years.

What does the BCA do for you?

- represents Blackburn Hamlet with city and regional governments
- sponsors and organizes civic meetings and forums, such as all-candidates meetings and mayoral town-hall meetings
- publishes the Banar 5 times a year to keep residents informed (delivered free to all Blackburn homes)
- organizes many community events such as the annual Fun Fair, Bavarian Fest, Garden Tour, community wide garage sales, family skating, etc.
- organizes community projects such as the new Community Hall and the Blackburn entrance signs
- supports youth programs
- entitles discounted memberships to the Blackburn Tennis Club and Blackburn Badminton Club.

Where to get your BCA membership?

Obtain your \$10 membership from your door-to-door canvasser or mail the following coupon in. Your support is appreciated! If no-one has come to your door in the last 2 months **PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO CANVAS PART OF YOUR STREET**. You may call Diane at 834-7144 for more information or mail the coupon below with a \$10 cheque (*made payable to BCA*) to:

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

Your support is appreciated!

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Name _____ | |
| Address _____ | Postal Code _____ |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I'd like to help the BCA as a volunteer. Give me a call! | |

Deadline for BANAR ¥ March 15th
Delivery date ¥ March 31st

From the President

Season's Greetings

As we did not issue a BANAR during December I did not have a chance to wish you Season's Greetings. I hope it was everything you wished for and that Year 2000 is all you can hope for.

New Year's Party

The New Year's Bash in the arena was well attended by the children during the day and in the community hall the adults also had a great time bringing in the new year. Many thanks to Rainer and his crew.

Board of Directors

We welcome Diane Symth to the Board of Directors as secretary. She is a great fit for a group that is committed to the values of a strong community spirit.

We are still looking for an Environmental

Director and someone to do the financial statement. Anyone interested?

Innes Road

In year 2000 another section of Innes Road will be done thanks to our councillor Rainer Bloess. We also will be looking into a new name for the part of Innes Road within Blackburn Hamlet. Addresses will be changing to "Ottawa" at the end of the year any way so if anyone has some ideas they should contact me at 824-3641.

Fun Fair

Neil Papineau has offered to do Fun Fair this year if he can find a co-chair who is willing to assist to take on the fair for year 2001. There must be someone out there who can give the time. All the directors are returning from last year so you will have a great team.

Iris Phillips

Family Sunday Skate at the Blackburn Arena

Come out for a fun and inexpensive afternoon at the Blackburn Arena.

January 30th 1-2:30 pm
Public Skate for a Looney

February 27th 1-2:30 pm
Public Skate for a Looney

March 19th 1-2:30 pm
Free Public Skate
(courtesy of the BCA)

Fun Fair Fête foraine

June 2 & 3, 2000 / Le 2 et 3 juin 2000

Fun Fair is coming back again. And BETTER than ever!!! This year's Fair promises to be something for kids of all ages.

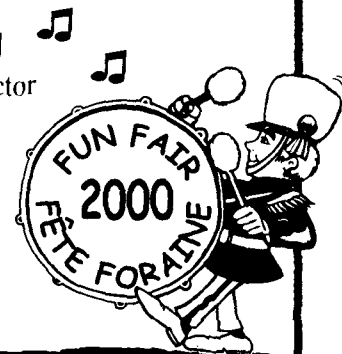
A NEW youth extravaganza is planned — watch for details in future issues of the Banar.

Most of the Old Gang is back on the organizing committees but we do need your help for some vacancies:

- Vice chairman
- Director parade and assistant director
- Assistant director facilities
- Director fundraising
- Director General store

If you are the right person for any of these jobs please call Neil Papineau at 830-9259.

See you at the Fair!



Fun New Year's Party benefits for Food Cupboard

by Rainer Bloess

First, Happy New Year and I will not use the "M" word or any acronym starting with Y and ending in K. We have heard enough of these terms for a while and it's time to get over the hype.

While on the subject of a new year, I would be remiss if I did not thank the Blackburn youths who organized the community New Year's Eve celebration. These teenage residents, led by Sean Morris and Matt Cahill, put together a party for all ages. Their celebration, beginning with a fun-filled hour of entertainment at the community hall for the really young, was followed with teen bash with a live performance by Kenmore's Last Hope at the arena. For the older crowd, myself included, they organized a party in the community hall, with complementary party favours and champagne for the midnight countdown. As well, these youths raised several hundred dollars for the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard.

On the city hall front, Christmas came early in December as we completed our budget exercise in record time. The good news is that a 5% property tax decrease on the local portion of your tax bill has again been achieved (by the way, this is the third 5% reduction in Gloucester taxes in the last four years). In the process, we approved a number of projects of interest to Blackburn Hamlet. Al Ross elaborates on these projects in this edition of the BANAR but worth mentioning are the on-going



Matt Cahill and Sean Morris (left to right) did a great job organizing the community's New Year's Eve celebrations and in the process raised several hundred dollars for the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard.

reconstruction of Innes Road and a partnership with the Gloucester Soccer Association to build a field house at the Hornets Nest.

By now, most, if not all, are aware of the decision on municipal restructuring. The province has put us all on the same track by reducing two local levels of municipal government to one with a significant reduction in the number of local politicians.

It is time for all of us to recognize that the various proponents presented their best case and the provincial adviser applied the criteria of his mandate (fewer local politicians, lower taxes, more efficient service delivery, less bureaucracy, and reducing duplication).

At the same time, many of you have expressed concerns about the future of our community in the scheme of a larger city. This being a critical year in the move to one city, the onus is now on all of us to stay involved and to stay informed to ensure that the transition is smooth and that we are well represented in the years to come.

It is time for all of us to get onside and make the new city work by being part of the solution for the new municipal structure. While we will be celebrating our past in Gloucester this coming year, it's time to move ahead to reach our full potential in the years to come.

As usual, if you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 748-4119 (city hall) or 837-5975 (home) or by email at: bloessr@magma.ca (or corp@city.gloucester.on.ca)

Gloucester Volunteer Recognition Awards

The awards ceremony will take place in April. The event will be part of National Volunteer Week, to emphasize the importance which the City places on the programs and services provided by volunteers.

Your help is required in singling out those individual who should be recognized by their council and their community. A Youth Category has been added for volunteers, 19 years of age or younger. We count on your submissions in order to ensure that the efforts of these special people can be applauded and their example made known to all.

Applications must be returned no later than February 14th. Call Rainer Bloess (748-4119) or Lori Reilly (748-4153) for more information or forms.

New Consignment Store has Great Deals

Tucked between Adonis Bakery and Hair Alive Beauty Salon in the TD mall is a store where you can turn your clothes into cash! Lori and Diane opened the Garb Consignment Store last October and has been stocking it with beautiful garments and accessories. Garb sells both men's and women's brand name merchandise that is gently worn and in "like-new condition. Clothes must have been purchased within the last two years. The styles are current, in season, freshly laundered and pressed or dry cleaned and in excellent condition. If the article is your size you are getting a fantastic bargain.

Garb also offers a quality on-site alterations and repairs service for clothing you presently own and don't want to part with.

An appointment is necessary for first time consignors. Thereafter a "Drop and Run" service is offered to make faster and easier drop-offs. They help set a price (usually

Garb sells both men's and women's brand name merchandise that is gently worn

1/3 of the original price) for maximum results for the consignor and a fast turnover. Clothing that does not sale within a reasonable time are returned or are donated to a local charitable organization.

You will find a wide selection in the store but Garb does not consign shoes, fur, lingerie, undergarments, bathing suits, wedding, bridesmaid or prom dresses, costumes, outdated leather or suede, homemade items, semi-precious or precious jewelry.

So look through your closet and ask yourself "Why am I interested in consigning this item?" If the answer is "It's a beautiful garment and I love it,

but..." - it will never fit me again - my lifestyle has changed - it was an impulse buy or -it's just not my colour ... Great! Take it in because that is the type of clothing that Garb will accept and the type of clothing that customers are looking for

Have fun shopping for a bargain!

City Budgets for Projects in the Year 2000

by Al Ross, Civic Affairs

I attended the City's budget meeting in December to support the Tennis Club with their proposal to have the courts refinished in the year 2000 and to request that Phase 2 of the Innes Road project also be included. Mike Haddad made a presentation to council following which they approved the required City funds to advance this project into the year 2000. The Tennis club, along with the BCA, is contributing half of the costs of the project. The City also added the construction of the 2nd phase of the Innes Road upgrade to the 2000 budget. This had not been included in the original submission. Hopefully this phase will be completed in a more timely fashion last summer's (and fall's) work.

Things are looking good for our community. Hopefully when the dust settles and the restructuring haggles are over we can continue to work as closely with the politicians and staff of the new municipal government as we have in the past.



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Update on Blackburn Parks and Facilities

by Paul Graham

Bearbrook Outdoor Pool

The Board Members would like to thank the Pool staff for providing a fun-filled and safe summer. The renovated pool took on a wonderful resort atmosphere especially during the hot spell in July.

Parks Inspection

The volunteers on the Board performed an inspection of all parks and have made recommendations to City Staff for repairs and replacement.

New Park Structures

Although a delay in ordering resulted from extensive consultation with interested community members, Keystone Park is greatly improved with a new light (partial funding from Councillor Bloess), new playstructure, the addition of swings, improved pathways and a

new seniors area with horse shoe pits, bird feeders and benches. Other parks to have equipment installed include Bearbrook Park with the addition of larger swings and Red Maple with a new slide.

Blackburn Park Playstructure

(Beside the Blackburn Preschool) The concept of moving this structure is being considered. Potential locations include the west side of the Community Hall. Comments are welcome, please contact any of the board members or myself at 830-2868.

Blackburn Arena

Ice is available for public skating on Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 8:20 pm. and on Saturday from 1 to 2:20 pm at the Blackburn Arena. Cost is \$2.00 per person. Frequent user and season passes are available.

The BCA is sponsoring family skate days on three Sundays — January 30th, February 27th and March 19th from 1 to 2:30 pm. Cost is only a looney and free on March 19th.

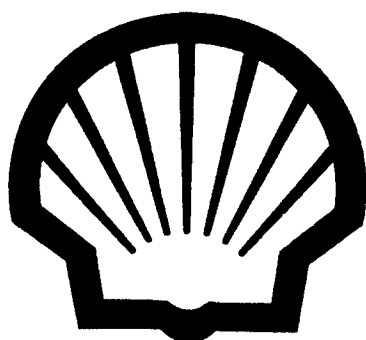
Outdoor Rinks

The Board members have selected City Operations Staff to make and clear the ice. Our two boarded rinks are supervised from 7 to 11 pm daily with additional weekend hours 11 am to 4 pm. RPB Board Member Chris Noyes oversees the rinks and can be reached by calling 824-2842.

Hornets Nest Soccer Field

A clubhouse will be constructed this spring at the Hornet's Nest soccer field. Cost is being shared by the Hornets and the City of Gloucester.

Board members include Al Ross, Rainer Bloess, Gord Hawley, Chris Noyes, Monica de Romer, Carol Kerwin, Gerda Spindler-Birchard and Paul Graham.



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Second Euchre Tournament February 5th

After several requests for a repeat performance, we are having the 2nd Euchre Tournament on Saturday, February 5th at the Blackburn Community Hall. Games start at 8:00 p.m. sharp!

For those of you who missed the first tournament, make sure you don't miss this one. In November, seventy-two old and new euchre players showed up for a fun evening, and no one was disappointed. Players had an opportunity to practice their euchre skills, and to add to the challenge, each game was played with a different partner. Ken Short was proclaimed the winner with a whopping 72 points. Actually all participants were the winners as they had a lovely opportunity to see old and meet new friends and enjoy an affordable evening out. Proceeds went to the Glen Ogilvie School Council to offset costs for an amazing school performance by the *Duffel Bag Theatre*.

Thanks to the following Blackburn Hamlet businesses and individuals who so generously donated in goods or prizes: Home Hardware, LOEB, Dragon City, Imilio's Pizzeria, Spic and Span Cleaners, Rainer Bloess, Shoppers Drug Mart, Mr. Submarine, Videoflicks, New Horizons and Adonis Bakery.

If you are interested in participating in the February 5th Euchre Tournament, call Chantal Goyette at 830-4254 or Sue Sheridan at 824-8936 as soon as possible to reserve your seat. Proceeds to the Glen Ogilvie School Council. Cash bar. Cost is \$7.50 and a bag of snack foods.

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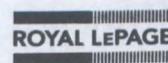
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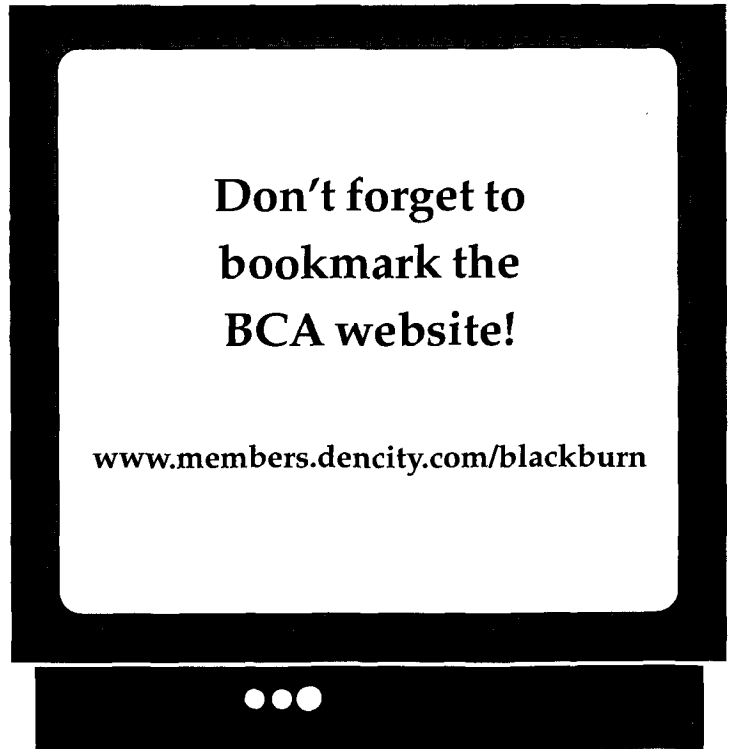
8-1661 Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1J6N6

www.ottawahomes.net

Connect on-line with new website

The Blackburn Community Association has always tried to keep the community well informed on what is happening. Now with the website, the latest up-to-date information is available. Marion Jones and Helen Rosseau have created a site that contains information such as BCA contacts, Blackburn history, up-coming events, sport and leisure organizations. Great links are available such as Kid's Links, Government Links, School Links, Seniors Links as well as a dynamite link to the new Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association website. The BANAR can also be accessed through the web. Perhaps in the near future we can have links to some Blackburn businesses.

Marion and Helen welcome any comments, suggestions and updates. You can e-mail them at kmjones@cyberus.ca or hrosseau@home.com. A good idea would be to include it in your favourites and bookmark the website. Keep abreast of Blackburn news by visiting regularly.



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Keeping Competitive Sports Fun

Being involved in sports is an important building block for good health for your child. Sports activities promote fitness, establish healthy sleeping patterns and relieve stress. They also teach children social skills, such as how to be a team player and a good winner and loser. Most of all, sports give children a sense of accomplishment, whether it's swimming the length of a pool, scoring a goal for the team or learning a new gymnastics routine.

Here are some tips to make sure that sports remain fun:

- Accept your child's feelings. It's OK for them to feel badly because they lost.
- Look for an organization or league that teach basic skills and have lots of practices rather than focusing on games and competitions. Ask around and find out what coaching philosophies are used in the league.
- Don't push your child too hard to excel. The harder a child is pushed the higher the risk of problems developing if expectations are not met.
- Not all sports are right for all children. Parents need to listen to what their children have to say and either help them through their problem or give them the confidence to quit when they say they want out.
- Kids play sports to be part of the group, to be like their heroes and to have fun. It is better to expect less and be pleased with your child's efforts and achievements that to expect more and be disappointed.
- Look for stress signals. The three most common are: wanting to avoid the activity; anxiety regarding practices, meets, and games; and a vulnerability toward non-healthy behaviour.

New BHYA website now at www.bhya.org

Check out the new BHYA at [bhya.org](http://www.bhya.org). Great looking site and there is lots to see and do!

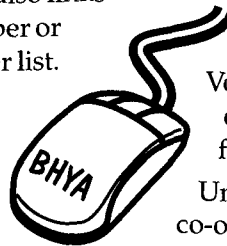
The website covers the Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association's background information, maps, events, chess results and also links to register as a new member or ask to be on the newsletter list.

The Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association dances continue to be very popular. The next two dances will be held on February 25th and March 24th. All dances run from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the door while quantities last and are limited to BHYA members.

The Family Chess Program is running every second Sunday afternoon. Registration starts at 12 and games run from 1 - 4.

The Adult Euchre parties are continuing every 3rd Saturday night at the Community Hall. Tickets are just \$5 per person and are available at the Blackburn Home Hardware.

Over \$100 in prizes to be won at each event! A canteen with soft drinks and coffee/tea at just 50 ¢ each is operated by Youth Volunteers for this event. Come out and help support our fundraising efforts.!



Unfortunately, the weather did not co-operate this year and we decided to cancel the Winter Carnival. The program was built around a Snowman Contest as our center piece and without the snow we felt that we could not attract enough participation to justify the cost. We would like to thank all of our volunteers for putting in their time and support for this program and we hope to bring it back next year.



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Ontario's Strategy for Alzheimer Disease

by Rollie Sanders

Alzheimer Disease is the most common dementia affecting elderly people, although it has also been diagnosed in those as young as 40. It is a deteriorating brain disease that eventually kills. In Ontario, more than 100,000 people live with the disease, 90% of whom are over the age of 65. With Ontario's growing and aging population, it is expected that Alzheimer Disease and related dementias will increase significantly in coming years.

The Ontario government promised to listen carefully to those affected by Alzheimer Disease and respond with a co-ordinated strategy to address this devastating disease. The resulting Alzheimer Strategy-- the first of its kind in Canada-- is the result of broad consultation with key stakeholders across the province. Over 180 submissions were received in response to the government's draft strategy released March 4, 1999.

Ontario's unprecedented multi-year investment of \$1.2 billion in long-term care services has already led to increased service for individuals and families coping with the effects of Alzheimer Disease and related dementias. The Alzheimer Strategy, announced on

September 10th is an important, complementary step and outlines the government's action plan to better meet the needs of Ontarians with Alzheimer Disease and related dementias, as well as their caregivers and families. The Ontario Government will invest \$68.4 million in the comprehensive, multi-faceted strategy over the next five years.

Credit for the above is given to the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa-Carleton, Alzheimer Lifeline.

Help for Today. Hope for Tomorrow.

Today, 1 in 13 Canadians over 65 is affected by Alzheimer disease and related dementias.

For more information contact your local Alzheimer society or visit the web site at www.alzheimer.ca

Donation to Community Hall Fund

All the share money (approximately \$350.00) earned by Seniors as ticket sellers during the 1999 Fun Fair has been handed over to the Community Hall Fund. Thanks for your participation.



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of the Hamlet at the above location*

Insider Trading

by R. Mitchell Rowe LL.B.

Late last year Corel's Michael Cowpland was charged with insider trading by the Ontario Securities Commission. The OSC alleges that his sale of \$20.4 million of Corel stock - or about 1/3 of his holdings - made one month prior to their 33% drop in value, was improper. The Commission alleges that his trade was made because he had material confidential information — poor sales figures — which had not yet been made available to the general investing public, who purchased his stock.

Mr. Cowpland denies this theory alleged by the OSC, claiming the stock sale was made for other unrelated reasons. Maybe it was time to trade in his car.

This law is controversial. On one hand, company owners and employees are encouraged to own stock in their own company, as performance incentives. They must be allowed, obviously, to sell their stock. Since they work at the company the idea that everybody is entitled to the same information about the company, in order to level the playing field, seems just too unrealistic. And to draw the line at whether or not the insider "abused" his clearly privileged position is too vague, when abuse is not so easily defined.

**a secret sale can
damage the integrity of all
securities markets**

On the other hand, Mr. Cowpland's alleged crime appears to be not in his actual sale of the stock, but in the way his sale was done, anonymously through his holding company. As the theory goes, a secret sale can damage the integrity of all securities markets by turning off public confidence and in turn the ability of all companies to raise investment capital. This will hurt all of us in the long run.

Insiders cannot have the best of both worlds. If they choose to go to the public to raise money they cannot then turn around and, without disclosure of their sale, avoid losses by selling before material information is made public. The penalties for doing this, which include fines of up to three times the profits made, should be considered just one of the more important rules of the investment game.

And as for Mr. Cowpland, selling at around \$6.00 per share to allegedly avoid a drop to \$3.00 per share, only to see it rise recently to somewhere around \$50.00 per share, makes one wonder if he even is an insider. Maybe a good defense will be that his staff fails to keep him informed.

Don't be surprised to discover that luck favours those who are prepared.

Dr. Bruce Harfield

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The Importance of Preschool

by Louise Lee

When my son began preschool in Blackburn Hamlet this year he was excited to meet new friends and to play with a whole new variety of toys. On the first day of school he was dressed more quickly than any day before or since and he ate breakfast with his backpack on his back. Although the friends and fun times are a big part of the preschool

experience, there are many more reasons why preschool is a good introduction to the formal school setting.

Children who attend neighbourhood preschools have an opportunity to get to know playmates with whom they may be attending school for years to come. This early socialization helps build peer relationships and improves their sharing and problem solving skills. Your child learns to take turns,

wait, and use words to express their ideas to others. Equally important is the opportunity your child gets to build relationships with adults and to listen to instruction from those other than family members.

A child who attends preschool also becomes more independent. They are shown and encouraged to dress themselves and to take responsibility for their possessions (cups, coats, boots, etc.). During unstructured times such as indoor or outdoor playtime, your preschooler is free to choose for themselves among the myriad of activities, toys and craft materials. A school setting and the structured learning activities, such as circle time, help your child learn routines that will continue in the elementary school years.

Preschools such as Blackburn Hamlet Cooperative Preschool offer both unstructured and structured activities for your child supervised and taught by highly trained ECE teachers. As a cooperative preschool, the parents are an integral part of the school's running, making it an excellent first school choice. Blackburn Hamlet Cooperative Preschool offers AM and PM programs for 2 1/2 to 5 year olds, with flexible drop-off and pick-up times. It has two well-equipped classrooms and a large, fenced yard.

Preschool Open House

If you are considering preschool for your child, please attend our Blackburn Hamlet Cooperative Preschool Open House on Sunday, March 5 from 2 to 4 pm. The preschool is at 202 Glen Park Drive found behind the Blackburn Arena. Naturally, children are welcome.

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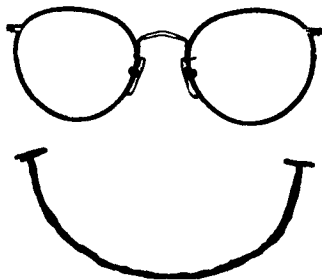
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Theatre Workshop Series begins at end of January

A wonderful workshop series for thespians begins on January 29. If you are at all attracted to the glare of the stage lights, read on — these workshops are for you! There will be three workshops in all.

The first, called **On Your Marks!** is a day of improv with Ken Godmere. Ken's experience with the *Kids in the Hall* is well known. Since coming to Ottawa he has broadened his teaching experience, working with young children, teens and adults across the region. Ken is a judge for the Ottawa Improv Games and also operates the Comedy Club (soon moving to a permanent location).

February 19th, the workshops continue with **A Song in your Heart** (workshop #2), which will cover the basics (and then some!) of musical

theatre with Christopher Isaacs. Chris is a professional actor and director who has worked on a wide variety of musical theatre productions in Toronto. Since coming to Ottawa, Chris has continued his involvement in this exciting area of theatre performance.

Stage movement, basic choreography and voice will be included in this program. Class size is limited to 20, so register early to ensure your spot.

And finally, March 4, the Council offers **Let's Get Physical!** (workshop #3), a workshop that will include the basics of stage movement, stage combat and plenty of time to practice the techniques involved. The workshop will be led by John Koengen, a professional actor and undisputed expert in all forms of stage combat. Class size is limited to

20 to ensure the safety of all participants. Come and learn some of the "tricks of the trade" from John.

Please wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing to all these workshops and avoid wearing jewellery!

To register, you must be at least 15 years of age. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to brush up on your acting skills, whether you are already professionally involved or just entering the world of theatre. The registration fee for the workshops is \$45 each or \$120 for the series of three/ \$40 and \$105 for GAC members and students. Registration is based on first come, first served - register early for these exciting programs! Call the Gloucester Arts Council office at 749-4978 for more information.

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Ball Tournament & Registration

Blackburn 1999 Ball Tournament

by Sandi Heit, Dennis Murphy, Tournament Committee

The Blackburn Mens Fastball League held it's annual tournament over the weekend of August 24 - 25th, 1999. For the first time, the Blackburn Ladies League joined in. A total of 20 teams were involved, 16 mens and 4 ladies with each team guaranteed 3 games. A tent was set up for cold drinks, jumbo hot dogs, hamburgers and pizza. Congratulations to *Barley Mow* for winning the "A" side championship and to *Navan Rookies* for showing in the "A" finals. Also congratulations to *56 Fence All* for winning the "B" side championship and to *IT Net* for being the "B" side finalist. We would like to thank our many sponsors whose generous donations were handed out to 78 MVP's. Their support helped make our tournament a huge success.

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Also a big thanks to Wally's (Bob, Sam and family) who ran the beer tent all weekend. Hope to see you next year.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 9TH

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

PLACE: GLEN OGILVIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

3rd Annual Garden Tour

The Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour organizers are looking for ten gardens for the Third Annual Garden Tour to be held on Sunday, June 25, 2000. All those who showed their gardens last year found it to be an exhilarating experience so don't be shy. It's a great way to meet other gardening enthusiasts who share your passion as well as to raise money for a good cause. Our mouth watering planning and wrap-up sessions are another great reason to join us.

We would like to meet you and talk to you about your garden so we can write a description for the Tour Guide. Please call Gail Kajiura at 837-2040 for more information.

Allotment Garden Plots

Gardeners signing up with Gloucester Allotment Garden Association at March registration meeting will get a five dollar discount off regular fee.

The Association will hold its registration meeting Tuesday, March 7 at 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Louis-Riel School, 1655 Bearbrook.

Plots measuring 7x14 are available at both Orient Park and Anderson Road sites. Hurry up! Be an early bird and make sure you get your discount and your plot!

For more information, call the Registrar at 841-7893 or the President at 824-6524



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Dinner & Silent Auction

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Live dinner music, cash bar

Saturday, February 12th, 6:30 to 9:30 pm

For tickets or information call: Pat 837-4731 (leave message)

Auction items include: cottage get-aways, original art work and many other items large and small

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Fundraisers

Dinner and Silent Auction

On Saturday, February 12th, St. Mary the Virgin parish in Blackburn Hamlet is holding a dinner and silent auction to raise money for its music program.

The dinner is being catered by Dave Smith of *The Place Next Door*, so good food is guaranteed! There will be a cash bar, and dinner will be enhanced by live music.

Items up for auction include everything from a night of baby-sitting, to original artwork to use of a cottage on Lake Huron for a week this coming July.

For further information about the event, to offer items for the auction or to buy tickets (\$20 per person), call Pat at 837-4731 and leave a message. Or talk to a friend or neighbour who goes to St. Mary's.

Silent Auction and Merchant's Mall for new play structure

In October, 1998, the **Conseil des ecoles catholiques de langue francaise du Centre-Est** had the play structure in the Ste-Marie schoolyard inspected. It was deemed to be unsafe and subsequently demolished. This decision not only impacts on the children attending École Ste-Marie but the local residents of the Blackburn Hamlet community and the future students of the school.

A committee was formed to coordinate the fundraising efforts for the purchase of a new play structure which meets the new CSA safety standards. Our goal is to raise \$18,000 by the summer 2000. Some of the generous donations so far include \$1,000 from Rainer Bloess, \$2,000 from the School Board, and \$1,000 from the City of Gloucester, Recreation and Parks Board (to be confirmed). The committee has also raised a total of \$2,300.

To help us reach our goal, we are hoping that the residents and businesses of Blackburn Hamlet will give us a hand. Our main fundraising event will be a Silent Auction and Merchant's Mall in May at École Ste-Marie. Anyone who would like to donate gifts or services for the auction or buy a table to display their business can contact Sophie Lahaie at 834-4953.

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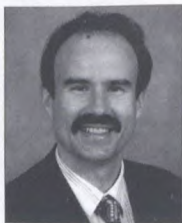
Please join me for an information seminar on your options.

Date: February 8/00

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Location: 3080 Innes Rd, Blackburn Firehall

The seminar is free, but seating is limited. Please call 841-9315 to reserve your seat.



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Horticultural Society

On Monday, February 21st the Gloucester Horticultural Society will hold a Preserves and Forced Bulb Show and on Monday, March 20th a guest speaker, Scotty Adams, will discuss the basics of landscaping.

For more information call 741-4523

Poetry and Storytelling

Gloucester Spoken Art is held from 2:30 pm to 5 pm, Café Margit, 2425 St. Joseph Blvd., Orleans.

Poetry and storytelling with Evelyn Voigt and Ronald Laflamme will be held on February 20th and Sylvia Adams, Fonkeng E.F. and Dave Anthony will be held on March 19th.

It's free and all are welcome.
Information: 747-2272

Gloucester Senior Adults

Gloucester Senior Adults' Centre welcomes all seniors from noon to 1 pm to the Gloucester Senior Adults' Centre, 2020 Ogilvie Road (above Earl Armstrong Arena) for the following activities..

Feb. 10 - Valentine Lunch: Enjoy the festivities with students from Lester B. Pearson High School. Cost: \$6.50.

Feb. 24 - Have a Heart Hoedown: In true western spirit, help the Centre support the Heart & Stroke Foundation with their cowboy games of chance.

Mar. 7 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch: Cost: \$6.50.

Mar. 16 - St. Patrick's Day Lunch: Wear your green, because everyone is Irish today, and enjoy a hearty lunch of Irish stew. Cost: \$6.50.

Mar. 22 - Sugaring Off Trip, 10 am to 5 pm. Enjoy a day at Sucrerie de la Montagne, a sleigh ride, a tour of the sugar bush, taffy on the snow and a wonderful québécois feast at noon, followed by music and dancing.

Cost: \$46 for Senior Centre members and \$48.50 non-members.

Mar. 28 - Blahs Bash: It's Blahs Bash time again. Chase away the winter blues with a day of games, lunch and lots of fun.

Mar. 30 - Daffodil Bake Sale: Support this annual fundraiser for the Cancer Society.

For more information on any of the above activities please call 749-1974.

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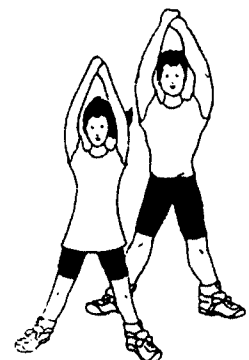
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Coming Events

Concerts for Music Lovers

The Gloucester Music Club presents its second series of concerts of the season at 7:30 pm on February 17th and 18th at Gloucester City Hall, 1595 Telesat Court and a third series to be held at 7:30 pm on April 6th, 7th and 8th at East Gate Alliance Church, 550 Codd's Road, off Montreal Road. These professionally-run concerts

give amateur musicians an opportunity to perform in public and show the community what fabulous talent lies waiting to be discovered!

Admission is \$2.50 per single ticket or \$6 for the family.

For more information contact Patricia Doran at 830-9565.

Business Network Int'l Presentations

BNI is a business referral organization providing a structured system for development and exchange of quality business referrals. The Blackburn Chapter meets each Friday at 7 am at Wally's Restaurant.

Planned presentations include:

- Feb 4 – Dave Gilbert, *Eco Sys Indoor Environmental Control*
- Feb 11 – Rachel Doucet, *RADSYS Consulting Inc.*
- Feb 18 – Anita Hoare, *Royal Lepage Real Estate*
- Feb 25 – Mike Shaikh, *Printing and Promotions Copy Centre*
- Mar 3 – Philippe Henault, *Call Center Products*
- Mar 10 – Robert Real, *Edward Jones Investments*
- Mar 17 – Dr. Dave Danic, *Dentist*
- Mar 24 – Dave Tanner, *TDC*
- Mar 31 – Robert Carscadden, *CGA, Andrews & Co., Chartered Accountants*
- Apr 7 – Joe Potenza, *Allstate Insurance*

An invitation is extended to anyone who is interested in learning more about the above businesses or who would like to see how word of mouth marketing builds business. Check out the local BNI website at <http://www.carepro.net/bni>.

For more information about the chapter contact the President, Dave Huffman at 265-1852.

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| Bookings | Jan Whitehouse | 830-8644 |
| Blackburn Arena | | 824-5197 |
| Library - Blackburn Branch | | 824-6926 |
| City of Gloucester | | 748-4100 |
| Guides and Brownies | Bev Reynolds | 824-6013 |
| Scouts | Chris Hare | 830-3125 |
| | Lee Coutu | 837-0837 |
| 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 |
| Blackburn Chorus | Joan Hill | 746-3973 |
| Block Parents: | Northeast-Doris Budd | 824-1076 |
| | Northwest-Susan Sheridan | 824-8936 |
| | South-Lynn Bissett | 824-3938 |
| Le Club Optimiste de Blackburn | | |
| | Dominique Dufour-Jacques | 837-4645 |
| Les Chansonniers | Germain Asselin | 837-3883 |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Donna Bond | 824-1522 |
| Newcomers' Club | Carol Hopky | 841-6904 |
| Gloucester Horticulture | | 746-9564 |
| Gloucester Seniors | | 749-1974 |
| Gloucester Arts | | 749-4978 |
| Sports | | |
| Badminton | Ray du Plessis | 824-2671 |
| Fastball (Men's) | Steve Bovey | 824-1435 |
| Football | John Rowe | 824-6665 |
| Gloucester Skating Club | Office | 830-1610 |
| Hockey (Girl's) | Gilles Lebrun | 841-7540 |
| Hockey (Minor) | Tom Canham | 837-1344 |
| Hockey (Men's) | Roy Van Koughnett | 824-3921 |
| Little League Baseball | Larry Pyman | 824-9441 |
| Ringette (Girl's) | Al West | 830-1401 |
| Ringette (Ladies') | Jane Ross | 837-1504 |
| Softball (Ladies') | Cheryl Toomey | 830-3607 |
| Tennis | Michael Haddad | 834-1269 |
| Volleyball (Ladies') | Nancy Taylor | 596-2550 |
| Volleyball (Mixed) | Keith Erskine | 834-0278 |
| Schools | | |
| Abacus Montessori School | | 841-0211 |
| 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 |

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