

BANAR

Blackburn Area News And Reports

Vol. 35 No. 3

January 2002

Polar Bears visit Hamlet

by Karen Gaudreau, Past Chair, PeeWee Tournament



Jose Kusugak, President, Inuit Taparistut Kanatami and Glen Higgins, President, Iqaluit Amateur Hockey Association presents a medal for the Player of the Game Award to Robbie Tiglik after Nanook's final game.

The Blackburn Minor Hockey Association started off the New Year by welcoming to our community and to our annual PeeWee Tournament, on the first week-end in January, the Iqaluit Nanooks PeeWee Hockey Team. This group of 22 enthusiastic players and their coaches from Iqaluit in our newest territory of Nunavut travelled over 2100 kms from the North to visit the National Capital and have the opportunity to play other teams in a tournament setting.

The trip here was the dream of Gloucester Rangers President, Louanne Clitsome who, while working in Iqaluit, was drawn to the rinks and the hockey programs there. With lots of talent but limited opportunities for these young players, Louanne recognized the need to link these kids with teams from our own Gloucester Hockey Association. At a

GHA Registrars meeting in April 2001 the idea was tabled and as Past Tournament Chair I recognized that the perfect venue for hosting this team was during the annual Blackburn PeeWee Tournament. With the nod of BMHA President Mark McAvoy, we committed on the spot to making this dream a reality.

The Nanooks were able to make this trip thanks to the hard work of Glen Higgins, President of the Iqaluit Amateur Hockey Association. Funds were raised through a NHL memorabilia auction by the Iqaluit Amateur Hockey Association and fare discounts provided by First Air sealed the trip. Blackburn families from Bantam and Midget as well as PeeWee volunteered to billet pairs of players. Accompanying the Nanooks on their adventure were Glen Higgins with coaching staff Charlie Audlakiak, Sheldon Clouthier, Gordie Higgins and Ben Kovic and parents

Note: "Nanooks" means "Polar Bears" in Iqaluit.

Cont'd on p.8

Blackburn Community Association

Mailing address: P.O. Box 47062
Ottawa, On K1B 5B0



www.blackburnhamlet.ca

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From the President

It's hard to believe but the winter solstice is behind us, the days are getting longer and winter is still half asleep, sitting in the wings waiting for the right conditions to unleash its fury upon us.

Your community association is far from sitting in the wings waiting for things to happen. The outdoor rinks are open, thanks to Chris Noyes and his team of monitors, Barb Sweazy has formalized our visioning and long term plans for Blackburn, the new Community Hall storage room has been completed, the Fun Fair, under Paul Graham, is meeting on a monthly basis, Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association, under the leadership of Gord and Chris Hawley, are holding their Friday night dances at the Blackburn and Cyrville Community halls.

The use of the Community Hall continues to play a more important role in our community with the addition this year of Jan's Workout three mornings per week. The Gloucester Child care services, the Tuesday afternoon bridge, the Wednesday art group, Brownies and Sparks, two quilting groups, and the Seniors Club with Sarah Cloutier, are still regular users of the hall.

The Blackburn Minor Hockey Association has just completed a very successful Peewee tournament where we had a visiting team from Iqaluit participating during the first weekend. Congratulations to Alain Desgranges and his committee for their excellent work in putting it all together.

Although we have a very active corps of volunteers in Blackburn, I'm sure there is room for a few more community activities. If you have any ideas where you believe the BCA could support or help organize an event, please contact the appropriate board member or me, and we will see what can be done to make it happen.

Al Ross

Upcoming BANARS

Deadline date:

March 15th

May 10th

Delivery date:

March 30th

May 25th

Additional Banars are available at the Library and Arena.

We did it!

by Barbara Sweazey

You may recall that following a community visioning process held last February, the BCA defined a list of 32 projects in areas ranging from Youth to Environment to Small Town Dynamics. These projects, listed in the May 2001 issue of the BANAR, provided direction for BCADirectors as we planned and undertook community based initiatives throughout this past year. We are pleased to inform you that the BCA completed 72% of these projects and another 6% are still in progress! The projects that were not completed were either "long-term" initiatives or were of a lower priority. The following is a summary of the BCA's accomplishments in 2001:

Youth

BCA Youth Director, Gord Hawley, continues to be very active in the youth community. Biweekly teen dances are consistently sold out in the Blackburn Community Hall and the Cyrville Community Centre. And, after discussions with Blackburn youth, a quarter pipe was added to the Skateboard Park. The BCA also continued to support its outdoor swimming pool with the purchase and installation of a pool slide and additional lawn furniture. Discussions with the City and the Tennis Club on a mutually agreeable solution to public access to the courts are still underway.

Environment

Blackburn Hamlet's Spring Clean-up 2001 was a great success. Blackburn residents scoured roadsides and ditches, forests and parks, the community gardens and streams. In all over 100 bags of litter were collected by more than 70 volunteers on the morning April 28. A few weeks later, Blackburn hosted its very successful annual community garage sale and plant exchange.

Later in the spring, several Blackburn residents gathered to learn about the environmental and health dangers of pesticides, as well as very practical solutions for organic gardening. The literature presented that evening was also requested by over a dozen other residents unable to

attend, and 10 signs showing commitment to a pesticide-free lawn were also purchased.

Finally, although environmental issues have not been fully explored with Lafarge, the environmental considerations of a new office building to be constructed at the site were discussed with City staff.

Greenspace & Recreation

The BCA presented its request to the City for increased lighting on our pathways. At this time, other locations in the City have been identified as having higher priority. Similarly, a request for an outdoor skating oval near the arena was put forward to the City, but was turned down due to logistical concerns.

Small Town Dynamics

The Community Centre continues to be booked solidly for a variety of programs. BCA volunteers continue to manage the facility. To better support these initiatives, the

Cont'd on p.4



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Community Visions

Cont'd from p.3

BCA organized a City of Ottawa grant and supervised the building expansion to improve storage capacity. The BCA also coordinated volunteers responsible for the creation of the patio.

Articles featuring Blackburn businesses have been written for several issues of the BANAR. As well, to increase business growth in the community, the BCA also engaged the Beer Store, LCBO, and Tim Horton's on exploring the possibility of placing outlets in the Hamlet. To date, both the Beer Store and LCBO have declined the opportunity; possibilities still exist for a Tim Horton's.

The Family Fun Run was held twice in 2001, with enthusiastic participants each time (we're always looking for volunteers, though!). And, as always, the BCA continued to support the annual Fun Fair in June.

Opportunities for Oktoberfest and caroling events were explored, but were deemed not feasible at this time.

Membership

A very active group of canvassers have successfully launched the BCA membership drive again this year. A list of volunteers continues to grow and be maintained by the BCADirector for Membership.

Traffic

New traffic control measures were established this year along Bearbrook Road near the Hornet's Nest, including warning signs and No Parking signs along the west side. These initiative, and regular policing of traffic speed, all contributed to a safer road environment in our community.

BCA Modus Operendi

Each BCA Director has prepared a "job description" for their position, and presented it to the Board for approval. As well, through the planning process, Directors have been able to identify annual goals, which collectively embody the goals and objectives for the association. A committee has been actively reviewing the BCA's constitution and by-laws, and will be making recommendations to the directors for approval in the new year.

What's Next?

The BCA held its planning meeting for 2002, and a series of new and ongoing projects were identified and are illustrated in the table on page 5.



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Blackburn Community Association – Plans for 2002

➡ Timeframe – Short (by Spring of 2002), Mid (by end of 2002), Long (into 2003), TBD (To be determined)/ • P Priority

YOUTH

1. Add a "grinder rail" to skateboard park
Contact: Paul Graham ➡ Short term • P1
2. Expand asphalt to increase surface area of skateboard park.
Contact: Paul Graham ➡ Long-term • P3
3. Reach agreement between City and Tennis Club on public access of courts.
Contact: Jessica Tranquility-Doherty ➡ Mid term • P2
4. Purchase sound system for Youth Dances at Blackburn Community Centre.
Contact: Gord Hawley ➡ Short term • P1
5. Support swimming pool's youth programs and initiatives.
Contact: Paul Graham ➡ Annual • P1

ENVIRONMENT

1. Host Blackburn Environmental Fair.
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Short term • P2
2. Host a public consultation on the City's Pesticide Use policy.
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Short term • P1
3. Provide information about alternative lawn care choices (BANAR, literature, signs, etc.)
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Short term • P1
4. Explore environmental issues with Lafarge.
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Long term • P3
5. Organize/publicize community garage sale & plant exchange.
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Annual • P1
6. Organize community Spring Cleanup.
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Annual • P1
7. Develop and implement Litter Reduction campaign (garbage cans, work with schools, cooperation with OC Transpo, etc.).
Contact: Barb Sweazey ➡ Mid term • P2

GREENSPACE & RECREATION

1. Identify Blackburn resident willing to "head-up" NCC relations on behalf of the community.
Contact: Al Ross ➡ Short term • P1
2. Establish relationship between BCA and NCC regarding planned uses for greenspace (including nursery) surrounding the Hamlet.
Contact: TBD ➡ Mid term • P1
3. Report to community (through BANAR) trails and NCC policy on recreational use of greenspace surrounding the Hamlet.
Contact: Al Ross ➡ Short term • P1
4. Where feasible, establish link with organization that grooms recreation trails at Green's Creek.
Contact: TBD ➡ Long term • P2
5. Identify specific pathway lighting requests for Blackburn, and formally lobby City for increased pathway lighting.
Contact: Paul Graham / Paula Rosenquist ➡ Mid term • P2

EDUCATION

1. Contact schools to identify opportunities for community involvement and cooperation.
Contact: Paula Rosenquist ➡ Short term • P1
2. Explore options of BCA Citizenship awards.
Contact: Paula Rosenquist ➡ Mid term • P2

SMALL TOWN DYNAMICS

1. Add shelving to Community Centre storage area.
Contact: Paul Graham ➡ Short term • P
2. Enhance Community Centre's surroundings (e.g. landscaping, picnic tables, patio furniture, etc.)
Contact: Al Ross ➡ Mid term • P2
3. Ask Lafarge to offer a community Open House.
Contact: Barb Sweazey / Paul Graham ➡ Mid term • P2
4. Include "Spot Light on Business" articles regularly in BANAR.
Contact: Sandra Quaia ➡ Ongoing • P1
5. Formally thank businesses that contribute to BCA and general Blackburn events.
Contact: Sandra Quaia ➡ Ongoing • P1
6. Organize fall and spring "Family Runs".
Contact: Paul Graham ➡ Ongoing • P1
7. Explore option of constructing a gazebo or band shell near Community Centre, using Trillium Funding sources.
Contact: G. Hawley / C. Noyes / J. Tranquility Doherty ➡ Mid term • P2

MEMBERSHIP

1. Organize annual membership drive.
Contact: Monica de Romer ➡ Annual • P1
2. Expand volunteer base to assist BCA directors in completing projects (add request in Membership Form in BANAR, as well as specific requests for help). Maintain list in database.
Contact: Monica de Romer ➡ Ongoing • P2

TRAFFIC

1. Continue to request increased policing of speeding on Bearbrook.
Contact: Rainer Bloess ➡ Ongoing • P2
2. Investigate options for increasing Bearbrook crosswalk between Bush and Centre parks.
Contact: Rainer Bloess ➡ Short term • P1

BCA OPERATIONS

1. Approve revisions to constitution and by-laws.
Contact: Chris Noyes ➡ Mid term • P1
2. Plan and evaluate BCA performance annually.
Contact: All directors ➡ Annually • P1
3. Assign budgets to each project identified.
Contact: All directors ➡ Annually • P1

Blackburn Badminton Club receives grant

by Ray du Plessis

The Blackburn Badminton Club is pleased to announce that it was recently the recipient of a \$500 donation awarded to the Club by the Mr. Gas Foundation to help defray the costs of its junior program.

The junior program was initiated three years ago for boys and girls, ages 9 to 14. The program is held at the Glen Ogilvie Public School on Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. It starts in October and continues through to the end of March. This year there are 26 children enrolled in the club.

The Mr. Gas Foundation was established in 1997. Its primary mandate is to benefit local amateur sports groups. The Blackburn Badminton Club wishes to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Foundation for its generous support.

Blackburn Goldiggers make finals



The Blackburn Goldiggers had a whale of a time at the Pierrefonds Ringette Tournament in Pierrefonds, Quebec the first weekend of the New Year, making it to the finals of the Ladies C division. Filling in for the Goldigger's regular goalie May Walton and forward Kathy Hendrick, Lois Kemp of the Blackburn Rockers had a stellar performance in nets along with veteran forward Lucie Durning, also from the Blackburn Rockers. Special thanks to guest coaches David Mainwood and Bill Durning.

L to R, Top Row: James McKellar, Liz Camsell, Kathy McEwan, Aine O'Carroll, Daphne Poulin, Heather Pyman, Bill Durning. Bottom Row: Donna Kemp, Kim Butler, Fiona O'Carroll, Lucie Durning, Kelly Brazeau. Front: Lois Kemp.

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2002 — Promise and Progress

by Rainer Bloess, City of Ottawa Councillor

Happy New Year! As 2002 gets underway, here are a few items for your information and consideration.

First, I want to give thanks to a number of local volunteers who, each in their own way, have helped make the Hamlet a better place. On a national scale, each year, over seven and a half million Canadians volunteer their time within their local communities. Blackburn Hamlet has always been blessed with more than its share of these fine people.

In light of 2001 being the International Year of the Volunteer, on December 22nd, a **Volunteer Awards Event** was hosted by the Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association at the Community Hall to honour the long-term dedication of some of our own. We had the pleasure of presenting Community Builder Awards to Lynn Morris, Bill Smith, Paul Graham, Christine and Gord Hawley, Virginia Dupuis, Monica De Romer and Sarah Cloutier. Congratulations to all of these generous neighbours and friends without whom many of the programs we all enjoy would not be possible.

Volunteers are the backbone of any community. Let's keep up Blackburn's great service record by making the commitment today to invest some of your time and energy in your community. It is hoped that Community Builder Awards will become an annual event to recognize those individuals who give so much to our community.

"Trust your gut." BARBARA WALTERS

On the budget front, the **2002 Operating and Capital Budgets** timetable has been revised with the draft estimate to be brought forward to Council on February 13. This will be followed by two weeks of public consultation (to March 1). Committee Budget Review week will begin March 4, and final Council approval is scheduled for March 27. This budget cycle will be a difficult one representing as it does the first time that the new city budgets have been developed from the bottom up by city staff. Analyzing and adjusting for the discrepancies among budgeting practices within the former municipalities has complicated the process somewhat as has a sizable projected "funding gap" which still must be dealt with. The objective remains that there should be no increase in the tax rate (on top of the 10% rate reduction last year) with projected amalga-

mation savings target of \$22.5 million dollars....Stay tuned.

With the environmental assessment complete, the first phase of the **widening of the 417 to Blair Road** is on the horizon. Pending budget approval this coming spring, the summer of 2002 should see the beginning of this much-needed project. Subsequent phases would deal with the widening from Orleans Boulevard to Trim Road.

The Community Hall was the site of an open house regarding the extension of the **sidewalk along Innes** from Eastpark to Cleroux and Tauvette to Gravelle. The open house was attended by a number of residents and city staff were on hand to answer questions. At this stage, the project is subject to budget approval in March.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on any issues at 580-2472 or by email at Rainer.Bloess@city.ottawa.on.ca

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Polar Bears Visit Hamlet

Cont'd from p.1

Omah Higgins and Norman and Susie Ishulutak. We were also fortunate to have Jose Kusugak, President of Inuit Tapisat Kanatami, present our Hustler of the Game Award at the Nanooks game on Sunday.

For many of these players this was their first time out of Iqaluit and on an airplane. With a population of just over 6,000 people, Iqaluit is isolated from other Northern communities or cities to the south. For the most part the Nanooks PeeWee team plays among themselves or with older or younger age teams in the community. All three of their round robin games ended within a goal of winning, but it was obvious that for these young players the success of the tournament was not measured by the score on the board.

The Nanooks visit here was definitely a whirlwind. With blizzard conditions in Iqaluit on the Friday morning, there was some concern that the trip might not have taken flight. With billet families frantically monitoring weather channels and holding their breath for a break in the storm, the plane finally departed for Ottawa.

The Nanooks arrived at the airport looking a little tired and unsure of what awaited them but it did not take them long to warm up to the enthusiastic cheering families waiting to greet them. Each family presented their billets with a retired red Stingers jersey from our Association.

Houle Sports generously donated name bars for each player and Blackburn hockey mom Debbie

Jolicoeur sewed them all on in time for their arrival. The jerseys were a great hit with most players choosing to wear them throughout the weekend, except when they donned their own brand new Iqaluit Nanooks jerseys for their tournament games. The Nanooks were treated to a pizza welcome party at the community center before heading off with their billet families for some much needed sleep.

With two games on Saturday and one on Sunday morning, the stands at the Blackburn Arena were packed to capacity. The Nanooks were able to face off against solid competition in the Orleans Blades, Russell Warriors and Kanata X'Treme. Each of their opponents exchanged friendship tokens after their games. Flag exchanges were done between Glen



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Polar Bears Visit Hamlet

Higgins and city councilor Rainor Bloess. An Iqaluit flag now hangs proudly in the Blackburn Arena.

Some of our guests had never seen or climbed a tree (Iqaluit is above the tree line) and squirrels and corn fields were a new experience. A game of pick-up hockey on the outdoor rink was a definite favorite. Outdoor rinks in the North cannot happen because of the severity of the weather and the amount of snow. There was also a climate adjustment to be made to our weather here. With temperatures in the -30's plus wind chill at home, not to mention almost 18 hours of darkness being a daily occurrence, the Nanooks found it downright balmy here. Houses were too warm as were heaters in the car and many a time we drove with windows down — certainly a learning experience for us.

Outings included trips to Parliament Hill, the Prime Minister's House, laser tag, WalMart, Canadian Tire, shopping malls, PetSmart, Lacroix Sports and lots of fast food outlets. None of these are available in the North but with all the advertising available on TV they are well known spots. The Museum of Civilization donated free passes to the museum. The Nanooks and their billet families were also the guests of the Gloucester Rangers at their Junior A game.

This wonderful opportunity could never have happened without the support of the following families: the Charron Family, the Bissonnette family, the Ahmed family, the Shonfield family, the Jolicouer family, the Noyes family, the Gaudreau family, the Selst family, the Vezina family, the Phillips family, and the Aylward family. These wonderful people made this a weekend to remember for this special group of kids. Also responsible for making the whole tournament run smoothly was Alain Desgranges, 2002 Tournament Chair.

When Monday morning finally did arrive, billet families reluctantly returned their new friends to the airport.

Thank you's and promises to keep in touch were mixed with hugs and teary eyes on both sides.

Although hockey was the vehicle for the Nanooks visit here, this trip was about something much larger than scoring goals or winning games. It was about sharing experiences with these young players and hopefully influencing them to make good choices in life, to show them what opportunities may lie in their future and for them to continue to work hard to get there.

I know I speak for all the billet families and those whose lives were touched by these players when I say that although we worked hard to fill the weekend with fun activities, good hockey

and memorable experiences, it was in fact what these young people left in our hearts that is the true gift. ■



Limited retail outlets at home in Iqaluit meant that visits to shops were met with much excitement and amazement at the selection of goods. Pictured above are Appa Nowdlak, Gordie Higgins, Coach of the Iqaluit Nanooks and Joanasie Sharkey.



Blackburn Hamlet Preschool

202 Glenpark Drive

Open House

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See you there!

New Shop offers Variety of Handmade Crafts

by Evelyn Budd

Exciting news! The soon-to-open Valley Crafter's Shoppe will be bringing a large variety of handmade items by crafters and artists from Ottawa and the surrounding areas to Blackburn. This "destination" shop will also be providing a location where crafters can display their creativity and unique products. Offering a friendly, relaxed atmosphere to both crafters and customers, the store will be the perfect place to pick up that home decor item, special gift or something special for yourself.

The kinds of crafts are varied and the quality excellent. Among the craftwork available will be furniture, paintings, floral designs, photography, baby and children's clothing, candles, mosaics, greeting cards, jewellery, wood art, polar fleece clothing, knit and crochet items and a large variety of home decor items.

The front display window will continually change as every two weeks a different crafter will have the opportunity to showcase their handiwork.

Eventually, crafters will be invited to set-up displays and to demonstrate their particular artwork and techniques.

The shop owned by Sharon Lord, Tammy Paul and Jack McDiarmid will be holding their grand opening on February 2nd. Tammy reports that "We've already had a really great response from the community with people popping in and asking when will we be opening."

The shop is located at 2592 Innes Road, next to the Garb Consignment Store in the TD Bank Shopping Plaza. They will be open seven days a week as well as Thursday and Friday evenings.

Crafters wishing to rent a booth to sell their work are invited to call 837-4653 for more information.

OPENING FEB 2ND



Conroy Optometric Centre

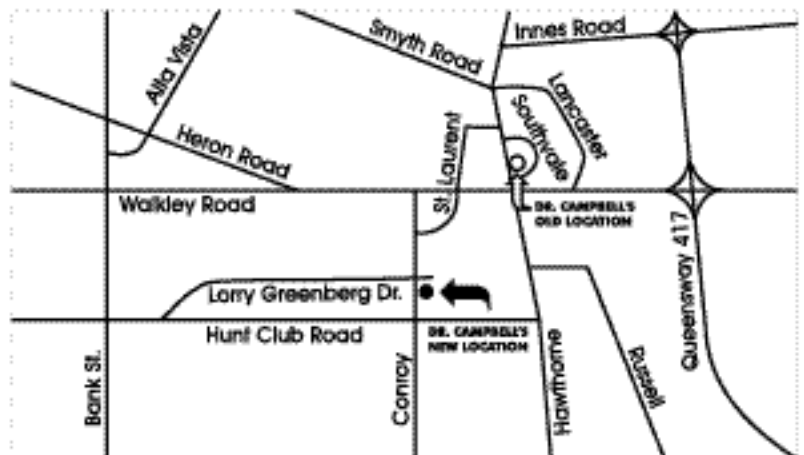
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We Can't Remain Idle About Idling

by Brenda Sakauye

The bell rings to mark the end of the school day and hundreds of young kids excitedly bolt for the door. They rush out into bright sunlight full of endless opportunities — and clouds of exhaust fumes from idling vehicles.

You see, there is always a driver waiting for someone who will be "out any second." Which translates into over one third of parents idling their vehicles while waiting to pick up their children.

Since children breathe faster than adults and inhale more air per pound of body weight, young people are particularly vulnerable to air pollution.

And it's not just happening outside schools. Canadian motorists idle their vehicles an average of 5 to 10 minutes a day. If every driver of a light-duty vehicle in Canada avoided idling for just five minutes per day, we would save 1.6 million litres of fuel worth more than \$1.2 million dollars and would prevent more than 3,800 tonnes of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, from entering the atmosphere.

Idling wastes fuel and sends harmful gases into the air contributing to smog and climate change. Also, contrary to popular belief, unnecessary idling damages vehicle engines.

So, if idling is so bad, why do people do it? Maybe they have bought into one of the idling myths that exist in our communities.

Myth #1: The engine should be warmed up before driving.

Reality: Idling is not an effective way to warm up your vehicle, even in cold weather. The best way to do this is to drive the vehicle. With today's modern engines, you need no more than 30 seconds of idling before driving away.

Myth #2: Idling is good for your engine. **Reality:** Excessive idling can actually damage your engine components, including cylinders, spark plugs and exhaust systems.

Myth #3: Shutting off and restarting your vehicle is hard on the engine and uses more gas than if you leave it running. **Reality:** Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components like the battery and the starter motor.

Component wear caused by restarting the engine is estimated to add \$10 per year to the cost of driving, money that will likely be recovered several times over in fuel savings from reduced idling. The bottom line is that over ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine.

What can we do to decrease unnecessary vehicle idling? Reduce "warm-up" idling to 30 seconds. Turn your engine off if parked for more than 10 seconds. Avoid using a remote car starter. Spread the word to family and friends.

Stopping unnecessary vehicle idling is one relatively easy way to contribute to improved air quality and respiratory health in our communities. And with Health Canada estimating that more than 5,000 Canadians die prematurely each year because of air pollution, turning off idling engines will help us all breathe a little easier.

Brenda Sakauye is Environmental Co-ordinator at the City of Mississauga. She is currently heading up a year-long Anti-Idling Campaign in Mississauga. For more information, call Brenda at 905-615-3217 or visit 123turnyourkey.com.

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LYSANNE & CHRISTINE

Christmas Concert Success, now on to Spring

by Robert G. Hiron

Blackburn Chorus presented its annual Christmas Concert December 14 and 15, to near-capacity audiences both evenings. Its venue, Orleans United Church, was beautifully decorated in the Christmas theme, with an empty crèche awaiting the imminent arrival of the Christ Child, and angels keeping vigil. The choir entered in candlelight procession, to sing a first half concert of well-known and lesser-known Christmas carols. Some of the carols called for audience participation, which drew enthusiastic response.

Children from the audience joined the choir for the traditional rendering of "Away in a Manger".

The second half was devoted to a performance of a light,



Children from audience participate in Blackburn Chorus Christmas Concert with "Away in a Manger".

modern classical piece, John Rutter's haunting and lively "Magnificat". Under the leadership of musical director David Chin, who composed a special arrangement of the "Magnificat" for these concerts, and accompanied by pianist Louise Léveillé and other professional musicians, Blackburn Chorus put on performances of the high standards and entertainment value now expected of it. Each performance concluded with a visit from Santa Claus, and a reception with refreshments for all who attended.

A sampling of its Christmas music is available on the newly-released CD, "Christmas with the Blackburn Chorus" priced at \$15 and available from HMV and other local stores, or from choir members.

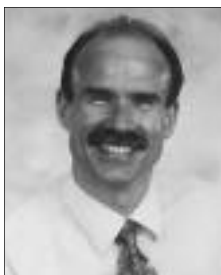
Now the choir is into rehearsal for its Spring concert, scheduled for early May. This will be a classical concert, featuring Haydn's "Nelson" Mass, and works by Schubert and Mendelssohn. Professional musicians and soloists will accompany the choir. Precise dates and venues are still being finalized, and will be announced later.

Blackburn Chorus, a 70-voice mixed choir established by Hamlet residents in 1984, presents two or three concerts each year, with a wide variety of types and styles of music. In addition, smaller sections of the choir are available to provide musical entertainment at social events and fundraisers and the like. Indeed, in the days just after its Christmas concerts, members of Blackburn Chorus performed at Christmas events at seniors' residences in the area. If any organization would like to arrange an event with Blackburn Chorus, even perhaps a local church that would like to host an extra performance of the Spring concert as a fundraiser, please call 744-6807.

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Seniors keeping Active

by Sarah Cloutier

Iris Phillips, Assistant to Councillor Rainer Bloess, has taken on the job of Political Affairs representative for the Seniors of Blackburn Hamlet. Iris has arranged to have local lawyer, Les Bunning, give a **seminar to address issues such as wills, funeral planning, CPP** on Thursday, February 7th, 7:30 p.m. at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Hall

We are also hoping to have a government community service representative present. There will be a question period to answer any questions you may have about about issue that are of concern to you. For further information on this seminar or any issues of concern to you, contact Iris Phillips at 824-3641.

The **Christmas pot luck dinner** at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Hall on Saturday December 1st was a great start to the Christmas season. The pot luck dinners are an event that the seniors look forward to and are very well attended. Good food, good company, ideas and Christmas cheer were shared. A warm feeling of community carried the evening. Watch for the next pot luck dinner – to be announced in the next Banar.

The **Book Club**, headed by Audrey Lewis continues to thrive. This group meets the first Wednesday of each month. Members of this club enjoyed a lunch at Blackburn Hamlet's Lighthouse Restaurant recently and would like a special thanks sent to Brian Walker at the

Lighthouse for making them welcome and providing a scrumptious lunch. If you're interested in joining the book club or starting one of your own, contact Audrey Lewis at 824-3197.

The **Travel Club** is looking for ideas for the spring and summer season. Interested parties should contact Sarah Cloutier at 841-4114.

Planning meetings continue to be held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm at the Community Hall. All seniors are encouraged to come and join in.

The Games Club has been cancelled due to lack of interest. New ideas for the seniors group, questions and comments are welcome. Please contact Sarah Cloutier at 841-4114.

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Noël à l'école Sainte-Marie

Le temps des fêtes est un temps de joie et de partage. Cette année encore, l'école Sainte-Marie a convié tous les élèves à un dîner de Noël traditionnel au gymnase le 21 décembre. Lors de cette rencontre, des invités spéciaux se sont joint aux élèves et au personnel de l'école. Il y avait la surintendante-adjointe, Mme Marie-France Ricard, père François, M. Alain (un des conducteur d'autobus) ainsi qu'une représentante de l'hôpital des enfants de l'est ontarien. C'est avec l'esprit des Fêtes que les élèves de l'école Sainte-Marie ont remis un don de 215\$ à l'HEEO.

Dans l'après-midi, les élèves ont eu la chance d'avoir la visite d'un personnage très occupé en ce temps de l'année. Eh oui, vous avez bien deviné, le père Noël a fait escale à l'école pour quelques minutes afin de rencontrer les élèves, de leur remettre une petite sucrerie et de leur souhaiter un joyeux temps des fêtes. Merci beaucoup au comité de l'APE qui a organisé la fête de Noël. Les enfants ainsi que les membres du personnel ont eu beaucoup de plaisir.



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Cats — Frontline Freedom Fighters

by R. Mitchell Rowe LL.B.

I read the other day that our new amalgamated city is debating the leashing of cats. I might be overreacting a tad, but I think the trickle down effect from this war on terrorism has now gone way too far, striking a blow at even the freedom of cats.

Yes, since my daughter introduced into our home a wild he-cat she inexplicably named 'Hunnie', I am biased. Leash this Honey, the suburb terrorist? It purrs at the slightest touch, and without hesitation.

These are scary times, and not only because of the terrorists. Can we get any less tolerant when the house cat, that purring, prowling, pouncing blur of mostly vacant fur, must be leashed, here in the Kingdom of Blackburn. Walking a cat on a leash. The horror of it all. Or is it, the humour of it all.

It seems to me that like our cats we, the citizens of the

Kingdom, are being leashed too much, as a result of the backlash from the terrorist attacks.

Enough is enough. Civil disobedience is called for. Perhaps we should set up a secret pussy safe house somewhere in the Kingdom. A haven where cats from all

over the Region can crawl, run, leap, or do whatever it is they do, free from the shackles of the city-state. Just like the old days.


I continue to write about how political correctness is just

intolerance in disguise, and that we are becoming a society of too many rules. The more rules we write the fewer freedoms we have. Arrest without charge? Preventative detention? These are the new rules, and they are an overreaction to the threat to our security that resulted from the terrorist attacks.


Liberty and freedom are important, and not just to the cats.

becoming a society of too many rules

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Successful Membership Drive 2002

by Monica de Römer

A sincere thank you to the canvassers who assisted in the 2002 BCA Membership Drive. The dedication of these volunteers and the support shown by Blackburn residents by purchasing a membership continues to help create an unique community.

There are still several routes that have not been canvassed. Please call me at 834-8157 if you would like to help us out and make this year's Membership Drive the most successful in recent memory!

The winners of the 2002 Membership Drive Early Bird Draws are: \$25 gift certificate for Shoppers Drug Mart — Oxford family from Innes Road; \$20 gift certificates for Loeb — Verner family from Autumn Hill, Maika family from Beddoe Lane, McNamara family from Gravelle Crescent and McEwan family from Red Maple Crescent.; City of Ottawa golf shirts courtesy of councillor Rainer Bloess — Herbert family from Woodhill Crescent, Maxwell family from Parkwood Crescent and Van Bruinessen family from Rondel.

Membership canvassers included: Jim McAvoy, Gail Mason, Milly Taylor, Douglas Drever, Bob Dixon, Jeanette McDonald, Doreen Percy, John Swayze, Paula Rosenquist, Nancy Birchard, Lisa Tuck, Mrs. Parker, Iris Phillips, Bernice Wyse, Marie-Neige Atchison, Lee Ann Lorette, Ken Greenlaw, Nadia Morris, Nick Todd, Steve McCormick, Diane Smyth, Bryan Allen, Graham Marr, Betty Zomer, Eldon Kemp, Gwen Cameron, Jan Whitehouse, Janet Farrell, Heather Coles, Gloria Austin, Julie Kisch, Monica de Romer, Beverly Hobbs, Sue Sherling, Mary Lou Fehr, Mary Edwards, Barb Newcombe, Kristine Swaren, Shamsu Scogan, Marlis Martin, Suzanne Richardson, Frank Leech, Fay McNeil, Del Jazey, Jennifer Collins, Gord Hawley, Sam Miller, Catarina O'Hara, Wayne Bower, Evelyn Budd, Eileen Engelbertson, Siobhan Arnott, Sylvia Howson, Lynn Sewelle, Garth McKinley, Mrs. Kennedy, Peter Nelson, Ann Bourassa, Heather Morrow, Kirsten Kirkwood, Jennifer Godmere, Al Hlady, Ruth Mayer, James Tierney, Lise Murphy, William Hiltz, Paul Van Bruinessen, Cathy McGregor, John O'Brien, Henry Brown, Brent Maxwell, Mme Labelle, Peter Enright, Linda Hamilton, Caroline Harris-McDonald, Lynn Lazarus, Ethel Brunton, Laury Logan, Jessica Tranquilli-Doherty, Sandra Quaiia, Doris Houlahan, Larry Moncrief, Tom Keyworth, Dennis Blonde, Mrs. McNamara, Mrs. Stancyk, Terri Bolster, Bruce Holmes, Laura Nelson, Evelyn Ross, Isabel Ward, Andrea Haines, Mr. Hampson, Pat Ulrich, Diane Woollard, Regina Behnk, Tina Carmen, Amy Pickard, Nancy Hebb and Michele Hundertmark.



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The Children's Welcome Centre is a non-profit recreational organization created by volunteers in support of children and their parents and caregivers.

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Youth Association dances popular night out

by Gord Hawley

The Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association (BHYA) continues to provide quality recreation for the youth of our community. We expanded our monthly dance dates in September and October by adding a second dance on the 2nd Friday of each month at our Community Hall and a series of new dances on the first and third Fridays of each month at the Cyrville Community Centre. Attendance at our Blackburn dances remains high and traditionally January and February are two of our busiest months.

Note to parents: If you are dropping your children off at our dances during the winter months – please wait to ensure that they are able to get in! Last year we had to turn away over 50 children from our dance in January on a very cold evening because the facility was sold out!

We held our first **Receipt Draw contest** at the Blackburn Loeb store and want to thank Mike Dube, the store manager for his support. Our winner, Angela Jensen took home \$170 in FREE groceries. Stu Wilson, won our "Guess How Many Christmas Candies" challenge — being a Scientist may have given him an advantage!

On December 21st we held our first ever **Volunteer Appreciation and Silent Auction**. We want to thank all the sponsors and participants for supporting this event. Our sponsors were, Molsons, Blackburn Loeb, Video

Flicks, Blackburn Bingo, Sarah Cloutier, Lynn Novaks, Pineview Golf Course, Bill and Lena Humphries, Rainer Bloess and the City of Ottawa. We also want to thank the BCA executive for hosting the cash bar. For a first time effort the function was well received. This will be an annual event and will be held on Saturday, November 2nd, 2002.

We are continuing to do additional fund raising with a series of "Receipt Draws" at area supermarkets. This summer there will be a number of fund raising BBQ's, and we will be offering our first Christmas Tree Sale this coming December.


Upcoming events include the distribution of the January issue of the Banar, organizing some new events for the annual Fun Fair and hopefully participating in the 2002 Christmas Parade of Lights. As always we are looking for additional adult volunteers to help with our programming. If you would like to help out in some way please call Gord Hawley at 837-5987.

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For information, contact Jan Quinn 749-0911

Coming Events

Legal Issues Seminar

On Thursday, February 7th, 7:30 pm. at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Hall, a seminar concerning legal issues will be held by the Blackburn Seniors Group. Guest speaker is Les Bunning of Bunning & Farnand. He will be addressing issues such as wills, funeral planning, CPP, etc. with a question period to follow. There is no charge and people of all ages are welcome.

Blackburn Garden Tour

The Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour is entering it's fifth year and we are looking for some new faces and flora to include on this year's tour. All gardens, big, small and "works in progress" (whose garden is ever finished?) are welcome.

Call Evelyn Budd at 824-7517 or e-mail evbudd@rogers.com. for more information on this fun event that will held Sunday, June 23rd

Garden Registration

Gardeners signing up for a plot with the Gloucester Allotment Garden Association at its spring registration meeting will receive five dollars off the regular fee.

The Association will hold its spring registration meeting on Tuesday, March 5, at 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Louis-Riel High School, 1655 Bearbrook Road (located at the northern end of Blackburn Hamlet). Plots measuring 7 x 14 m are available at both the Orient and Anderson Road sites.

Mark this date on your calendar. Be an early bird gardener and make sure you get your discount and a garden plot. For more information call the Registrar at 841-7893 or the President at 824-6524.

Blackburn Ladies Softball and Blackburn Men Fastball Registration

Registration to be held from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at the following locations:

- March 5th at the Lighthouse Grill,
- March 6th at the Blackburn Arms
- March 7th at Wally's Restaurant

For more information check out the two web sites at www.bmfl.ca and www.blackburnladiessoftball.com.

Club Optimiste

Le 2 février 2002 souper de fèves au lard et macaroni / Community Bean Supper on February 2nd. Salle Communautaire / Community Hall. Billets/Tickets: Paul, 830-5287.

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Circle these 2002 dates in green on your calendar!

Blackburn Environmental Fair — Saturday, April 7
Various speakers and businesses will be on hand to answer questions and display new products and ideas.

Community Spring Clean-up — Saturday, April 27
A fun day for everyone to get involved and help tidy up our public areas in the Hamlet.

Garage Sale — Saturday, May 4
Recycle, Re-use and Reduce, it's all possible with the annual Blackburn Garage Sale and Plant Exchange.

Pesticide By-law Public Consultation – TBD
Your chance is have input in the City Pesticide By-law.

Art Displays at Blackburn Library

The following artists will be showing their paintings at the Blackburn Library during the following months:

February — Marion Jones and Friends

March — Alison Storey

April — Cathy Owen's Watercolour Group

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Coming Events

Newcomers and Neighbours Club

Ladies! Here is an opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones. Whether you are a new or long term resident of Blackburn Hamlet you are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. Every month we get together to listen to a speaker or participate in some hands-on fun or just enjoy a social evening. We meet at the Bearbrook Court Retirement Home (corner of Bearbrook and Innes) at 7:30, the third Monday of each month.

February 18 — Potluck Supper & Chinese Auction

March 18 — Presentation by Victoria Quilts, Providing Comfort to Cancer Patients

For further information may contact: Monica at 834-8157 or Cynthia at 837-5861.

Blackburn Art Group

The Blackburn Art Group, which meets every second Thursday afternoon in the Blackburn Community Hall, will be exhibiting for the first time at the Blackburn Library during the month of February. We invite you to take a look at the artwork of this community, some of which will be for sale.

For information on becoming a group member, call Marion Jones, 830-8904 or email: jonesmarion@rogers.com.

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Mme Muguette Charbonneau, secrétaire.

Le mardi 19 février 2002

S.V.P. Veuillez communiquer avec la secrétaire afin de prendre rendez-vous. Votre enfant doit avoir 4 ans avant le 31 décembre 2001 et une preuve de catholicité est demandée.

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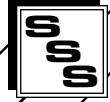
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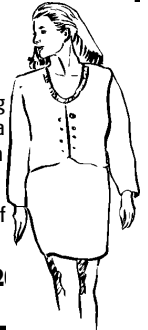
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BCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Send your cheque to: Blackburn Community Association
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Name _____

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Phone _____

Telephone Directory

Blackburn Community Hall		841-7396
Bookings	Jan Whitehouse	830-8644
Blackburn Arena		824-5197
Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association		837-5987
Library - Blackburn Branch		824-6926
Blackburn Art Group	Marion Jones	830-8904
Blackburn Duplicate Bridge	Bill Durning	824-9593
Child Care Drop-In	Myrian Pepin	742-5500
"No School Days" Child Care		580-2400
Guides and Brownies	Bev Reynolds	824-6013
Scouts	Lee Coutu	837-0837
Registrar	Chris Johansen	841-7146
Jeannettes	Nicole Andrecheck	824-9972
Les Guides	Viviane Côté-Maxwell	837-1839
Conseil de Gestion	Lyse Goneau	837-3941
Blackburn Chorus	Nigel High	824-8219
Block Parents	Northeast-Doris Budd	824-1076
	South-Lynn Bissett	824-3938
Le Club Optimiste	Dominique Dufour-Jacques	837-4645
Les Chansonniers	Germain Asselin	837-3883
Neighbourhood Watch	Donna Bond	824-1522
Newcomers' Club	Monica de Römer	834-8157
Gloucester Horticulture		746-9564
Gloucester Seniors		749-1974
Gloucester Arts		749-4978
Quilting Groups	J. Maxwell	841-6084
	Paula Brown	837-4081
Sports		
Badminton	Ray du Plessis	824-2671
Fastball (Men's)	Steve Bovey	824-1435
Football	Ray Hartley	769-0458
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	David Payne	834-4459
Ringette (Ladies')	Jane Ross	837-1504
Softball (Ladies')	Candis Emery	834-2983
Tennis	Michael Haddad	834-1269
Volleyball (Ladies')	Nancy Taylor	596-2550
3-Pitch Softball (Mixed)	Keith Erskine	834-0278
Schools		
Blackburn Hamlet Preschool		824-3251
Cairine Wilson (9-13)		824-4411
École élémentaire publique Séraphin-Marion		837-2216
École Ste-Marie (K-6)		824-6558
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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