

BANAR

Blackburn Area News And Reports

Vol. 37 No. 4

April 2004

“Snow” event like the Blackburn Winter Fun Day

by Michael van Aanhout

The first BCA Winter Fun Day on February 21st was a great success. It was well attended with about 200 people coming out for an afternoon of fun in the snow at the Hornets Nest.

Participants enjoyed perfect conditions for snowman and fort making as well as wagon rides to Green's Creek, tobogganing, and skiing. The chili,

coffee, hot chocolate, cookies, and bread were all gone by 3:30 p.m. and a good time was had by all! Thanks goes to everyone who helped out and to those who came out. We look forward to making this an annual event.



Blackburn Community Association

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



www.blackburnhamlet.ca

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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. Submissions can be sent to the editor, Evelyn Budd, in the body of an e-mail or in Microsoft Word to ev@buddgraphics.com or delivered on disk with a hard copy to 5729 Kemplane Court (off Cleroux Crescent). Illustrations and pictures must be of good quality. The editor reserves the right to make changes.

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Fun Fair 2004 coming Saturday June 12th

We want to welcome some fresh faces to our 2004 Fun Fair Board of Directors. Kathryn McFarland is our new fundraising director, and Nathacha Degrasse,

Marc Brazeau, Russ Smith, Steve LeGrow and Lisa Allison have joined as directors. We are still seeking a treasurer, a director for facilities and a director for the general store. Please contact Gord Hawley, Chairman at 612-1089 or email gehawley@rogers.com if interested.

After many years of painstaking work with the games set-up, it was decided to go ahead with a major change in the midway and with the games. Because of the cost of this conversion we are asking our business community partners to step forward and help sponsor one or more of these games. Please contact Kathryn McFarland (KJERambo@cs.com) for more details.

We are bringing back the pie throwing contest and hope to get some rivalry going between our area high schools. If you would rather eat the pie we are also going to have a pie eating contest where the winner will not only get a trophy but also a belly full. Sign up for this event at the information booth by noon on Fun Fair day as we will start eating at 1 p.m.

Louise Bertrand will be looking after the parade again. The parade will start at Louis Riel High School at 10 a.m. and finish at the Arena. Please contact Louise (841-5610) if you would like to help or if you wish to put in a float or group.

The kids karaoke was very successful last year. This year we are expanding it to include a "Blackburn Idol" competition. You can sign up in advance by emailing gehawley@rogers.com with your song request(s). Select three different songs and preferred artists. We will probably be able to accommodate you with your choice.

The Youth Vibe Dance and Laser Light Show will again be held in the arena on Saturday night. Entrance fee is still \$5 for ages 10 to 17 from 6:45 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Also, new this year is an adult dinner and dance on Friday night in the arena. This is fundraiser for the Fun Fair! Details will be available on the web by the end of April so you can make plans.

Keep abreast of the exciting Fun Fair updates on the BCA website at www.blackburnhamlet.ca and in the next Banar.

Upcoming BANARS

DEADLINE / DELIVERY DATES:

May 12th / May 29th • Aug. 15th / Sept. 10th

BANARS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY, ARENA & LOEB.

From The President

I am really at a loss as to what we can do next. The City's "interim" plans include a total devastation of many of the services that make our community the great place it is. It is my opinion that if this budget goes through, even close to the "draft" proposal, Blackburn Hamlet will lose most everything that makes it a great place to live and raise a family. This includes our pool (which was built by the BCA), our outdoor rinks, our grants for play structures and other community projects, and our library. When we were part of Gloucester, this was never an issue.

The City doesn't seem to be listening. They continue to tell us that amalgamation is working and saving us money, while at the same time telling us that they have no money. They blame all the City's budget woes on the province and yet the mayor's good friend, the premier, is supposedly municipality friendly.

I'm sure everyone is as fed up with the budget as I am. Rainer is doing the best he can for us, but he is fighting powerful forces in the old City of Ottawa.

Despite the persecution from the city, the Blackburn

community will survive, and the role of the BCA in our neighbourhood will become increasingly more significant. Hopefully, with an active Board and the help of capable volunteers, we will be able to step in and take over some of the services taken away through budget cuts.

We have been successful in filling the post of Membership Co-ordinator. Lucie Bergeron will work with a growing committee to help us with our 2004 membership drive. I want to thank all those who have sent their memberships to us by mail. If you haven't already received your 2004 card, it will be delivered to you shortly.

Thanks to the efforts of Mike van Aanhout we held a very successful Winter Fun Day on February 21st at the Hornets Nest site on Bearbrook Road. Job well done!

Check out the BANAR or our website for the dates, times and updates for the Clean-up Day, Garage Sale, Fun Fair, Garden Tour and other community events. It is events such as these that have made Blackburn the great community that it is.

Al Ross

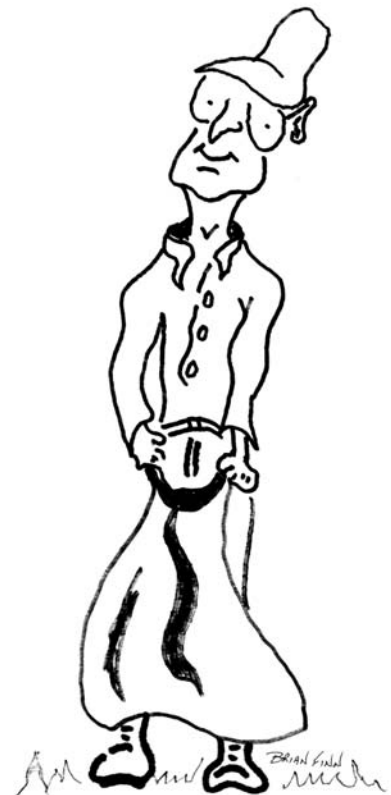
Spring into Action with Blackburn Clean-up Day

Although April showers do bring May flowers, the spring melt also brings back a lot of something else—garbage! We can do something about that! Last year, the Spring Clean-up had over 120 citizens helping to clean the Hamlet, and more than 100 bags of litter was collected.

Join us this year for our fourth annual Clean-up, on Saturday, April 24 at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Blackburn Community Centre, 200 Glenpark Drive. Following the clean up, enjoy a complimentary BBQ for the volunteers at 11:00 a.m. All we need is YOU! Bring along your family, friends and neighbours in our effort to clean up public property in the Hamlet.

For more information, please call Barb Sweazey 830-7286. Let's get our community looking good (... especially in time for the annual community Garage Sale!).

NOTE: New this year, the BCA will be selling rain barrels at a reduced cost of \$50. If you are interested, please come to the Spring Clean-up to make your purchase. Installation assistance can be arranged too.



Karen Scullion opens law practice in Blackburn

Karen C. Scullion is pleased to be opening her practice in Blackburn Hamlet in the professional building at 110 Bearbrook Road.

Karen grew up in Blackburn Hamlet, attended Glen Ogilvie, Emily Carr and Gloucester High School before moving to Sudbury.

She moved back to Blackburn Hamlet five years ago with her husband and two children (Meghan and Liam) aged 8 and 2 respectively.

She worked for Bunning & Farnand, a well established Blackburn law firm, as a law clerk for several years then worked for Revenue Canada working on tax law policy and GST legislation before going to law school.

Karen completed her law degree at Ottawa University, after obtaining her Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton University in law and psychology. She is

a Barrister and Solicitor and a trained mediator. Her experience conducting civil, family and criminal litigation



includes cases dealing with personal injury, assaults, contract law disputes, wrongful dismissal, criminal code offences and all forms of family litigation. Whilst at law school at University of Ottawa she won a scholarship for a paper

on reform of the Young Offenders Act and worked at the legal clinic at the University in various matters including criminal injuries compensation.

Her new practice in Blackburn encompasses family law, family mediation, civil and criminal litigation and wills.

Karen also gives talks at local schools on law for students and speaks to community groups about topical legal issues.

She is active in the charity field where she is a member of the "Patricia Allen Memorial Fund" which was created in response to the tragic crossbow slaying of Patricia Allen in 1991. The fund has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for mediation programs and scholarships at universities in the past ten years.

Karen offers quality service at reasonable rates and looks forward to welcoming new clients. She can be reached at 837-7593.



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Budget Crisis a Complex Challenge

by Rainer Bloess

Anyone spending any amount of time in our City of late will no doubt have heard and/or read about this year's controversial budget deliberations and the increasingly likely tax hike which local residents have been facing. The arguably brutal draft budget, that was intended to present cost-saving options that would prevent a tax increase, provoked outrage on several fronts, leading many to the conclusion that a small (likely 3%) increase was in fact unavoidable. By the time you read this, the dust will have settled, tempers will have cooled and the whole budget picture will be clearer.

While I have no desire to downplay Council's responsibility to deal with the current crisis, there are several facts I would ask you to keep in mind as you follow the budget process. Please remember that:

- 1) Municipalities receive only 7% of the total amount paid out in taxes to all levels of government by the average taxpayer.
- 2) Property tax revenue, development charges and user fees are the only funding sources available to municipalities to support dozens of programs and services within our local communities. In the past several years the number and scope of these programs and services has increased dramatically because of provincial and federal downloading.
- 3) The provincial government sets all property tax regulations including how taxes are applied to the various tax classes and the direct connection between property tax calculations and the market value of individual properties — and this has soared in the Ottawa area recently.
- 4) Since amalgamation, taxes in our particular ward have actually decreased (in my own case by nearly 19% from 1993 to 2003).

All of the above being said however, City Council must still cope with the current crisis and meet the challenge of sorting out which projects should be open to cuts and which are critical to the quality of life of our residents. Unfortunately, in a tough budget crunch, many smaller local communities such as ours feel under siege. At this writing, Blackburn Hamlet faces serious threats to our local library, pool and outdoor rinks. To my mind, these facilities and the programs and services they provide are part of the solid foundation that

makes Blackburn Hamlet a vital, desirable community. They serve every social and economic group and every age and interest level, bringing community members together and enriching their lives.

It is my intention to do whatever I can to maintain these important pillars of our community throughout the cost-cutting process. The good news is that, at the committee

level, the proposed cuts to community services, including our library, were rejected. Many thanks to all of those, particularly the youngsters, who have attended meetings and demonstrations and sent letters and emails in support of our library. Your voices have certainly been heard.

Ultimately, some difficult and disappointing decisions may yet be made but, regardless of the outcome of Council's deliberations, I will remain committed to our community's growth and development and to preserving the enviable quality of life we now enjoy.

...many smaller local communities such as ours feel under siege.

Garage Sale

Well it's that time again. Time to take inventory and pull out those cast off bits and boxes of miscellaneous discards, that will be transformed to treasure as they change hands in the annual Blackburn Hamlet Yard Sale.

The sale will be held on **Saturday, May 1st, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** (Rain date is Sunday, May 2nd.) Over 50 streets will be participating. Team up with your neighbours. Any unsold items you wish to giveaway should be placed at the curb after 4 pm.

Please call Colette Fletcher at 834-4772 if you have any leftover items that you would like to donate to the Fun Fair White Elephant table.

Spring is coming — Ten tips on growing your lawn

by *Caroline Harris-McDonald*

You need healthy soil to build a healthy, pesticide-free lawn. Here are some suggestions to keep your lawn healthy and pests away, without the use of chemicals:

1. **Mow high**—grass doesn't drink its food through its roots; it manufactures its food in its leaves—the green parts. Two inches is the absolute minimum for healthy grass, three inches is best. Long grass shades its roots to keep them cool and shades out weeds so they find it harder to grow.
2. **Water deeply and seldom**—bluegrass lawns need about one inch of water, once a week. Fescues and perennial ryegrasses need only about half that much. Frequent light sprinklings encourage shallow weak roots.
3. **Mulch clippings**—mow often enough that no more than 1/3 of the leaf length is removed at one time and leave the clippings in the grass. This reduces the need for fertilizer by 30%.
4. **Aerate and overseed**—grass roots must breathe air to work properly. A grass plant growing in soil packed tight as concrete is not healthy. That's the kind of soil in which taproot plants such as dandelions thrive. Rent a small aerator once a

year or ask an alternative lawn care business to do it. Then rake it all smooth, overseed with a bit of high quality red fescue grass seed and water it in.

5. **Fertilization**—try organic fertilizers. They cost more but do not have to be applied year after year as they actually strengthen the soil. You could also try feeding your lawn with compost, top dressing (top soil, compost and manure), and/or bone and blood meal.
6. **Overseeding**—add more grass seed—this thickens and improves your lawn.
7. **Accept diversity** as an integral part of a healthy environment. A lawn is not an artificial carpet. It is a living area that contains a host of inoffensive and even highly useful organisms (plants, insects, and earthworms).
8. **Consider clover**—White Dutch Clover is an excellent choice for use in lawns. Periwinkle and ajuga are other alternatives.
9. **Having trouble with white grubs**—try nematodes—non-toxic, chemical and pesticide free that do no harm to people, pets, or plants, but control lawn grubs and other root-zone pests.
10. See page 10 for information sessions at the Library.



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Pathway Patrol Needs You

by Bill Horne, Pathway Patrol Eastern Expansion Coordinator

It will soon be easy for residents of the Hamlet, and indeed the whole eastern portion of Ottawa, to get involved in this intriguing volunteer opportunity.

Pathway Patrol has been around since 1997 when the first Patrol started on the recreation pathway from Lakeside Gardens to the Champlain Bridge. It grew out of a concern expressed by seniors in that area about security on the pathway along the river. Essentially, it is a volunteer organization working in close cooperation with the City of Ottawa and other organizations that help guide the program. Volunteer Patrollers (at least 18 years of age) go out in pairs, on bicycles, in-line skates or on foot, for two-hour shifts, along the recreational pathways. Patrollers are not police, and are not armed in any

way. Their role is to observe and report hazards, provide first aid, perform minor repairs to bikes, and place 911 calls in case of any serious issues, which are quite rare. The point is to establish a recognizable presence on the pathways, to promote more users, and thus safer pathways.

Councillor Rainer Bloess, and the three other eastern councillors who are involved with the expansion, are very supportive.

With the tragic events of last summer at Green's Creek, many east end residents urged the Pathway Patrol to expand into the east, and now it's happening. Many of us use the pathway along the Ottawa River, from the New Edinburgh Yacht Club to Trim Road, for running, walking and cycling. Why not take the next step and turn that time into something good for the community as well as for you?

If this sounds like the kind of group you would like to participate in, then please

contact me at 837-2166 or wghorne@rogers.com. We will be scheduling orientation sessions and the training in due course. You are not committing to be a Patroller by contacting me; you are just agreeing to receive further information to make up your mind. I look forward to hearing from you soon.



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- One shift of two hours, (your choice of day and time); on average, during each week the Patrol operates, from Victoria Day through Labour Day. Allowances are made for vacations; this is a target.
- A Police Services check (you will be in a position of trust)
- Always patrol with a partner (your choice or we will provide)
- Provide your own cell phone for emergencies if possible; if you cannot, we will supply one.
- Have a serviceable bike or be prepared to walk the pathway (in-line skates are not suitable on the eastern pathways, which are not paved)

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Children's centre thanks east-end community

The Children's Welcome Centre, established in 1976, is a charitable organization run by a volunteer board of directors and one staff.

Recently, the Children's Welcome Centre has been dealing with a funding crisis as the City of Ottawa re-evaluates its budget priorities. Grants, normally distributed in January, are being held back until the current budget crisis is resolved. The Centre is currently slated for a 100% cut in its funding. This type of cut with such short notice has not given the board of directors enough time to secure alternate funding. Members and directors of the Centre have been working tirelessly to ensure that the centre's grant is approved.

In order to keep its doors open until the City of Ottawa finalizes its budget, the Children's Welcome Centre's board of

directors was forced to ask for donations from its members and from businesses in the community. The response has been overwhelming! Since the beginning of February, we have received

Children's Welcome Centre, located at 2514 Innes Road in Blackburn Hamlet, can be a life-saver in terms of short-term or last-minute care.

over \$4,000 in donations. In addition, if the City of Ottawa does approve the Centres' grant, Royal LePage sales representatives, Lysanne Brault and Christine Bussières, have generously offered to help the Children's Welcome Centre meet their expenses until the city funding is received.

The parents and children of the Children's Welcome Centre wish to thank Express Flooring, J & S Service Station, The Rotary Club, The Kiwanis Club, Mexicali Rosa's, Dr. Keith Anderson, and friends and members of the Children's Welcome Centre all of whom have helped keep our doors open.

If you have young children, the Centre, located at 2514 Innes Road can be a life-saver in terms of short-term or last-minute care for your little ones. The Centre is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for parents to drop-in with their children or drop off their child to socialize and develop in a comfortable, nurturing and relaxed environment.

Come and visit the Children's Welcome Centre and see why so many people are supporting us!

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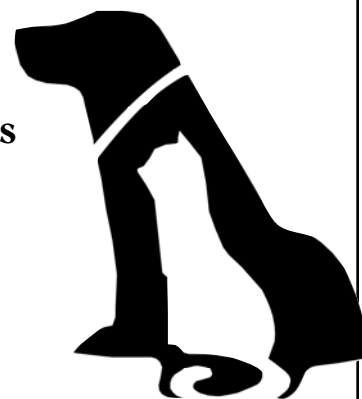
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Blackburn Chorus celebrates Twentieth Anniversary

The Blackburn Chorus and the Virtuosi Orchestra have teamed up once again for two performances of Handel's "Messiah".

The first concert will take place on Friday, April 23rd at the Mennonite Church, 1830 Kilborn Avenue, at 7:30 p.m., and the second performance will be presented on the following evening, Saturday, April 24th, at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica, Sussex Drive at St. Patrick Street, also at 7:30 p.m.

These joint concerts will feature soloists Kimberley Briggs, soprano, originally from Ottawa and now living in Toronto; Caroline Johnston, alto, of Ottawa; James O'Farrell, tenor, from Ottawa; and Yves Lortie, bass, from Montreal.

These performances are the highlight of the 20th Anniversary Year for the Blackburn Chorus. They will be conducted by David Chin, and accompanied by Louise Leveille.

You might also want to mark Saturday, May 29th, 2 p.m. on your calendar if you love popular music from the last century. The Blackburn Chorus will present a fun concert entitled "Songs to Remember", medleys of your favourite tunes from the twentieth century at the Orleans United Church. A reception will be held in the church hall at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 each for Handel's "Massiah" and \$5 each for "Songs to Remember" They will be available at the door, or from Chorus members.

For additional information, please call 261-5797, or 746-8065.

Please check our very interesting website at www.blackburnchorus.ca

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Library offers books and more!

By Carrie Rathwell

Get a jump on spring at the library. Spend some time indoors and you'll have all the goods on the great outdoors!

Start by traveling the world with local environmental enthusiast Roy John. As part of the National Capital Region Wildlife Festival, Roy will be presenting a slide show about the fabled North-West passage. Experience the Arctic in Blackburn Hamlet on Tuesday, April 13th at 7pm. Also, experience the Amazon basin with Roy at the nearby

North Gloucester branch on Tuesday, April 6th at 7pm.

For those of you who love the open water, you'll have a chance to obtain your Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) at a three-week Boat Pro course. This is an introduction to boating safety and navigation. The class is offered by the Ottawa Power and Sail Squadron Thursdays, April 15th to 29th from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Registration and payment details are available at the branch or you may visit the website at www.cps-ottawa.com.

You don't have to plan past your own backyard to register for our three-part gardening series shared between the Blackburn Hamlet and North Gloucester branches. On Monday, April 26th at 7 p.m. at the North Gloucester branch Neill Ritchie of Ritchie Feed and Seed will give general tips on waking up your garden. On Monday, May 3rd at 7 p.m. at the North Gloucester branch, George Bushell, the president of the Gloucester Allotment Garden Association, will be teaching Natural Yard Care — how to have a green lawn, pesticide-free. And to bring it all home, George will be offering advice at the Blackburn Hamlet branch on Organic Vegetable Gardening on Thursday, May 6th at 7 p.m.

Blackburn Hamlet Book Club

New members are welcome!

Tomcat in Love by Tim O'Brien
Wednesday, April 14th, 7 p.m.

Youth by J.M. Coetzee
Wednesday, May 12th, 7 p.m.

The Boy on the Back of the Turtle
by Paul Quarrington
Wednesday, June 9th, 7 p.m.

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

If you'd like to get rid of some of your surplus books, please donate them to the Blackburn Hamlet Fifty Plus Club who are looking after the Blackburn Fun Fair book table on June 12th.

For further information please contact Iris Phillips at 824-3641.

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Blackburn Website

The BCA webpage designed and maintained by Helen Rosseau is an invaluable tool for the community to keep abreast of what is happening in the Hamlet.

- The website at www.blackburnhamlet.ca includes:
- BANAR—Current and past issues of the Blackburn Banar.
- BHYA—Link to Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association website
- Blackburn Plus Fifty—Info for the over 50 years of age crowd
- Community Hall—Calendar of what is happening in the hall
- Contacts—Phone numbers/email addresses for BCA reps
- Events—Current events with the updated information
- History—Brief history of Blackburn
- Issues—Facts and petitions for current issues
- Kids Links—Cool links to other websites for children
- Local Business—Links to websites of local businesses
- Local Links—Links to local information centres
- Membership—Benefits of buying a BCA membership (\$10)
- Minutes—Minutes of the BCA monthly meetings
- NCC Greenbelt —Includes maps and bylaws
- Organizations—Link to local community and sports groups
- Schools—Links to most of the local schools
- Survey—Post your opinions here on local issues!

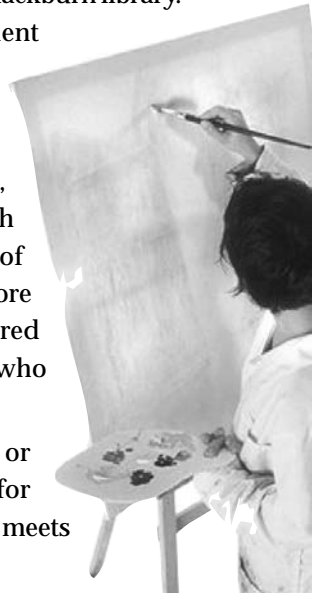
Blackburn Art Group's 3rd Annual Exhibition

by Marion Jones

During the months of April and May, the Blackburn Art Group invites you to view their works in the third annual exhibition at the Blackburn library.

Blackburn has a number of resident "artists" — perhaps you'll recognize some names and say "Oh I never knew she/he did that!" Marion Lew, Anne Cornfield, Arley Molloy, Anne Alain, Joseph Fletcher, Marion Jones are some of the original members, and more recently, Jean Dennery and Fred Harper. We also have members who live in Orleans and Beacon Hill.

Contact Marion Jones 830-8904 or Joseph Fletcher 834-4772 for registration and dates as the group meets every second Thursday at 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.



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Emily Carr School

Forum on Youth Involvement

Forty two students from Emily Carr participated in a forum on youth involvement in our modern and complicated world. The guest speaker, Lt.-Gen. (Ret.) Romeo Dallaire, spoke about his experiences in the United Nations Mission to Rwanda. The forum also included a youth panel that

included a 12-year-old boy named Ryan Hrljack who is famous for raising money at the age of 6 to build a well to supply clean water to a community in Africa.

The student parliament then decided to raise money for a project similar to Ryan's Well and to also participate in "Butterfly 208" a CIDA sponsored art and writing contest open to youth

between the ages of 14 and 18. The contest deadline is April 2, and the grand prize is a trip to a developing country in Africa. If you are interested in participating you can visit the website at www.bp208.ca or call 1(800)230-6349.

Emily Carr to remain open

By Caroline Harris-McDonald

As Chair of the Emily Carr School Council, I wish to thank the many Emily Carr supporters, including past and present students, community members, and parents of present and future students who made presentations to the Board, attended Board meetings, called a trustee and/or wrote letters to the Board, outlining why they believed the school should remain open.

It was also great to see the pride that Emily Carr students have in their school. This was reflected in the number of past and graduating students who came forward and took the time to prepare and present arguments to the Board as to why Emily Carr had to remain open.

We also were very happy to hear Lynn Graham, the Board Chair indicate that, for at least the next several years, the Board would not be considering any further school closures as trustees wish to focus their attention on other educational issues.

Thanks again to all our supporters.

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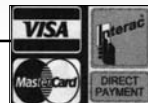
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Children and Youth

Blackburn Hamlet Preschool Open House and Registration

The Blackburn Hamlet Preschool invites you to attend an Open House on Sunday, March 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Preschool located at 202 Glenpark Drive behind the arena. A range of programs is offered at this cooperative school, for toddlers and preschoolers, including morning and afternoon sessions. Experience a superb student-teacher ratio, and enjoy the excitement of being involved in your child's education. Come meet the teachers, explore the facilities and learn about the programs offered at the school. If you have questions about the Preschool please feel free to give Mary a call at 824-3251 or plan to attend the Open House. You'll see what we are all about!

Looking for families to host Japanese students

Several Japanese students are coming to Ottawa for two to three weeks this summer through Global Partners and are looking for families to host them.

Global Partners, is a non-profit organization committed to facilitating intercultural understanding, global competence and friendship since 1992.

The students are eager to learn about Canadians and improve their English and will be in class or on field trips most weekdays. The students do not want to be treated like guests, but as members of the family.

You will gain insights into Japanese culture and have part of Japan in your living room. It's like travelling without the cost! All you provide is transportation to the study centre, a bed and meals. For more information please contact Sherri Logan at 837-3949.

St. John Ambulance Blackburn Youth

There is a large group of youth in the Hamlet who are full of energy and have been assisting in First Aid duties at various events within the Ottawa area.

Please stop by and visit our yard sale on on Orient Park Drive across from Harwood on May 1st (rain date May 2nd). Funds will be used to help send some of the youth to First Aider's camp.

We are always looking for adult volunteers for weekly meetings or who would like to assist as a youth leader for youth ages 7 to 18. Some training is required as well as a successful screening procedure. Help would also be welcome from time to time with baking, sewing, knitting, crafts, fundraising, helping with field trips and in various other ways.

For more information contact Louise Bertrand at 841-5610.

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Upcoming events organized by the Blackburn Fifty Plus Club

Come and join us for an evening out.

- April 18th Games and Dinner Blackburn Arms, 6 pm
- May 16th Games and Dinner Blackburn Arms, 6 pm

The Orleans Community Police, Seniors Awareness Program, is offering the following seminars in the Community Hall:

- April 21st Financial Scams and Frauds, 2-4 p.m.
- May 19th Safety in the Home, 2-4 p.m.
- June 16th Keeping Track of Medications, 2-4 p.m.

Plant Exchange in Diceman Park

- May 15th Bring your plants or cuttings for an even exchange or bring your loonies to beautify your garden or home with new and different plants AND help fund the Blackburn Hamlet Fifty Plus Club.

April 25th Topics and guest speakers include:

- Estate Planning and Legal Issues— James Ryan, Lawyer
- Financial Planning—Robert Real, Investment Representative
- Seniors Programs—Lesley-Anne Pavling, Amica at Bearbrook Court
- Funeral Prearrangements—Tom Flood, Hulse, Playfair & MacGarry
- There will be also be a question period.

Many more events are in the planning stages. Feel free to come to our planning meetings at the Community Hall at 1 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. For regular updates, details or if you have ideas or requests please call Sarah Cloutier at 841-4114 or visit www.blackburnhamlet.ca and click on "Blackburn Plus Fifty".

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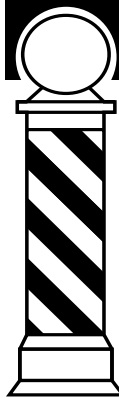
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Registration and Coming Events

30th Anniversary Year for Blackburn Tennis

Come and join us for a very special season as we celebrate thirty years of tennis in Blackburn Hamlet. Welcome to newcomers as well as any returning members!

Registration will take place on Saturday April 24th, and Saturday May 8th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the tennis clubhouse at 2669 Innes Road.

The popular Junior Tennis Program will be held again this year. Our qualified Tennis Canada instructors will hold four two-week sessions starting after Canada Day. These include an "under 10" group, ages 10 and 11 group, ages 12 and 13, and ages 14 and over. Adult private and group tennis instruction will also be available.

Social round robins are held every Monday to Thursday during the day, Thursday evenings 7:30 to 9:45, and Friday evenings for Juniors ages 11 to 15 from 6:45 to 9 p.m. If you are looking for a more competitive game, our club participates in the N.C.T.A. tennis program. Just come to registration and sign up!

If you would like more information about the Tennis Club please feel free to drop in for a chat on registration day, or call Dan Duchesneau at 824-7625 or Barbara Nolen at 824-3524.

Blackburn Garden Tour — June 27th

If you have ever wanted to put your garden in the garden tour but didn't know where to begin, here's your chance to find out! The Blackburn Alumni of the past six garden tours will be getting together April 17th to share ideas and suggestions for the approaching Blackburn garden tour. A delicious potluck of appetizers and exchange of garden possibilities always makes for an enjoyable evening.

Please call Mary Appleton at 834-8242 or e-mail mary_appleton@hotmail.com for more information.

Crime can be stopped

We can help the police protect our community. Take the initiative to watch and record and even report things that you may feel just aren't right. License numbers can be a big help to police. Always be suspicious when you hear strange sounds or movement at your neighbour's residence. Come to the "Stop Crime" information night with guest speakers that is being held in September. Details will be outlined in the next Banar.

Some of you may wish not to deal directly with the police in such criminal matters but there is an alternative where you may remain totally anonymous. You've seen and read about it — Crime Stoppers at 233-8477 (233-TIPS).

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Community Contacts

Blackburn Community Hall	841-7396
Bookings	Jan Whitehouse 830-8644
Blackburn Hamlet Youth Association	837-5987
Blackburn Art Group	Marion Jones 830-8904
Blackburn Duplicate Bridge	Bill Durning 824-9593
Blackburn Garden Tour	Mary Appleton 834-8242
Blackburn Hamlet Preschool	824-3251
Child Care Drop-In	Myrian Pepin 742-5500
"No School Days" Child Care	580-2400
Children's Welcome Centre	834-7075
Fifty Plus Group	Sarah Cloutier 841-4114
FunRun Co-ordinator	Paul Graham 830-2868
Guides and Brownies	Brenda Sowden 523-4003
Scouts	Rob Shepherd 830-1464
Scouts Registrar	Fiona Daigle 834-7119
Jeannettes	Nicole Andrecheck 824-9972
Les Guides	Viviane Côté-Maxwell 837-1839
Conseil de Gestion	Lyse Goneau 837-3941
Blackburn Chorus	Bob Bowes 744-6807
Le Club Optimiste	Dominique Dufour-Jacques 837-4645
Les Chansonniers	Germain Asselin 837-3883
Neighbourhood Watch	Volunteer Chadala 236-1222 ext 3571
Newcomers Club	Collette Fletcher 834-4772
Quilting Groups	J. Maxwell 841-6084
	Paula Brown 837-4081
Badminton	Ray du Plessis 824-2671
Fastball (Mens)	Steve Bovey 824-1435
Football	Ray Hartley 769-0458
Hockey (Girls)	Charles Chamberlain 745-9927
Hockey (Minor)	Tom Canham 837-1344
Hockey (Mens)	Roy Van Koughnett 824-3921
Junior Badminton	Caroline Harris McDonald 837-3818
Little League Baseball	David Payne 834-4459
Ringette (Ladies)	Jane Ross 837-1504
Softball (Ladies)	Candis Emery 834-2983
Tennis	Dan Duchesneau 824-7625
Men's Int. Floor Hockey	Keith Erskine 834-0278

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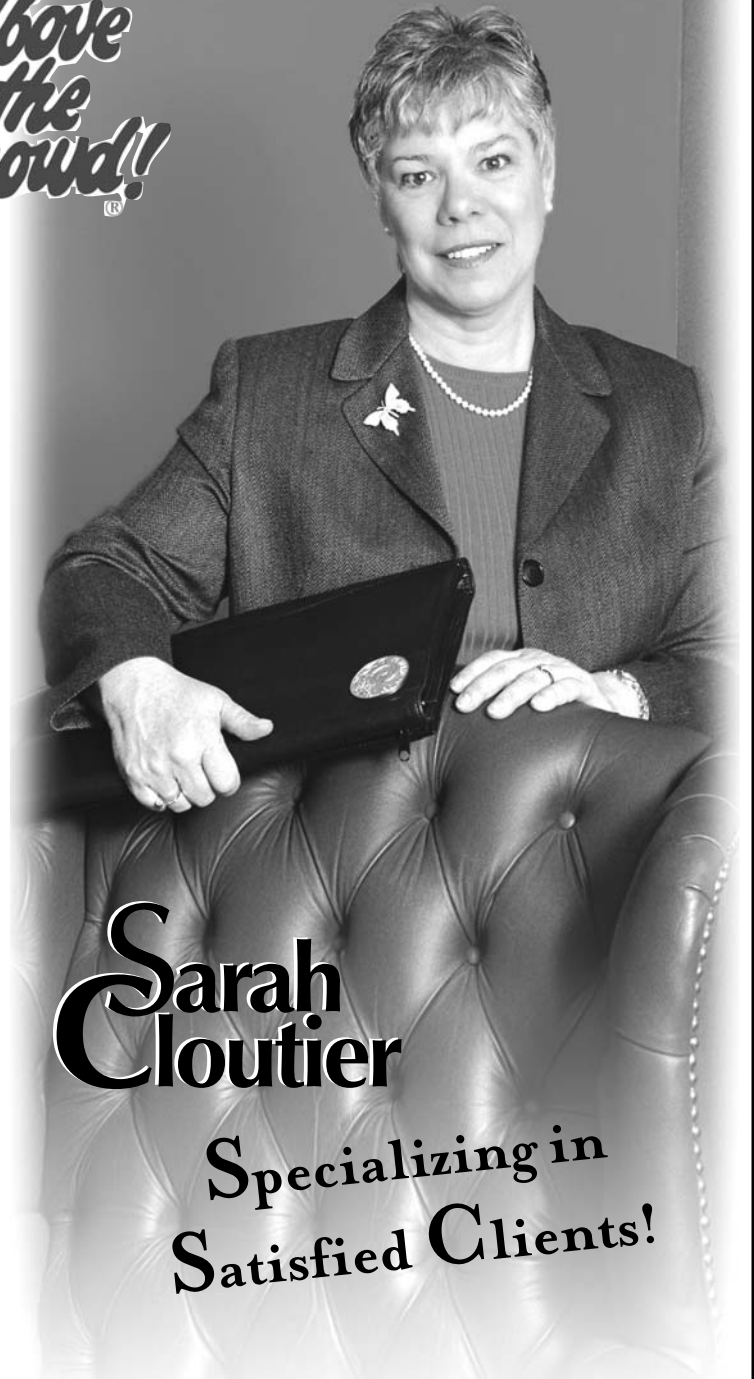
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