

BANAR

Blackburn Area News And Reports

Vol. 39 No. 3

February 2006

The Blackburn Hamlet Community Association
invites you to the

Blackburn Hamlet Family Winter Fun Day

When: Saturday, February 18, 1-4 p.m.

Where: Hornets Nest and Green's Creek

What: Bring your cross-country skis, snowshoes and toboggans for some fun in the snow

A horse drawn wagon will be shuttling between
the Hornet's Nest and Green's Creek

The 2nd Annual Chili Contest

Other refreshments including hot chocolate and juice will be served.

See you there!!!

For more information e-mail Michael van Aanhout at: pknzak@rogers.com

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president's message

Community Hall Expansion

It is going to be a very interesting year for the BCA. Our main efforts will be planning and organizing the expansion of the Community Hall. **Roger Smiley** is co-ordinating this effort and we will be working closely with the City to ensure that we get the best possible value for the money we have saved.

Youth in Blackburn

This year we are also planning to work with the youth in Blackburn and come up with a program, or programs, that will be of interest to our young people. **Sonia Brereton** has already had meetings, and she is working with them to come up with programs that they want to run. If you have any ideas, or want to help, please give Sonia a call, and in the meantime, watch our website for the latest plans.

Winter Fun Day and Chili Contest

Again this year we are holding our annual Winter Fun Day and Chili Contest at the Hornets Nest office on February 18th. Last year it was a great success, and this year we're hoping for an even larger turnout. The horses and sleigh will be there! Visit our web site for all the latest details.

Outdoors Rinks

The outdoors rinks are open, thanks to efforts of **Paul Van Bruinssen, Paul Hayes, and their team of rink monitors.**

Annual General Meeting

Since this BANAR will be distributed in February, it's too late to invite you to our Annual General Meeting, which was held in January. **We are always looking for new blood for the Board of Directors, so please check the website for possible vacancies on the new Board.** If there is any way you can help us out, please give one of the members a call and I'm sure we can use your assistance.

All Candidates Night

The All Candidates Night held on January 5 in the Blackburn Community Hall was well attended. The BCA hopes the meeting was helpful to the community in learning more about the candidates.

Blackburn Public Library

On a parting note: The Blackburn Branch of the Ottawa Public Library is always a candidate for closure, so please use it as much as you can. If we don't use it, we're likely to lose it.

Al Ross

Contents

1	Winter Fun Day
4	Chili Contest
5	Councillor's Corner
7	Bantam A Stingers
9	Edward Jones Profile
10	After-School Program
11	Preschool Winter Fun
12	Blackburn Library
14	Arts Ottawa East
15	Allotment Gardens/Singing
16	Fitness -2006
17	Fifty Plus Club
18	Alzheimer Awareness Month
20	Community Hall Expansion
20	Softball registration



Illustration by Brian Finn

BCA website — www.blackburnhamlet.ca

Blackburn Community Association

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

BCA website: www.blackburnhamlet.ca

2005–2006 BCA DIRECTORS/CONTACTS

President	<i>Al Ross</i>	837-1504
Vice -President	<i>Roger Smiley</i>	837-4293
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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 in the body of an e-mail or in Microsoft Word to ev@buddgraphics.com (put 'BANAR re:...' as subject) 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.

Advertisements: Sizes(wide x high) & Prices (No taxes)
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Ads are to be camera ready or in Photoshop, Illustrator or Quarkxpress. Resolution must be 300 dpi. Layout charges will apply for new ads or for ads that need revisions. Cheques are payable to "BCA" and must be received by the deadline date. Contact person is Evelyn Budd at 824-9707.

The Blackburn Community Association and BANAR magazine does not endorse or guarantee the products it advertises.

DISTRIBUTION: 3,400 residences and businesses. The BANAR is also available at the library, arena & Loeb's.

NOTE FROM EDITOR: Please put "BANAR re: ..." in subject line so I don't miss your article. Thanks.

DEADLINE/DELIVERY DATES FOR BANARS:

Mar 8 / Mar 24	May 10 / May 26
Aug 10 / Sept 9	Nov 8 / Nov 24

CALLING ALL CHEFS

Blackburn Hamlet Chili Contest

The Blackburn Hamlet Community

Association, in conjunction with the Winter Fun Day, is sponsoring its 2nd annual Chili Contest on Saturday, February 18th at the Hornets Nest Soccer Club. If you think your chili is a prizewinner, come help celebrate winter with your recipe.

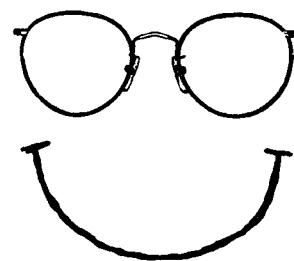


After local celebrities complete the judging, the chili will be sold—for a small fee—to Fun Day participants with proceeds to the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard. Yes! You'll also be helping a worthy cause.

Great prizes – Sarah Cloutier, Contest Organizer, is offering a \$100 first prize. There will be many secondary prizes donated by local businesses, "bragging rights" and a fabulous trophy that could be yours! A new panel of judges may choose yours as the best this year so don't be shy to enter again just because you weren't judged first place last year. This might be a good mother/daughter or father/son project too.

The deadline for entries is February 16, 2006. Rules and an entry form can be downloaded at www.blackburnhamletliving.com OR www.blackburnhamlet.ca.

For more information, or to request that the rules and entry form be mailed to you, please call Sarah Cloutier, at 841-4114.



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2006 Budget Exercise – Grinding To A 3.9% Increase

by Rainer Bloess, City Councillor

This year begins in Ottawa, unlike recent years, with the City's budget already signed, sealed and delivered. Although I had personally aimed for a lower increase, in the end the 2006 budget, as approved by Council in late December, provides for a property tax increase of 3.9%. I stress that this figure represents the total increase on the combined tax and utility bill, including police and garbage collection costs. Much was made in the media of "hiding" increases by redistributing some charges, but 3.9% is the actual increase facing residents for 2006. I realize that the costs of many basic items, such as fuel and materials, have increased for all of us just as they have for our city. Those costs are putting pressure on our families and we must be mindful of the impact of tax increases.

During the five days of deliberation, debate and, at times, dithering, Council cut \$41 million from the draft budget. In the effort to "cut the fat" and to streamline our amalgamated City, we have set definitive and difficult savings targets for City staff to meet. A number of discretionary items such as printing and postage costs have been slashed, a comprehensive review of overtime is underway, and the cuts include a \$10 million staff reduction target.

My own focus, as always, was on protecting and improving the services our residents consider the most essential, and I am pleased that, in spite of the belt tightening, we have made improvements on several important fronts. 2006 will see the addition of seven hundred daycare spaces, eight-

een new paramedics, four ambulances, ten new Ottawa public health staff and 90 new police officers across our City. Eight of these officers will be used in our ward to create a new zone, making two where one currently exists to provide better service in Blackburn Hamlet and Chapel Hill South. The emphasis on the essential services we most value is also evident in the allocation of an additional \$3 million for cleaning and greening the City, including litter pick up and street sweeping services, \$2 million for additional snow removal and increased funding for ditching and gravel road maintenance. On the transit front, this year will see development of a new 90 series bus route on Innes Road to serve east-end commuters.

In conclusion, this year's budget means the tax bill will increase by \$11 for the average home, consisting of a \$12 reduction on the city portion, a \$23

increase on the police portion; and an increase of \$37 for "fire supply" and \$71 for waste management on the utility bill for a total increase of \$119 for the average household.

In the big picture, the city's operating expenditures for the year will hit just over \$2.1 billion and our planned capital expenditures, \$1.17 billion. Managing a budget this size is a huge, complex and challenging undertaking and our senior managers certainly have their work cut out for them in the year ahead.

As we shovel our way into a new year and through another winter, some of these enhancements will hopefully make this traditionally gray season just a tad brighter.

As usual, please feel free to share your views or concerns with me. I can be reached at 580-2472 or by email at rainer.bloess@ottawa.ca

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“Bantam A Stingers” undefeated in tournament

Our local Stingers Bantam A hockey team reigned victorious at the Gloucester Bantam tournament held January 5-8 at Potvin and Armstrong Arenas.

The team was undefeated, scoring 22 goals in five games under the guidance of head coach Rob Billingham.

MVP awards went to Rebecca Courtice (2), Alex Kirkwood, Kelsey Scheier, and P.O. Gagne-Corriveau.

A strong roster of local Blackburn and Chapel Hill South talent includes Eric Belanger, Robin Billingham, D.J. Doucet, Kevin Feely, Ian Dimock, Mark Dimock, Patrick Love-Vani, Nick Matchem, Eric Hodgson, Tim Huebsch, and Mark Valiquette.

An exciting final saw the team beat the talented rivals the Orleans Moose 3-1. Rob is ably assisted on the bench by Ken Dimock and Dan Doucet.



Congratulations to the Blackburn Bantam A Stingers who went undefeated in Gloucester Tournament on January 8, 2006.

Gloucester hosted a first class International tournament with two participating teams from New York State, and numerous Canadian teams from outside the Ottawa area.

The trophy will be proudly displayed in the Blackburn Arena.

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Whether you are ready to move now or planning to move in the future call Chris & Anita at 744-2000 or directly at 794-3415 or email them at team@ottawahomes.net.



Orleans: Renovated & stunning!
RENOVATED!! ! Amazing value with lots of expensive upgrades. New windows, new roof, new furnace, central air, central vacuum, inside entry from garage, hardwood in the living room, ceramic tile, den off foyer.



Orleans: Resort in the city!
Unbelievable custom home on a 1/3 acre lot features a heated in-ground pool, huge conservatory, hot tub & fire pit. Inside, a media room, games room, hardwood on main, gourmet kitchen, large rooms & more!



Cumberland: Country charm.
On an enormous lot in a quiet subdivision, this renovated home has a huge eat-in country kitchen with built-in hutch, hardwood floors, finished basement, gas fireplace, large bedrooms, and tons of storage.



Blackburn Hamlet: Large rooms.
It is hard to find affordable housing in Blackburn but this home has lots of "bang for your buck". Hardwood on main floor, large kitchen, floor to ceiling windows in living room, private yard, large garage.



Beacon Hill: Huge 240' deep lot!
An estate lot in the city? Yes! The bungalow features a new heated in-ground pool, renovated kitchen and bathrooms, hardwood, new windows, hi-eff gas furnaced, oversized carport.



Carson Grove: Large bungalow.
3 Bed stone/brick house. Gleaming hardwood parquet. Modern kit. w/ custom built-in pantry. Bright lvgrm w/ colonial mantel wood burning ffp, wall of windows. Renovated bathrm. Master w/ sitting area. Den off kit. Fin. Bsmt.


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Edward Jones Entering 10th Year In Blackburn

Robert Real, CFP, Investment Representative with Edward Jones, opened the Blackburn Hamlet office in 1996.

Edward Jones, a member of CIPE, is a financial services firm serving the needs of the individual investor with over 9,000 offices in North America and the U.K.

One major competitive advantage is the range of products available. "We can offer GIC's, for example, from many different institutions at rates more competitive than you would normally see available elsewhere".

"Also, clients like the fact that we are in their neighbourhood within walking distance," says Robert who also feels his clients appreciate the fact that he pays close attention to their investments and communicates with them on a regular basis. "Constant review and fresh ideas and investment strategies go a long way to helping my clients meet their long-term financial goals".

Stability and quality of client service staff is another strength. Svetlana Lenko and Pavlina Viktora have almost nine years and four years experience respectively. "This makes such a huge difference in the level of service we can provide to our clients because a strong relationship builds and there is a comfort level there".

Robert Real grew up in Blackburn. His parents settled in the community in 1967. Many of his clients are people he went to school with or their parents or kids. Robert has been married


almost 18 years to Deirdre, a school teacher, and is the father of three-year

Robert Real grew up in Blackburn. His parents settled in the community in 1967.

old twins. Robert feels that being a recent father has made him a better

investment advisor as "I have a better appreciation for what really matters in peoples lives".

Robert Real wishes to thank his many loyal clients for their support over the years and wishes to invite members of the community who are not yet clients to contact the Edward Jones office at 841-9315 for a complimentary personalized review—no obligation.

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Preschool Offers Exciting New After-school Program

Starting in September 2006, Blackburn Hamlet Preschool is offering an exciting new service – it's an after-school program for Junior and Senior Kindergarten children who attend Good Shepard Catholic School or Glen Ogilvie Public School.

Depending on a family's needs, this program will be available two, three or five afternoons each week. Children will be bused from Good

Shepard and Glen Ogilvie to the Preschool at the end of their morning sessions. Lunch is to be provided by each child and will be eaten at the Preschool upon arrival. Afternoon snacks will be provided by the Preschool.

To accommodate working families and busy home parents, there are no "duty days" for children registered in this program. The program will run

from 1 – 4 pm, with the flexible option of late pick-up after 4:00 pm.

The after-school program offers a wonderful blend of programming including cooking, science, art, music, drama, gardening, French, and literacy and numeric activities. As well, the JK students will be introduced to a phonics program, and the SK children will have the opportunity to participate in the Preschool's "learn to read" program.

Although the Preschool will continue its cooperative morning programs for toddlers and preschoolers, the staff at the Preschool are very excited about this new after-school element of the school's programming, and hope that families in the community see it as a valuable complement to JK and SK.

As a licensed Preschool, the Blackburn Hamlet Preschool offers a well-established learning environment with first-rate facilities and play areas, including a large fenced-in outdoor playground. The highly qualified and experienced teachers offer fun, challenging and structured programs that have provided hundreds of Blackburn Hamlet and area children countless hours of pleasurable and memorable learning experiences.

Come and visit our Preschool on Sunday, February 12 from 2-4 pm at our annual Open House or make an appointment today for a personal tour. Just call 824-3257 and ask for Mary or visit the web site at <http://www.magma.ca/~prschoo/index.html>.



Blackburn Hamlet Preschool

202 Glenpark Drive
blackburnhamletpreschool.ca



Sunday February 12th, 2:00-4:00p.m.

Two morning toddler program

Two and three morning preschool programs

New for September 2006 lunch & after school

"Learn to Read Program" for JK & SK children

For more information call 824-3251

Blackburn Winter Fun Day – Preschooler's Snowy Adventure

The annual Blackburn Hamlet Winter Fun Day, scheduled for Saturday, February 18th at the Hornet's Nest, is a great way to get your preschooler celebrating winter! There are horse-pulled wagon rides taking trips between Green's Creek toboggan hill and the Thunder Dome throughout the event. Other events that might be of interest to your family include snowman making, snowshoeing and of course lots of tasty treats. Plan to come and enjoy the day with your preschooler, and create some Canadian memories! For more details, visit the BCA website at www.blackburnhamlet.ca.

Berries For Sale

As in previous years, Blackburn Hamlet Preschool will be taking orders for Frozen Berries in mid February. Berries available typically include Blueberries, Raspberries and Cranberries. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the Preschool at 824-3251.



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Program-o-rama!! is happening in the library

by Carrie Rathwell

Stop by the library or call us at 824-6926 ext. 6 to pre-register for any or all of our upcoming programs.

Ready, Set, Garden!

The Ottawa Public Library together with the **Master Gardeners of Ottawa Carleton** offer a **5-part lecture series** in Blackburn Hamlet and at nearby North Gloucester (2036 Ogilvie Road, 748-4208).

The first in the series at Blackburn is upon us: **Seed Propagation** with Fran Dennett on Tuesday, January 31 at 7 p.m.

At North Gloucester: **Xeriscaping for the Home Gardener** on Thursday, February 9 at 7 p.m.

At North Gloucester: **Ornaments in the Garden** on Thursday, February 16 at 7 p.m.

At Blackburn Hamlet: **Vegetable Gardening—It's Worthwhile!** Fleurette Huneault shares how easy it is to get your garden started, how rewarding it is to harvest, and everything in between. Learn to grow exotic vegetables like okra and sweet potatoes on an organically managed site on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m.

Lastly, at North Gloucester: **Nature in Your Backyard** on Tuesday, March 21 at 7 p.m.

Awaken the Artist Within

Explore your creative side with local fiber artist and teacher, Liane Thirty-Smith. Drawing from quilting, doll-making, felt-making, paper crafts and more, Liane offers hands-on tools and techniques to unlock your own artistic abilities on Thursday, February 9 at 7 p.m. No previous experience necessary.

Free Tax Return Services

The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) is a community-based outreach program designed to help low-income individuals with simple tax situations complete their tax returns free of charge. The

A boiled egg in the morning
is hard to beat.

Continued on page 13

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Program-o-rama!! is happening... (cont'd)

Ottawa Public Library, through the CVITP, will be offering clinics with free tax preparation services. For information about who can benefit from this program, visit www.library.ottawa.on.ca/taxprep or speak with staff. In Blackburn Hamlet, the sessions will be held on Tuesday, March 21, from 1-4 p.m.

Aging With Grace – Herbs for Longevity

Kathleen Leeson, local Registered Herbalist, teaches that the magic of herbal medicine lies in its ability to correct or reset the proper functioning of physiological processes. Come and learn more about preventative approaches and how certain herbs

can restore optimum health for conditions associated with aging on Thursday, March 30, 7 p.m.

Library Book Club

“The No. 1 Detective Ladies’ Agency”

By Alexander McCall Smith
Monday, February 20, 2 p.m.

“Reading Lolita In Tehran”

By Azar Nafisi
Monday, March 20, 2 p.m.

A book is like a garden
carried in the pocket.
~ Chinese proverb ~

March Break Programs for Children

Please pre-register starting February 15.

Pop-up Birthday Card

Ages 6-12. (Bilingual) Monday, March 13, 2 p.m. (1 hr.)

Come to the party!

Birthday stories, songs and balloons. Family storytime. Tuesday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. (30 min.)

Mad Science Show

A scientific celebration. Ages 5-12. (Bilingual) Wednesday, March 15, 2 p.m. (1 hr.)

New members always welcome!

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Arts—an essential element of community life

Arts Ottawa East is a dynamic not-for-profit organization that works with the community to develop partnerships, audiences, information, and visibility for the arts. It supports Ottawa artists and arts organizations through programs, resources and services.

Arts Ottawa East, formerly known as the Gloucester Arts Council, was incorporated in 1987 as a bilingual, not-for-profit membership organization. Since its inception, the Council continues to evolve in response to the needs of its membership and the community it serves. Membership now includes over 70 arts organizations and many individual members, representing well over 15,000 individuals. Arts Ottawa East is at the heart of innovative programming

and partnerships that inspire and assist hundreds of arts organizations and individual artists who create and present the visual, performing, media, and literary arts in our community and who contribute to our cultural landscape.

The Arts Ottawa East office is open Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information on the services they offer visit www.artsoe.ca, call 749-4978 or e-mail info@artsoe.ca.

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Gloucester Allotment Garden Association

Spring Registration Meeting

Early bird gardeners will receive five dollars off their annual garden plot fee by registering at the Gloucester Allotment Garden Association Registration Meeting. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 7th at 8 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Louis-Riel High School, 1655 Bearbrook Road.

Full size plots measuring 7 meters by 14 meters and half size plots are available at both Orient and Anderson Road sites and range in price from \$45 for a full size plot and \$33 for a half size plot. The fee includes tillage, water, and a load of compost deposited at the front of the plot.

BE AN EARLY BIRD and make sure you get your discount and a garden plot. For more information call the Registrar at 824-8479 or visit our web site at <http://gaga.ncf.ca>.

Enjoy singing??

The Southminster United Church Choir has openings in the following sections: Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Base. No auditions are necessary.

For more information contact Brian Stowe, President at 730-0040 or the Calvin Church organist/choir director, at 271-7379.

You are invited to come out to our weekly choir rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:30pm. The church is located at 15 Aylmer Avenue (at Bank Street by the Rideau Canal). We have several members from the Blackburn community.

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Fitness 2006

by *Jacqueline Madill*

Everyone in the Hamlet is invited to get moving on Saturdays and get fit. Starting on April 1 there will be free group outings (rain or shine). Blackburn already has a quiet bicycle path with a marked five km route. The picturesque trail winds through Blackburn Hamlet and the garden plots and is ideal for walkers, joggers and cyclists.

The starting time will be 9 a.m. on Saturdays, with the start and finish both located at the entrance to Loeb.

My past experiences with other training groups in Ottawa and other towns have proven that groups are always accepting and provide incentive and support. You will be teamed up with others that travel at the same pace. People with no experience and all ages are encourage to come and enjoy this social and participation event —no one gets left behind. For those who are training for a particular event, there is always an opportunity to meet others with similar goals.

Call 824-9440 if you have questions or comments and look for more details in the next Banar.



www.toastmasters.org

Learn to speak in public at Toastmasters International. The CMHC chapter meetings are held alternate Tuesdays, 12 pm at 700 Montreal Rd.

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Blackburn Fifty-Plus Club planning new events

The Fifty Plus Club Dinner and Games Night is held the 3rd Sunday of each month. The next evening will be held on Sunday, February 19 at 6 p.m. at the Tartan Pub, 4025 Innes Road. RSVP Val White at 837-1083 if you wish attend or for further information.

Don't miss the St. Patrick's Pot Luck Dinner on Sunday, March 12 at 6 p.m. at the Community Hall. The wonderful young step dancers from Trillium Academy who won our hearts last year will be entertaining us once again this year.

Please check the Blackburn Hamlet websites—www.blackburnhamlet.ca or www.blackburnhamletliving.ca for updates on all Fifty Plus Club events and for the location of future Dinner and Games nights.

Survey: Health care issues for people over fifty

The Blackburn Hamlet Fifty-Plus Club has been asked to organize a seminar on health care issues for people ages 50 and over. With this in mind, we'd like to find out just how many people would be interested in this type of seminar, when the best time to hold such a seminar would be and what specific issues are of most concern to people in this age group.

If you are interested in attending such a seminar, please fill out the form below and drop it off at Queens Pharmacy (located at 110 Bearbrook Road). You will be given a FREE gift when you drop your survey off.

The drop off deadline is February 1, 2006. If there is enough interest, a seminar will be organized for the spring.

1. Issues of greatest concern (i.e. wait time for surgery, wait time for doctors appointments or tests, drug interaction, home care, social services, etc.):

2. The best time for this kind of seminar (i.e. evening or daytime).

3. Are there particular speakers you would like to have or to recommend?

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Corporate Community "Pulled Up Their Socks" for the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa

The Alzheimer Society of Ottawa's "Pull Up Your Socks" Campaign was launched on December 6th at a breakfast hosted by Moe Attallah, owner of the Newport Restaurant, and supported by Christine Leadman, Executive Director of Westboro Village BIA. Over 65 guests from the corporate sector joined the local Alzheimer Society in this fundraiser that complements and supports the **Manulife Walk for Memories to be held on Sunday, January 29 during National Alzheimer Awareness Month at Carlingwood Mall (10am-1pm) and the Ottawa Athletic Club (10:30am-1pm).**

Proceeds from the sale of the socks will benefit the Alzheimer Society of Ottawa's family support and education programs as well as promotion of research.

Alzheimer Disease is the leading cause of dementia—a set of symptoms that includes loss of memory, judgement and reasoning, and changes in mood and behaviour. In Ottawa, there are approximately 10,000 people with Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias with 2,000 new cases projected each and every year for the foreseeable future.

January is National Alzheimer Awareness Month.

For more information on Alzheimer Disease, call 523-4004 or visit www.alzheimerottawa.org.

Thank-you

The Relay for Life team "Julie" are delivering the Banar this month and donating the proceeds to the Canadian Cancer Society.

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Community Hall Expansion

Opinions and Ideas Requested

The Blackburn Community Association is starting a long-term project of expansion to the present Blackburn Community Hall. We are soliciting opinions and ideas of what would be of the most benefit to the community.

If you would like to put forward ideas, they may be e-mailed to: communityproject@blackburnhamlet.ca or posted on the local newsboard on the BCA website for open discussion. Ideas may also be mailed to: BCA, P.O. Box 47062, Ottawa, Ontario K1B 5B0.

There is a Wine that's Right for YOU

Although in this article we talk about the 'right' wine, the intent is only to help you get the most out of drinking wine. Nobody should ever feel intimidated about their food and wine choices, and anyone who insists that there is only one wine for any given occasion or food pairing should be ignored! The best wine is always the one that *you* like, not the one someone talked you into drinking.

The whole idea behind matching a particular wine to a certain food is to try and achieve synergy from the interaction of flavours. Synergy is defined as "increased effectiveness, achievement, etc. produced by combined action". It helps to think of wine as a super-condiment. If you slather mustard on a hot dog or squeeze lemon on your salmon, it's because the two taste great together – not many people eat mustard by itself, or suck on plain lemons, but they produce a very nice *synergy* combined with other foods. Wine does this as well, with the added bonus that it's an excellent beverage on its own. Red wines such as Valpolicella are great with burgers, and whites like Symphony bring out the best in your seafood.

We at HOP 'N VINE can advise you on the wines to make, so that you have something for every occasion.

Valpolicella and Symphony are our featured wines to make in February.



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Let's play ball

Blackburn is home to a successful ladies softball league and a successful men's fastpitch league. Players, old and new alike, can enjoy the game and the friendly competition while aiming for a more active lifestyle.

But did you know that you don't have to be an adult to play softball. The Orleans Amateur Fastball Association (Oafa) offers the sport for boys and girls ages 5-23 years who live in the Ottawa East area.

Various programs and learn-to-play strategies are offered that provide children with hands-on play and development such as Blastball, 5-Pitch, 3-Pitch and Fastpitch. There are three levels of play available as well — house league, select, and competitive. Each level stimulates the progression of the child and allows for games, practices, fun days, tournaments, and provincial and/or national events.

Softball walk-in registration dates for youth

The Oafa Softball Walk-in Registration dates for boys and girls ages 5-23 years are March 4 and 25 at the Ray Friel Center (9am-2pm) and at Sport Chek in Place d'Orleans (10am-2pm). Various programs and learn-to-play strategies are offered that provide children with hands-on play and development in Blastball, 5-Pitch, 3-Pitch or Fastpitch. There are three levels of play available as well — house league, select, and competitive. Each level stimulates the progression of the child through games, practices, fun days, tournaments, and provincial and/or national events. For more info check www.oafa.org.

Blackburn Ladies Softball and Blackburn Mens Fastball Registration

Registration will be held from 7 to 10 pm at the Blackburn Arms on Tuesday, March 7 and at Wally's Bistro and Bar on Wednesday, March 8.

For more information contact Katra Karam at 837-6819 or Steve Bovey at 824-1435.

More information is also available at the two websites — www.blackburnladiessoftball.com and www.bmfl.ca

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Community Contacts

Blackburn Arena	824-5197
Blackburn Library	824-6926
Blackburn Art Group	Joseph Fletcher 834 4772
Blackburn Chorus	Bob Bowes 744-6807
Blackburn Community Hall	841-7396
Bookings	Jan Whitehouse 830-8644
Blackburn Duplicate Bridge	Bill Durning 824-9593
Blackburn Guides/Brownies	Brenda Sowden 523-4003
Blackburn Scouting Group	Michel Binda 260-3343
	Registrar — Fiona Daigle 834-7119
Child Care Drop-In	Myrian Pepin 742-5500
Child Care "No School Days"	580-2400
Conseil de Gestion	Lyse Goneau 837-3941
Fifty Plus Group	Sarah Cloutier 841-4114
Jeannettes	Nicole Andrecheck 824-9972
St. John Ambulance	Louise Bertrand 841-5610
Les Guides	Viviane Côté-Maxwell 837-1839
Le Club Optimiste	Dominique Dufour-Jacques 837-4645
Les Chansonniers	Germain Asselin 837-3883
Neighbourhood Watch	Volunteer Chadala 236-1222 ext 3571
Quilting Groups	J. Maxwell 841-6084
	Joanne Bushel 824-6524
Badminton	Dale Bemben 734-7291
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	Anne Switzer 837-4756
Little League Baseball	Gerry Ferguson 745-9303
Ringette (Ladies)	Jane Ross 837-1504
Softball (Ladies)	Candis Emery 834-2983
Tennis	Nabil Oudeh 590-7922
Provincial MPP	Phil McNeely 834-8679

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Support the BCA by mailing a \$10. cheque with your name and address for your BCA membership card to: Blackburn Community Association, P.O. Box 47062, Gloucester, ON, K1B 5B0.

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