

Blackburn Area News And Reports BANAR

Vol. 57 No. 2

November 2023

Holiday Pancake Breakfast

*By Santa's Helpers: Don Kelly, Karl Frangian,
and Angie Jodoin*

Date: Saturday, December 2

Time: 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Where: Blackburn Community Hall
(190 Glenpark Drive)

Tickets: \$10 per individual or family
(*FREE admission for BCA Members*)

Once again the BCA and its partners will treat their community to a spectacular morning of family fun and feasting at the annual Santa Pancake Breakfast, where the spirit of Christmas will be on full display.

Santa & his elves will be there to hand out gifts to adults and children. In addition, Santa will have a workshop where children can present their Christmas wish list to Santa in person. Community volunteers will be there to hand out pancakes laden with maple syrup and delicious sausages, and ensure there are refreshments for everyone.

We will also have craft events for the kids, door prizes, and many special prizes throughout the



event.

We look forward to seeing you and your family on December 2.

To volunteer at the event: please contact Don Kelly at safety@blackburnhamlet.ca.

If you're not currently a BCA member, you can become a BCA member by paying only \$10, and then enjoy all of those wonderful items mentioned above.

Remember, Santa's breakfast is a wonderful time to renew your membership with the BCA. Our membership fee is only \$10 per year, per household. When you renew your membership at the event, please bring exact change. This will help us process your payment faster and allow you to get to the food and prizes faster.

NOTE: All funds raised through BCA memberships support initiatives right here in Blackburn Hamlet.

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The Hamlet
Veterinary Hospital

Dr Bernard Vincelette, DMV & Dr Annie Séguin, DMV

Dr Amber Covello, DVM & Dr Alexandra Phoenix, DVM

Winter Holiday Hazards for Pets



The holiday season is upon us. These are tips to Plan a Pet-Safe Holiday Gathering

Be Careful with Plants and Decorations

Mistletoe and Holly: Can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

Tinsel-less Town: If eaten in large quantities it can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery.

Wired Up: A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electrical shock and a punctured battery can cause burns to your pet's mouth or digestive tract.

Avoid Holiday Food Dangers: Skip the chocolates and anything with Xylitol. Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods, as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends.

A Room of Their Own: Give your pet his own quiet space to retreat to—complete with fresh water and a place to snuggle. Happy Holidays!

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Editor's message

This November marks three years since I stepped into the role of BANAR Editor. When I started, COVID restrictions were substantially limiting BCA activities, making it hard to find enough content to fill each issue. Lately, I've had the opposite problem – given all the amazing activities and initiatives happening in the Hamlet, I sometimes have too much content for the issue. Since I was kid, I have enjoyed reading the BANAR and learning about everything happening in Blackburn – the main difference is that now I get an advanced look at all the articles before the rest of the community.

For those who were unaware, PDF versions of old BANARs dating back to 1967 are available on the BCA website. This past summer I was digging through the BANAR archives trying to answer the question “What year did the Blackburn Ladies Softball League (BLSL) start?” From what I could find, the first mention of ladies softball in Blackburn Hamlet was in 1973 – meaning that ladies softball has been played in Blackburn for 40 years! Although it wasn't entirely clear whether this was the same league that eventually became

known as the BLSL.

While going through the past issues, it was fun to see how much has changed (e.g., in the 80's there was a New Year's Eve Dance in Blackburn, and in the 90's Blackburn hosted an Oktoberfest celebration) and how much has stayed the same (e.g., resident concerns about traffic, the quarry, and litter). One thing that definitely stood out is the continued dedication of the volunteers in this community! If you get a chance, I encourage you to read some of the old BANARs – there's a lot to learn about Blackburn.

Like all the BCA initiatives, the BANAR is driven by volunteers. It wouldn't be possible without the support of many people in this community, including Joanne and Auramarina who coordinate the delivery; those who submit articles; and the team of BANAR carriers. Thank you for your help in continuing this long standing Blackburn tradition!

If you're interested in getting involved with the BANAR please email BANAR@blackburnhamlet.ca

Kendra Brett, *BANAR Editor*



See Cancer Chase, pages 14 and 15

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Websites

www.BlackburnHamlet.ca
www.BlackburnFunFair.ca



Facebook

- Blackburn Hamlet Community Association–BCA
- Blackburn Hamlet Community Association



X (formerly Twitter)

@BlackburnOttawa

Blackburn Community Association (BCA)

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

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Vice-President: Brent Lawrie
Secretary: Lynn Lefevre
Treasurer: Lisa Margeson

president@blackburnhamlet.ca
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BOARD

Beautification: Miriam Hampson
Communications: Nina Ryan
and Barbara Whitaker
Community Liaison: Jenny Lawrence
Environment: Sarah Morgan-White
Facilities and Operations: Brent Lawrie
Membership: Vacant
Parks: Kiel Dixon
Seniors: Barbara Whitaker
Rinks: Mark Lister
Safety: Don Kelly
Youth: Maureen Forsythe
Transportation: Robert Bellizzi

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Website: Steve Vesely

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EVENTS

Bike Rodeo: Robert Bellizzi
Cancer Chase: Don Kelly
FunFair Chairperson: Steve Vesely
Garden Tour: Cynthia Hoisak
Spring Cleanup: Lisa Margeson
Santa's Breakfast: Don Kelly
and Angie Jodoin

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cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca
santasbreakfast@blackburnhamlet.ca

Board meetings

The BCA is a grassroots volunteer-run organization that supports and advocates on behalf of residents, businesses and groups in Blackburn Hamlet, Ottawa, Canada.

The BCA Board meets 9 times a year on the 3rd Thursday of the month (January-June & September-November) from 7:30pm to 10pm. Board meetings have been held virtually since March 2020. Meetings are open to Blackburn Hamlet residents. Contact secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca for the Zoom credentials.

Board meetings follow an agenda, so if you have any questions or topics that you wish to raise, please advise the secretary at least two (2) days prior to the meeting.

Next BCA meeting: Thursday November 23, 2023

BANAR delivery routes

A carrier is currently needed to deliver BANARs to our local businesses. Availability during business hours, and access to a vehicle or wagon is preferred. Individuals interested in this route or to be on the waitlist for other routes can contact **Joanne Smith – joanneesmith@yahoo.ca**

BCA Membership!

NEW **RENEWAL** **DATE** _____

Your \$10 annual membership helps support BCA activities such as the BANAR, representation to various levels of government, Fun Fair, Hockey Day, Canada Day, Santa's Breakfast, as well as numerous initiatives for youth, seniors and local groups. One membership covers 2 adults and their dependents living at the same address. Please either fill out and mail this form or provide the same information in an email to membership@blackburnhamlet.ca.

ADULT NAME(S): _____

HOME ADDRESS including postal code: _____

PHONE(S): _____

EMAIL(S): _____

Add to BCA e-newsletter distribution: **Yes** **No**

Add to BCA critical/emergency issue texting distribution:
Yes **No**

Add to BCA volunteer list: **Yes** **No**

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash or Cheque mailed to BCA Membership,
P.O. Box 47062, Ottawa, ON. K1B 5B0

E-Transfer to treasurer@blackburnhamlet.ca. Remember
to include your name and email or phone in the memo field.

All memberships expire on June 30 each year.



The BANAR is published and delivered 5 times a year to Blackburn homes and businesses to celebrate community and provide information on local programs and events (circulation 3,500).

Article Submissions

Articles (300 words maximum) can be emailed in the body of an email or attached as a Word document. High resolution photos (i.e., 300 DPI) can be submitted as email attachments.

Advertising

Ads can be purchased by individual issue or for the year (i.e., 5 consecutive issues).

First time advertisers who purchase a subscription of ads marked with a star (*) receive a free half-page profile (225 words plus photo).

Size	Cost per issue	Cost per year
7.5 W x 9.5 H (full page)*	\$300	\$1,350
7.5 W x 4.25 (~half page)*	\$140	\$630
4.95 W X 2.75 H*	\$80	\$360
3.65 W X 5.25 H*	\$100	\$450
3.65 W X 4.25 H*	\$80	\$360
3.65 W x 1.75 H (smallest ad)	\$40	\$180

Note: Tax will be added to the invoice. A 10% discount is applied to yearly subscriptions.

Contact: Kendra Brett at banar@blackburnhamlet.ca

The BCA does not endorse or guarantee products or services sent in for the BANAR or take responsibility for the print or web quality, copyright infringements of photos, artwork or text provided by advertisers for the BANAR or BCA website.

PAYMENT, ADVERTISING, ARTWORK, AND ARTICLES ARE DUE BY THE DEADLINE DATE

February BANAR Deadline: February 1

February BANAR Delivery: February 24

For BCA updates go to BlackburnHamlet.ca

BCA board meeting highlights

Highlights from the September and October BCA Board activities include:

- Our Membership chair, Heather McCuaig Edge has resigned. Lisa Margeson, the BCA Treasurer, will take over Membership until a replacement can be found.
- Our efforts to recruit a new Enviro chair have been successful. At least two people have expressed interest in joining the BCA Board next year to take over this role.
- Steve Vesely will be taking over as the 2024 Funfair Chair.
- We are reviewing the new Recreational funding agreement from the City of Ottawa for 2024. This provides the BCA with funds to manage the Hall and run recreational programs in the Hall that benefit the residents of Blackburn Hamlet.
- A cleanup of the Hall was recently completed and we will be submitting an updated repair list to the City of Ottawa in the near future.
- The BCA will be providing a \$500 grant to Ski Heritage East's "Crush The Ice" fundraising campaign.
- There are now 5 active members of the Seniors Advisory Committee who are working to provide more activities for Seniors in our neighbourhood, including the recently launched Walk and Talk event.
- A long overdue Volunteer Recognition event will be organized for May 2024. More details will be announced in the Spring.

More details can be found in the BCA Meeting

Minutes on our website at <https://blackburnhamlet.ca/about/meeting-minutes/>

Volunteer with the BCA

All programs run by the BCA rely heavily on dedicated volunteers to achieve success.

If you would like to volunteer please email a board member or president@blackburnhamlet.ca or visit www.blackburnhamlet.ca

BCA Community Christmas Tree

Don Kelly, BCA

On the evening of December 9, the BCA is planning for the first-ever lighting of the Blackburn Hamlet Community Christmas Tree. This family event will take place at the corner of Southpark Drive and Innes Road.

We ask residents to join us as we place ornaments and decorations on

our Christmas tree while enjoying a cup of hot chocolate.

Everyone is welcome. Perhaps you have some special decorations for the tree. More exacting details will be published on the BCA website.

If you would like to volunteer to help us with this incredible community effort, please contact safety@blackburnhamlet.ca.



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National Tree Day coloring contest winner – *Gagnant du concours de coloriage sur la Journée nationale de l'arbre*

Sarah Morgan-White, BCA Environment Director

Mon arbre préféré c'est...

Félicitations à Owen qui a gagné le panier-cadeau thème sur le thème de la rentrée scolaire valeur de 50\$ de Métro pour sa participation dans le Concours de coloriage pour la Journée nationale de l'arbre. On a reçu 141 soumissions!

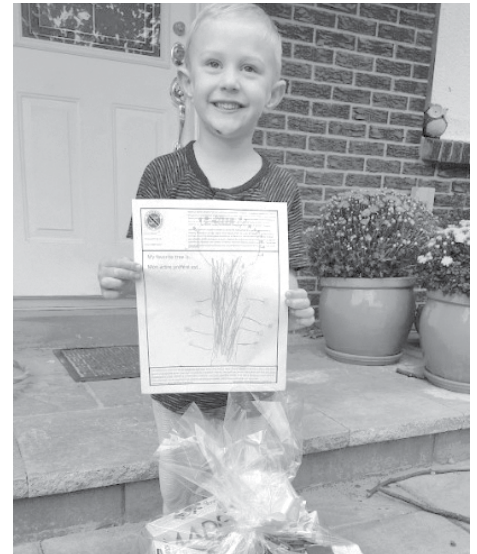
J'aimerais remercier le personnel de Métro et leur gestionnaire Sara, pour le don du panier-cadeau et Julie de la bibliothèque publique (succursale de Blackburn Hamlet) pour leur aide à faciliter ce concours! Certains dessins seront affichés à la bibliothèque publique – succursale de Blackburn Hamlet et au Métro (Blackburn Hamlet) pour une courte durée en célébration de

la Journée nationale de l'arbre le 21 septembre. Prenez le temps d'aller voir ces beaux chefs d'œuvres! Merci à tous ceux qui ont participé!

My favorite tree is...

Congratulations to Owen who won the back-to-school themed gift basket by Metro for his participation in the National Tree Day Colouring Contest! We had 141 entries!

A very special thanks to Metro's manager Sara for the donation of the gift basket and to Metro staff! Also, a big thanks to Julie and other staff from the Ottawa Public Library (Blackburn Hamlet branch) for their help with the contest! Selected drawings will be on display at the Ottawa Public Library (Blackburn Hamlet branch) and Metro (Blackburn) for a short



Owen with his drawing of his favorite tree and the gift basket he won.

period to celebrate National Tree Day on September 21st. Please take the time to see them, they are quite beautiful! Thanks again to everyone who participated!

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Horrorifying Halloween Costume Party 2023

Maureen Forsythe, BCA Youth Director

On the sunny and windy afternoon of October 28th some 37 local youth, wearing an amazing variety of original costumes, descended on the park outside the Blackburn Community Hall for a couple of hours of ghastly fun and games.

Winners of the best costume contest, as voted by participants themselves, included William Michaud (as Recycling Bin), Geoff Harris (as Link), Henry Gottfried (as Ninja), Amelia Dullemond (as Scream Ghost) and Liv LeClair (as Joker). Special mentions also for Ava Ellis (as Snow Witch) and Henry MacWha (as the Mad Hatter). The winner of the caramel candy guessing game was Geoffrey Tait, who took home a glass skull full of 144 caramels as his prize.

After a scary eyeball scavenger hunt in the nearby haunted woods, participants played a game of terrifying touch tag and then a game of pass the squeaky rat. Everyone also listened to a reading of *Haunted Houses* by Henry W. Longfellow and tried to guess whether the ghosts described in the poem were angry or friendly ghosts! Cupcakes, treats and refreshments were avail-



able during the event and treat bags were distributed at the end.

Special thanks to Valerie du Plessis and Roland Beshiri for helping to decorate and set up the tent for the refreshment table and Barbara Whittaker, dressed up as Pumpkin Pie with Cream, to help with the various activities. Special thanks also to youth volunteer Victor Prabhakaran, who attends Cairine Wilson Secondary School, for being available to help with activities throughout the event.



Laura Dudas

Councillor Orléans West - Innes | Conseillère Orléans Ouest - Innes

LauraDudas.ca
613-580-2472
Laura.Dudas@Ottawa.ca

What's happening at the library

'Tis the season to cozy up with a good book, or movie, or so much more!

Wander over and re-discover the library!! With a valid library card, you can borrow the latest books on the express shelves, museum passes, telescopes, thermal camera, magazines, and attend our many programs for young and young at heart. You can also just sit around and read the paper; we're okay with that. Connect with your neighbours, participate in book clubs, engage in workshops and attend events that bring the community together.

You can even stay home and re-discover the library! We have e-books, digital audiobooks, music stream-

ing, online language learning and a host of exceptional learning resources at your fingertips! Whether you're a student or a lifelong learner, our library offers access to an extensive selection of educational resources, including databases, research materials and more.

Come and see us in branch or peruse our website for all the latest information on children's programming like storytimes & PD Day fun, and adult programming like our new Travel Series coming up in January.

All proceeds from the Mille Feuilles used bookstore in the branch are used to fund programs and services here at Blackburn Hamlet. Come check out prices from \$0.25-\$3.00!!

Glen Ogilvie Gift of Giving 2023 – ITEMS NEEDED!

The Parent Council at Glen Ogilvie is looking for donations to help make this year's Gift of Giving a success! If you have small, unopened gift items gathering dust in your house, this is the perfect opportunity to gently re-gift them for a great cause!

What's Gift of Giving?

On the 2nd Friday of December, every student at Glen Ogilvie has a chance to look through a trove of donated gift items and choose two presents for special adults in their lives, at a suggested donation of \$1/gift. Items are donated by the community, sorted by the parent council, and displayed and wrapped by volunteers. Proceeds are donated to our local food bank.

What kind of items do we need?

We are in need of new, unopened gift items for adults, especially sports items and games. Donations should be small and sturdy enough for a child to bring home in a backpack. This is a re-gifting effort – please do not purchase new items to donate! Suggested gift ideas include:

- Books : novels, cookbooks, up to date hobby guides



- Accessories: hats, scarves, belts, ties, purses, sportswear, jewelry
- Small decorative items: artwork, picture frames, ornaments, garden decorations
- Home goods: Kitchen accessories, BBQ items, sports accessories, tools, electronics, outdoor gear.
- Gift Wrap: Small and medium sized gift bags, tissue paper, bows

Please DO NOT donate:

- Opened items
- Items with inappropriate words or images for small children
- anything perishable
- Large or delicate gifts
- anything dirty, broken, or stained

Where can I donate?

Donations can be dropped off any time, in the marked bins outside the front doors of either 9 Diceman Crescent or 46 Bearbrook Road. Or, you can contact Natalie Merchant or Laura Smith at sc-glenogilvieps@ocdsb.ca and we'll be happy to answer your questions.

Thank you in advance for any donations!

Winners of the Wonderful Writers 2023 Short Story Competition

Maureen Forsythe, BCA Youth Director

In August 2023, the BCA invited local youth aged nine to 17 to write an original short story on one of two topics: a brother and sister discover an old journal in the attic or a family's cat and dog discover they have magical powers.

We received an impressive total of twenty-five submissions. You may recognize some of the names below from earlier contests! Congratulations to all participants!

We are pleased to announce that the first place winner of the short story competition is **Nura Rowhani** for her delightful short story "Discover the Past" which is written from the perspective of a journal that survives from Napoleonic times. Nura is fourteen years old and attends Colonel By Secondary School. She will receive the top cash prize of \$100.

We are also pleased to announce the following win-

ning stories: "Mortician's Agenda" by **Ali MacWha**, who is 17 years old and attends Colonel By Secondary School, and "Attic Teacher" by **Navid Rowhani**, who is 12 years old and attends Emily Carr Middle School. Ali and Navid will collect cash prizes of \$50 each.

Given the number of quality submissions, we wish to provide honourable mentions for the following participants: **Theia Taylor** for "Notes Written in Red Pen"; **Henry MacWha** for "The Journal"; **Elynn Zeng** for "The Old Diary"; **Titan Martin** for "Bella and the Tentacle Monster"; **Charles White** for "The Magical Duo" and **Emily Liu** for "Journal Found in Attic". Additional cash prizes of \$25 will be awarded to each of these promising young storytellers.

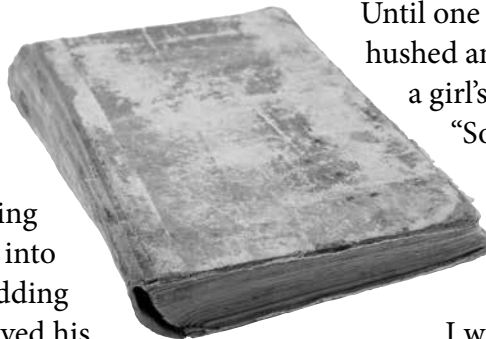
Special thanks to Barbara Whittaker, a BCA board member who lives in Blackburn Hamlet, and Paul Whittaker, for reviewing the submissions. All of the winning stories will be posted on the BCA website.

Discover the Past

by Nura Rowhani

It has been years since I've seen the sunlight. Discarded. Alone. My crisp white pages are frail, yellowed with age.

Centuries ago, I sat young, bright eyed, with a fresh new cover, for hope that a human would take me home. In the year 1798 during the Napoleonic Wars a man bustled into my bookstore, his leather boots thudding loudly against the ground. He observed his surroundings as if in a trance. Then suddenly, his eyes were drawn to mine. Without breaking contact he reached towards me, his outstretched hands hesitant as he caressed my cover with calloused fingers. His name was Olivier, and as time went on I became a friend to confide in, in times of peril.



But now, I am passed on from generation to generation, a useless trinket, hidden away amongst clutter in the attic.

Until one day I hear voices, children's voices, hushed and full of excitement! "Quiet Daniel!" a girl's voice cries, "Grandma will catch us!" "Sorry Rachel!" the other cries. I sit up and wish for one to spot me. "Daniel, look! There's an old journal, we must read it!"

And so they do.

I watch as their faces animate with expression while they read silently for hours. Shock, sadness, delight, despair. Olivier's story I've so diligently carried through my pages has finally been delivered, and I can tell from their faces that it will not be forgotten. My journey is complete. I close my eyes and fall into an eternal sleep.

Discovery Café, Blackburn Hamlet style

Barbara Whittaker, BCA Seniors Director

The new Discovery Café lecture series kicked off in September, with Carleton Professor Dr. Bob Burk leading a fascinating session called “Chemistry: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” We learned about the importance of chemistry in our daily lives and how sometimes a single chemical can be both beneficial and harmful.

In October, retired chemistry professor, Blackburn resident and Discovery Café founder Dr. John ApSimon shared with us “Tales from a Research Laboratory”, giving us a behind-the-scenes look at his amazing 40-year research career.

Discovery Café lectures are held from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Blackburn Community Centre (190 Glen Park Drive). Admission is free and refreshments are provided.

Mark your calendar for the following dates, and watch the BCA Website and Facebook page, the BANAR, and posters around the community for more info about these upcoming Discovery Café sessions.

- **November 23, 2023: Detecting Fraud: A behind-the-scenes look**

— *Speaker: Robin Grosset, Chief Technology Officer, Mindbridge*

Technology is advancing at a staggering pace. Fraudsters view each new advancement as an opportunity to exploit weaknesses in systems and are using increasingly sophisticated approaches to wreak havoc on organizations and individuals. In this session, Mr. Grosset will discuss how Ottawa-based Mindbridge, a well-respected and fast-growing financial fraud detection company, is helping companies find fraudulent activity and mitigate risk.

- **Thursday, January 25, 2024: Education, Society, and Generative AI**

— *Speaker: Jim Davies, Professor at Carleton University's Department of Cognitive Science, author, poet, game designer, internationally-produced playwright and host of the award-winning podcast Minding the Brain (<http://www.mindingthebrainpodcast.com/>)*

A number of artificial intelligence (AI) programs came out in the early 2020s that generate images



Photo caption: Professor Bob Burk leading the Discovery Cafe session in September.

(like Midjourney), music, and text (like ChatGPT). These generative AI programs surprised even long-time AI researchers with what they could do. How do they work? How will they affect education, creative work for humans, and society in general?

- **Thursday, February 22, 2024: Nuclear Family: Growing up in Ottawa at the beginning of the nuclear age**

— *Speaker: Jean Van Loon, author, is a life-long resident of Ottawa. Her poems, stories and reviews have appeared in literary magazines across the country, most recently in the Queen's Quarterly and (forthcoming) The New Quarterly. She is a graduate of Carleton, Queen's, Humber Graduate School of Writing, and UBC's MFA program in Creative Writing.*

Jean will read from her second poetry collection, Nuclear Family (McGill-Queen's 2022), winner of the 2023 Ottawa Book Award for fiction. The book's details of 1940s and 50s Ottawa and the role Canada played in the US nuclear development program may invite discussion of other people's memories of the time. There will be time for discussion.

Additional 2024 dates: March 28, April 25, and May 23. Speakers TBD

If you have any topics you'd like to hear about, please send your suggestions to barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca.

CANCER CHASE 2023 wrap-up

*Karl Frangian and Don Kelly,
Cancer Chase Co-Chairs 2023*

With the dedicated support of many volunteers Cancer Chase 2023 was once again a success. This year's efforts raised \$12,900 for cancer research at the Ottawa Hospital. Throughout the years Cancer Chase has donated over \$300,000 to the Ottawa Hospital.

This year's Cancer Chase had a new wrinkle in that it was held in Convent Glen at the Cairine Wilson High School as a collaboration between the BCA and the Convent Glen Woods Community Association (CGWCA). The BCA efforts to develop partnerships bodes well for the potential to expand this event to include all communities of East Ottawa.

The Cancer Chase event requires a diverse group of volunteers to make it happen and this year was no exception. The event includes two specific activities, the 5K Walk/Run and the Silent Auction. The 5K Walk/Run was expertly organized and administered by Christian & Manon Dussault and their team from the Orleans Parkrun. Unlike previous years every runner/walker was provided with a device that recorded everyone's walk/run time. A blessing for some; others not so much. As well every participant received a Swag Bag, courtesy of the Blackburn Pharmacy, containing useful household items. Plus, this new run/walk area has incredible capacity to handle a larger Cancer Chase event, should it happen.

To accommodate the various activities a series of tents, courtesy of the Frangian Family, were positioned along the property of the Cairine Wilson High School. The use of the property was made possible through the outstanding support of Jessica Jalbout and Deborah Latham of the Ottawa Carleton District School Board. A big thanks also goes out to Sonia Marcotte and the Kelly/Cadieux family who took charge of the Silent Auction and were able to sell over \$4,000 of the donated items. To Angie, Brent, Pauls 1,2,3, Robert and many others, we say Thanks for your support.

A special thanks must also be given to PSMK First Aid Training Inc. for their professional support in ensuring medical support was available. And, to Nata-



sha de Sousa and her team from the Ottawa Hospital Foundation for their efforts in administering all financial matters. This year we had representation from the Ottawa Police Services (Constable Marc Leroux) and the Ottawa Fire Services (Station 52) so a big thanks goes to the City of Ottawa for their help in adding a new look to the event.

Lastly, we owe a big thanks to all of those participants who ran/walked in the 5K journey or were there to snatch up those fantastic bargains at the Silent Auction. To everyone, THANKS, and hope you can join us next year.



CANCER CHASE SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Cancer Chase Co-Chairs, Don Kelly & Karl Frangian

The events we do for our community do not get done without the incredible support of the individuals and businesses who provide us with generous donations of products and funds. Our support this year came from many different areas of our region. How about that craft beer experience from Beau's All-Natural Brewing Company in Vankleek Hill or the colorful Stained Glass from Golden Paw Designs of Barrhaven, or perhaps the

bountiful Gift Basket from Farm Boy in Orleans, tickets from the RedBlacks, Gift Cards from Gabriel Pizza and our own Budd Gardens. These are just some of our incredible supporters. Bravo to all! The list of all of our wonderful contributors is shown below.

The BCA gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa and the support of Councilor Dudas. L'Association Communautaire de Blackburn remercie sincèrement la Ville d'Ottawa de son soutien financier et du support de Conseillère Dudas.

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Blackburn Chiropractor Clinic
Kowalski Hearing Solutions
National Arts Centre
Pharma Choice
The Meadows Golf & Country
Club on behalf of Tom Scott
Farm Boy Orleans
Budd Gardens
TD Wealth Trust
Maz Karimjee
Metro, Convent Glen

Blackburn Shoppes Dental Centre
Ottawa Redblacks
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Mid East Food Company
Paul Whitaker
Shindao Martial Arts
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PSMK First Aid Training
Patti Linn

Seniors activities on the horizon....

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming activities:

- **Blackburn Seniors Walk-and-Talk -- Wednesday, November 22, 2023, 10:00 AM**

Join us for a leisurely walk around our lovely Blackburn Hamlet community. We will meet at the entrance to Isaiah Scharfe Park (Bush Park), 41 Bearbrook Road, across from Westpark Drive. Comfortable shoes and a water bottle are highly recommended.

The walk will proceed rain or shine.

- **Blackburn Seniors Breakfast Get-together – Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 9:00 AM, Broadway Bar & Grill, 1615 Orleans Boulevard**

At our last breakfast, we had four people named Shirley in attendance...the next breakfast will “shirley” be a great time, so come and join us for good food, great company and a chance to share stories.

Those who are feeling festive and would like to participate are invited to bring a wrapped tree ornament (home-made or purchased, maximum of \$10) for an ornament exchange game. Please RSVP Shirley at 613- 613-841-7691 by December 1st.



- **Blackburn Seniors Breakfast Get-together – Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 9:00 AM, Broadway Bar & Grill, 1615 Orleans Boulevard**
- **Blackburn Seniors Saturday Social – Saturday, March 16, 2024, 11:30 AM-3:30 PM Join us at the Blackburn Community Centre for a potluck lunch and afternoon of games and fun.**

For more information, please visit the BCA Website and Facebook page and watch for posters around the community.

Questions? Please email seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca

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Adopt a Tree

Thank you to everyone who applied to adopt one of our fruit trees/shrubs this year through Adopt a Tree.

Please join us in congratulating: Heather who adopted Fergie the Fig Tree; Sarah who adopted Rakash the Almond tree; Marie who adopted Mirtilo the blueberry bush; and Ashley who adopted Betty the yellow birch! Congratulations to all of you and enjoy your leaf-babies!

Events such as these are made possible through the ideas, help and advice of valuable volunteers. A special thanks to Sarah and Chris for leading this event!



Marie and Mirtilo



Heather and Fergie

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J&S Service Station to close in January

After happily serving the Blackburn Hamlet community for over 30 years, J&S Service Station is sad to announce that it will be closing in January 2024. We have come to know many members of the community over the years and hope that we have made a positive contribution in that time. In supporting the various teams and activities like the Fun Fair, we felt it was important to join in as we were part of the community ourselves. The staff appreciated all the kind words

and messages which they received for a job well done. We will miss all the chats, jokes and stories - there were some doozies! It will be difficult to leave such a friendly family-oriented community, and we regret any inconvenience caused by our departure.

Thank you to all our wonderful customers over the years!

Stephane Crete and the J&S team

Many thanks to our 2023 advertisers

The BCA would like to thank all of our local businesses who advertised in the BANAR in 2023.

Thank you for your continued support of the BANAR and other BCA initiatives!

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Psychotherapist Kelley Raab
Blackburn Pharmacy
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OC Transpo On-Demand: A new way to travel on the weekend in Blackburn Hamlet



OC Transpo is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of OC Transpo On-Demand, an on-demand transit service pilot project that provides flexible and responsive transit options for the Blackburn Hamlet community on weekends.

What is OC Transpo On-Demand?

It uses technology to create responsive transit service based on customer trip requests instead of traditional fixed routes and schedules.

Customers will be picked up at an OC Transpo bus stop based on the location, time, and destination of their trip request. As more requests are received, the bus routing changes so that other customers can be picked up along the way to your destination, while still following the most efficient route for everyone.

On-demand service in Blackburn Hamlet will replace Route 28 on weekends during the pilot period. Customers can expect familiar fare options, easy transfers, and accessible service.

Where can I use OC Transpo On-Demand?

On-demand service will be available within Blackburn Hamlet at existing Route 28 bus stops, as well as between those stops and Blair Station/Gloucester Centre.

How do I request a trip?

Once the pilot begins, customers can request a trip using the mobile app or by calling OC Transpo Customer Service at 613-560-5000.

Download the On-Demand Transit – Rider App on iOS or Android, create an account, and enter the transit code OCTranspo.

When does it start and where can I learn more?

Stay tuned to octranspo.com for the launch date and more details about OC Transpo On-Demand. Adjustments may be made to on-demand service during the pilot as required.

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www.jansworkout.ca



OC Transpo sur demande : une nouvelle façon de se déplacer la fin de semaine à Blackburn Hamlet

OC Transpo a le plaisir d'annoncer le lancement prochain d'OC Transpo sur demande, un projet pilote de services de transport en commun sur demande qui offre à la communauté de Blackburn Hamlet des options de transport en commun souples et réactives la fin de semaine.

En quoi consiste OC Transpo sur demande? OC Transpo sur demande utilise la technologie pour créer un service de transport en commun réactif basé sur les demandes de déplacement des clients plutôt que des circuits et des horaires fixes traditionnels.

Les clients embarqueront à un arrêt d'autobus d'OC Transpo en fonction de l'endroit, de l'heure et de la destination de leur demande de déplacement. L'itinéraire de l'autobus changera à mesure que d'autres demandes seront reçues afin de permettre à d'autres clients de monter à bord en cours de route, en suivant l'itinéraire le plus pratique pour tout le monde.

Le service sur demande à Blackburn Hamlet remplacera le circuit 28 la fin de semaine pendant la durée du projet pilote. Les clients peuvent s'attendre aux

options tarifaires auxquelles ils sont habitués, à des correspondances faciles et à un service accessible.

Où puis-je utiliser OC Transpo sur demande? Le service sur demande sera disponible dans Blackburn Hamlet aux arrêts d'autobus du circuit 28, ainsi qu'entre ces arrêts et la station Blair et le Centre Gloucester.

Comment dois-je faire pour demander un déplacement? Une fois que le projet pilote aura commencé, les clients pourront demander un déplacement en se servant de l'application mobile ou en appelant le Centre du service à la clientèle d'OC Transpo au 613-560-5000.

Téléchargez l'application On-Demand Transit – Rider sur votre appareil iOS ou Android, créez un compte et saisissez le code de transport en commun OTranspo.

Quand est-ce que le projet pilote commence et où puis-je me renseigner davantage? Visitez octranspo.com pour connaître la date de lancement et obtenir plus de détails à propos d'OC Transpo sur demande. Des ajustements seront apportés au besoin au service sur demande pendant le projet pilote.



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Announcing the BCA Midwinter Poetry Prize

by *Maureen Forsythe*
BCA Youth Director

As the spooky feeling of Halloween fades away, Blackburn youth are invited to reflect on frosty mornings, falling snow and frozen evenings and to write an original winter poem that captures how they are inspired by the wintry season.

Local youth aged 9-17 who either reside or attend school in Blackburn Hamlet are specifically invited to submit an original poem in English or French which must be between 200 and 225 words. The poem must also have a title. Participants must be at least 9 years old and not older than 17 years old as of December 31, 2023.



Prizes will be awarded for two age groups: 9-12 years and 13-17 years. For each age group the first place winner will receive a cash prize of \$100 and two follow-up winners will each receive a cash prize of \$50. The first place poems will be published in the February 2024 issue of the BANAR and all winning poems will appear on the BCA website.

Poems must be submitted by email to youth@blackburnhamlet.ca not later than 8pm on 17 January 2024. Poems (with titles) should be inserted directly into the text of the email, together with the following information: first name, last name, age as of 31 December 2023 and name of school.

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FUNFAIR WRAP-UP 2023

by Brent Lawrie,
FunFair Outgoing Chairperson

I would like to thank the Blackburn and surrounding community for another great FunFair. We had some of the best weather and excellent participation from young and old to keep this annual tradition one of the best events in Blackburn Hamlet. I would like to extend a gracious thank you to all our sponsors this year who, along with our great community, enabled us to give \$8000 back into our various non-for-profit Blackburn community groups, organisations and associations, via our Honourariums Distribution Program.

I would also like to announce that Steve Vesely, who has been involved with FunFair and the BCA, will be taking on the role as the new chairperson of the Blackburn FunFair. Steve is an exceptional individual who has great experience in organising events and is fantastic with people. He will be an excellent fit as head of the FunFair. Congratulations Steve, you will have my support and many others too as we help you transition into this rewarding role.

Don't forget to mark FunFair 2024 on your calendars, Friday May 31st to Sunday June 2nd. I hope to see many of you again next year.

Thanks to all of the FunFair 2023 sponsors who continually support our annual tradition.



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Marie-France Lalonde
Laura Dudas

The Blackburn Community Association FunFair gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa / Association Communautaire de Blackburn FunFair remercie sincerement la Ville d'Ottawa de son soutien financier.

A huge kudos and thanks to all the volunteers that helped make this event so successful. It takes hard work and commitment from many great people. Below is a list of these people, who give much of their free time to support FunFair and our Blackburn Community, and where they distributed their honourariums.

FunFair 2023 honourariums distribution

Activity	Activity Value	Volunteer	Honorarium Confirmed	Donated
Beer Tent	4	Sophie DeGrandpre	Blackburn Ladies Softball Association	\$520
Books	2	Sonia Marcotte	Norman Johnson	\$260
	2	Steve Rathwell	Glen Ogilvie	\$260
Fruit Stand	2	Marc Charlebois	Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet	\$260
Fun Run	2	Erika Coghill		
		Nina Asha	Good Shepherd School	\$260
Lunch	3	Marc Charlebois	Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet	\$390
Movie night	1	France Souliere	Food Bank	\$130
Parade	1	Ilona Bartman	Library Program	\$130
	1	Jennifer Walker	Food Bank	\$130
Saturday Breakfast	2	Cliff Seibel	Knight of Columbus	\$260
Silent auction	2	Elena Leggiadro, Brittany Burden	Just Food	\$260
Stage	4	Mike Murphy, Kevin Wright	Food Bank	\$520
Popcorn	1	Scouts	1st Blackburn Scout Group	\$130
Dog Show	2	Adele Landriault, Will Cameron	Embers - Girl Guides	\$260
Face Painting	1	Viviane Cote Maxwell	4ieme Cordé de Blackburn	\$130
FunFair Games	1	Viviane Cote Maxwell	4ieme Cordé de Blackburn Hamlet	\$130
Dunk Tank	1	Rebecca Donaldson	Emily Murphy Non Profit Housing Corp.	\$130
Field games	1	Vivanne Cote Maxwell	4ieme Cordé de Blackburn Hamlet	\$130
Friday Craft Beer Night	2	Ali Yassine	Food Bank	\$260
Arena Showcase	3	Stephanie & Diane Charlebois	Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet	\$390
Barricades	1	1st Blackburn Scout Group	1st Blackburn Scout Group	\$130
Chair	1	Brent Lawrie	Just Food	\$130
	1		Food Bank	\$130
	1		Dapo Agora	\$130
Facilities	1	Norm Robillard	Glen Ogilvie	\$130
	1	Bernard Charlebois	Optimiste	\$130
	1	Brent Lawrie	Just Food	\$130
Finance	1	Bernard Charlebois	Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet	\$130
	1	Azzy Snoussi	Glen Ogilvie	\$130
Food	2	Marc Charlebois	Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet	\$260
Retail representative	1	Sarah Antoni	Food Bank	\$130
External Support	1	Mark Lamoureux	Food Bank	\$130
Sponsorship	2	Elena Leggiadro, Brittany Burden	Just Food	\$260
Tickets	3	Micheal Chippa	Knights of Columbus	\$390
Advertising	1	Brent Lawrie	Dapo Agora	\$130
Web Design	1	Steve Vesely	Gloucester High School	\$130
Social Media	1	Nina Ryan	GRDO	\$130
Volunteers	2	Ali Yassine	Food Bank	\$260
			Total	\$7,930

On-Demand Transit Pilot Project Coming to the Hamlet

Councillor Laura Dudas

OC Transpo recently announced that our community will be the first to try out an innovative pilot where residents can access transit on-demand on weekends.

This pilot is for our local 28 route and only on Saturdays and Sundays. The 25 route will remain as-is, with no changes at all.

For everyone who uses the 28 currently, you'll know that the weekend service is a much pared down version of weekday service, with a route that only runs up and

down Bearbrook Road, connecting the Community Hall and Arena to Blair Station. With this new pilot, a minibus would service all stops along the 28's weekday route, with the difference being that we can call upon the bus to service that stop via an app at a time of our choosing.

As many of you know, I use transit and the 28 is my primary bus to get around. I am pleased to see that this pilot will increase the level of service on weekends for our community and allow us the opportunity to use the service to

better access Blair Station and the heart of our community on the weekend.

There are still many questions for us as transit users as to how this will function and when exactly it will roll out. I am working with OC Transpo on next steps and have insisted on an in-person kick-off for the program, as well as other communications methods that will be shared with our community prior to the pilot launch.

While many other cities across Canada already use on-demand bus service, this is new for Ottawa and new for the Hamlet. I will share updates on this exciting new pilot project as they become available through Facebook and my website, LauraDudas.ca, and I'll be testing the service out myself when it goes live.

Budget 2024

We are officially in the midst of 2024 City Budget deliberations, and I want to hear from you! The Budget will come before Council on December 8 for approval. Prior to that date, I'm holding multiple consultation events, the details of which are posted on my website and on my social media. Knowing that not everyone can attend a consultation, I want to make sure everyone's priorities are captured, which is why I launched an online survey asking for your input on this budget and future city budgets. Please take a moment to let me know what matters to you at LauraDudas.ca/budget2024/.



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Job opportunity: Attendants for outdoor rinks

The BCA is looking to hire rink attendants who are interested in supervising a neighborhood outdoor rinks in Blackburn during evenings and weekends starting Boxing Day until the end of February. The main duties

include: snow removal and scraping; monitoring public behavior and proper use of facilities. Having first aid training is an asset. If you are interested, please contact Mark Lister at president@blackburnhamlet.com

Volunteers needed — Blackburn outdoor rinks

The BCA is seeking volunteers for our outdoor community rinks at Bearbrook rink and Norman Johnston School. Volunteers will be responsible for creating and maintaining outdoor rinks from December through March. We are seeking a team of

volunteers for both rinks. We currently have only 2 volunteers for the Norman Johnston Rink and the season is in jeopardy if we do not get additional support. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Mark Lister at president@blackburnhamlet.com

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