

# Blackburn Area News And Reports BANAR

Vol. 57 No. 2

February 2024

## Discovery Café lectures continue to enlighten

**Barbara Whittaker, BCA Director**

*Discovery Café lectures are held from 7 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. No registration is required.*

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Discovery Café sessions:

**Thursday, March 28, 2024 – Carolyn Hebert:**

**Tap Dancing, Rhythm and Flow.** Have you ever become so totally immersed in an activity that you are “in the zone”, where your only thought is on the activity at hand and where hours may pass without you realizing it? Then you have experienced “flow”.

Join tap dancer, choreographer, author and award-winning dance teacher Carolyn Hébert, PhD, as she talks about the history of tap dancing and her research on the concept of flow. She will also provide us with a demonstration of her amazing tap-dancing skills. You never know...you might even be inspired to try a few steps yourself!

**Thursday, April 25, 2024 – Dick Brown:**

**YOW – A Primer on Its Operations.** Take a journey through the Ottawa airport as Dick Brown explains each step in the experience of a passenger flying out of Ottawa. He will also review the impact that COVID-19



has had on flights and flying from Ottawa.

Dick Brown was born and raised in Ottawa. He attended Fisher Park High School and then Carleton University. After one year of teaching, Dick returned to Carleton in 1966 as an employee and remained there until he retired in 1999. Following his retirement Dick Brown joined the Ottawa Gatineau Hotel Association as their first Executive Director. In this role Dick helped establish the very successful Destination Marketing Fee program which generates some \$7M in support of Ottawa's tourism industry. Dick has been, and remains, active in a wide variety of both business and community service activities.

**Thursday, May 23, 2024 – Dr. Paul Villeneuve: Health Benefits of Green Spaces in Urban Areas: A Canadian Perspective"**

Dr. Paul Villeneuve is a Professor in the Department of Health Sciences at Carleton University and a renowned epidemiologist in the area of environmental and occupational health.

For more details about the Discovery Café sessions and speakers, please visit the BCA Facebook page, the BCA website at <https://blackburnhamlet.ca>, and watch for posters around the community.

If you have any topics you'd like to hear about, please send your suggestions to [barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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# President's message

*Who is Mark Lister?* That question was posted on our Facebook page when I was elected president in 2020. I got a chuckle at the comment, but in truth, many probably still ask the same question. During my time as BCA president I have attempted to put the BCA name, and our volunteer directors first. They are the ones leading the wonderful events we host in our community, and I feel they deserve all the recognition for their efforts. The time and effort I have watched these directors invest into our community has been refreshing. So I don't feel bad that many might not know who I am - seeing the accomplishments of the BCA and its directors is all the reward I have needed.

We are holding our AGM in March, and it will be my last as president. A growing family, and a need to scale back, have led me to the difficult decision to step down and pass the reins to someone else. I will look back on my time

as president fondly, we have made incredible strides to improve our transparency, organization controls and oversight, and administrative framework. This has allowed us to welcome many new directors and volunteers, and we are constantly receiving inquiries from community members that want to join or participate in our events.

While the entire board has been fantastic, I would like to give special thanks to three individuals that have been with me my entire term. Our VP Brent Lawrie, Secretary Lynn Le-fevre and Treasurer Lisa Margeson. These three have provided me with tremendous support and guidance and I owe them a great deal.

We have numerous openings on the BCA this coming year, our AGM is March 21st at the community hall. I would encourage everyone to come find out about the BCA. It's a fantastic organization and incredibly rewarding to be a part of!

**Mark Lister, BCA President**

## Contents

- 6 Volunteers – We need you
- 6 What's happening at the library
- 8 Youth poetry contest winners
- 10 Local Girl Guides
- 11 Santa's pancake breakfast
- 12 Blackburn ladies softball
- 13 Blackburn Toastmasters
- 14 BCA Christmas Craft Show
- 14 Les Chansonniers d'Ottawa
- 16 Blackburn Art Group
- 16 Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour
- 17 BCA Annual General Meeting
- 18 Neighbourhood Watch seminar
- 20 Emergency Preparedness Plan
- 21 Councillor Dudas Report
- 22 FunFair Q&A
- 23 FunFair planning
- 24 Blackburn Seniors Corner
- 25 BCA Community Christmas Tree
- 26 My green journey
- 27 Blackburn Souut Group

## Volunteer Opportunity: BANAR Editor

The BCA is currently looking for someone to take over as Editor of the BANAR. The BANAR is a key communication tool for the BCA and is one of Blackburn's longest running traditions.

**Responsibilities include: working with the BCA Board of Directors; collecting and proofreading articles; communicating with advertisers; and working with the Production Manager to approve the layout and final version of each issue.**

**If you are interested in learning more about the role, please reach out to Kendra Brett  
banar@blackburnhamlet.ca**



### Websites

[www.BlackburnHamlet.ca](http://www.BlackburnHamlet.ca)  
[www.BlackburnFunFair.ca](http://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**

**President:** Mark Lister president@blackburnhamlet.ca  
**Vice-President:** Brent Lawrie vp@blackburnhamlet.ca  
**Secretary:** Lynn Lefevre secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca  
**Treasurer:** Lisa Margeson treasurer@blackburnhamlet.ca

## BOARD

Beautification: Miriam Hampson beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Communications: Nina Ryan and Barbara Whitaker communications@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Community Liaison: Jenny Lawrence jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Environment: Sarah Morgan-White enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Facilities and Operations: Brent Lawrie vp@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Membership: Vacant membership@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Parks: Kiel Dixon Kiel@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Seniors: Barbara Whitaker Seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Rinks: Mark Lister rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Safety: Don Kelly safety@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Youth: Maureen Forsythe youth@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Transportation: Robert Bellizzi robert@blackburnhamlet.ca

## COMMITTEES

BANAR Editor: Kendra Brett banar@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Community Hall: Pamela Barton hall@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Tree Team: Sarah Morgan-White treeteam@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Website: Steve Vesely webadmin@blackburnhamlet.ca

## EVENTS

Bike Rodeo: Robert Bellizzi robert@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Cancer Chase: Don Kelly cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca  
FunFair Chairperson: Steve Vesely funfairchair@gmail.com  
Garden Tour: Cynthia Hoisak gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Spring Cleanup: Lisa Margeson cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Santa's Breakfast: Don Kelly and Angie Jodoin 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 April 18, 2024.

## 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**

**April BANAR Deadline: March 21, 2024**

**April BANAR Delivery: April 13, 2024**

**For BCA updates go to BlackburnHamlet.ca**

# BCA Board Meeting Highlights November 2023 and January 2024

**Highlights from recent BCA Board activities include:**

- Shashank Iyer has taken over management of the BCA Memberships.
- Maureen Forsythe will not be running for re-election at the March AGM. We hope to find someone to take over and expand the Youth activities that Maureen has worked hard to establish.
- The front doors of the Community Hall have been replaced and are now compliant with current accessibility guidelines.
- OCTranspo continues to work out the details for the On-demand pilot that will replace route 28 on the weekends. No date has been set for the start of the pilot.
- The NCC is planning on extending Greenbelt pathway E, parallel to Tauvette Street. This will include a fence with limited openings to separate the path from Just Food farms.
- The Community Closet event is looking for someone to lead the event planning and preparation activities.
- We are closely following the proposed changes to the Ottawa Community Partnership Insurance Program and have had a number of discussions with Councillor Dudas and City staff on the impact these could have on our programs.
- The BCA Board passed the 2024 budget. While it shows a planned \$10k deficit, this is more than offset by the \$30k surplus we accrued in 2023. The BCA Finances will be presented at the March 21 Annual General Meeting.

*More details can be found 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](mailto:president@blackburnhamlet.ca) or visit [www.blackburnhamlet.ca](http://www.blackburnhamlet.ca)

## VOLUNTEERS – WE NEED YOU

The BCA is very proud of their contribution to the well-being of our community. Each year the BCA provides a diverse range of services and events to the community. Maybe it is an event such as Hockey Day in the Hamlet on Family Day; maybe it is the Fun-Fair where the family-orientated event allows friends, neighbors and family to enjoy three days of fun and entertainment; then, there are the gardening programs including the neighborhood Garden Tours; or, perhaps the Cancer Chase where, over the years, the BCA donations to the Ottawa Hospital towards cancer research are now over \$300,000; or how can we forget about the Santa Pancake Breakfast where annually over 300 residents join us for pancakes, while Santa meets and greets the children. These are just some of the things that happen each year in your community.

However, while the BCA is privileged to be able to provide these achievements, the truth is they can only be accomplished through the kindness and hard work of our volunteers. It is with this thought that BCA is asking our fellow community partners to consider helping us keep this spirit alive and donate a few hours of your time as a volunteer. The BCA website gives information on how to volunteer.

## What's happening at the library:

Join us at the library for exciting programs that cater to every interest. Arts & crafts, finance, technology...

**Collage Connect:** We provide the inspiration and supplies, you bring your creativity! Monday, March 11, 2024. 2-3:30pm. Please register online.

**March Break:** Keep young minds engaged and entertained over March break! Scan the QR code to discover fun activities to interest your little ones.

**Eww! That Science is Gross:** Tues. March 12, 2:30 Age 8-12

**Beginner Ukulele for kids:** Saturday, March 16. 2-3pm. Instruments are supplied.

**Blackburn Hamlet Bookclub:** Meeting on March 18 to discuss "The Maid" by Nita Prose and April 15 to discuss "The Weight of Ink" by Rachel Kadish. Join in!! No registration necessary.

**Estate Planning:** Understand the what and why of estate planning. Monday, April 22, 2024. 2-3pm

**Mille Feuilles Used Bookstore:** Every purchase fuels our programs and services. From \$0.25-\$3.00, discover books and expand your personal library.

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# Winners of the BCA Midwinter Poetry Prize

by *Maureen Forsythe*  
BCA Youth Director

In November 2023, the BCA invited local youth aged nine to 17 to write an original poem in English or French that captures how they are inspired by the winter season. We received a total of 13 submissions: eight by local youth aged 9-12 and five by those aged 13-17. Congratulations to all of the young people who participated in the contest!

We are delighted to announce that the first place winner in the 9-12 age category is **Chloe Saba Leblanc** for her poem *My Cold-Inspired Creation*. Chloe, who is nine years old and attends Glen Ogilvie Public School, will receive a top cash prize of \$100. In her poem Chloe celebrates how winter inspires her to create “a little winter tune”, “Paper birds of every color” and a painting of a frozen sky. We also recognize the following winning poems in this age category: *Snowfall's Gratitude on a Winter's Walk* by **Audrey Lovric** and *Snowy Guardian* by **Navid Rowhani**. Audrey and Navid will each collect a \$50 cash prize.

For the 13-17 age category we are happy to announce that the first place winner is **Cassandra Sunohara** for her poem *Winter*. Cassandra is 17 years old and attends Norman Johnston Secondary Alternate Program; she will collect a top cash prize of \$100. We also recognize the following winning poems in this age category: *Winter Rebirth* by **Henry MacWha** and *Winters Feeling, I am Frozen Within Warmth* by **Ali MacWha**. Henry and Ali will each collect a \$50 cash prize.

Special thanks to Miriam Hampson, a BCA board member who lives in Blackburn Hamlet, for reviewing the submissions. All of the winning poems will be posted on the BCA website at [www.blackburnhamlet.ca](http://www.blackburnhamlet.ca).

## My Cold-Inspired Creation by **Chloe Saba Leblanc**

The howling wind, the falling snow,  
my icy breath,  
All one great, urgent sound,  
Directing me to  
Create!

I think about my grand piano,

And the frosty sounds it can make,  
Though it may be hard to play,  
What if I imagine?

I place my fingers on the keys,  
And play a little winter tune.  
It sounds like Snowflake Dance,  
My cold-inspired creation.

Making my way to Mer Bleue,  
I feed a tiny feathered friend.  
It whispers encouragingly in my ear,  
“Create!”

I decide to make origami,  
My favorite thing to do,  
Paper birds of every color,  
I craft one, then two, and another!

I construct a colorful mobile,  
Looking down at me from my  
snowy ceiling,  
Suspended, it is a Hanging Flock,  
My cold-inspired creation.

I gaze outside my window  
And all I see is white, white, white.  
“Create!”  
Declares this delightful winter night.

I take hold of my unmarked canvas,  
And paint excitedly,  
My brush strokes the frozen sky,  
It looks quite good, I can't deny.

I finish my painting with a proud grin,  
Showcasing it on my bedroom wall.  
I entitle it Winter Night,  
My cold-inspired creation.

My cold-inspired creations,  
All beautiful in different ways.  
The winter season,  
Inspires me to Create!

See also “Winter” on page 9



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## Winter

by Cassandra Sunohara

Winter's cold embrace envelops me.  
The wind is a chorus of whispers in my ears.  
I hear it calling to me.  
It urges me to let go -  
To be free.  
The susurrations engulf me.  
I surrender to their pleas.

The cold eases the sadness within me -  
Settled like damp within my bones.  
Snowflakes stain my cheeks like tears.  
They stroke my face and caress my hair.  
I find peace in the stillness,  
Beauty in the calm.  
Warmth seeps through me.

There is a sudden shift in the air.  
The wind swirls snowflakes together.  
A flurry of motion fills my vision.  
The glistening snow is near blinding.  
In the squall I catch fervent murmurs.  
Each woosh promises excitement.

The whirl comes to a sudden stop.  
The silence is near deafening.  
The wind rushes towards me swiftly enfolding me in  
its arms.  
Snowflakes from the banks are jostled awake.  
They float gracefully to join the others.  
The wind ushers in a symphony,  
A slow tempo begins.

The snowflakes anxiously flit about.  
They each find a partner.  
The wind is impatient.  
Its cadence swells, crescendos.  
I hold my breath in anticipation.  
The snowflakes begin their dance.

The snowy landscape is transformed,  
An iridescent ballroom before me.  
The snowflakes swirl together -  
They spin and flutter and dazzle the stage.  
A maelstrom of glitter as they twinkle.  
The wind sweeps me into the dance,  
And all my worries dissipate.

February 2024

## Discovery Cafe CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Blackburn Ham-  
let residents have  
been treated to some  
terrific talks at our  
recent Discovery  
Café sessions.



In November,  
we were thrilled to welcome Robin Grosset, Chief  
Technology Officer of the fraud-detection company  
Mindbridge, for a behind-the-scenes look at how  
his company helps other companies find fraudulent  
activity and mitigate risk. It was fascinating to hear  
how technology is being used to analyze a stagger-  
ing amount of data to find the elusive needle-in-a-  
haystack.

In January, Jim Davies, Professor at Carleton  
University's Department of Cognitive Science,  
author, poet, game designer, internationally-pro-  
duced playwright and co-host of the award-winning  
podcast *Minding the Brain* ([http://www.mindingth-  
ebrainpodcast.com/](http://www.mindingth-<br/>ebrainpodcast.com/)), spoke to us about "Education,  
Society, and Generative AI". He helped to demys-  
tify some of the issues about artificial intelligence,  
explored some of the risks and benefits of AI, and  
raised some interesting questions about what the  
future will hold.

On February 22, we will welcome Ottawa Book  
Prize winning author Jean Van Loon as she reads  
from her book *Nuclear Family* and discusses grow-  
ing up in Ottawa at the beginning of the nuclear age.

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# Local Girl Guides group demonstrates commitment to service through their annual food drive

The 170th Girl Guides meet Tuesday nights at our local Glen Ogilvie school gym. These young guides lead with compassion and a force to contribute to their community.

This year, 11-year-old guide Quinn Camsell-Conroy was tasked with the advance notice distribution. With the support of alumni guide 12-year-old Maia Halley, they rallied neighbours by distributing prepared information sheets, donation requests, and bags ahead of the planned event. On December 5, the guides mobilized to collect donations for the local food bank by visiting over 230 homes between 6-7pm!

The impact of their efforts rippled through the community as donation boxes overflowed with canned goods, non-perishable food and essential items. The girls were excited to discover thoughtful and surprising donations, including toothpaste, really good sauces and essentials including cooking oil and baking goods. The guides were sure to thank each neighbour whether they could contribute or not, and first-year guide Helene emphatically shared numerous times that we are all so lucky to have such nice and generous neighbours.

Parent (and older sibling) volunteers filled their vans and trucks with the donations to be dropped off at the Lifecenter Food Bank on Innes Road later that evening.

In later meetings, the guides reflected on how they can support initiatives such as improving the impacts of food insecurity by chal-



**Helene on the night of the food drive**



**Maia (left) and Quinn (right) who distributed the flyers**



**Amelia (left) Quinn (right) on the night of the food drive.**

lenging their creative ideas on how they can impact change at a local level, a national level, and even at a global level. These compassionate youth have extraordinary ideas. They are proud of their ability to donate their time to collect and deliver on the generosity of our Blackburn Hamlet neighbours. They would like to motivate national retailers by talking to them about increasing their contributions at a national level. They

would like to help inspire models of community gardens locally and in different communities. They would even like to create Youtube and Tiktok videos to raise awareness on a global scale.

A great big thank you to our community for your invaluable support in nurturing young community leaders.

With thanks from Guiders, Micheline (Techno), Sandra (Frost) and Liz (Rainbow Eagle)

# Santa's Pancake Breakfast wrap-up

*Don Kelly*

On December 2nd, the BCA held their annual Holiday Pancake Breakfast at the Blackburn Community Hall with over 300 persons attending. Our community was treated to buttermilk pancakes provided by the masterful hands of Chef Paul Vanbruinessen; delicious sausages from Metro; and hot chocolate and coffee from the Hamlet's Tim Horton. Throughout the event, gifts were handed out, such as tuques, sweaters, hockey cards, courtesy of the Blackburn Pharmacy. A big thanks to our Community Partners: Sara Antonini & Kimberly Little of Metro, Shelley Seward-White of Tim Horton, Lou Frangian of the Blackburn Pharmacy and Gord Matheson for their continuing community support.

The spirit of Christmas was portrayed by the picturesque display of decorations by the artistic touch of Angie Jodoin, and the Santa Claus setting provided by the Blackburn Pharmacy. Santa was able to meet and talk with the children on what they wanted for Christmas, while having close protection from the Ottawa Police. In addition, Councilor Laura Dudas arranged for OC Owl, the OC Transpo Mascot, to attend the event and provide us with an update on the ON-Demand bus service that is starting to serve our area.

Due to fire regulations, we are restricted on the number of persons allowed in the Hall at one time. As a result, some folks had to wait outside before their breakfast. The BCA is looking at this situation and perhaps this year having a series of settings to alleviate this issue.

Remember, events such as this only get done by the generous contributions of our volunteers. While it is not always possible to list these wonderful people, the BCA is greatly appreciative of their contributions.



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# Blackburn Ladies Softball League – Part of your community for over half a century!

For over 50 years, the Blackburn Ladies Softball League (BLSL) has provided a safe space for a diverse group of women to get out, get active and make memories playing softball!

2024 season - the league is recruiting new players!

BLSL is open to players of all skill levels, so don't be shy! This unique league is competitive enough for experienced players, while welcoming newbies and a great fit for intermediate level players! Experi-



enced players assist new players in learning (or relearning!) the game.

We are an orthodox pitch league

that allows stealing and sliding (for those willing and able) guaranteeing fun and exciting game play! Each year, BLSL Executives build equally skilled teams with players of all abilities, resulting in more interesting game play, healthy competition and no "stacked teams".

Registration includes pre-season games, 18-20 regular season games, playoffs and a banquet! The season runs May to mid-October. All games played Mondays and/or Wednesdays at 200 Glen Park Drive, Blackburn Hamlet.

Not ready or able to commit to playing full-time? Register as a spare!

Throughout the year, BLSL aims to offer members an experience that goes beyond the diamond, encouraging community engagement, friendship and fun!

See you at the diamond!

For more information and to register, visit [www.blackburnladies-softball.ca](http://www.blackburnladies-softball.ca).

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## First aid training

The BCA would like to conduct First Aid & CPR training for its residents. The BCA will have offset some of the costs associated with the training. The first courses are anticipated to be held at the end of April. The courses are conditional with having sufficient candidates for the courses. Anyone interested in this valuable lifesaving training please contact Don Kelly at [safety@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:safety@blackburnhamlet.ca).



# Blackburn Toastmasters

Are you interested in improving your speaking, thinking and listening skills? If so, we have a resource right here in our community. It's the Blackburn Toastmasters club.

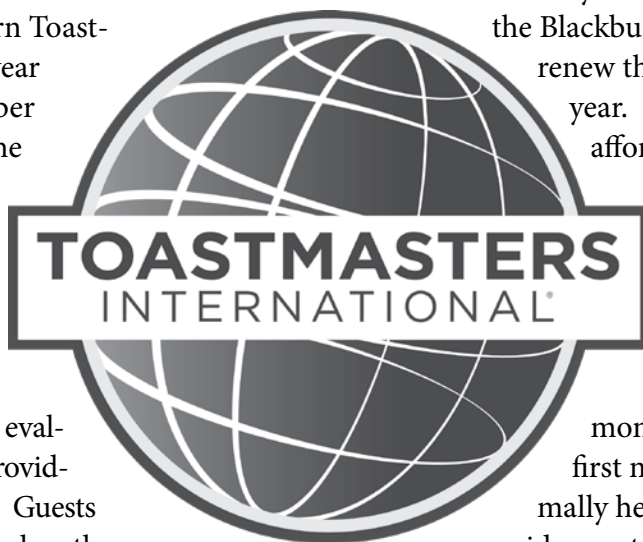
This past spring, the Blackburn Toastmasters club celebrated its ten-year anniversary. This club is a member of Toastmasters International, the world's leading organization for helping people develop their public speaking skills.

Members meet twice a month and take turns presenting prepared speeches, impromptu speeches, and speech evaluations. The materials used are provided by Toastmasters International. Guests are welcome to visit the club and when they decide to enroll in the program, they are mentored by the more experienced club members.

Current President Laura Egharevba summarizes her experience: "As a new immigrant in Canada, I joined Toastmasters to become a better communicator at

work, but I received more, as I have also learned leadership, collaboration, self-confidence and letting my personality shine through.

The friendly and supportive environment of the Blackburn club is one reason members renew their membership year after year. The annual membership fee is affordable, and there is no charge to attend your first few meetings as a guest. If you would like to experience a meeting, the club meets the first and third Thursday of every month from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The first meeting of the month is normally held at the Bearbrook Seniors residence at Innes and Bearbrook. The second meeting of the month is on-line via zoom.



*For more information on the Blackburn Toastmasters club, visit their website at <https://blackburn.toastmastersclubs.org/>*

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# BCA Christmas Craft Show

*Don Kelly*

The second annual BCA Christmas Craft Show was held on Saturday, November 25, at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Center. This event is designed to support and showcase local artisans in our area, and all funds raised through fees or donations go to the Ottawa Hospital Foundation to help mental health.

This year we welcomed over 300 people who browsed the 19 vendors showcasing a wide variety of wares from Christmas ornaments and books, jewelry and cosmetics, to food, such as delicious fudge and ornamental cookies.

Comments from the vendors highlighted how the quaintness and ambiance of the Hall made it attractive to our visitors. Comments from visitors noted that the diverse presentations of wares created an enjoyable and



relaxing experience. A big thanks to Angie Jodoin who was instrumental in setting up the Hall and creating a welcoming atmosphere.

The BCA is planning the 2024 Craft Show and we hope to see you there. If you have comments on what you would like to see at the 2024 event, please contact Jenny Lawrence at [jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca)

---

## Les Chansonniers d'Ottawa fêtent 50 ans de fondation

*par Nicole Charron*

La Troupe des Chansonniers a débuté sa 50<sup>ième</sup> année d'existence en novembre 2023 avec une fête où on soulignait la contribution de son fondateur Gilles Julien et de son fils le directeur musical François Julien.

La Troupe a continué sur sa lancée en participant au gala Célébration 2024 au Théâtre du Casino du Lac-Leamy, à Gatineau le 7 janvier 2024. Dans le cadre de ce spectacle, La Troupe des Chanson-

niers a accompagné Ginette Reno ainsi que Banev Valsaint et Dawn Cumberbatch.

La Troupe Les Chansonniers d'Ottawa présentera son spectacle « Notre comédie musicale » au Centre des arts Shenkman, 245 Centrum, Orléans, le samedi 4 mai à 20 h et le dimanche 5 mai à 14 h. Le but de cette année est d'offrir à nos spectateurs un survol des 50 ans d'existence des Chansonniers d'Ottawa par le biais de chansons tirées de comédies

musicales. Au programme, vous pourrez entendre des chansons qui soulignent notre appartenance franco-ontarienne comme Notre Place et Nouveau monde (L'écho d'un peuple). Il y aura également un pot-pourri des chansons des airs de différents chansonniers.

Victor Hugo a écrit « Quarante ans, c'est la vieillesse de la jeunesse, mais cinquante ans, c'est la jeunesse de la vieillesse ». Nous vous invitons à venir fêter avec les jeunes et moins jeunes de notre Troupe ce printemps. Pour de plus amples informations sur notre spectacle 2024, consultez la page Facebook de la Troupe à <https://facebook.com/leschansonniersdottawa> ou sur Instagram à <https://www.instagram.com/chansonniersottawa/>.

Pour se procurer des billets vous pouvez vous rendre au Centre des arts Shenkman, 245 Centrum, Orléans ou visiter leur site à [shenkmanarts.ca](http://shenkmanarts.ca).

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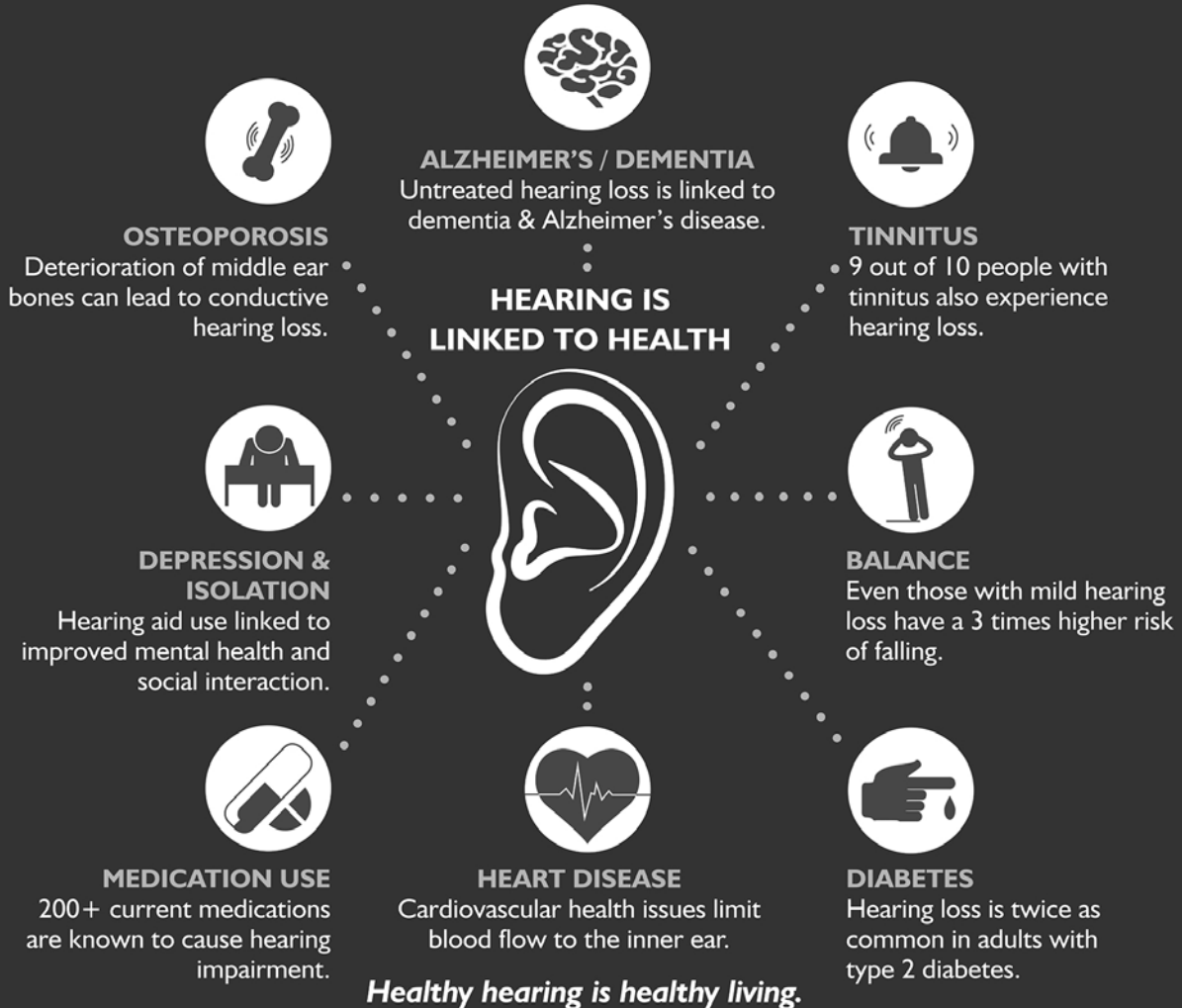
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# Blackburn Art Group

by *Jacqueline Madill and Camille Marion*

At the first session of the Blackburn Art Group in 2024, I walked into a pleasant, well-lit, friendly atmosphere, looking forward to the encouragement and advice from other members. I asked the members what keeps them coming back for 2 to 20 years. Here are their comments.

Members find the artists welcoming and inspiring. "It's so much fun to see and hear about their projects. We share tips and encourage each other, a great bonus for me". Sue likes pen and ink, watercolour, and natural subjects such as botanical specimens. Coming helps to keep her artistic spirit going. Marion thinks it is a good opportunity to spend time on art projects with like-minded people. Toby likes the atmosphere, a fun and learning place, meeting people, and getting tips. Dwain writes that "It triggers me to paint and to interact with others who paint." Deux amies aiment travailler ensemble. Marie fait des bijoux et du collage. Dominique fait du point de croix. Les deux aiment



rencontrer d'autres artistes.

So, people come when they want and do what they want but the ambiance and the spirit of the members is very special and supportive.

Blackburn Art costs \$40 per person annually, for 17 afternoon sessions from September to May. Each session is every 2nd Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the Blackburn Community Hall. Artists bring their own supplies and work on their own projects. For information phone Cam at 613-741-6783. We'd all be so pleased to welcome you to our art group.

*40 years in Blackburn Hamlet!*

## Jan's Workout

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## Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour

**Cynthia Hoisak**

We're Back! Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour: July 6th and 7th, 10 am- 4 pm.

To consider putting your garden on the tour this summer, or have any questions concerning the event, please contact Cynthia Hoisak at 613.799.9514 or [garden-tour@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:garden-tour@blackburnhamlet.ca). Miriam Hampson is also available at [miriam@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:miriam@blackburnhamlet.ca)

More info to follow in the months ahead.





# BCA Annual General Meeting

The BCA AGM will be held in-person at the Community Hall (190 Glen Park Drive) on Thursday, March 21, 2023 at 7pm. Participation is open to all residents of Blackburn Hamlet, however, only residents who have renewed their BCA membership at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting are eligible to vote (<https://blackburnhamlet.ca/about/bca-membership/>).

In addition to the review of the BCA Budget and 2023 activities and the election of the board, there will also be a vote on changes to our articles of incorporation and a meet and greet/social activity that will be announced in early March.

■  
The motion is for BCA Members to approve the following addition to our articles of incorporation in order to comply with the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA).

Blackburn Community Association has two types of memberships: Regular and Associate

Regular members reside within the boundaries of Blackburn Hamlet. Membership gives them the right to vote on motions raised at Members' Meetings and to



vote on the election of the Directors.

Associate members reside outside the boundaries of Blackburn Hamlet. Membership gives them the right to vote motions raised at Members' Meetings. Associate members are not eligible to vote on the election of the Directors.

■  
You will find all documents for this AGM online at: <https://blackburnhamlet.ca/event/bca-annual-general-meeting-3/>

We look forward to your active participation in this year's AGM!

**Blackburn Community Association**

A real estate advertisement for David Purchase, REALTOR® at exp REALTY BROKERAGE. The ad features a photo of David Purchase, a smiling man in a suit, and text that reads: "Ask me about the Blackburn Discount &amp; Referral Program!" and "Proud Resident of Blackburn Hamlet". The background is a dark grey with a faint map of Blackburn Hamlet.

📞 (613) 867 9581    ✉️ [david.purchase@exprealty.com](mailto:david.purchase@exprealty.com)

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SEMINAR

*Brad Hampson & Don Kelly*

On March 7, starting at 7pm, at the Community Hall, the BCA will be conducting a Neighborhood Watch (NW) seminar. The event will be a joint collaboration between the Ottawa Police (OPS) and the BCA. The aim of the event is to inform residents of the importance of the NW in our community and its role in making it a safer place.

Traditionally, NW was about neighbours knowing neighbours, paying attention to things that did not look right on the street, and reporting suspicious circumstances for follow-up action by police. This has evolved, to include crime prevention tips across the spectrum of criminal-

ity. The NW program also keeps the community informed about general crime awareness in our community, and understanding the trends, in order to crime-proof the neighbourhood. The seminar will focus on the NW program, how it works, and the roles of NW participants, including the Street Captains (also known as Block Captains).

The focus will also be on the positive role of community policing. Police are most effective when they know their communities, and that occurs through a general relationship with the communities they serve. We have excellent community police officers who serve the Hamlet, and are our link to the

Patrol and Investigative Sections, including Crime Analysts. Come to the event, meet some of these people, and learn how we can work collaboratively in our community to make it a safer place. The OPS will also be featuring the Ottawa Police incident mapping tool, which is available to everyone in the community on the internet. This tool allows you to see on a map where incidents (to OPS) of various types are occurring within the Hamlet.

Remember, the strength of our community lies in working with each other – “Neighbors helping Neighbors”. Join us at the seminar and be a contributing partner in improving community safety.



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## Tick talk



\* Ticks starts to be active when it is above 4C regardless of the season. Ottawa might see ticks in January and February (like Kingston see every year) because of the recent exceptionally mild weather.

\* Ticks mostly live in tall grass, cedar edges and wooded areas. When there is only a mild snow coverage or vegetation is exposed ticks can be present. It's always a good idea to do a tick check on your pet and yourself after going in these areas.

\* Ask your veterinarian about tick prevention or if the lyme vaccination is a good option for your dog. More and more veterinarians are discussing the option of all year round tick prevention if pets are going in high risk area.

\* There are several species of ticks. Please make sure the tick prevention you are using for your pet is effective against the Deer Tick (*Ixodes Scapularis*). This tick is the one that can transmit Lyme Disease and the main one in the greater Ottawa area. Although less common, there are several other diseases that ticks can give to your dog besides Lyme.

\* A good tick prevention should protect your pet for a minimum of one month against several tick species.

\* Visit this website for more information: <https://ticktalkcanada.com>

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# Blackburn Hamlet Emergency Preparedness Plan

## Don Kelly & Brad Hampson

Science has shown us that climate change is affecting the frequency, duration, and intensity of climate-related disasters around the world. 2023 was reported as the warmest summer in Canada in 76 years.

Ottawa was affected by climate events in 2023. In February, Ottawa temperatures averaged 5 to 15 degrees colder than normal for some of the lowest temperatures in a generation. In April, Ottawa had nine hours of continuous freezing rain. Many were still without power, including parts of Blackburn Hamlet, after two days. On June 6, there were out-of-control wildfires burning in almost every single province and territory. Throughout the summer Canadian cities, including Ottawa, suffered with some of the *worst air quality on Earth*. On July 13, two tornadoes touched down in Barrhaven with wind speeds up to 155 km/h. The two tornadoes left paths of damage 1 km and 5 km long. On August 3, a tornado with winds of 130 km/h touched down in the Findlay Creek area, toppling and debarking trees, downing power lines, and wrecking buildings.

At times, these events overwhelmed the city's emergency services. To better prepare for disasters the City of Ottawa has initiated a plan for communities to play an active role in the event of emergencies. Blackburn Hamlet has been chosen as one of the first communities for this new concept.

In the evening of **February 26, starting at 6:30pm**, at the Community Hall, the BCA will be presenting the Blackburn Hamlet's Emergency Preparedness Plan. The plan will address such items as how we can look after the most vulnerable in our community, what steps can we take to minimize the hazards in an emergency, where can people go for help, and how communications play a vital role in an emergency. There will be presentations by various members of the community. This event is a joint effort between the City of Ottawa's Office of Emergency Management and the BCA.

Blackburn Hamlet residents are encouraged to attend the event and assist us in developing a plan that best fits our community. Queries should be directed to Don Kelly at [safety@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:safety@blackburnhamlet.ca).

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# Thank you to the outdoor rink volunteers

## *Councillor Laura Dudas*

Outdoor community rinks are a saving grace during the winter months, and a feature of our community that is central to the Blackburn culture. Little ones out with parents and older siblings, learning to navigate the ice and develop their “skating legs”, has been a hallmark here for generations. It is almost if by some magical unseen force, these glimmering icy pads appear one morning and are made open and free to enjoy for anyone who wants to lace up.

Of course, it is not magic that produces our rinks; but the product of the hard work and dedication of numerous rink operators and volunteers that brave bitter cold, and late nights. They must build the base ice, clear the snow, and maintain the ice, all at schedules dictated by Mother Nature. They take the time out of their own busy lives, away from their families, to give people they often don't even know, a place to take a pause and find joy during the dark, long, winter



months. If we are fortunate, the weather cooperates, and those rinks stay open for long stretches and will into those final days of winter. To volunteer as a rink operator is a difficult job at the best of times, even with the ideal conditions at play. This year

however, the weather has been anything but agreeable. As I write this, it is above zero, and I know the ice is soft with puddles. Blackburn's army of volunteers have to watch hours of work melt away, and there is only so much time and energy one has to give.

During the best years, we are out on the ice, and can thank many of them in person. Then there is this year. After many of us have gone to bed, these folks are going back out and having to redo their own work. As we head into the end of the season, if you see a rink operator or volunteer out, take a moment and thank them. If you are an operator that is reading this, THANK YOU, you are truly a pillar of our community. This year, you deserve it more than ever.



COUNCILLOR / CONSEILLÈRE  
**LAURA DUDAS**  
ORLÉANS WEST/OUEST-INNES

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

# Q & A with new FunFair Chair Steve Vesely

## How did you get involved with the FunFair?

My wife and I are nearing 20 years living in Blackburn and, like many, we used to take our kids to the annual fair. We liked it because it wasn't super loud or boisterous or big. It had a good community vibe and we appreciated that. Then we started helping out, with the book sale, the Fun Run, wherever we were needed. And we enjoyed the experience. I have an IT background and redesigned the website a few years ago, helped with the stage set up and tear down and food vendors in more recent years. I've been involved in different aspects of the fair for about five years now and always felt appreciated by the group. There's been really good leadership here in past chairs Brent Lawrie, Mike Murphy and Trisha Cloutier and I know they were all feeling the weight of responsibility managing the fair these past few years. I feel I'm ready to take the torch and carry on the good work they've done and hope I can live up to the example they've set.

## Is that a new look logo?

Yes. I wanted a simple redesign to emphasize our local roots and convey some fair nostalgia. Or as our social media team aptly put it – our iconic Blackburn hornet takes center stage amid vibrant fireworks, capturing the essence of our spirited community.

## Do we have enough volunteers?

Sadly no. The FunFair is blessed with a small group of dedicated



volunteers who plan and organize the event. It's an important task. But everyone's time and commitment competes with other personal priorities. This year that means we specifically need:

- a coordinator to organize the dog show
- a coordinator to help with the FunRun
- a coordinator to organize volunteers on fair weekend
- SmartServe certified adults who can bartend on fair weekend
- help with stage set-up and teardown
- adult help to take tickets
- book storage volunteers – folks with garage space to store books in the months prior to the fair

I'm keenly aware that there are some volunteers who have been doing this for decades and want to pass the torch to a younger generation. We can't keep asking the same core group to do this every year. We need to lighten the load. And it's one of the reasons why I stepped up and agreed to chair this year's fair. I'm hoping there are others in the community who feel the same way.

## Why is the FunFair so expensive?

It honestly hurts to hear this raised as a criticism. The FunFair strives to be an affordable weekend event that won't break a family's entertainment budget. Did you know that:

It includes many FREE

attractions:

- the Friday family movie night,
- Saturday morning parade,
- magician show,
- petting zoo,
- cake celebration,
- afternoon music acts
- and evening fireworks.

It includes many low cost events:

- the pancake breakfast – where else can you get a breakfast meal for under \$10?
- the cheapest beer – find me another fair with lower alcohol prices
- the cheapest food – we value our partnership with longtime supporters Metro and the Optimist Club of Blackburn Hamlet who offer hamburgers, hotdogs, fruit and simple beverages at wholesale pricing.

And it does include a few attractions like the climbing wall and main band cover charge that are pricier, yet still affordable in comparison to similar events.

I wish folks would consider these factors when looking at prices.

I'll happily compare the costs of our fair against another. We have no gate fee, we have no parking fee, and we have multiple free and low-cost attractions to keep prices affordable. The other side of the coin is that it's not cheap to run a fair. This year's expenses are likely

*Continued on next page*

going to be over \$70K and the fair needs to generate enough revenue to cover those costs. We're feeling the inflation pinch just like you and striving to provide the best value for your dollar.

### **What happened to the Midway?**

There is only midway operator – All Canadian Entertainment – that serves the entire eastern region of Ontario and that operator is facing revenue challenges. Our fair is small and less profitable and there are other more profitable alternatives for ACE to pursue in that first week of June. I know the community would like to see the midway return and we have made overtures to see if there is some partnership model that would work. Sadly, we have not yet found a solution.

### **Any local Olympians?**

With this being a Summer Olympics year, the Parade organizing committee are considering an Olympic theme to this year's parade and wondering if we have any local residents who are past, present or future Olympians in our midst who could serve as Parade Marshall... Don't be shy. Reach out!

### **What's new at this year's fair?**

It is my hope to add a few new attractions and change a few others at this year's fair but I'll keep that surprise for the spring issue of the BANAR.

### **Final words**

I invite everyone in the community to reach out to me at chair@blackburnfunfair.ca if they'd like to follow up on anything listed here. I look forward to hearing from you!

# Planning is afoot for this summer's FunFair

*Steve Vesely,*  
**2024 Funfair Chair**

FunFair organizers invite all local businesses to show their community pride and help support the annual Blackburn FunFair which will take place May 31 to June 2 2024.

This local community event has been a tradition since 1971 and strives to provide an affordable family festival weekend full of fun activities for people of all ages.

Businesses have numerous opportunities to make a contribution to its success:

- **Sponsorships** – many businesses help defray the costs of the Fair with general funding donations or specific event sponsorships.
- **Silent Auction** – many businesses donate products or services for our silent auction.
- **Parade Participation** – other groups join in our Saturday morning parade.
- **Business Showcase** – many businesses purchase a booth at the arena to promote and sell their products and services.

Organizers would love to see our local businesses take advantage of one of these opportunities to contribute to the success of this year's fair.

### **Sponsorships & Silent Auction**

Funding donations of all amounts are always warmly

received. In return, contributors receive a variety of advertising benefits that generate publicity in ways that conventional advertising won't.

Alternatively, our Silent Auction is a popular attraction located inside the arena on Saturday June 1st and also one of our major fundraising events. We are seeking donations for the auction.

### **Business Showcase**

The Business Showcase is held in the arena on Saturday June 1st from 10am to 4pm and Sunday June 2nd from 10am to 3pm. The event provides an indoor escape with presentations from Rays Reptiles, a bouncy castle, our popular used book sale and the opportunity to get to know local businesses and groups. Local business, non-profit organizations and community awareness groups are invited to rent a table to display their products/services available to our community.

### **Parade**

Our Saturday morning parade is always a popular draw and another great way to showcase your business, community pride and support the local food bank with donations. The parade, open to local schools, groups and businesses, is held on the morning of Saturday June 1st and begins

*Continued on page 27*

# Blackburn Seniors Corner

## *Barbara Whittaker, BCA Seniors Director*

Our Seniors Breakfast Get-together on December 6, 2023 was full of laughter. We played the white-elephant game that included silly headwear, flashing necklaces, and soap dispensers shaped like Santa, as well as an ornament exchange game in which people passed a wrapped ornament each time the word “the” was said during a recitation of ‘Twas the Night before Christmas. The number of “Shirleys” in attendance at the breakfasts also continued to grow, with a record five at this event. That was one-fifth of the people in attendance!

A week later, on December 13, over 20 people gathered at Olito’s Café for a holiday dinner and karaoke event. There was great food, lots of singing, and even a few fancy dance moves. Who knew we had so much talent in Blackburn Hamlet!?

Finally, thanks to everyone who participated in the seniors survey. The Seniors Action Committee greatly appreciated your input and has begun analyzing the responses.

## **Seniors events on the horizon...**

Want to enjoy the fresh air on a lovely walk or perhaps meet with others for a great meal, some fun discussions, and a game or two? Then mark your calendars for these upcoming seniors events:

- **Blackburn Seniors Breakfast Get-togethers – First Wednesday of each month, 9:00 AM, Broadway Bar & Grill, 1615 Orleans Boulevard**  
Come and join us for good food, great company and a chance to share stories.

Please RSVP Shirley at 613-841-7691 or note your attendance in the Comments section of the Facebook posts for the breakfasts:

- March 6, 2024 – RSVP by March 1
- April 3, 2024 – RSVP by March 30
- May 1, 2024 – RSVP by April 26
- June 5, 2024 – RSVP by May 31

- **Blackburn Seniors Walk-and-Talk Outings – New Time, Meeting Location and Dates**

Join us for a leisurely walk around our amazing snow-covered spaces and paths. Winter 2024 walks will begin at 1:00 PM and the meeting point will be at the



end of Tauvette Street, where Greenbelt Pathway E begins. The walks will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday, February 28
- Wednesday, March 13
- Wednesday, March 27

Water bottles and traction aids (crampons) for boots are recommended.

Given the unpredictable weather at this time of year, please check the BCA public Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/blackburnhamlet/> on the scheduled walk day for updates. (You don’t need a Facebook account to access this page.)

- **Blackburn Seniors Winter Social – Saturday, March 16, 2024, 11:30 AM-3:30 PM – Blackburn Community Centre, 190 Glen Park Drive**

Bring a favourite dish (appetizer, salad, main or dessert) and join us for a potluck lunch and afternoon of fun! No registration is necessary.

The Community Centre kitchen is equipped with an oven, a microwave, a fridge and kettles. Cutlery, napkins, plates and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. Please bring your own serving utensils and, if you wish, a copy of your recipe...just in case people ask you for it.

We will have a few games available, but if you have one you really like to play, please bring it along.

Oh...and if you’re feeling a bit Irish on this day before St. Patrick’s Day, why not wear a green outfit or a fun green accessory!?

For more information on all of these events, please visit the BCA Website and Facebook page and watch for posters around the community.

Questions? Please email [seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca)



# BCA Community Christmas Tree

*Don Kelly & Karl Frangian*

On December 9 the BCA, in collaboration with its community partner, the Blackburn Pharmacy, presented the first ever Community Christmas Tree event on the property directly in front of the Pharmacy. The occasion brought neighbors, friends and families together to celebrate Christmas.

Some fifty people enjoyed this year's festivity. The evening had perfect winter weather as an earlier snowfall created a scenic ambiance with the Christmas Tree and its multiple lights and decorations. A key feature of the tree decorations was when the children in the crowd were asked to place specially designed ornaments on the tree, which became a special photo moment for many. Another highlight was the lighting of the Tree by the owner of the Blackburn Pharmacy, Lou Frangian, and our Counselor, Laura Dudas.

The favorable snow condition also allowed many of our guests to make snow sculptures, along with a few who seemingly could not refuse the tossing of snowballs (Sorry, I could not help myself). Another glorious moment occurred when spontaneously the crowd started singing Christmas carols, in English & French. The evening was a true reflection of why Blackburn Hamlet is a close-knit family of friends and neighbors.

The BCA is already working on how we bring even more joy to its residents with the 2024 Community Christmas Tree event.



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# My green journey

Lynn Lefevre

I have been steadily working on reducing my overall energy consumption since 2010 and have learned a lot along the way. It started with home renovations which allowed me to replace the existing insulation, add vapour barrier, increase the attic insulation and install energy efficient appliances. When the siding and exterior doors were replaced, a Styrofoam thermal break was installed on the outside walls. These changes resulted in a 25% reduction in electricity use and a 30% reduction in natural gas consumption!

In addition to the home improvements, in 2020 I replaced my aging car with a Tesla Model 3 electric vehicle.

The introduction of the Canada Greener Homes Grant kicked off the next series of projects. These included an Air Things Plus air quality monitor, ER40 rated windows, an energy recovery ventilator, a hybrid heat pump hot water tank and a standing seam metal roof with an ice and water shield underlay.

This year I plan to install solar panels before scheduling the follow-up energy audit, which is required to submit the request for my Canada Greener Homes Grant. Future plans include R60 attic insulation and a high-quality cold climate air source heat pump.

I started with simple goals that grew and changed over time. While I have made mistakes along the way, I am very happy with the end results. My key recommendations to others are:

- Ask for advice from experts and those who are willing to share their experiences and help others understand the options available.
- Hire trusted professionals to help you plan the optimal solutions for your needs.
- Scrutinize everything you receive from sales people and ask lots of questions.

I will be posting a more detailed article at [blackburnhamlet.ca](http://blackburnhamlet.ca) in early March. If you have questions about my experiences, feel free to reach out to me at [secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca).

## Additional Resources

- [electrify613.slack.com](http://electrify613.slack.com)
- [envirocentre.ca](http://envirocentre.ca)
- [youtube.com/EnviroCentreofficial](https://youtube.com/EnviroCentreofficial)
- [greendrinks.org/ON/Ottawa](http://greendrinks.org/ON/Ottawa)
- [evco.ca](http://evco.ca)
- [smarnetshowcase.com](http://smarnetshowcase.com)
- [buildingsciencetrust.com](http://buildingsciencetrust.com)

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# Blackburn Scout Group

Since 1954, 1st Blackburn Scout Group has provided opportunities for local youth to learn more about themselves and their environment, while giving back to the community. You will have fun discovering a world of adventure and outdoor experiences with friends!

Scouting offers a variety of gender-inclusive programs to all youth in the community, including Beavers (age 5-7), Cubs (age 8-10), Scouts (age 11-14), Venturers (age 15-17), and Rovers (age 18-26). Check out our website, [blackburnscouting.com](http://blackburnscouting.com), to see the types of activities in which each Section of 1st Blackburn participates. Past activities have included: camping in all 4 seasons; canoeing; first aid; geocaching; hiking; shelter building, and much more!

The program follows the calendar year from January 1 to December 31, with meetings on Monday evenings at Emily Carr Middle School. It's not too late to join! Registration is online at [www.myscouts.ca](http://www.myscouts.ca). Select Monday evenings to locate the 1st Blackburn Scouting Group.

The Group is always looking for youth and adult volunteers. If you are interested in helping the youth in our community, and joining a great team of Scouters, please contact Joanne at [gc@blackburnscouting.com](mailto:gc@blackburnscouting.com).

## FunFair planning CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

at 10 am. The route is from Louis Riel High School, down Bearbrook Road to the fairgrounds at the Lois Kemp Arena.

The Funfair volunteer committee would love to hear from you and thank you in advance for your generous and appreciated donation. We hope to see you at this year's Funfair as a volunteer or supporter.

Did anything interest you? Please reach out to:

- Brittany and Elena at [sponsorship@blackburnfunfair.ca](mailto:sponsorship@blackburnfunfair.ca)
- Diane and Stephanie at [showcase@blackburnfunfair.ca](mailto:showcase@blackburnfunfair.ca)
- Ilona and Jennifer at [parade@blackburnfunfair.ca](mailto:parade@blackburnfunfair.ca)
- Steve at [chair@blackburnfunfair.ca](mailto:chair@blackburnfunfair.ca)



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613-266-7218 (cell - evenings)  
[Shindao.Martial.Arts@gmail.com](mailto:Shindao.Martial.Arts@gmail.com)




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