

# Blackburn Area News And Reports BANAR

Vol. 57 No. 5

June 2024



## Come one, come all to the 2024 Blackburn Hamlet FunFair! MAY 31 TO JUNE 2, 2024

With a mix of activities and events we know and love, like the Used Book Sale, pancake breakfast, silent auction, live entertainment and fireworks, to the addition of new attractions that are sure to be a hit, this year's FunFair is shaping up to be a great weekend of fun for everyone of all ages.

**When:** Friday evening (May 31) to Sunday afternoon (June 2)

**Where:** 200 Glen Park Drive - Lois Kemp Arena and surrounding areas

**Cost:** Free admission & affordable ticket prices for the attractions, with many free options

**Why:** To have fun and celebrate your community spirit with friends and family

**Schedule:** Check our website for exact timings of events here: <https://www.blackburnfunfair.ca/event-schedule>. Times subject to change.

Read on for more details about this year's FunFair! See pages 13-16 and 18.



## Parade Reminder

**PLEASE NOTE:** Bearbrook Road will be closed from Louis Riel High School to the Blackburn Arena from 9:45 to 10:45 am on Saturday June 1 for the FunFair parade. Please respect the barricades and monitors at streets and entrances to parking lots along the route.

2600 Innes Road Blackburn Hamlet, ON 613-424-8600 khs.ca



### OSTEOPOROSIS

Deterioration of middle ear bones can lead to conductive hearing loss.



**ALZHEIMER'S / DEMENTIA**  
Untreated hearing loss is linked to dementia & Alzheimer's disease.



### TINNITUS

9 out of 10 people with tinnitus also experience hearing loss.

## HEARING IS LINKED TO HEALTH



### DEPRESSION & ISOLATION

Hearing aid use linked to improved mental health and social interaction.



### BALANCE

Even those with mild hearing loss have a 3 times higher risk of falling.



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200+ current medications are known to cause hearing impairment.



### HEART DISEASE

Cardiovascular health issues limit blood flow to the inner ear.



### DIABETES

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# President's message

After taking a six-year break from the BCA and returning, it amazes me to see the commitment that this community has from its volunteers! It seems that, while there are mostly new faces around the table, the BCA has fully maintained not only a hard-working group of people but a fun environment to work in!

2024 has started off with a bang after a successful and busy winter. We are gearing up for another great Blackburn Hamlet FunFair with plenty of new attractions and things to do for all ages. If you are into movie nights, craft beer, live bands, softball or smashing things in the Vengeance Van, we hope to see you at the FunFair May 31 to June 2.

I also wanted to take a minute to thank all the volunteers that put in their time to help clean up the

Hamlet. In just a few short hours, we were looking great and ready for summer!

Keep your eyes on our website for updates on what is coming up in the Hamlet. We still have plenty of events planned, like the Discovery Café, a garden tour in July, the Cancer Chase, and several other events for everyone of all ages.

As always, we are always open to new faces and ideas. If you have ever thought of volunteering, we would love to see you! Feel free to attend any of our BCA meetings or reach out to us through the website and we would be happy to find you a place to help.

*See you at the FunFair!*

**Jeff Miller**  
BCA President

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Thanks to the incredible group of volunteers responsible for organizing and planning the FunFair!

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

## BOARD

Beautification: Miriam Hampson beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Communications: Nina Ryan communications@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Community Liaison: Jenny Lawrence jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Environment: David Purchase enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Hall Coordinator: William Pfitzer hall@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Membership: Shashank Iyer membership@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Newsletter: Lynn Lefevre newsletter@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Parks: Brent Lawrie vp@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Safety: Don Kelly safety@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Seniors: Barbara Whittaker seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Social Media: Satinder Sahota satinder@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Transportation: Robert Bellizzi transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Web Content: Lynn Lefevre webadmin@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Youth: Mélanie Mathieu youth@blackburnhamlet.ca

## COMMITTEES

BANAR Editor: Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy banar@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Rinks: Mark Lister rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca

## EVENTS

Bike Rodeo: Robert Bellizzi transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Cancer Chase: Don Kelly cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Christmas Market: Jenny Lawrence jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Community Closet: Jenny Lawrence jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Discovery Café: Barbara Whittaker barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca  
FunFair Chair: Steve Vesely funfairchair@gmail.com  
Garden Tour: Cynthia Hoisak gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Santa's Breakfast: Don Kelly santasbreakfast@blackburnhamlet.ca  
Spring Cleanup: Lisa Margeson cleanup@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 of Directors meets 9 times a year on the third Thursday of the month from 7:30 to 10pm. The January to March meetings are held virtually. From April to June and September to November, meetings are held in person. All meetings are open to Blackburn Hamlet residents. Check the BCA website or contact secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca for more details.

Board meetings follow an agenda, so if you have any questions or topics that you wish to raise, please advise the secretary at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

The next BCA meeting will be held in person on Thursday **June 20, 2024**; location to be announced soon.

## 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: Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy  
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**

**Sept. BANAR Deadline: July 25, 2024**

**Sept. BANAR Delivery: August 17, 2024**

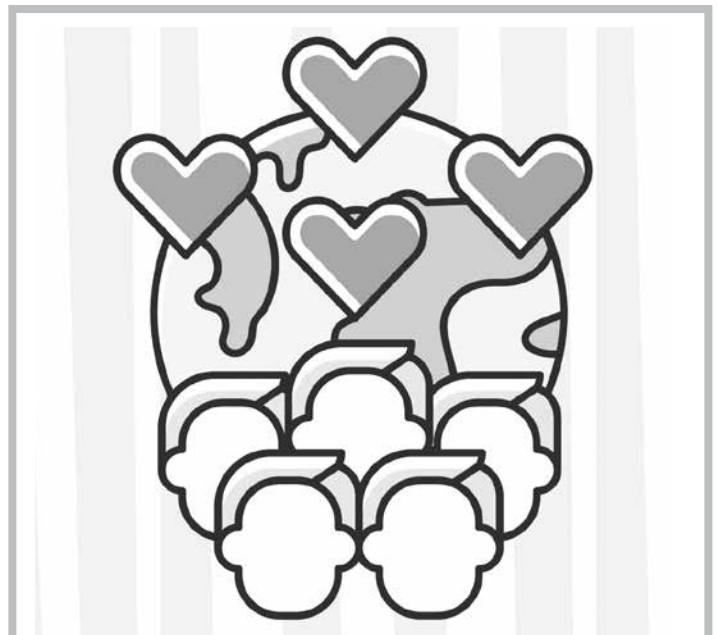
**For BCA updates go to BlackburnHamlet.ca**

# BCA Board Highlights April 2024

### Here are the latest highlights from recent BCA Board activities:

- The roles for our new board members were confirmed:
  - o David Purchase: Environment
  - o Mélanie Mathieu: Youth
  - o Shashank Iyer: Membership
  - o William Pfitzer: Community Hall Coordinator
- \$1,000 grant requests from the Quilting Queens and the Blackburn Ladies Softball League were approved.
- Starting in May 2024, Board meetings will be held in person, with the exception of meetings in January, February and March.

*More details can be found in the BCA Meeting Minutes on our website at <https://blackburnhamlet.ca/about/meeting-minutes/>*



## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The success of the many great BCA events throughout the year rely on the dedication and support of our volunteers.

We are always looking for some helping hands, so if you would like to get involved, if you have high school volunteer hours to finish up, or want to meet new people, please reach out to a BCA member or [president@blackburnhamlet.ca!](mailto:president@blackburnhamlet.ca)

# Safety in Blackburn Hamlet

Don Kelly, BCA Safety

## Help deter bike theft!

With the arrival of spring, many of us have moved our bikes out of the shed with anticipation of joyful rides along the many bike paths and trails offered to us in Ottawa. Unfortunately, this is also the time when thieves move about our neighbourhood to steal our bikes and ruin these joyful experiences. But there is something you can do to mitigate this potential loss! The Ottawa Police have a program called Project 529 Garage, which is a comprehensive bike registry and recovery system that deters bike theft, increases the likelihood that stolen bikes will be returned to their owners and provides an investigative tool for police to identify stolen bikes. To learn more about this successful tool, visit [project529.com/garage](http://project529.com/garage). Remember, report all theft of bikes, small or large, to the Ottawa Police.

## Join us for First Aid training!

Another useful investment you



may want to consider is First Aid training. The BCA, in association with PSMK First Aid Training Inc., is planning a series of First Aid courses to be held in the Hamlet throughout the year. The first BCA course was held on April 8 at the Aspira Retirement Residence, where 16 participants successfully completed the course and received First Aid certificates! The BCA would like to thank Aspira for providing a work space for the course. Our next scheduled course is June 22. To sign up for this course, contact [safety@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:safety@blackburnhamlet.ca).

## Don't fall victim to scams!

Nowadays, scammers are hitting every level of our society: young people, seniors, and folks from all income levels. But you can protect yourself from scams and fraud!

Here are some tips:

- Do not be intimidated by high-pressure sales tactics. Request the information in writing.
- Do not let urgent pleas play on your emotions or decision-making.
- Never give your personal information to anyone who calls, texts, emails or comes to the door.
- If someone you to pay in advance of receiving any goods, know that it is illegal for a company to ask you to pay upfront before they give you a loan.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre collects information on fraud and identity theft. They provide information on past and current scams affecting Canadians. Learn more at their website. And remember, If you think you're a victim of fraud, report it!



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# Discovery Café News – Airports and Green Spaces

*Barbara Whittaker, BCA Director*

Last month, on April 25, Dick Brown, former Executive Director of the Ottawa Gatineau-Hotel Association and member of the Board of Directors of the Ottawa International Airport Authority, took Discovery Café attendees on a fascinating trip through YOW (the Ottawa airport) as he explained each step in the experience of a passenger flying out of Ottawa. We learned about the roles and responsibilities of the numerous businesses and groups that make the airport function, and gained insight into the impacts that the pandemic has had on flights and flying from Ottawa — impacts that the airport and travelers are still dealing with today.

## What's coming up?

On **Thursday, May 23, 2024**, Dr. Paul Villeneuve, Professor in the Department of Health Sciences at Carleton University and a renowned epidemiologist in the area of environmental and occupational health, will discuss **Health Benefits of Green Spaces in Urban Areas – A Canadian Perspective**. The session will



**A great turnout on April 25 at the Community Hall**

take place at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Hall, 190 Glen Park Drive, at 7:00 PM. We hope to see you there?

Discovery Café will take a break during the months of June, July and August, but will resume in the fall with sessions on September 26, October 24 and November 28, 2024. Mark your calendars and watch for more information about these upcoming sessions in the next edition of the BANAR, on the BCA website at <https://blackburnhamlet.ca>, on the BCA Facebook page, and on 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).

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# Neighbourhood Watch

*Don Kelly, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator*

The BCA is looking for residents to support the safety of our community by joining the Neighbourhood Watch program!



**Join the Neighbourhood Watch**

**Vie ESTHETIC STUDIO**

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hello@vieestheticstudio.com  
vieestheticstudio.com

Neighbourhood watch is based on a simple concept: neighbours helping neighbours. The program allows communities to work together and combat crime – before it starts. With your involvement, we can discourage criminals from our community, make our homes less inviting for thieves, heighten awareness of suspicious criminal activity within the community, and most importantly allow everyone to feel “safe” in our neighbourhood.

On April 6, the BCA held a Neighbourhood Watch seminar, where we shared that Blackburn Hamlet is developing an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) and that this program will be an integral part of the EPP. A larger Neighbourhood Watch group would allow us to have greater awareness of the most vulnerable members of our community, so that during an emergency situation, these residents can have any support they might require. The EPP is expected to be posted on the BCA website in late May.

Did you know that a valuable crime awareness tool is available online for all residents to access? The Ottawa Police Crime Mapping Tool allows you to see all crime that has occurred across the city, including what has happened in our neighbourhood. Visit [data.ottawapolice.ca/pages/maps](http://data.ottawapolice.ca/pages/maps) for further details.

Another valuable crime prevention tool to consider is an exterior video camera. These cameras can capture suspicious persons or activity on your street or in your backyard, and are an excellent source for a police investigation. The best crime prevention source is YOU! Report all crimes, small or large, to the Ottawa Police.

Remember, the strength of our community relies on each other – neighbours helping neighbours. Join the Neighbourhood Watch and be a contributing partner to community safety. Contact Don Kelly at [safety@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:safety@blackburnhamlet.ca) to join, or for more information.





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**Lou Frangian**  
Pharmacist/Owner

# Grandmas AIDing Grandmas Plant & Garden Sale

Grandmas AIDing grandmas, in conjunction with the Bearbrook Retirement Residence, will be holding a Garden Sale on Saturday May 25, from 9am to 2pm. You can't miss us — we'll be on the corner of Bearbrook and Innes Roads!

In addition to annuals, perennials and houseplants, we will have crafts, baking, garden paraphernalia, a raffle and prizes. Plant donations are always appreciated, and pickup is available if needed.

All proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation's grandmother's campaign in support of African grandmothers — the silent heroes raising children orphaned by the AIDS pandemic. While enduring the challenges of poverty, these resilient women



Buy a plant and help a great cause, like these gardeners did at a previous sale

must provide the children with the basic necessities of life, plus love, education, medical support, and the emotional well being to thrive.

We hope you will stop by the

sale, say hello, and maybe pick up something neat for your garden!

*Email [grandmas59@gmail.com](mailto:grandmas59@gmail.com) for more information or call 613-824-3524.*



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**40 years in Blackburn Hamlet!**

## Jan's Workout

**Cardio • Strength Training  
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*All classes held at the  
 Blackburn Community Hall*   
**Registration is ongoing**

*Our classes are designed to embrace all  
 levels of ability and style!*

**For information, contact Jan Quinn 613-794-9858**

**[www.jansworkout.ca](http://www.jansworkout.ca)**

# What's happening at the library?

Did you know that a library membership is free to every resident of Ottawa? Ottawa Public Library has an incredible depth of online resources and a program for everyone... like the following:

## Babytime / Bébés à la biblio

Stories, rhymes and songs for babies and a parent or caregiver. 0-18 months. Tuesdays at 10:30am. Please register online.

## Family Storytime | Contes en famille

Stories, rhymes, and songs for children ages 0-6, accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Wednesdays at 10:30am. Registration required.

## Travel Series: South America

CAA Travel representative Rachel Lalonde will present the wonders of



South America. From beaches and rainforest to mountains and the iconic Machu Picchu, it really does have it all!

Saturday, May 25, 2024 from 2 to 3 pm. Please register online or at the branch.

## Tips and techniques for better photos

with Lynda Buske from the Ottawa

## PC Users' Group and the Orleans Photo Club

Learn, in simple terms, how your camera works: composition, depth of field, lighting, people pictures, and common pitfalls.

Thursday Jun 06, 2024 at 2pm. Please register by May 30.

## Need Skills Training to improve your job hunt?

Drop in and meet with a training advisor from Contact North.

Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 6pm

Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 6pm

We also have a great selection of previously loved books, movies and CDs for adults and kids in-branch at our Mille Feuilles book store. Donations accepted!

Drop in and see us at the FunFair!



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# Garden tours and events

*Cynthia Hoisak & Miriam Hampson*

## FREE BLACKBURN HAMLET GARDEN TOUR

Calling all gardeners, aspiring gardeners, and anyone who enjoys the beauty and tranquility of nature! Please join us on July 6 & 7 between 10am and 4pm for the 3rd annual Garden Tour, right here in the Hamlet. Come and enjoy all the wonderful gardens on the tour this summer. Last year, there were 16 gardens to visit, so there is bound to be something that catches your eye or gives you some inspiration for your own gardens.

The gardens on this year's tour will once again feature musicians, as well as Master Gardeners. But that's not all! This year's tour will feature the addition of artists with their easels in select gardens! The tour is free, but select gardens will have a clay flower pot for donations to the Lifecentre Food Bank.

Tour maps will be available at various locations, including online. On tour days, signs will be placed at the end of the driveways to indicate the locations of the gardens on display.

Do you have a garden you'd like to show? There is



no judging process to be featured on the tour so if you would like to add your garden to the list, please contact either Cynthia Hoisak at 613-799-9514 or by email at [gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca), or Miriam Hampson at [miriam@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:miriam@blackburnhamlet.ca).

We are looking forward to this year's tour!

## Garden centres around the region

Looking for more gardening-related things to do, or just can't wait until July? Here are a few other places and events that might interest you, happening in the weeks months ahead. Why not take a short day trip?

**Rideau Woodlands Ramble:** Specializes in rare

**Continued on page 13**



COUNCILLOR / CONSEILLÈRE

# LAURA DUDAS

ORLÉANS WEST/OUEST-INNES

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

Continued from page 12

hostas and conifers. Located at 7210 Burritts Rapids Rd., in Merrickville

**The Herb Garden:** Visit this specialty shop in Almonte in May or June and shop for potted herbs for sale like lemon verbena, bay laurel, rosemary and lavender, oregano, basil, and the Herb of the Year for 2024 – Yarrow. 3840 Old Almonte Rd.

**Kiwi Gardens:** Head to Perth for this unique nursery complete with pathways that take you through woods and gardens. Stop by this Father's Day weekend, June 14- 16, for Art in the Park, where artists working with wood, pottery, glass, metal and stone, etc, will be selling their creative pieces, mostly dedicated to the garden.

**Beyond the House:** Visit this wonderful garden centre at 144 Craig St. in Russell.

# Blackburn

FÊTE FORAINE FUNFAIR



## It's not too late to volunteer for FunFair!

Thank you to the many first-time volunteers who have responded to our call for help. The FunFair committee wholeheartedly thanks you. We are still looking for:

- A coordinator to organize volunteers on fair weekend
- Adults to supervise inflatables and help take tickets for 3-hour shifts on fair weekend

- SmartServe certified adults for 3-hour shifts on Saturday
- High school students to help in numerous areas on fair weekend. Volunteer hours will be credited toward high school graduation requirements!

*If you're interested, please reach out to [chair@blackburnfunfair.ca](mailto:chair@blackburnfunfair.ca)*

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# Less than two weeks to go until the 2024 Blackburn FunFair!

*Steve Vesely, FunFair Chair*

Are you ready?

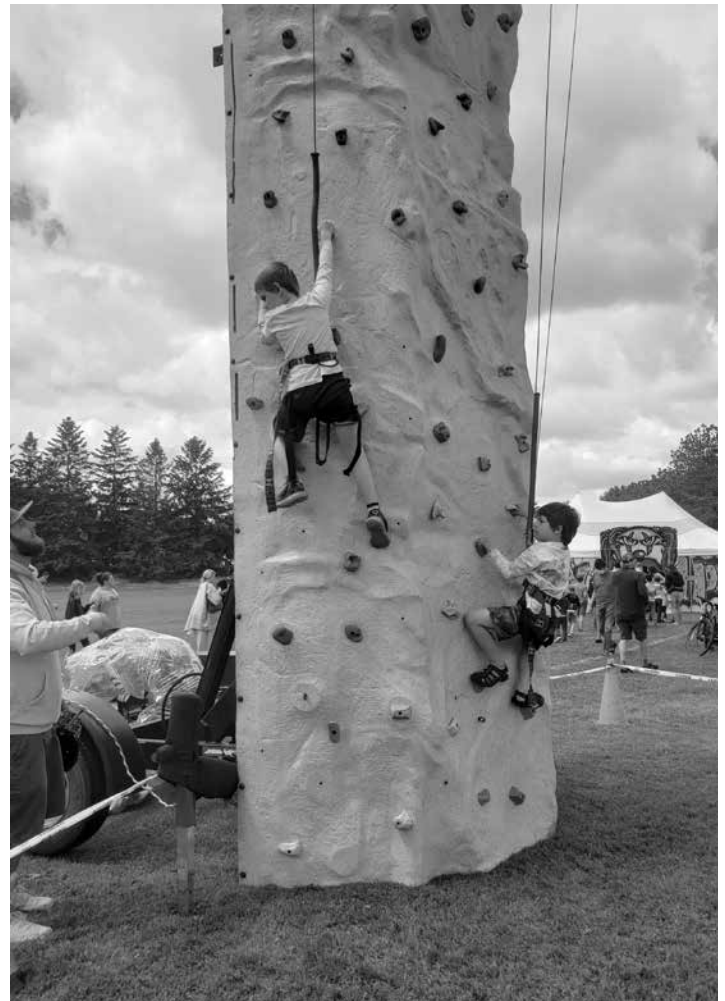
Come celebrate your local community on the first weekend in June at the annual Blackburn FunFair!

This year's fair is packed with many of your past favourites, with a sprinkling of new activities for you to enjoy.

## Old Favourites

Love the fair already? Then you'll be happy to hear the following attractions and events for all ages are returning:

- Kids movie night: Friday at 6pm
- "Team Blackburn" sports themed Parade down Bearbrook Rd: Saturday at 10am
- A delicious pancake breakfast: Saturday at 8am
- Vendor showcase: Saturday from 10am to 4 pm, and Sunday from 10am to 3 pm
- Silent Auction: Saturday from 10am to 3pm
- Mojo's Magic Show: 4 showtimes during the weekend!
- Little Ray's Reptiles: Saturday at 11am, 1pm and 3pm
- Attitude Montagne climbing wall: all weekend
- RyJs Inflatables, including the obstacle course & megaslide: all weekend
- Bren Walker's Vengeance Van, car smash & axe throw: all weekend
- Used Book Sale: all weekend
- FunFair BBQ: Saturday at 11am
- Free cake cutting: Saturday at 1pm
- Face Painting provided by the 4e Cordée Kateri Blackburn Hamlet: Saturday 10 am
- Arena games (Duck pond, Toilet paper toss, Fishing, Plinko, Clothespin drop, Ring toss and frog jump): all weekend
- Field games (soccer ball trail, life ring toss, hoola hoops, race in bag, egg in spoon race, basketball throw): Saturday 12 to 4pm
- A return of the Blackburn Softball tournament
- Fantastic fireworks display: Saturday at 10pm
- The 5K & 1K Fun Run: Sunday at 9:30 am. Kids race to follow.
- Dog show: Sunday



**A couple children reaching new heights on the climbing wall!**

## New attractions

Tired of the same old activities and looking for something different? We've got you covered.

- The Quest Escape Room: Saturday in the arena
- Attitude Montagne slack line: all weekend
- 9-Hole mini-putt: Saturday only
- RyJs Inflatables, including the 3-in-1 sports combo, Soccer darts, Whack-a-mole, Funhouse maze, Meltdown boom and Interactive play system: all weekend
- Ball hockey tournament
- Scavenger hunt: Sunday
- Online 50/50 raffle: draw Sunday at 12pm



# FunFair Music Lineup

The FunFair will also be hosting two nights of entertainment in the beer garden, featuring:

- R&B Soul-Pop Band Soul Motion on Friday during Craft Brew Night. No cover!
- Mothership: The Led Zeppelin Experience on Saturday. \$25 Cover charge
- Other acts include: The Squirrel's Nuts, Orleans School of Rock, Sing House Studios, Kyd Can Sing Studio, Kid's Karaoke.

Our beer garden will feature Broadhead and OBC breweries at craft beer night on Friday and Broadhead will be back to cater our Saturday beer garden.

Use the QR codes below to sign up for some of these exciting events, and check out the FunFair web page at [www.blackburnfunfair.ca](http://www.blackburnfunfair.ca) for schedule updates as well as Fun Run, softball and ball hockey tournament registrations.

*See all of you at the FunFair!*



## DIGITAL SALES AT FUNFAIR ...

Hate waiting in line for tickets? We do too! This year's Funfair is expanding its tech footprint and offering online sales for three events. Early sales are strong:

- Raffle prize is currently \$172 to the winner.
- Escape room is 25% sold out.
- 104 tickets purchased for Mothership - the Saturday night headline act.

**50/50 Raffle**  
Draw noon June 2, 2024



**Escape Room**  
Will you survive?



**Mothership**  
the Led Zeppelin Experience



Fair-goers and bookworms unite at the Used Book Sale in the arena



And they're off! Runners taking part in the Fun Run.

# Blackburn FunFair Showcase

*Come discover local gems!*

This year's Blackburn FunFair Showcase will feature over 50 vendors and representatives from local businesses! Throughout the weekend, they will be sharing their products and services with our wonderful community.

Stop by the Lois Kemp Arena during the Blackburn FunFair and you'll be sure to find what you're looking for, plus a few surprises too! The showcase will be open on June 1 from 10am to 4pm, and on June 2 from 10am to 3pm.

There's something for everyone! Are you looking for information on local businesses? Blackburn's very own Aspira Bearbrook Retirement Residence, Blackburn Pharmacy, Mortgage Source and Vie Esthetic Studio will all be on site to answer your questions.

More of a shopper? Discover many local vendors offering a bit of everything: crochet stuffies, baked goods, apparel, jewelry, bath & body care, honey, keychains, charcuterie boards, wine glasses,

scrunchies, cosmetic bags, personalized items, home decor, cards, candles, divination, movie posters, collectibles, cross stitch, tote bags, books, buttons, handwoven art, and more!

Visit the Showcase Merchants page at [blackburnfunfair.ca](http://blackburnfunfair.ca) or check the Blackburn Hamlet FunFair social media accounts for more details on vendors and representatives.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Showcase this June!

## Shout out to our sponsors!

The FunFair would not happen without the generous contribution of time and labour of our committee members and volunteers. It would also not happen without the generous financial support of many of our local businesses:

### Platinum sponsors \$5K+

The Blackburn Community Association and le Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet

### Gold sponsors \$1K+

Metro, Lafarge, Blackburn Pharmacy, Bee-Clean Building Maintenance & Christine Bussieres Broker

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### Bronze sponsors \$250+

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*A big THANK YOU to all for your generous support toward the 2024 FunFair!*



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# FunFair Flashback

Did you know that the FunFair has been a Blackburn Hamlet tradition for decades? The event has changed a lot over the years, but what hasn't changed is the community's excitement to come together for a weekend packed with fun!

Here are some photos from the 1980s and 1990s. How many years has your family been attending?



Bed races were a popular event at the fair in the 1990



Local businesses, like our old Shell station, made great parade floats!



Who remembers decorating their bikes to ride in the parade in the 80s and 90s?

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### Love is in the air



Snow will melt, flowers will bloom again and mating season for cats will begin.

If you have a cute kitten at home you might want to make sure you plan their spay/neuter for when they are about 5-7 months old.

Once they reach puberty, intact females will start howling and may spray inside the house during their heat. This cycle last for about 1 week and comes back every 2-3 weeks until next winter.

Several health benefits are associated with spaying your cat. First, spaying eliminates the risk of ovarian, uterine cancers and pyometra – a fatal condition of the uterus. Second, breast cancer is the number one type of cancer diagnosed in intact (unspayed) female cats which is greatly decreased if a cat is spayed earlier in her life.

What about the boys? For intact male cats, inappropriate urination, strong urine smell and aggressivity are the main problems seen. There is a much more viruses seen (mainly FIV) with intact male roaming outdoors.

Overpopulation is still an ongoing crisis. On average, cats have four kittens in a litter and can litters can range from one to 12. Moreover, a cat can give birth to up to five litters a year. A single female cat can produce up to 420 cats in seven years.... Please be responsible and part of the solution, spay or neuter your cat.

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# Blackburn Kids and Youth Looking for Youth Committee Members!

Want to have a say in the youth activities held in Blackburn and make a difference in your community, all while making new friends? Do you love getting involved, planning activities, or just need to collect some extra volunteer hours? The BCA Youth Director is looking for enthusiastic and responsible youth ages 10 to 17 to join Blackburn's new Youth Committee!

Members of this committee will participate in meetings once or twice a month (time and place to be determined) and assist the Youth Director in planning and organizing events and activities in 2024. If you are interested in joining, please email [youth@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:youth@blackburnhamlet.ca) with your name and age, along with the name and email of your parent or guardian.

If you're a parent interested in joining the committee with your child, or just want to help out, please feel free to sign up. All are welcome!

## Upcoming Kids and Youth Activities

**Art in the Park:** Saturday June 29 from 10am to 3pm at the Blackburn Community Hall and exterior park (weather permitting)

Kids and youth ages 5 to 18 are welcome to come create some art at the Community Hall. There will be various crafting stations where kids and youth from all skill levels can participate. Kids 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Register to paint! From 1 to 3pm, youth ages 12 to 18 can take part in an instructor-led painting activity. Supplies will be provided and you will be guided step-

by-step as you create your masterpiece! Please register by June 23, 2024 by emailing your name and age to [youth@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:youth@blackburnhamlet.ca).

**Glow in the Dark Capture the Flag:** Friday, July 26 from 8 to 10pm (rain date: July 27) Location TBD

This event is for youth ages 12 to 17. Register by emailing your name and age, along with your desired teammates' names and ages to [youth@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:youth@blackburnhamlet.ca). This helps us see that you are in a team with friends, and ensures that you receive information about your team colours, meeting location, tips, rules, and maps in advance. If you don't have teammates in mind, don't worry! Fair and even teams will be created before we begin.

**Back to School French Clinic:** August 18 at the Blackburn Community Hall

There will be 3 sessions at varying levels for students to brush up on their French before the start of school. No registration required.

**Session 1:** Primary (entering Grades 2-4): 10 to 11:45am

**Session 2:** Junior/Intermediate (entering grades 5-8): 12 to 1:45pm

**Session 3:** High school (entering grades 9-12): 2 to 3:45pm

## Meet Mélanie Mathieu

Mélanie was a primary/junior and intermediate teacher for the Ottawa Catholic School Board from 2012 to 2020 and now works in event coordination for the federal government. She has been living in Blackburn Hamlet for over a year, where she



**Mélanie Mathieu,  
BCA Youth Director**

has the pleasure of being a "bonus mom" to 4 kids. She is very excited to start her work with Blackburn's youth and has many exciting ideas to get them involved and active in our community.

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Game Time!

# BANAR Family Fun Corner - FunFair anagrams

CLUE		# of Words
OSERRWFIK	_____	1
<i>Hint: They light up the night!</i>		
EPANCKA ARSTEFKAB	_____	2
<i>Hint: Light and fluffy</i>		
NITELS CIOTUNA	_____	2
<i>Hint: Shhh</i>		
SOLI MEKP NEAAR	_____	3
<i>Hint: Where (some of it) happens</i>		
DSUE OOKB ALSE	_____	3
<i>Hint: It's a real page-turner</i>		
IEVL IMCUS	_____	2
<i>Hint: Get down and boogie</i>		
IMVOE HTGNI	_____	2
<i>Hint: Where's the popcorn?</i>		
STVUEERNOL	_____	1
<i>Hint: They make it all happen</i>		

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# Blackburn Seniors Corner – Events and Activities

*Barbara Whittaker, BCA Seniors Director*

**NEW BREAKFAST LOCATION** for the Blackburn Seniors Breakfast Get-togethers on the first Wednesday of each month, 9:00 AM, HALIBUT HOUSE, 2672 Innes Road.

Come and join us at a new location right here in the Hamlet for good food, great company and a chance to hear about all the great activities coming up in the Hamlet.

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

- June 5, 2024 -- RSVP by May 31
- July 3, 2024 -- RSVP by June 28
- August 7, 2024 – RSVP by August 2

## Blackburn Seniors Walk-and-Talk Outings – Spring 2024

The Blackburn Seniors Walk-and-Talk outings began last October, departing from Isaiah Scharfe Park. In the winter, we moved westward and began our outings at the end of Tauvette Street. The departure point for our walks has now moved eastward.

On a lovely Wednesday, April 17, our group walked

around Diceman Park, learning about the area thanks to the wonderful trail info called “The Harold Diceman Park Interpretive Experience” (you can find more about this on the BCA website under Our Neighbourhood/Interpretive Trails). They then walked around the adjacent streets and over to the community gardens.

The Spring walks depart at 1pm from Diceman Park, off Ridgeburn Gate, and will continue on the following dates: May 15 & 29 and June 12, 2024. The routes will vary for each walk and participants will have the option to do a shorter or a longer route. Water bottles are recommended and the walks will proceed rain or shine.

## Blackburn Seniors Saturday Social: Around the World in 80 Minutes – Potluck Lunch and Travel Stories

**When?** Saturday, June 22, 2024, 11:30am to 3:30pm

**Where?** Blackburn Community Hall, 190 Glen Park Dr.

Bring a favourite shareable dish (appetizer, salad, main or dessert) and join us for a potluck lunch and an afternoon of trading stories with other Blackburn residents who have lived and travelled all over the world and have a wealth of wonderful stories about their experiences.

The community hall 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.

No registration is necessary. If you would like to tell others about a particular place you have lived or visited, or if you have questions about this event, please email [seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca). For more information on these and other BCA activities, please visit the BCA Website and Facebook page and watch for posters around the community.

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1: Fireworks; 2: Pancake Breakfast; 3: Silent Auction;  
4: Lois Kemp Arena; 5: Used Book Sale; 6: Live Music;  
7: Movie Night; 8: Volunteers.

## FunFair Anagrams Answers

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# Countdown to Cancer Chase 2024

*Don Kelly, Cancer Chase Chair*

As mentioned in last month's BANAR, the Cancer Chase is returning to Blackburn Hamlet for 2024! This year's event will be held at the Just Food Farm, off Tauvette Street, on September 15. A more detailed schedule will be included in the next BANAR.

The BCA's Cancer Chase is a fun event for the whole family, and all funds raised are donated to the Ottawa Hospital for cancer research. This event has raised more than \$300,000 over the years, and we are proud to have helped make Ottawa's cancer and research facilities among the best in the world. We are asking everyone to help us maintain this worldly distinction and support the doctors, nurses, researchers and other staff who contribute so much towards this life-changing program.

This year, our event will have many of the same activities as before, but will have a new look. Unlike other years, where we had our 5K Walk/Run through the sometimes-challenging tree root woodlands of Green's Creek, this year's 5K will take place along defined trails spanning the 100 acres of the Just Food farmland. These open spaces will be safe and enjoyable for everyone!

The much-loved Silent Auction, with its incredible great deals, will once again be front and centre, and we will still have the Loonie Line and Selfie Stations where you can be free as a bird wearing a multitude of different costumes.

Our success has always been thanks to the strong



**This year's Cancer Chase will take place at the Just Food Farm**

and dynamic contributions of our volunteers. So, whether you would like to help with setting up the event, lend a hand at the various booths, or donate a gift for the auction, we would be grateful for your assistance. To join us please contact [safety@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:safety@blackburnhamlet.ca).

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Some of the incredible participants who helped clean up our community

# Another successful Spring Clean-Up!

*Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy & Lisa Margeson*

Mother Nature treated us to a beautiful sunny morning on April 27 as Blackburn Hamlet residents and volunteers of all ages came to lend a helping hand for our annual Spring Clean-Up, and made a remarkable difference in our community.

As participants lined up outside the Community Hall to be assigned a section of the Hamlet to clean up, they enjoyed some light refreshments provided by our local Tim Hortons. Before heading off to pick up trash in our parks, along the roads, in parking lots and even the Green's Creek toboggan hill, everyone was equipped with gloves and garbage bags. Some of the bags and gloves were provided through the City of Ottawa's Cleaning Up the Capital Program. In all, over 165 people generously donated their time and effort to clean up our whole community! They collected over 150 garbage bags and brought back larger items they found, including some old patio chair cushions, car tires, clothing, scrap metal, an axe and large pieces of cardboard.

After the work was done, participants were treated to BBQ'd hot dogs & hamburgers, plus cold drinks generously donated by the Blackburn Shoppers Drug Mart. Thanks also to Metro for their support. Then there was a draw to win one of the many prizes from BCA and City Councillor Laura Dudas. In addition, there were tree saplings for participants to take home. They had the choice of Black Walnut and White Pine,

both of which are endangered species.

This event could not have been possible without the hard work of the volunteers, as well as the BCA team and others who gave their time to plan and set up before the event, handed out supplies, worked the grills and cleaned up the hall after it was all over. A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone involved in making this event a success – and making Blackburn Hamlet a cleaner place to live and play this spring and summer.



BCA members and other volunteers who organized and ran the event

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## Councillor's Update

# Why doesn't Blackburn Hamlet have a dog park?

*Laura Dudas*

This was one of the first questions I was asked when I became the Blackburn Community Association President back in, what was it, 2007? It feels like that was a lifetime ago now. The question really resonated with me on a personal level, as a resident, dog owner and now a City Councillor. Over the last several years, I have set out on many a walk with my four-legged friends, looking for a place where we could take the leash off, run safely and play together.

In my first term at City Hall, I started digging into options as soon as I could, asking staff about various pieces of land around the Hamlet, trying to find even a small option that would suit an enclosed dog park. One of the first surprises I had in this process was just how few suitable locations there were. When we think about our neighbourhood, there is a lot of greenspace that weaves in and out of each corner of the community, not to mention the lush green lands that completely surround it. At first blush, finding a space for a dog park shouldn't be that hard — there are so many places to choose from! I quickly learned that this just was not so. This is largely due to the myriad of different public and private entities that own the parks and open space around here, much of it belonging to the federally-managed National Capital Commission. Once the team I was working with



at the City confirmed all of the City-owned spaces that could be explored, I quickly realized how much of a challenge it would be to find a place for the dog park.

One of the blessings we have in Blackburn is that our parks have a variety of recreational amenities, whether it be volleyball nets, climbers and swings, basketball nets, or otherwise. There really is something for any age to enjoy. This presented challenge number two, meeting the requirement for any new dog park to be a certain distance from recreational facilities and structures. This left us with just two options — Tauvette Park and the fenced-in site former site of the Blackburn Preschool behind the arena. The actual space that was open for discussion was actually very small, with a meager footprint to work with after room for required snow storage was factored in. There were also several flags from staff that, with the existing activities at the arena and ball diamond, parking would likely be a huge issue — not to mention the close proximity to the space where many softball and baseball games take place in the summer. And of

course, there is the FunFair! All those issues aside, the project was prohibitively expensive due to the need to add a specialized surface to appropriately handle the potential dog piddling, with estimates coming in at around the \$350K mark, just for a postage stamp space that likely would fit just a couple of dogs at a time.

We also explored the possibility of building one at Tauvette Park. I had my hopes up for a short while, as there wasn't an immediate "no" from staff, but my hope was relatively short-lived. The lesser issue was the requirement for dogs and their owners to have to walk between the sports fields to access the park. This space would not be accessible at all during the winter, and there wasn't a way to add lighting to the area, a glaring concern for both practical and safety reasons.

Those two final locations brought to a halt the exploratory journey for a dog park location in Blackburn, a journey that spanned multiple years of back and forth with City staff, and thought experiments of what "could be". I would be lying if I said I wasn't incredibly disappointed at the thought of not getting our neighbourhood a dog park like many of us wanted. Knowing this topic often comes up in discussion among neighbours, I am always open to hearing new ideas. After years and years of trying to land a suitable option, at this time, I can safely say that no stone has been left unturned.



# Volunteers needed to water the BCA gardens

*Miriam Hampson*

Communities like Blackburn Hamlet are fortunate to have an incredible group of wonderful volunteers that help enrich our neighborhood in so many ways. As the saying goes, it takes a village... or in our case, it takes a hamlet!

For the past four years, the BCA's Beautification committee's goals



have focused on beautifying our entry points to our community by establishing gardens at our Gateway

signs and the art installation at the four corners. These four gardens are watered and cared for throughout the spring, summer and fall months by volunteers. We are only able to continue these types of initiatives with your help. If you are interested in being a part of the Watering Crew of 2024 or for more information, please contact Miriam at [beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca](mailto:beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca).

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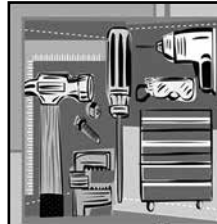


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