



Blackburn Area News And Reports BANAR

Vol. 59 No. 5

June 2026

BLACKBURN FUNFAIR

**JUNE
5-7**

Come one, come all to the 2026 Blackburn FunFair!

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

When: Friday evening June 5 to Sunday afternoon June 7

Where: 200 Glen Park Drive (Lois Kemp Arena and surrounding area)

Cost: Free admission + AFFORDABLE BRACELETS!!! (see page 12 for details)

Schedule: Check out the back page of this BANAR for a full listing of events and attractions. Last minute changes will be listed on our website: blackburnfunfair.ca/event-schedule

Remove the FunFair schedule on the back page and keep it with you!



Parade Reminder

PLEASE NOTE: Bearbrook Road will be closed from Louis Riel High School to the Blackburn Arena from 9:45 until 10:45 am on Saturday, June 6 for the FunFair parade. Please respect the barricades and monitors at streets and entrances to parking lots along the route.



The BANAR is proudly produced by the Blackburn Community Association.



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President's message

What a winter and spring season we have had in Blackburn!!

2026 has started off with a bang. After a successful and busy winter, we are gearing up for another Blackburn Hamlet FunFair with plenty of new attractions and things to do for all ages. Whatever you may be looking for, I'm sure that the FunFair committee will have something for everyone!

A great turn out to the annual Spring Clean-Up made a huge difference. In a few short hours, we were looking great and ready for summer! I would like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers that make that day possible every year.

Keep your eyes on our website for updates on what is coming up in the Hamlet. We still

have plenty of events planned including Discovery Café in the fall, a Garden Tour in July, the Cancer Chase and several other events for all ages.

Quick reminder that, as the sun starts to make an appearance, it comes with very excited kids on bikes, skateboards or just running at top speed! Let's take a little extra time moving through the Hamlet and make sure that we are keeping an extra eye on the roads!

As always, we are welcome 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.

Jeff Miller, BCA President



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Did you know that the BCA publishes a monthly electronic newsletter highlighting coming events and community news? Blackburn Hamlet residents are encouraged to sign up at blackburnhamlet.ca/newsletter for the latest news and emergency updates.



Websites

www.BlackburnHamlet.ca
www.BlackburnFunFair.ca



Facebook

Blackburn Hamlet Community Association-BCA
Blackburn Hamlet Community Association



Instagram

@blackburn.hamlet

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

Accessibility & Transit: Kyle Humphrey kyle@blackburnhamlet.ca
Beautification: Miriam Hampson beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca
Communications: Nina Ryan communications@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Relations: David Purchase david@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Safety: Don Kelly safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Environment: Camille-Emmanuelle enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
E-Newsletter: Lynn Lefevre newsletter@blackburnhamlet.ca

Facilities and Operations: Brent Lawrie vp@blackburnhamlet.ca
Membership: Barbara Whittaker membership@blackburnhamlet.ca
Parks: Brent Lawrie parks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Seniors: Shirley Sheppard seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca
Social Media: Satinder Sahota satinder@blackburnhamlet.ca
Transportation: Robert Long transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca
Youth: Milanie Mathieu youth@blackburnhamlet.ca

Committee Chairs

BANAR Editor: Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy banar@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Hall: Tammy Bedard hall@blackburnhamlet.ca
Rinks: Mark Lister rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Website Content: Lynn Lefevre webadmin@blackburnhamlet.ca

Events

Bike Rodeo: Don Kelly safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Cancer Chase: David Purchase cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca
Christmas Market: Jenny Lawrence market@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Closet:

Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
Discovery Café: Barbara Whittaker barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca
Fun Fair: Steve Vesely funfairchair@gmail.com
Garage Sale: Lynn Lefevre enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
Garden Tour: Cynthia Hosiak gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca
Hockey Day: Jeff Miller president@blackburnhamlet.ca
Santa's Pancake Breakfast: Don Kelly safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Spring Cleanup:

Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca
Volunteer Appreciation: Don Kelly president@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 virtually on **Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.**

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 – joanne@blackburnhamlet.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, Santa's Breakfast, as well as numerous initiatives for youth, seniors and local groups. One membership covers two 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 volunteer list: Yes No

PAYMENT METHOD:

E-Transfer to treasurer@blackburnhamlet.ca. Please add a memo with your name and either your email address or phone number.

Cheque made out to Blackburn Community Association or Cash, mailed to BCA Membership, P.O. Box 47062, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5B0

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

September BANAR Deadline: August 5, 2026

September BANAR Delivery: August 29, 2026

For BCA updates go to BlackburnHamlet.ca

BCA Board Highlights April 2026

Highlights from recent BCA Board activities include:

- A mural will be added to the outside walls of the pool building this Summer. We are working on finalizing the design with the artist.
- The Board approved the purchase of the stage from the Vintage Stock Theatre. We have shared use of this stage for many years and it is essential for our FunFair event.
- Jeff Miller and Brent Lawrie will be taking over as the Hockey Day organizers.

More details:

blackburnhamlet.ca/about/meeting-minutes/

Community Hall Rental

Did you know you can book the Community Hall at 190 Glen Park Dr. for your events?

Scan the QR code below or visit

blackburnhamlet.ca/hall to learn more.



**WE NOW HAVE WIFI
in the Community Hall
and at the Arena!**

Volunteer Help Needed for the BANAR Delivery

We are looking for a volunteer to take on a crucial role — BANAR Delivery Coordinator!

This is an important step in the BANAR delivery process. Five times per year, you would

receive the papers delivered by the printer, sort them into bundles for each of the delivery routes in the neighbourhood, and coordinate pick-up of the bundles by each of the delivery carriers/families.

The time commitment is 5 weekends per year. If interested, please contact the BANAR Editor, Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy, at banar@blackburnhamlet.ca. Thank you!

Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour!

Miriam Hampson

Calling all gardeners, garden lovers, or anyone who enjoys the beauty of a lovely garden!

The Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour is back again this summer. Join us for the 5th year, this July 11 & 12, from 10 am to 4pm.

A wonderful variety of gardens, artists, and musicians are all awaiting your visits.

A map will be available on the BCA website and Blackburn Facebook page leading up to the event.

Have a garden you'd like to put on display? There's still time to add your garden to the tour!

Connect with us at one of the following contacts:

- Cynthia at (613) 799-9514
- Miriam at beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca.



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What a Difference After the Spring Clean Up!

Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase & Lisa Margeson

On April 25, the annual **Blackburn Hamlet Spring Clean Up** had a great turnout of almost 200 participants!

Thanks to their efforts, 186 bags of garbage were removed from the main streets, all the parks, school areas, the community garden, and even up to the Green's Creek toboggan hill. And the Hamlet looked refreshed for 2026.

Everyone was given some gloves and garbage bags, which were provided through the City of Ottawa's Cleaning Up the Capital program, and by the BCA.

As usual, the BCA showed its appreciation by providing volunteers with a lunch BBQ. The BCA had bought a brand-new BBQ the day before, but it turned out to not be as large as the last one, so another thank you to the participants who patiently waited for their hamburger, hotdog, veggie burger or Halal burger to be grilled.

Thank you also out to the Blackburn Shoppers Drug Mart for donating cold beverages, to Tim Hortons for



Look at how much garbage was cleaned up from our community!

donating hot coffee and hot chocolate, and the Metro for a discount on the food.

And last but not least is a shout out to the volunteers of BCA and a few others, along with everyone who came to help out. Without all of you, this couldn't happen.



COUNCILLOR / CONSEILLÈRE

LAURA DUDAS

ORLÉANS WEST/OUEST-INNES

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

Join the Adventure: Register for Scouts Today

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. From first aid and cooking, and camping and STEAM activities, to leadership and teamwork, Scouting allows youth to have fun discovering a world of adventure.

Registration for Beavers (5-7), Cubs (8-10), Scouts (11-14), and Venturers (15-18) opens on June 1st at 12:00 a.m. EDT. Don't wait—spots are limited and they fill quickly! Visit myscouts.ca and select Monday evenings to locate the 1st Blackburn Scouting Group. The journey of a lifetime is just a click away!

The new Scouting season begins September 14, 2026, and follows the school calendar year, with meetings on Monday evenings at Emily Carr Middle School. The cost for the entire year is \$315 (\$295 National Registration fee plus \$20 Group Registration fee). We are committed to providing the youth of this community with rich, unique, accessible Scouting opportunities in a safe, inclusive environment where they can build skills, create friendships, and make lifelong memories.

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.

THANK YOU!

1st Blackburn Scout Group would like to thank the Blackburn Hamlet community for your support of our annual Christmas Wreath Fundraiser. While membership, camp, and event fees offset the cost of running our programs, they do not cover the cost entirely. Fundraising initiatives



and donations play a significant role in our program delivery and our ability to introduce Scouting to those less fortunate. Your support makes a difference!

Save the Date: E-Waste Fundraiser

We will be holding an **e-waste fundraiser** the weekend of September 25-27. More details, including time and location, will be announced in the August BANAR. This summer, set aside your unwanted or unused electronics, including laptops, smartphones, and televisions... we will take them off your hands!

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Dr Bernard Vincelette, DMV & Dr Annie Séguin, DMV

Dr Amber Covello, DVM & Dr Jonathan Harris, DVM



Scratching, licking/chewing of the feet and legs, ear/skin infections, sneezing, runny eyes: is my pet allergic to something?

Yes, just like humans, cats and dogs can suffer from allergies. Two main causes for allergies: environmental (indoor or outdoor allergens) and food. To make things worse, some pets are allergic to multiple things!

With seasonal allergies, some pets have symptoms for a few weeks and others can have symptoms as soon as the ground thaw until the

first snow. The most common time for seasonal allergies is the spring and the fall.

Common environmental allergens include pollens (grasses, weeds, trees, etc.), mold spores, dust mites, and fleas. While there is no complete cure for allergies but there are many treatments that can help.

Medications like antihistamines, corticosteroids and other allergy medications that reduce itching offer relief. There is also an injection to stop the itch available. Topical medicated shampoos and sprays formulated to reduce itching, remove dander, and reduce the skin's reaction are recommended by most dermatologists. If you think your pet is suffering from allergies, contact your veterinarian to see what can be done to help him be more comfortable this allergy season.

We are accepting new clients and new patients. Tell your friends!

2592 Innes Road in Blackburn Hamlet (Mall with the Public library & Blackburn Arms Pub)

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Fridays 8am-5pm

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BCA SAFETY—FIRST AID TRAINING

Don Kelly, BCA Director

On June 27, 2026 the Blackburn Hamlet Community Association has scheduled a **First Aid Course**. In accordance with Canada Red Cross regulations a minimum number of 13 candidates is required. The course is a CPR Level C & AED (Adult, Child & Infant), 6hr course. Graduates will receive a 3 year Red Cross certification. The cost is \$70.00 per person + HST. There will be a written exam with a passing grade of 75%. The subjects covered will include:

- Responding to Emergencies
- Check, Call, Care
- Airway Emergencies
- Breathing & Circulation Emergencies
- CPR, Cardiac Arrest & AED
- Written exam (min. passing grade: 75%)

The course will be held in the Theatre Room at the Bearbrook Retirement Residence on Innes Road. This is excellent training for those involved in looking after children or babysitting.

There will be snacks & refreshments at no charge. To register for the course please contact safety@blackburnhamlet.ca.



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PCD29264


Fermeture de la chapelle Saint-Claude

Viviane Côté-Maxwell

C'est bien le 30 juin que les portes de la chapelle fermeront pour céder la place à trois salles de classe. Nous avons été avisés récemment par l'archidiocèse d'Ottawa-Cornwall que le Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-est mettait fin à l'entente de 40 ans. La chapelle Saint-Claude est construite sur le terrain de l'École Sainte-Marie et ouvre sur le gymnase. La communauté Saint-Claude et la paroisse Sainte-Marie travaillent ensemble afin de trouver un endroit pour les célébrations dominicales en français à Blackburn Hamlet dès septembre. En attendant, vous êtes invités à la messe de fermeture le 7 juin à 11h.

Yes, we are losing our beautiful Chapel which was opened 40 years ago on Holy Thursday. Three classrooms will be built inside it. Our closing date is June 30th.






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www.jansworkout.ca



Annual Blackburn FunFair June 5-7: Bigger and better than ever!

Plans are afoot to make this year's Blackburn FunFair from June 5 to 7 the best yet, and organizers are looking forward to bringing Ottawa's best small community fair to a wider audience with Saturday's evening headline act: *SOS: The ABBA Experience*. Delighting audiences and playing to sold-out shows everywhere, *SOS: The ABBA Experience* recreates the music of ABBA almost note for note from the original albums, with no backing tracks.



Get a \$15 discount with promo code **BANAR30** on tickets! Don't wait too long! Only 50 tickets are available at that price which is a **33% savings** over regular priced tickets. You won't find a better price for this show anywhere. Get your tickets by scanning the QR code on the next page.

Why come to the fair?

Because it's the most affordable fair you'll go to this summer with lots to see and do. No gate fee. No parking fee. And all rides and kids games are only a dollar or two!

Bracelets: This year's fair will be offering affordable all-weekend

bracelets available for unlimited rides on all inflatables. **Buy your bracelets early and use them all weekend long for only \$20!** Want to avoid lineups? Bracelets can be pre-ordered online and picked up at the Blackburn Public Library in advance. More details are at the QR code on the next page.



Casino Night: This year's fair will host a Casino Night thanks to sponsorship from the Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet. The casino will run Friday night from 7 to 10pm and include popular games like poker, blackjack and roulette.

Please note the event is a fundraiser with prizes for the winners and not a cash tournament. More info: blackburnfunfair.ca/casino

But there's no midway! True! That's how the fair keeps costs down and still makes it a fun affordable time. New to this year's lineup of inflatables include:

- **Soccer Darts:** It's a World Cup summer so show off your kicking prowess!
- **Pony Hop Racetrack:** Race your friends and win!
- **Drop Zone:** Look down at the red bulls-eye. Do you dare jump? Or will you lose your nerve and take the slide?

Returning favorites include the 19-foot megaslide, 50-foot extreme obstacle course, 3-lane bungee run and the Funhouse maze.



Free shows are back: Guests raved about the added free attractions introduced last year and they're all back! Come enjoy hourly free shows including Mojo Magic magician Ben Lavalee, Little Rays Reptiles, stilt walker Luciano Lu, comedian Chris Pilsworth, juggler Jean-Guy Beaudry, Princess Elsa and Demon Hunter Rumi sharing their story tales in the arena all weekend.

Pony Rides: They're back with no waiting in line this year! Register for a spot between 11am and 3pm Saturday & Sunday, weather depending. Don't horse around — sign up before all spots are gone!

50/50 Raffle: Last year's winner won almost \$500! Support a local community event by purchasing entries to our 50/50 Funfair Raffle. Scan the QR code below.

D&D tournament: This is where imagination roars to life and heroes are forged! This year's fair is unleashing an unforgettable Dungeons & Dragons one-shot adventure, inviting brave souls to step into a world of danger, destiny, and daring choices. More info here: www.blackburnfunfair.ca/fantasy

Other well-loved returning and new events include:

- **Free kids movie** on Friday June 5 in the arena
- **Free Saturday parade** down Bearbrook Road at 10am
- **Free fireworks show** on Saturday at 10pm
- **Pancake breakfast** on Saturday at 8am
- **DND tournament** Saturday at 1pm in the community hall: www.blackburnfunfair.ca/fantasy
- **Bingo in the hall** Saturday at 2pm
- **Weekend softball tournament:** blackburnfunfair.ca/events/softball-tournament/
- **Cornhole tournament:** blackburnfunfair.ca/cornhole-tournament/

- **Showcase of 60 vendors** in the Lois Kemp arena all weekend
- **Online Silent Auction** raising money for community programming (QR code below).
- **Music all Saturday** leading up to the main act: *SOS: The ABBA Experience*. Other featured acts include *Where's Mike, Right On! C-Sonic and Green's Creek Revival*
- **Beer garden** open Friday evening and Saturday
- **Check out blackburnfunfair.ca for up to date info**

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 financial support of many of our local businesses. A big **THANK YOU!!**

Platinum sponsors \$5K+

The Blackburn Community Association and le Club Optimiste de Blackburn Hamlet

Gold sponsors \$1K+

Christine Bussieres Broker, Blackburn Pharmacy, La Pierre Law Office, Amrize, Blackburn Arms Restaurant

Silver sponsors \$500+

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Bronze sponsors \$250+

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Political sponsors with paid advertising of \$500+

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Final note

Thank you to all the volunteers who help out in big and small ways. The Funfair committee wholeheartedly thanks you. We are still looking for:

- Adults to supervise inflatables and help take tickets on fair weekend
- SmartServe certified adults who can help with tickets and/or bartend on fair weekend
- Help with food on fair weekend

Questions and comments welcome! Reach out to the fair committee at chair@blackburnfunfair.ca.

DIGITAL SALES AT FUNFAIR . . .

Hate waiting in line for tickets? We do too! This year's Funfair is offering online sales for three events items and early access to our Silent Auction. Skip the lines and get your Funfair music, raffle and ride bracelets early!

Use promo code **BANAR30** to get **SOS tickets for only \$30!**

SOS
The ABBA Experience



Ride bracelet only \$20!
Unlimited rides all weekend



50/50 Raffle
Draw noon June 6, 2026



Silent Auction
Early access to bid online!



Councillor's Update

Laura Dudas

Greg “Mayor Greg” Kazmierski was a beloved and enduring presence in Blackburn Hamlet, remembered for the warmth, kindness and community spirit he shared with everyone around him.

I was so honoured to work with Greg’s family and friends to help recognize Greg’s impact on our community, and have the City of Ottawa officially rename the ball diamond near the arena the Greg Kazmierski Ball Diamond.

On Saturday, May 9, his family, friends and much of the community gathered for the official unveiling, and as everyone in attendance can attest, it was a deeply moving ceremony.

For many years, Greg was a familiar presence at the ball diamond, cheering on players and teams with enthusiasm and pride. His infectious joy was a powerful reminder of how one person’s kindness and care can truly shape a community.

The strong turnout spoke volumes about the impact Greg had on so many lives. Throughout the event,

stories and memories were shared, each one reflecting his welcoming nature and the simple, meaningful moments he created for others.

The Greg Kazmierski Ball Diamond will now stand as a place where people can gather, cheer and connect, carrying forward the spirit Greg brought to the community throughout his life.



Greg “Mayor Greg” Kazmierski



Unveiling the new Greg Kazmierski Memorial Ball Diamond



Thank you to everyone who came out on May 9.

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DISCOVERY CAFÉ NEWS

Barbara Whittaker, BCA Director

Discovery Café lectures take place at 7 PM at the Blackburn Community Hall, 190 Glen Park Drive, on the fourth Thursday of the month (September to November and January to May). Admission is free, people of all ages are invited and refreshments will be served.

The 2025-2026 season of Discovery Café enlightened us all, with speakers sharing their knowledge about a wide range of topics, from sleep to crystals to the safety of river water. The BCA would like to thank all of those who gave their time to come and share their expertise with us:

- Dr. Christopher Skinner — *Dementia Update; Sleep Update*
- Dr. Chantal Plant — *Children, Seniors and Dentistry*
- Dr. Banu Örmeci — *Breaking the myth: Are our rivers safe for swimming*
- Geneviève Haché — *Eggs with a side of PFAS: the unseen legacy of forever chemicals in our Great Lakes' aquatic life cycles*
- Dr. Halim Yanikomeroglu — *The Future of Wireless Communications Networks: A Foresight towards 2050*
- Dr. Katherine Marczenko — *Healing Crystals: Fact or Myth? Inside the World of Dynamic Materials*
- Timothy Lee — *Two-in-one, better together: A two-virus*

system for tackling solid tumours using a combined viral/mRNA cancer immunotherapy

My appreciation also goes to Lynn Lefevre who provided the all-important technical and logistical support to every session, and to both Lynn and Nina Ryan who helped us promote the events. Finally, great thanks to John Ap-Simon, founder of the Blackburn Discovery Café, who drew upon his network to help us find such esteemed and wonderful speakers.

While Discovery Café will take a break for a summer, please join us on September 24, 2026 for the start of the 2026-2027 season. Watch for schedule information in the next BANAR, on the BCA website and Facebook page, in the BCA e-newsletter and on posters around the community.

If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers, please email barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca



Barbara introducing Dr. Katherine Marczenko



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What's Happening at the Blackburn Hamlet Library?

Stop by and check out what your library has to offer, from new books, express items, museum passes, online databases, magazines and so much more. Feel free to register or drop in for one of our programs!

Family Storytime / Contes en famille

Stories, rhymes, and songs for children ages 0-6, accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

**Wednesdays, July 8–Aug 19
from 10:30 to 11:30am**

*Histoires, comptines et
chansons pour les enfants
de 0 à 6 ans.*

Les mercredis à 10 h 30.

Inscription requis cette été.

**Les mercredis, 8 juillet
–10 août – 10 h 30 – 11 h 30**

Chess Club

Join us for open games of chess every Tuesday from 3:30 to 5 pm. Whether you are a beginner or more advanced, this is a relaxed environment where everyone is welcome. Bring your own board or borrow one of ours. Drop-in program. Age 7+.

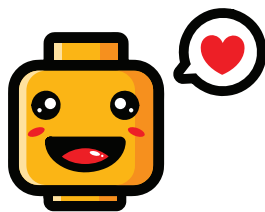
Summer Reading Club

What will you do with your kids when school is out? The TD Summer Reading Club programs will be back again this summer! Be sure to check our webpage regularly or in branch for a calendar of exciting activities and guest programming at the Blackburn Hamlet Library. Registration starts June 8!



Lego Block Party! / Ça dé "bloc"

Don't let your kid's creativity dwindle! Let them show off their architectural creativity with Lego®! Stop by this drop-in program every Saturday this summer. **Saturday July 4–August 22 from 2 to 3:30pm**



*Lorsque les enfants sont en congés ne les laissez pas perdre leur créativité ! Laissez-les devenir des architectes en herbes avec nos Lego® chaque samedi cette été! Inscription non requise. **Le samedi 4 juillet – 22 août, 14h 00 – 15h 30***

Summer Movies / Films de l'été

End your week with a Friday afternoon movie! Every Friday this summer we will be showing a different children's/family movie. Check in branch or online for a schedule of movie titles this summer.

Friday July 3–Aug 21 – 2 to 4pm

Blackburn Hamlet Book Chat

Share the enjoyment of good books in an informal and relaxed atmo-

sphere. Welcome to new members. **Monday, June 16, 2026 – 2:00-3:00pm – Denial** by Beverley McLachlan

Knit and Crochet Club / Club de Tricot et de crochet

Bring your knitting or crochet project (or needlepoint, cross-stitch, etc.) and share tips and tricks, ideas, and conversations with fellow enthusiasts. For adults of all abilities. **Every Thursday from 6:30 -8:00pm**

A Morning of Fun and Games for Adults! Une matinée de jeux et de plaisir pour adultes!

Do you love playing cards like Euchre? Chess? Any game goes! We will provide an assortment of games, but you're welcome to bring your own board games, too. **Join us every Monday from 10:00 am-12 :00pm**

Watercolour Connect / Aquarelle

Join us for a watercolour painting session every second



Wednesday, no experience necessary and supplies are provided.

Wednesday, July 8-August 19, 2026 – 2:00 to 4:00pm

Colouring For the Mind – Adult Colouring Club / Art-thérapie - Club de coloriage pour adultes!

Coloring can have a calming effect on the mind and promote wellness! Join us for a fun and relaxing adult coloring session every second Wednesday.

All supplies are provided. No registration is required. This is not a course.

Wednesdays July 15-August 26 – 2:00 to 4:00pm

Redécouvrez le plaisir de colorier en vous joignant à notre club de coloriage pour adultes tous les deuxièmes mercredis du mois – art-thérapie ! Tout le matériel est fourni. Aucune inscription requise. Ceci n'est pas un cours.

Les Mercredi 10 juin – 19 août, 2026 – 14 h 00 – 16 h 00

Interesting information about your library!

Mille Feuilles Used Bookstore has gently used books for sale from \$0.50 - \$3.00. These sales fund our programs and services. Now accepting your gently used book donations!

Did you know that with your City of Ottawa library card you can enjoy a 20% discount on City of Ottawa sports and fitness memberships? This applies to the one-year “All-inclusive” or “Active Ottawa annual membership” options. You can also recycle your batteries at the library.

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Shirley Sheppard, Director

Seniors Action Committee Members

Barbara Whittaker, Connie Matthey,
Elena Leggiadro, John Moores, Marion Hall

Seniors Breakfast Get-together

Our monthly breakfast on May 6 had a whopping 45 people in attendance! Cash donations totalling \$95.65 as well as many non-perishable food items were collected for the local Life Centre Food Bank. Our wonderful senior and singer, Garth Hampson, sang Happy Birthday to those with birthdays in May and another song "Could I Have This Dance" as well.

The breakfasts take place between 8:30 and 9:00am on the first Wednesday of each month at Halibut House, 2672 Innes Road Seniors (55+) are welcome to join us on the following dates:

- June 3
- July 1 (They are open on Canada Day!)
- August 5
- September 2

To help our friends at the restaurant prepare and as the breakfasts have become quite popular and as seating is limited, it is **very important** to call/text Shirley at 613-841-7691 or email seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca to register by the Monday preceding each breakfast.

Seniors Walk & Talk Outings

The April 22 (Earth Day) walk had 11 participants, plus 2 dogs and a baby. The next Walk and Talk will take place on June 17. We will be meeting at 190 Glen Park Drive, in front of the Community Hall at 1 pm, and we will be doing a 2km and 3km circuit. We look forward to seeing you there. Pets, kids, friends and family are welcome to join us.

Walk and Talks **will not** take place in July and August, but will resume in September. Details for

the fall Walk and Talks dates and locations will be advertised on Facebook, in the BANAR and on posters within the community.

A LOOK BACK...

"Hi" Tea Highlights

Seniors gathered at the Community Hall for "Hi" Tea on Sunday April 29, at noon. There was a great selection of teas and a wonderful potluck of sandwiches and sweets, followed by a contest for the best hats, several games of Bingo with prizes, plus draws for door prizes. Thanks to all who attended and brought such a delicious assortment of food.

Special thanks to the people who generously donated various amazing prizes and to Tammy Bedard of Aspira Bearbrook Retirement Home for supplying the Bingo machine and also calling the Bingo.

We are happy to say that this event raised a total of \$113 in donations to be given to the Cornerstone Women's Shelter.

Following this event, we were given a generous donation of several china cups and saucers etc. for use at future events. Many thanks to our benefactor, Lynn McGibbon Hawkins, for the very welcome donation.

It was a successful, most enjoyable gathering, so much so that we plan to make it a springtime tradition!

Upcoming Events

Lunch at Portugalos: Friday, June 26 at 12pm

Cost will be \$26 plus taxes and gratuity. The main course selection will be the same as in the past: salmon, piri piri chicken, bifana (pork sandwich) or vegetarian pasta. A choice of soup or salad will be the appetizer and the Portuguese tart will be the dessert.

A Seniors family event will be held on September 13 at the Just Food farm, 2391 Pepin Court here in the Hamlet (with entrance to the parking lot from Tauvette).

Late September or early October there will be a visit to the vineyard at Domaine du Mont-Vézeau-365, 321 Ripon Road, Quebec (plans are currently being finalized).

Please check the Blackburn Hamlet Facebook page, website and posters in the neighbourhood for details on future events.

Acknowledgments

Thank you to the Blackburn Community Association for supporting our events, the members of the Seniors Action Committee for pulling it all together and the seniors who gather to enjoy friendship, frivolity and food at our get-togethers. Thanks also to Tammy Bedard/Aspira Bearbrook Retirement Home for their ongoing support of many of our activities.



A wonderful selection of teas



Thank you for the generation donations of prizes!



And a delicious spread of sandwiches and tasty treats



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YOUTH CORNER

Melanie Mathieu, Director

Video Game Safety Course

- Ages 8 to 15
- Sunday, June 14 from 4 to 5pm
- Blackburn Community Hall (190 Glen Park Drive)

Get your kids ready for video game safety ahead of the summer! Your child will learn how to keep their personal information safe, how to spot scams and tricky situations, how to play safely with friends and others online, and much more!



This free 1 hour course provided by TECH-NEST is for kids ages 8 to 15 years old. Registration is not required but we ask that you please arrive on time. Seating is first come first served. Kids 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Art in the Park

- Ages 5 to 18
- Saturday July 4 from 10:30am to 1:00pm
- Blackburn Community Hall and exterior terrace, weather permitting (190 Glen Park Drive)

Kids and youth ages 5 to 18 are welcome to come by and create some art at the Community Hall. There will be various stations with crafting activities where kids and youth from all levels can participate. Kids 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Splish Splash Summer Bash

- Ages 2 to 10
- Sunday, August 2 from 11:00am to 3:00pm
- Blackburn Community Hall outdoor Splash Pad (190 Glen Park Drive)

Come celebrate summer outside the hall by the splash pad where there will be music, snacks, outdoor games, and plenty of opportunities to cool down and get soaked! Wear your bathing suit and feel free to bring your water guns. Kids must be accompanied by an adult.

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Colouring Contest

Kids ages 3 to 12 are invited to submit their entry for the **BCA's Summer Colouring Contest**. All winners will receive a \$20 cash prize!

Have your child colour the picture below and submit the image along with their name and age to youth@blackburnhamlet.ca. If you prefer to cut out the image and deliver a paper copy, please drop off the picture with the information requested in the image to 51 Woodhill Crescent in Blackburn.

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Winners will be contacted directly and announced in the next issue of the BANAR.

BCA SUMMER COLOURING CONTEST

NAME _____

AGE _____



SAFETY CORNER

Don Kelly, BCA Director

E-Bike Riders & Riding Responsibly

E-scooters & bikes offer a convenient and accessible way to travel. However, ensuring their safe use is essential to protecting all road users, including pedestrians, children, and individuals using mobility devices.

As such, we are reminding riders and motorists of the following key rules and safety considerations:

- E-scooters must be used in bike lanes or on the shoulder of the roadway, not on sidewalks (sidewalk use may result in a \$150 fine).
- Riders must be at least 16 years of age.
- Helmets are mandatory for riders under 18 and strongly encouraged for all users.
- Riders should wear bright or reflective clothing to remain visible.
- E-scooters must be equipped with a bell or horn, as well as front (white) and rear (red) lights for use at dusk and at nighttime.
- The same rules apply as for other vehicles: do not ride distracted or impaired.
- E-scooters are designed for one rider only—passengers are not permitted.
- E-scooter use is not permitted on NCC cycling paths or within the ByWard Market.



part to look at what efforts are underway in regards to LRT Crime Prevention and Public Safety, and how it may affect neighbourhoods in east end Ottawa.

Our speakers for the evening event were: Peter Scislowski, Chief Special Constable, OC Transpo, Sergeant Stephane Fournier and Denis Hull, Staff Sergeant, Ottawa Police Service and Officer Abdouli of Ottawa Bylaw Services.

One highlight of the evening was the discussion by Chief Scislowski on LRT activity. Chief Scislowski noted

that the two primary groups that make up the Special Constable Unit (SCU) are the Special Constables and Fare Inspectors. Special Constables hold the same authority as a police officer on or in relation to transit properties and assets. Fare Inspectors are responsible for verifying transit fares and enforcing fare related by laws across the transit system.

Chief Scislowski emphasized that public safety on transit is a shared responsibility.

NEIGHBOURHOODWATCH: LRT Crime Prevention and Public Safety

In 2024, there were 4,345 Provincial Criminal Offences on the OC Transpo system. In 2025, there were a total of 1,239 occurrences at Blair Station (including both bus and rail). On April 16, the Cardinal Creek and Blackburn Hamlet Community Associations Co-chaired the **2nd East Ottawa Neighbourhood Watch (NWP) Committee meeting** at the Ray Friel Centre. 35 participants from 10 different community associations took

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However, if you ever need help you can:

- Contact 9-1-1 in an emergency;
- Contact Special Constable Unit Dispatch (SPU) at 613-741-2478;
- Contact SPU by using the yellow emergency call boxes in stations or park & rides;
- Report any suspicious or criminal behaviour to OC Transpo through the digital report form.

The Ottawa Police (OPS) provided an overview of the crime prevention strategies they will be employing over the coming months in anticipation of the increased traffic from LRT into the neighbourhoods. The OPS continues to be a strong supporter of the Neighbourhood Watch Program.

We are also appreciative to Councillor Matt Luloff for his financial support of the site and refreshments.

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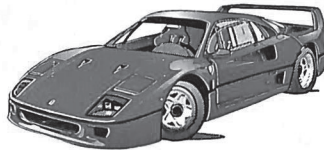
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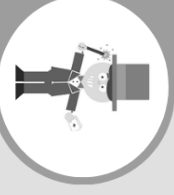
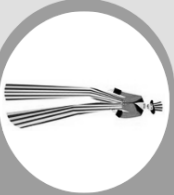
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MPP Stephen Blais - Orléans
MP Mona Fortier - Ottawa-Vanier-Cloucestre

What's New?



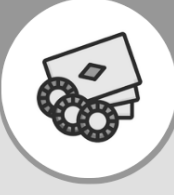
Endless Rides

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Casino

Play our charity casino
Friday night in the beer tent
Prizes for winners!



RPG

Enter our DND
One Shot
tournament



Bingo

Saturday event in the
community hall
Prizes for winners



Cornhole

Sunday tourney in the
community hall
Prizes for winners



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Music

Enjoy our main stage lineup! Free entrance to all musical acts except SOS: The ABBA Experience Tribute Saturday night. Get your ticket here!



Friday	School of Rock Where's Mike	5:00 pm 8:00 pm
Saturday	Sing House Studio Nepean School Music Right On! C-Sonic Green's Creek Revival SOS: ABBA Experience	11:00 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm

all drinks \$8

Beer Tent

Friday 5-11
Saturday 11-11:30
Featuring Broadhead Brewery, OBC and Magnotta wines & ciders



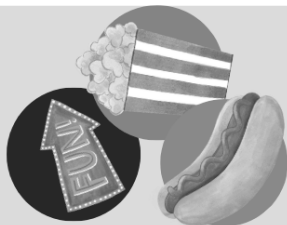
Arena show schedule

Friday	Mojo Magic Ben Hoppers	6:00 pm 6:30 pm
Saturday	Little Rays Zoo Illusionist Chris Little Rays Zoo Illusionist Chris Mojo Magic Ben	11:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm 2:00 pm 3:30 pm
Sunday	Juggler Jean-Guy Demon hunter - Rumi Mojo Magic Ben Frozen princess - Elsa	10:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm

Rides & Costs

Enjoy old favorites and some new bounces!

- \$1 Classic carnival games by the arena
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- \$1 Bungee run
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- \$1 Bouncy castle & slide
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- \$1 Extreme obstacle course
- \$1 Pony hop racetrack
- \$1 Bingo cards
- \$2 Funhouse maze
- \$2 Drop Zone
- \$5+ Wreck Room
- \$4 kids / \$6 adults Pancake breakfast
- \$15 Cornhole Entry Fee
- \$20 unlimited rides inflatables bracelet
- \$20 DND tournament Entry Fee
- \$25+ Casino Entry Fee
- \$50 SOS: The ABBA Experience Tribute



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Friday

Rides/Wreck Room	5:00 - 10:00	Parking lot
Arena games	5:00 - 8:00	Parking lot
Craft brew night	5:00 - 11:00	Hall patio
Softball tourney	5:00 - 10:00	Ball diamond
Mojo Magic Ben	6:00 - 6:30	Arena
Kids movie	6:30 - 8:30	Arena
Casino	7:00 - 10:00	Beer tent
Where's Mike	8:00 - 11:00	Music stage

Saturday

Pancake breakfast	8:00 - 10:00	Hall
Parade	10:00 - 10:45	Bearbrook
Silent auction	10:00 - 3:00	Arena
Used book sale	10:00 - 3:30	Arena
Showcase	10:00 - 4:00	Arena
Rides/Wreck Room	10:00 - 10:00	Parking lot
Arena games	11:00 - 5:00	Parking lot
Community BBQ	11:00 - 3:00	Parking lot
Arena shows	11:00 - 4:00	Arena
Face painting	11:00 - 5:00	Parking lot
Stilt walker	11:00 - 3:00	Parking lot
Music	11:00 - 11:00	Music stage
Beer garden	11:00 - 11:30	Hall patio
Cake ceremony	1:00 - 1:30	Music tent
DND tourneys	1:00 - 5:00	Hall
Field games	1:00 - 5:00	Soccer field
Bingo	2:00 - 3:00	Hall
Mojo Magic Ben	4:00 - 4:30	Parking lot
SOS	9:00 - 11:00	Music stage
Fireworks	10:00 - 10:15	Ball diamond

Sunday

Fun Run	9:30 - 10:30	Soccer field
Arena games	10:00 - 2:00	Parking lot
Face painting	10:00 - 2:00	Parking lot
Cornhole tourney	10:00 - 3:00	Hall
Rides/Wreck Room	10:00 - 3:00	Parking lot
Showcase	10:00 - 3:00	Arena
Used book sale	10:00 - 3:00	Arena
Arena shows	10:00 - 2:00	Arena
Dog show	11:00 - 1:00	Music tent
Juggler	11:00 - 1:00	Parking lot

