

The Blandford Bugle

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF ALL THINGS GOOD IN
BLANDFORD: GOOD HOMES, GOOD NEIGHBORS, GOOD FUN.

Vol. 1, Issue 3 Blandford, Massachusetts April 2012 BlandfordBugle@hotmail.com

* Things We Love About Blandford... *

* Heather Van Werkhoven: Misses the summer days walking through town, hearing the leaves rustle--especially in the little park by the post office and the feel of sunshine out in the hayfields. The SMELLS of mud in the spring, hay in the summer, leaves in the fall and clean snow in the winter!

* Jasmine Montanaro: Misses the creepy foggy days and nights and the giant Elm trees that line North St. and offer shade on summer days. Oh, and searching for the Cobble Mt Critter of course!

* Dick McCann: Loves the Blandford Club. Blandford is a quiet town with natural views.

* Carolyn Taylor: Loves the historic homes and building of "Glasgow Lands".

* Barb Boulay: As I drive through town I'm always greeted with friendly waves... a lovely connection.

* Jackie Dolby: It's safe for our kids. When they're outside there's no worry about fast cars on the road.

* Bill Levakis: Loves the country atmosphere. People still wave and know your name. It's nice.

* Rob Nichols: Loves the town's history, peacefulness and its anonymity.

* Laurie Nichols: Loves that there's no traffic, the morning birds, my house, and the quiet.

* Edna Wilander: Appreciates going to the egg lady's house, and appreciates a woman who sings to her goats.

* Julie Mueller: I love my house in the woods. I love the fact that General Knox came through here. I love the store; I love having the store. I appreciated having had the opportunity to work as a member of several town boards and commissions and to have met so many wonderful people. It has given me many pleasant memories.

LIFE LINES

**TAKEN FROM THE JULY 6, 1935 ISSUE OF
THE BLANDFORD BUGLE**

A MAN USUALLY CHASES A WOMAN UNTIL SHE CATCHES HIM.

A WOMAN'S PROMISE TO BE ON TIME CARRIES A LOT OF WAIT.

SLEEP IS CONDUCIVE TO BEAUTY. EVEN A CARPET LOOKS WARM WHEN IT LOSES IT'S NAP.

MANY SELF-MADE MEN (AND WOMEN) ARE WORKING THEIR SON'S (AND DAUGHTER'S) WAY THROUGH SCHOOL.

IT'S BETTER TO HAVE LOVED AND LOST THAN TO HAVE WON AND BE BOSSED.

MANY PEOPLE ARE SEEKING A SOFT JOB BECAUSE THEY EXPECT TO LIE DOWN ON IT LATER.


A CONTRIBUTOR

Field Trip with Sage Brook Family Daycare of Blandford
Children visiting the sites of Blandford, sledding in the park, playing on the playground, snack at the Blandford Store and reading at the library.




Check out our new town website at:
www.townofblandford.com

Blandford Events Calendar

April	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 PTO meeting 6:00 p.m. at Chester Elementary COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	3 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	4 COA: Writing workshop 2-4 p.m.	5	6 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Meet in the gym at the town hall	7
8	9 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	10 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	11 COA: Writing workshop 2-4 p.m.	12	13 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Meet in the gym at the town hall	14
15	16 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	17 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: 1:00 Spring Fling w/Garden Club COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	18 COA: Writing workshop 2-4 p.m.	19	20 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Meet in the gym at the town hall COA: 1-4 Planting party	21 Jay Mankita free concert 7:00 p.m Knox Trail
22	23 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	24 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	25 COA: Writing workshop 2-4 p.m.	26	27 Chester Elementary PTO Spaghetti supper & Raffle 5:30 & 6:00 seatings COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Meet in the gym at the town hall	28
29	30 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym					

Blandford Events Calendar

MAY	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	2	3	4 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	5
6	7 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym Preschool screening 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Littleville Elementary PTO meeting 6:00 p.m. Chester Elementary	8 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	9	10 Louis Armstrong Presentation at the White Church 7:00 p.m.	11 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	12 Stanmeyer Gallery opening West Otis
13	14 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	15 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: 1:00 Coffee Hr & Blood Drive clinic COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	16	17	18 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	19
20	21 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	22 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	23	24 COA: 7:00 Veterans Remember	25 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	26
27	28 Memorial Day Parade 11:00 Picnic to follow at Watson Park	29 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	30 Gateway Sports Banquet 7-11:00 p.m. Tekoa Country Club	31		

Blandford Events Calendar

JUNE	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	2 USAF New England Winds free concert at the White Church 7:00 p.m.
3	4 PTO meeting 6:00 p.m. at Chester Elementary COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	5 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	6	7	8 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym Gateway High School Graduation 7-8:30 p.m Booster field	9
10	11 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	12 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	13	14 COA: 1:00 Volunteer Appreciation Lunch	15 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	16 Otis Celebration Day 8 a.m - 10 p.m. Otis Town hall Grounds
17	18 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	19 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: 1:00 picnic COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	20	21	22 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	23
24	25 COA: Strength, Flexibility & Balance 9-10 a.m. gym	26 Knitting group at library 1-4 p.m. COA: Zumba Gold 1:30-2:30 Gym	27	28	29 COA: 9-10 a.m. Walking group Gym	30

Council On Aging

Ongoing: Getting Fit by walking, Friday's 9 to 10 a.m.
Let's put a spring in our step. Come join the Council on Aging for an hour of walking and fun. Meet in the gym at the Town Hall. During bad weather you can walk to music in the gym. When fair weather comes the group will be walking outdoors. Everyone is welcome to participate in this free COA program.


	<p>Falls Brook Farm Farm Stand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fresh Eggs from our pasture-raised chickens• Yarn from our Pygora goats• Wool, mohair and alpaca yarn from Blandford farms• Handmade crafts by local artisans
Open Wed. through Sat. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	
39 Herrick Rd, Blandford · 413-237-3545 · www.FallsBrookFarm.com	

Wish List

If you are able, please consider donating and/or lending any of the following items:

COA: If you have a sewing machine you are not using, please consider donating it to the Council on Aging. The group has projects that could put your machine to good use. According to coordinators Linda van Werkhoven and Margit Mikuski, the COA would like to make and donate various items to charitable organizations such as the Ronald McDonald House. If anyone has equipment to pass along, please contact either Linda at 848-2773 or Margit at 848-2776.

Boy Scouts: Any assistance in renovating the ballpark at the old school. Equipment (new bases including home base and a pitching rubber) a load of sand delivered for the baselines, and grass seed and a helping hand. For information please call the Recreation Committee at 848-2459.

	<p>Base Camp Pizza 815 Blandford Rd. Russell MA, 01071 <u>Weekly specials</u> Wednesday: Spaghetti with meatball and garlic bread. \$5.00 Thursday: Medium cheese pizza. \$6.00 562-7400</p>
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Journalism Internship



The Blandford Bugle is seeking a student who is interested in journalism to perform community service hours for our publication. The student would be required to help us gather news of upcoming events and positive stories about Blandford. They would also help to format these stories for printing.

If interested, please contact
blandfordbugle@hotmail.com or Cara at 848-2459.



Mary Mangini - Broker
REALTOR
Berkshire and Hilltown Specialist

(413) 454-2008 Cell
(413) 848-2253 Home
Mary.Mangini@NEMoves.com

No need to look further, lifelong resident of Western Mass
Annual Multi-Million dollars in sales
Referrals greatly appreciated!

Porter Memorial Library

National Library Week, April 8 to 14



The staff and director want you to celebrate National Library Week at the Porter Memorial Library. The library's All About Books area highlights different authors and complimentary bookmarks with quotes about books. This month is Groucho Marks, so come in to see the current showcased author, Rudyard Kipling. Also, get your bookmark with what Groucho has to say about reading.

For our next issue...

Attention kids!

Please send us a story, poem, drawing or photo describing your favorite memory of the Blandford Fair.

The Blandford Bugle
61 Chester Road
Blandford, MA 01008

-or-

blandfordbugle@hotmail.com

Clothing Swap

My name is Karen Yvon and I run a clothing swap here in Blandford. I accept clothes for all ages and genders and house-hold goods. I give them to those in need and Freecycle the rest. These items are never sold. I have a list of people and sizes that they are looking for and I call them when I receive something in their size.

I also accept clothes and goods from anyone wanted to save themselves a trip to the Goodwill or Salvation Army. If you would like to be added to my list to receive clothes or house-hold goods or to arrange a pick up you can email me at kay239@gfluniverse.org or call 848-2507 and ask for Karen. I have helped people in the hilltowns, Westfield, Chicopee, Agawam and West Springfield. It's never too far to lend a helping hand.



Local Dining Staci the Chef

(at the Blandford Historical Society)

Dinners: first and third Friday of the month.

5 - 8 p.m. \$12.00 per person

Buffet style dinner

No Reservations needed!

Maple Corner Farm Sugarhouse

Open through April 15 2012

Saturdays and Sundays 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast & Brunch

(413) 357-8829

The Blandford Country Store

Open 7 days 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Full breakfast menu

Hot & Cold Grinders

Soup & Chili

PIZZA NOW AVAILABLE!

848-2800



Woodford Way
Acoustic Duo
Kyle Mangini & Jeff Lynch

Private parties & Weddings
Perfect wedding band, can offer acoustic music as you walk down the aisle, DJ through dinner, Play your favorite music live, DJ dance music
(413) 552-9500 Cell

The Russell Inn

Italian American Family Style Restaurant

Eat in or Take out

Owned & Operated by The Peluso Family

Keno & Lounge

Rte 20, Russell Ma 01071

(413) 862-3608



Blandford PTO News

Brighten your April with a yummy meal and raffle prizes!

The Chester Elementary School PTO is sponsoring a Spaghetti Supper and Raffle on Friday, April 27. Two dinner seatings are at 5:30 and 6 p.m., with the raffle starting at 7 p.m. Parents, grandparents and community members are welcome to enjoy spaghetti, meatballs, salad, and dessert! Tickets can be purchased at the door, but if you buy them in advance you get a bit of a deal. If purchased in advance, a family pays \$20., individual adults pay \$6., kids pay \$4., children under three are free.

Buy some raffle tickets and then sit back and enjoy the fun as we draw the winning names. The following prizes are just part of the raffle: Junior membership at the Blandford Ski Area; value: \$250., Family 4-pack Lift Tickets; value \$200., Junior Golf membership at The Blandford Club; value: \$100., 9 Holes Golf for Four; value \$100., Extreme Fun Package at Big Adventures of Westfield, value: \$250. There are many more prizes up for grabs. Plus, you can buy tickets for our May calendar raffle. We're giving away a prize a day for the month of May! Tickets are just \$5. a piece and your name stays in the drawing all month, even if you win a prize. Please join us on April 27 for a great night of family fun.

Your financial help sends students on field trips, buys classroom supplies and helps put on a fun field day! For more information on any of these fundraisers, please contact a PTO member or call the Chester Elementary School office at 413-685-1360.

The Chester Elementary School PTO is looking for new members, especially parents from Blandford. There are currently fewer than ten members of the PTO and usually less than five attend each monthly meeting. It's critical that we get more help in order to continue to raise funds to enrich our student's school experience. If you can't attend all meetings, attending a few would be great. And, if you can't attend meetings, please get plugged into the organization to share your ideas and help with events. Each year the organization loses valuable parent members as their children move on to the middle school, so PreK and Kindergarten parents are urged to join! We can use all the help we can get. Please contact Michele Crane if you can help: (413) 297-7137. Thanks!

Neighboring News



Otis: Call for Artists! The Otis Cultural Council invites Artists and Craftspeople for the Fifth Annual Otis Arts Festival, Saturday, July 28, 9am - 3pm, at Farmington River Elementary School. Entry fee \$20 (Otis residents), \$25 (non-Otis residents). Applications available online at www.townofotisma.com/culturalcouncil, or at the Otis Town Hall. For info, email otis-cc@hotmail.com.

Second Annual Otis Celebration Day

The Otis Celebration Day Committee announces the Second Annual Otis Celebration Day, to be held on Saturday, June 16, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Otis Town Hall grounds to celebrate and continue the tradition of Otis' diverse, joyful and peaceful community.

Pancake Breakfast to start the day; all-day entertainment and games for children, including a petting zoo and bouncy house; Town Library and Artisans' Fair; Third Annual All-Town Talent Show; the supremely sublime Taste of Otis; pajama party with movie and babysitting (3 to 11 years old); lively square dancing with caller extraordinaire Cliff Brodeur and the Housatonic Philharmonic; ground-poundin', shakin' samba with the joyful Berkshire Bateria; original, rich and hot pickin' country and western swing with 20-year northeastern favorite, our own Dooley Austin Band. From near and far, join in the fun! All are welcome to Otis Celebration Day!

Contact: Katharine Adams Otis Celebration Day Committee
katlamixe@gmail.com (413) 822-7343

East Otis: Jay Mankita will be the next performer in The Knox Trail Inn Concert Series scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at 7 p.m. Jay is a masterful guitarist, singer and songwriter. Jay has shared the stage, opened for, performed with, and recorded with many well-known artists, including Pete Seeger, David Bromberg, Leon Russell, Tom Paxton, Paul Winter and dozens of others.

A special, 3 course dinner (\$8.95-\$12.95) will be served before this **Free Concert** from 5:30 p.m. through 7 p.m. Please call the Knox Trail Inn for reservations at (413) 269-4400

Admission to the concert is **Free** and is supported by a grant from the Otis Cultural Council under the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

West Otis: National Geographic Photographer and Wood Carver Plan Exhibition to Benefit Environmental Organizations Stanmeyer Gallery The Stanmeyer Gallery opens May 12 for a third season in the Berkshires, with limited-edition photographs of our natural world by National Geographic photographer John Stanmeyer, and introducing exquisite word carvings by special guest artist Ken Packie. A percentage of sales to benefit local environmental groups.

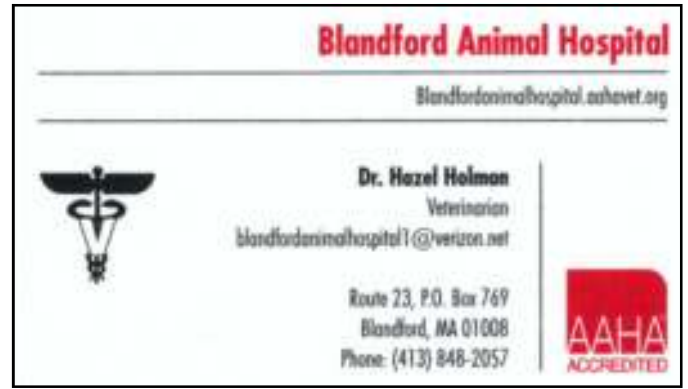
This show will highlight our earth's fragile environments with images from a project John Stanmeyer has been working on for seven years. In the exhibition, the internationally renowned photographer also will have images from his Amazon Ablaze story, aerial views of the Amazon during illegal fires in 2008. (Photos from those selections can be viewed on www.stanmeyer.com, under *Personal Projects* and *National Geographic*.)

The gallery will open on Saturday, May 12, and remain open Thursdays through Sundays and by appointment through the summer until Labor Day weekend.

1286 Monterey Road (Rt. 23), West Otis, MA

Contact: Anastasia Stanmeyer • 413-429-5504 •

anastasia@stanmeyer.com www.stanmeyergallery.com



Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee needs members and volunteers. Please email caramisslynn@yahoo.com if you are interested or if you have any items on our WISH LISTS to donate.

May 28: Memorial Day Picnic. Immediately following the parade at Watson Park. Hotdogs, hamburgers, refreshments provided, please bring a dish to share. Live band, children's games, entertainers and a softball game. If you have any of the following games to lend for the day: Badminton, Bocci ball, horseshoes, etc, please email Cara Letendre at caramisslynn@yahoo.com or call 848-2459.

Historical Society

Thursday, May 10, Louie Armstrong Presentation: White Church (sponsored by Blandford Cultural Commission) Joint sponsorship between COA and the Blandford Historical Society

Thursday, May 24, 7p.m. in COA room at Town Hall WWII Vets Recollections

May 28 Monday, Memorial Day: The Blandford Historical Society will hold an OPEN HOUSE, before and after the parade.



Saturday, June 2 at 7:00 p.m. White Church. **Free** concert by USAF New England Winds

This is a quintet of classically trained full-time musicians in the United States Air Force. The group has toured all over New England, New York and New Jersey supporting troop morale, community relations and educational outreach. In recent years, the quintet has performed at The International Double Reed Society Convention, Princeton University, the University of Connecticut and the SUNY-Fredonia School of Music. For Tickets:

848-1410 or send SASE to White Church
Box 35, Blandford, MA 01008

Memorial Day Parade

2007



Memorial Day Roots

Blandford's Memorial Day ceremony and observances has its roots in the formation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars American Legion Blandford Post 356 in 1953.

That was the first year Blandford had a Memorial Day, then called Decoration Day, Parade.

"And I'll tell you it wasn't much of a parade then," said Don Shepard as we reminisced about the earlier days of the town's most attended function.

According to Don, it started first at Kaolin Road and Main Street. The

route went up the hill to the cemetery across from The White Church where the VFW fired a salute and Taps was performed. The old cemetery was also visited before folks assembled at the Town Commons for speakers. The parade then returned to its starting point.

About six years later, the parade assembled at the Blandford Elementary School, where it still does to this day. In conjunction with the Decoration Day ceremonies, first

grade teacher Mae Anderson (she taught at the one-time Deane Building) began having the elementary school students take small American flags to the cemeteries to place in the commemorative holders that marked veterans' graves. The students walked to the cemeteries, placed the flags, and then gathered for patriotic songs and walked back to the school. Mrs. Anderson, a long-time Blandford resident, taught for 21 years here and retired in 1973, and the tradition she started continued at the school, and still today students will bring the Legion's flags to the cemeteries.

The last time Blandford students placed flags on veterans' graves was May 20, 1998.

There have been times when the weather was so



Doug Emo speaks Memorial Day 2007

hot and humid that members of the Gateway Regional Band collapsed. That began the practice of having water available for the musicians.

There have been some memorable speakers at the ceremonies over the years. Don remembers that one given by the late Arno Maris (who lived opposite Blair Road on Route 23) was particularly memorable because Maris, originally from the Netherlands, was in the Dutch Army and was imprisoned for three-and-a-half years on Java by the Japanese.

Over the years, the Blandford Veterans who marched in the parade have now decreased in number and are driven the route in autos.

Memorial wreaths were placed by Gold Star Mothers, those mothers who lost a son or daughter in the military.

An undated clipping from the Springfield newspaper relates a former Memorial Day event that began with "flag drills, poems, songs and a playlet" on Friday afternoon in Deane Memorial Hall. The parade was set for the following day, Saturday, when at 10 a.m. the parade would start "at the foot of Sunset

Rock Hill, proceed to Hill Cemetery and then to the Old Cemetery on Otis Road." The parade disbanded at the town common for the Memorial Day exercises, and "then Mrs. Frank Cook, Gold Star Mother, will place a wreath on the Veterans' Memorial."

That year the guest speaker was Joseph Ellingwood of Athol, and parade participants included the Southwick Color Guard, the American Legion and Auxiliary, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Brownies. The American Legion has always been part of the Memorial Day ceremonies, organized most often by the Legion's commander.

In Recent years, Don Ryan and Doug Emo have organized the event.

Mary Kronholm

The Blandford Bugle
P. O. Box
Blandford, MA 01008

PRSR STD
Blandford, MA
Permit No. 2
ZIP CODE 01008

All Blandford things you need to know

Postal Patron
Blandford, MA 01008



Photo by: *Mary Kronholm*

The Blandford Bugle

Send all communication to: The Blandford Bugle C/O Recreation Committee Blandford Ma,
01008 (Drop in the town box)

Or

Email us at blandfordbugle@hotmail.com

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Contributing Editor: Mary Kronholm

Editorial Board: Mary Kronholm, Cara Letendre, Lynn McCann, Linda Smith