

The Blandford Bugle

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

Vol. 1, Issue 4 Blandford, Massachusetts July 2012 BlandfordBugle@hotmail.com

The Eighteenth Annual Bell Canto Opera Concert

The Blandford Historical Society is pleased to announce the eighteenth Bel Canto Opera performance set for Saturday, July 21, 2012 at The White Church of Blandford.

Once again, this year Eve Queler, Emerita Artistic Director and founder of Opera Orchestra of New York and Douglas Martin, accompanist, will present an outstanding performance for your enjoyment.

Maestro Queler's selected vocalists will sing selections from operas by Wagner, von Weber, Gounod, Donizetti, and Verdi. Some favorites, and as always Maestro Queler will introduce new and exciting voices in the wonderfully intimate venue of The White Church of Blandford.

This program is supported in part by grants from Blandford, Otis, Russell and Worthington, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, at state agency.

Journalism Internship



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

If interested, please contact
caramisslynn@yahoo.com or Cara at 848-2459.

Russell Pond Beach Tags

Summer's here! Get your Russell Pond Beach tags at the Russell Town Hall. They are available, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11-6 and Tuesdays from 12-3. Tags for Blandford residents are \$40 for the first tag and \$10 for each additional household member. Seniors (55 and older) are \$15. Parking passes for fishermen are \$25.

THE REAL GOLFER

TAKEN FROM THE JULY 24, 1936 ISSUE OF
THE BLANDFORD BUGLE

A REAL GOLFER'S THE MAN WHO CAN TAKE
THE KNOCKS,

DOESN'T CUSS THE TREES, THE WIND, OR THE
ROCKS;

DOESN'T BLAME HIS CLUBS, THE TEE, OR THE
BALL;

WHEN THE FAULT IS PLAINLY NOT WITH THEM
AT ALL.

ON ENTERING THE BUNKERS AND TRAPS OF
SIN,

THE REAL GOLFER'S THE MAN WHO DOESN'T
GIVE IN.

IF HE HOOKS, OR SLICES OR TOPS THE BALL,

THE REAL GOLFER'S NEXT SHOT WILL MAKE
UP FOR THEM ALL.

T.S.B.

Welcome Giulia Faith Dowd!



She's here! Beautiful little Giulia Faith Dowd was born on June 21, 2012 at 11:42 p.m. She weighed 7 lbs., 0.8 oz and was 21 inches long. Giulia was welcomed by her loving mother, Kellye Dowd of Russell, her proud maternal grandparents, Jo-Anne and Chris Auclair of Blandford, and her proud uncle, Sean Dowd of Feeding Hills. Giulia's many family and friends in Russell, Westfield, Agawam and Montgomery are looking forward to getting to know her!!



Local Dining

Staci the Chef

(at the Blandford Country Club)

Dinners on Friday nights.

Starting at 5:30 p.m.

Dinners include Salad, Entree, Dessert and Beverage

Open to all members and the public

Special dinner price for club members

Please call Staci at (413) 531-5866 with questions,

Lunch specials or to reserve a table.

The Blandford Country Store

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

PIZZA NOW AVAILABLE!

Full breakfast menu

Hot & Cold Grinders

Soup & Chili

848-2800

Calling all dreamers!



Join us at the Porter Memorial Library's summer reading program. Readers from preschool through grade 4 will celebrate our theme, Dream Big--Read!, with dream related stories, music, crafts and snacks. Summer reading will meet Wednesday mornings at the Porter Memorial Library in Blandford at 10am from **July 11-August 8, 2012**. This is a free program open to any child from any town. Registration begins May 21, 2012. Stop in at the library to pick up a registration form. Forms will also be sent home from school with your children. If you have children visiting during summer vacation this is a wonderful opportunity to do something together and to get them excited about reading.

You may call the library for more information @ **848-2853**

*** The Library is looking for donations of large appliance boxes for the Summer Reading Program. To donate please call Heidi at 848-9040.**

Knitting Group

Meets at the Porter Memorial Library Tuesdays from 2-4. We supply no-pressure instruction for knitters. Sit, relax and enjoy your neighbors. You don't even need to knit! Do you crochet, tat, rug hook, embroider? Join us for conversation and craft.

Contact Pamela at the library 848-2853

Porter Memorial Library

Hours: Monday: 5 - 8 p.m., Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Wednesday: closed. Thursday: 1 - 8 p.m. Friday: 5 - 8 p.m. and Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

When the library is closed you can access the internet via WiFi at the Blandford Country store or anywhere near by, within 1,000 feet. Email: info@blandfordlibrary.org

Help Your Kids Learn Two Life-Long Sports!

The Blandford Club offers weekly Junior Golf/Tennis Program.

Get your kids up and out of the house this summer to enjoy golf and tennis lessons! The Blandford Club offers a unique opportunity for local kids who want to spend a day learning two great sports while having fun with their friends! The private golf club offers an incredible junior golf and tennis program on Tuesday mornings during the summer. Starting on July 10th at 8:30am, kids can enjoy a group golf clinic and then five holes of play. They can eat lunch at the snack bar and then head out for a group tennis lesson. Registration takes place on the first morning, so get there early. Then, pay as you go each week. The golf clinic costs \$4.00 for members and \$8.00 for non-members. Lunch for the children will be \$4.00 and tennis lessons cost \$3.00 per child. We will end the program with a junior golf tournament, pizza and prizes! Watch for more details at www.facebook.com/theblandfordclub.

The Blandford Club is a private golf club which is run primarily by its member volunteers. This program will only be a success with the participation of parents. As in past years, we need each child to be responsible to an adult who stays with them throughout the day. Please call club pro Francis Kringle in the pro shop at (413) 848-2443 with any questions about the program.


The Blandford Club has a rich history of getting kids and families involved in social events and sports. There are several membership options available with leagues played throughout the summer. Junior memberships at The Blandford Club cost just \$100.00! We also have a dual membership offer with the Blandford Ski Area. If you belong to both clubs, you get 10% off each membership. Please call the pro shop if you're interested in joining the club!

BOCCE and HORSESHOES Anyone!




The Council on Aging and the Recreation Committee are interested in "building" a bocce court and a horseshoe pit behind town hall. Volunteers are needed to assist with this project. If interested please contact the Council on Aging or the Recreation Committee. The sooner the better so that we can all play bocce and horseshoes before summer ends!!




Blandford Events Calendar

JULY	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 COA 9-10 a.m. Strength, Flexibility & Balance training	3 COA 1:30-2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	4 Independence Day	5	6 COA 9-10 a.m. Walk With Us COA 1:30 Movie "Glenn Miller Story" Popcorn and beverages	7 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
8	9 COA 9-10 a.m. Strength, Flexibility & Balance training	10 COA 1:30-2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	11 Porter Memorial Library Summer Reading Program 10:00 a.m.	12	13 COA 9-10 a.m. Walk With Us	14 Chamber Music Concert The Beehive Trio White Church 7:30 p.m. Open Seating \$15 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
15	16 COA 9-10 a.m. Strength, Flexibility & Balance training	17 COA 1:30-2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	18 Porter Memorial Library Summer Reading Program 10:00 a.m.	19	20 COA 9-10 a.m. Walk With Us	21 Bel Canto Opera White Church 7:30 p.m. Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival Look Park, Northampton
22	23 COA 9-10 a.m. Strength, Flexibility & Balance training	24 COA 1:30-2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	25 Porter Memorial Library Summer Reading Program 10:00 a.m.	26	27 COA 9-10 a.m. Walk With Us	28 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
29	30 COA 9-10 a.m. Strength, Flexibility & Balance training	31 COA 1:30-2:30 p.m. Zumba Gold Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	 <p>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</p>		<p>Falls Brook Farm 39 Herrick Road Blandford, MA 01008 Fresh Eggs! Pastured raised hens handled with care. Open Wednesday through Sunday 8 am to 7 pm. 413.848.2846 FallsBrookFarm@verizon.net www.FallsBrookFarm.com</p>	

Blandford Events Calendar

AUGUST	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 <p style="text-align: center;"> Mary Mangini - Broker REALTOR Berkshire and Hilltown Specialist (413) 454-2008 Cell (413) 848-2253 Home Mary.Mangini@NEMoves.com Lifelong resident of Western Mass </p>		1 Porter Memorial Library Summer Reading Program 10:00 a.m.	2	3	4 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
	6	7 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	8 Porter Memorial Library Summer Reading Program 10:00 a.m.	9	10	11 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
2	13	14 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	15	16	17	18 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
9	20	21 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	22	23	24	25 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
6	27	28 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	29	30	31 Blandford Fair Opening Day!	

Blandford Events Calendar

SEPTEMBER	2012					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <small>Blandfordanimalhospital.usfvet.org</small> 		 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				1 Blandford Fair Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
2 Blandford Fair	3 Blandford Fair Labor Day	4 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	5 COA Creative Writing Class 2-4:00 p.m COA room			8 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
	10	11 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	12 COA Creative Writing Class 2-4:00 p.m COA room			15 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
	17	18 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	19 COA Creative Writing Class 2-4:00 p.m COA room			22 Otis Farmer's Market 9a.m. - 1:00p.m.
	24	25 Knitting Group Porter Memorial Library 2-4	26 COA Creative Writing Class 2-4:00 p.m COA room			29 Otis Farmer's Market 9-1
						30



Bugle Coloring Contest



Attention kids, Win 2 free passes to the Blandford Fair!
Color in the next page, doing your very best job, and mail it to:
P.O. Box "The Blandford Bugle", Blandford MA 01008

The Blandford Fair *the early years*

The Blandford Fair had its beginnings dating from 1859 when a group of local farmers got together weekly to discuss agricultural issues, seemingly, according to research done by Lynn Anderson, to promote better farming. This was the Farmers' Club.

The topsoil was not very deep – nor is it today – and the location did not offer many level acres of land. Farming was not an easy occupation in Blandford so the information shared not only within the group but from visiting speakers was surely beneficial.

By 1866 the group had decided to seek a state charter and organized under the name the Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society to promote and "encourage Agriculture Horticulture Floriculture Manufactures the Mechanical and Fine Arts."

Stock in the new organization was sold for \$5 a share, entitling a vote; as an aside, women were allowed live membership for \$1 but could not vote until 1922.

Watson Boise sold the land, about ten acres, to the society for \$400 in 1867. The area is pretty much the same today, but was extended sometime later to include the area beyond the judges' stand.

The first fair was held October 9 and 10, 1867. There must have been a great flurry of activity to prepare the grounds for the event. Cattle and horses were shown and the town hall was used for the display of vegetables, fruits and household goods.

The *Springfield Republican* reported, "There were great pumpkins and squashes, plates of potatoes, and apples, a six years old pickle grown in the vial which contained it, seed corn... cranberries... bedquilts, rag carpets, bread, butter, cake and a single cheese made from a single cow..." and more.

The next year the group set up a tent to serve as a hall for displays. Apparently feeling very sure of their

success, the society went on to construct a proper hall for the following year. It was a two-story building; the second floor was the hall, and the first floor was a dining hall – large enough for 200 people.

The state required that the hall be used throughout the year, mandating at least three "institutes" held and for a long time, the hall was the only place in town that could accommodate large crowds. The hall was used for dances, town meetings, roller skating, the Fox Club dinners and other events.

Over the next several years, the track was spruced up and more buildings added and in 1891 more land was purchased to accommodate a half-mile race track.

The fair was held in the fall and the dates varied throughout September and October. It was not until 1927 that the fair came to be held on Labor Day, by 1945 the fair included Sunday of Labor Day weekend with the hall for exhibits and the outbuildings for the animals. The number of days the fair was held bounced about quite a bit, from two days to three days, and then back to two days, and now it is four days.

Trevor Judd, in his *Yarns of a Yankee Youth, Stories of My Childhood*, tells of turning the cranks to operate organ for the merry-go-round music for a free ride. He recalled the most popular concession was Ben

Smithies' Oyster Tent, where the "inlanders could eat their fill of fine stew with lots of butter and plenty of crackers for \$.25."

He had fond memories of the high-rise bike rider who disassembled the bike as he rode, finishing with what must have been a most unusual unicycle – the large front wheel! Judd said, "There are, today, hundreds of trick riders who spin around on a little wheel with or without a seat attached, but he was the only trick artist I have ever seen who started on a complete bicycle and dismantled it while riding."

Judd was born in Chester but spent most of his life in North Blandford.

This year is the fair's 145th year. It will be a time for reuniting friends and families as those who grew up and grew away return to celebrate a favorite Labor Day event.

Mary Kronholm



The midway today



There were great pumpkins and squashes, plates of potatoes, and apples, a six years old pickle grown in the vial which contained it, seed corn... cranberries... bedquilts, rag carpets, bread, butter, cake and a single cheese made from a single cow..." and more.

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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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