

Country Journal



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*Even a clock that is not going
is right twice a day.
— Polish Proverb*

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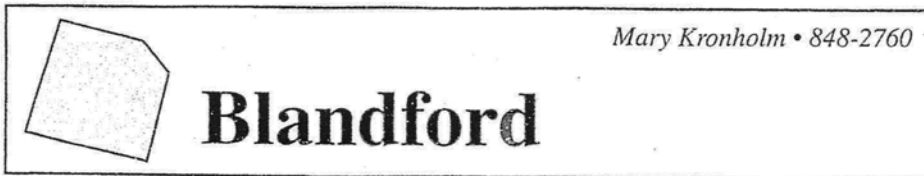
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2009

50 CENTS

page 10

Country Journal • Thursday, October 8, 2009



Fire Department donates outdated gear to firefighters in Latin America

BLANDFORD – In recognition of the needs of firefighters in Latin America, and as part of a state-wide campaign to collect outdated fire gear then to donate it where it can continue to serve in the best traditions of the Blandford and American fire service, Chief Michael Roche is donating 12 sets of turnout gear (firefighter coats, pants, boots, etc.) to the 911 FUND.

Created in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, the 911 FUND was conceived by former members of the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY).

Ever since 9/11, the 911 FUND has worked to collect, then donate, outdated fire trucks, ambulances and related equipment, along with appropriate training, as part of a continuing effort to build pre-

paredness, reduce risk, enhance civilian safety, and minimize property loss from fire and other types of disasters.

The gear being donated by Blandford is being given to rural fire departments in Latin America where it could literally mean the difference between life and death for firefighters and the civilian population who they protect.

Additional information about the Blandford Fire Department can be obtained by contacting Chief Roche at 848-2874, or via e-mail at blandfordfd@hotmail.com.

Additional information about the 911 FUND can be found on their website at www.911fund.org, via e-mail at info@911fund.org, or by calling (914)-479-8800.

Fire Department news

BLANDFORD – The Fire Department will be holding a Live Fire drill on Saturday, Oct. 17 from approximately 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The purpose of this drill is to train firefighters on interior and exterior fire fighting operations. They will use a donated structure inside which they will light a series of fires. Then crews will enter the building and extinguish the blaze. This will be repeated until the building has surpassed a safe point for crews to enter. Then the building will be allowed to burn down under

the fire departments control. This is the best possible training we as firefighters can receive.

In other news, the department's new turnout gear has arrived. This personal protective equipment (PPE) has the newest technological advancements available. Its lightweight, form fitting, and allows the highest level of protection for firefighters without being cumbersome. This allows for less stress on the user. The department's old turnout gear has been donated to 9/11 Fund.org.