



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

January 19, 2012

Former Teacher at BHCS Chosen for PolarTREC and She Invites BHCS to Join Her

“Nell Herrmann is a Learning Enrichment and Gifted Support Specialist at State College Area High School in State College, Pennsylvania. She is the coach of several academic quiz teams at State High including both the National Ocean Sciences Bowl and the Department of Energy National Science Bowl teams. **Prior to her current job, she was a middle school science teacher in Blue Hill, Maine** and in State College, Pennsylvania. Ms. Herrmann holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Ecology and Conservation Biology, along with a second Master's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. She has been involved in conservation research at many organizations including the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in Gothic, Colorado; the Hato Pinero Research Facility in Venezuela; Asociacion ANAI in Costa Rica; and the Kangerlussuaq International Science Station in Greenland. **Ms. Herrmann has also worked as a boat naturalist for the Marine Environmental Research Institute (MERI) in Blue Hill, Maine. In her role there, she led trips on lobster boats for children and adults, educating the general public about ecological and conservation issues affecting both the Blue Hill Bay and the Gulf of Maine.** Ms. Herrmann loves sharing her appreciation of nature with others and is thrilled about her opportunity to be a PolarTREC (Teachers and Researchers Exploring and Collaborating) teacher.

What are they doing? This project studies the effects of rising ocean acidification and temperatures on seafloor dwelling animals in the shallow waters of Antarctica. Carbon moves around the earth, between land, atmosphere, and water in the carbon cycle. The ocean absorbs Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) from the Earth's atmosphere. As increasing amounts of Carbon Dioxide are absorbed, the pH of the water is decreasing or becoming more acidic. This is called ocean acidification.” –from *PolarTREC* Website

We are proud to say that Nell is one of 12 teachers chosen nationally for this incredible experience. Our kids in grades 1 and 2 are ready to follow her through Skype, and others are invited, too. You can follow her at home at

<http://www.polartrec.com/expeditions/seafloor-organisms-and-changing-ocean-conditions-in-antarctic>.

5-8 Rec Night!

This Friday, Jan. 20, from 7-9 PM, BHCS students in grades 5-8 are invited to the second BHCS Rec Night! There will be board games in the library, Dance Dance Revolution and snacks in the cafeteria, and a ball game (of sorts!) in the gym. Join Mr. Baxter, Mr. Jurick, Mrs. Lew and Mr. Snow, and a crew of parent chaperones for a fun evening! Parents, snack donations and chaperone help are still welcome. Contact Denise Black if you can help (bluehillkarate@gmail.com; 266-4902). Sponsored by the 5210 Committee.

PTF News

- There is some extra Bobcat spirit wear available for sale. Check the PTF link on the website next week for a list of available items and sizes. Thank you for your patience as we're finishing up the last of the orders, and thanks to Franklin and Beth Burke at Custom Cottons for being so great to work with!
- Don't forget the Go Local discount cards -- the word is getting out about what a great deal they are and how they can be used over and over again throughout 2012.

From the Library

Thanks to Mrs. Larkin for using her long weekend to clean out book shelves, and bring in already been loved books for our next RIF Day (March 2 -- Dr. Seuss's birthday).

Annual Seed Sale

Order forms are coming home this week for the annual seed sale. Proceeds from the sale benefit the greenhouse and Garden Club, whose members decorated the order forms at yesterday's Garden Club meeting.

The Simmering Pot

A Community Created Supper, Mondays 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM at First Congregational Church of Blue Hill. Eat in or take out. No charge, donation accepted. In case of winter storms, follow school closing schedule. For info, call 374-2891.

Della L. Martin, Principal • Loretta Smith, Secretary • Beth Jackson, Librarian • Matt Jurick, Technology Specialist

Telephone: (207) 374-2202 • Fax: (207) 374-2919 • www.bhcs.org

PEE WEE Basketball

D.I.S. (2) @ Penobscot
Blue Hill @ B.E.S. White
B.E.S. Red @ Sedgwick
D.I.S. (1) BYE

**Fundraiser for David Wheeler Saturday,
January 21 at the Bucksport High School Gym.**

An invitation to come out and help support David during this trying time while he battles colon cancer.

Ages 10 and under from 3-5 PM.

Middle School and Up from 5 – 9 PM.

Food and drinks. G-Force Laser Tag, Bounce House and More!

\$10 for 2 hours or \$15 for unlimited time.

For information call Gretchen at 326-0803 or visit www.G-forceLaserTag.com.

Dates to Remember

Fri., Jan. 20	Spelling Bee, 8:15 AM
	Rec Night, BHCS grades 5-8, 5-9 PM
Wed., Jan 25	Jumprope for Heart, 1 PM