



# EXPLORATIONS

## Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

January 23, 2014

### **BHCS Science Teacher Receives National Recognition**

Nell Herrmann has very recently been selected as one of 25 teachers in the United States to be a Nautilus Explorer STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Communication Fellow. She had to apply and submit recommendation letters and essays, then go through an interview process.

This program is run by Bob Ballard, the man who discovered the Titanic! She will be working alongside some of the world's most prominent marine archaeologists and marine biologists as part of the Fellowship. They will be using Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV's) to study shipwrecks and deep-sea organisms.

Nell's role is as a STEAM Communication Fellow, which means she will be aboard Ballard's ship, the Exploration Vessel (E/V) Nautilus, and she will play a key role in sharing the expedition experience with diverse and geographically dispersed audiences, including all the kids at BHCS. When back onshore, she will play the role of bringing the experience back to her students and the local community during the yearlong Fellowship.

Nell will attend a Science Communication Workshop from March 10-13 at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography and will be aboard the *Nautilus* for three weeks during the 2014 season that will include exploration of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.

As part of the honor, all of her expenses are paid, including transportation, lodging, meals and the cost of a substitute teacher at BHCS. Congratulations, Nell, and we can't wait to share in your experiences, both remotely and at home.

### **Band Boosters Club Needed**

With budgets being as tight as they are these days, one idea that has come up to help out financially is the possibility of having a booster club for band. We have a State winning jazz

band, and this is due to the untiring efforts of Bill Schubeck, the musicians, and their parents during the jazz band season. About 100 kids from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade are now involved in band and the jazz competitions in some way or another, and while we have a pretty generous amount in the budget we certainly could use more financial support.

\*\*Mr. Schubeck would do this himself, but he is out straight with his efforts to produce the award winning competitors, so we need to find someone who is committed to the band program who might organize the Band Booster Club. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Schubeck or myself. I'm sure there will be many parents to help to carry this out in a concerted (pun not intended) effort, but we need an organizer. It would be a great service to BHCS.

~Mrs. Martin

### **Chess Champions**

Nine BHCS students participated in Monday's MLK Individual Tournament hosted by Stillwater Montessori in Old Town. BHCS students took first, second and third place in the K-6 nonrated division! Cole Stewart took the first place medal; Kai Diel, Ross Stewart and a player from another school shared second place; and Sam Parrott won third place. Pretty cool for the BHCS players to win first, second and third! Congratulations to all players!

### **Recent BEEM Grants**

We are so fortunate to have the help of BEEM (Blue Hill Educational Enrichment Monies) to carry out exciting plans! Here's a list of the most recent grants:

**Acadian Celebration** – Bob McCormick - \$700

**Polar Ambassadors** – Nell Herrmann - \$500

**Zoo Team** – Nell Herrmann - \$700

**3-D Scanner** – Matt Jurick - \$1,590

**Chess Team** – Maryanne Lewandowski - \$850

**Book Flix** – Beth Jackson - \$759

### **CONCERT TICKETS FREE RAFFLE!**

Thanks to the Blue Hill Concert Association, we have tickets for the upcoming shows in their

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

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concert series to raffle off at the PTF Potluck and Variety Show on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> (you do not need to be present to win). The free tickets are for adults because children under 18 are always free. Concerts feature Brazilian Guitar Quartet (February 2), Fortin & Latour - Piano Four Hands (March 9), and Joseph Puglia - Violin (March 30). The free raffle tickets will be available for each individual concert in the office during the week of January 27<sup>th</sup> and at the Variety Show where the drawing will take place. For more information please visit [www.bluehillconcertassociation.org](http://www.bluehillconcertassociation.org).

*Thank you and good luck!*

### **BHCS Library**

Thanks to the Gellerson, Larkin and Grindle families for recent "already been loved" donations, and to Laurie Friend for The Pocket Guide to the Outdoors by Jean Craighead George.

### **PTF News**

Bedtime story hour is this Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Join us as we gather for milk and cookies and hear some favorite books from our celebrity readers. Please bring a dozen of your favorite cookies to share. We will provide the milk. Pajamas, pillows and stuffed animals are welcome! Contact Heather Nelson or Tracy Gandy if you have any questions.

*"Just the other day I needed some new snow boots. I used the online marketplace on the Boxtops for Education website. The portal sent me to an online shoe store. Now I have cozy, dry feet and I earned 67 eBoxTops® for our school!"*  
*- real life testimonial from a BHCS parent.*

If you are an online shopper, please consider using the Box Tops for Education portal at <https://www.boxtops4education.com/marketplace>. You will need to set up an online profile and designate Blue Hill Consolidated Elementary School to receive the eBoxTops®. The Box Top Marketplace is a collection of over 400 online stores that have teamed up with Box Tops. You'll earn eBoxTops® with every qualified purchase at no additional cost to you.

If you have a Target RED card, don't forget to designate BHCS as your school of choice. It is another easy way to donate to your school.

The PTF section of the school website is being updated on a regular basis. Check it out to

find the latest meeting minutes and upcoming events. You can also "like" us on Facebook and get information that way. We are really trying to use as many different modes of communication as possible to keep you involved. It is your support that makes all of our activities possible. ~~Thank You!

### **Blue Hill Public Library**

"The "Reader Dog" program, is coming back to the Blue Hill Public Library-- with Gracie- - Tuesdays starting February 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:10 to 5:10 PM. Reader Dog will be every week through April 1<sup>st</sup>, except for February 18<sup>th</sup>, which is during winter break for the local schools. Gracie is a registered therapy dog who enjoys listening to children read. The children read in a relaxed and nonjudgmental environment so that they may gain self-confidence. This is not a drop-in program—children may sign up for 20-minute slots ahead of time with Pat. For more information or to sign up, call Pat at 374-5515.

### **Jump Rope For Heart Health Fundraiser**

The collection envelopes for the Jump Rope for Heart Health Fundraising Campaign are coming home today with all the students at BHCS. Please take a few minutes to read the attached instruction sheet from Mrs. Candage. This will provide specific safety precautions to keep in mind regarding fundraising. The deadline for returning the envelopes and contributions is Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, but you may return the envelopes at any time. We are striving to have 100 percent of the school community participate in this campaign, as this is a wonderful way for BHCS kids and the community to help others. Again, thanks very much for your support and any contributions. Please contact Mrs. Candage or Mr. McCormick with any questions.

### **Dates to Remember**

Fri., Jan 24	Bedtime Story Hour, Friday, 6:30 PM
Fri., Jan. 31	BHCS Variety Show PTF Potluck at 5:30 PM Show at 6:00 PM, café
Wed., Feb. 12	School Board, 5PM
Thurs., Feb. 13	PTF, 2:45 PM
Feb. 17-21	February Vacation
Wed., Feb. 26	District Jazz Fest, Orrington, afternoon and evening
Sat., March 22	State Jazz Fest, Westbrook