



# Explorations

Blue Hill Consolidated School

April 13, 2017

## Neuroscience Conference



The First Annual Neuroscience Inquiry Conference was held at BHCS on April 11. This project for eighth graders modeled the actual practices used by scientists, who come together with their peers to present research in a formal conference setting. Students participated as active scientific colleagues by questioning one another's research, methods, and data. The day began with a keynote address by Dr. Kathy Snow, a scientist at the Jackson Lab, and then moved into breakout sessions where students presented their findings to sixth and seventh graders and each other. It was a huge success! Great job, Eighth Graders and Teachers!!

## Voice 2 Voice Poetry Declamation

Our seventh and eighth graders have been participating in an exciting project with the Stonington Opera House called Voice 2 Voice. Over the past few months, Opera House teaching artists have been visiting these classes to work with students on using the performing arts to understand, analyze, and present poetry. Students declaimed their poetry in homerooms and were judged by an Opera House artist. From there, the top nine performers declaimed their poetry in front of the sixth through eighth grade



Gahl Falkner, Max Rhine, and Gabe Hall.  
Not pictured, Emma Brown.

in an assembly in the cafeteria. During that performance we were blown away by the meaningful poetry selection, memorization, and poise of these students! The judges narrowed the field to four: Emma Brown, Gahl Falkner, Max Rhine, and Gabe Hall. They performed at the Stonington Opera House last Friday with other top performers from Brooklin, Sedgwick, and Deer Isle. Great job!

## Town Meeting Update

As I mentioned several weeks ago, the school board brought to the Town Meeting the 2017-2018 proposed budget and a proposal for a renovation project for our school. I'm so pleased to report that both the budget and the renovation project passed unanimously! A huge thank you to our school board and superintendent for all of the hard work they have

put into the budgeting process and the details of this renovation project. More on the renovation process to come!

Also during Town Meeting, I spoke to the attendees about our school. We know that the school budget is a large portion of the money the Town of Blue Hill spends, so I wanted to share some information about the kind of education that we are providing the children of Blue Hill. Instead of trying to cram that into a newsletter, I decided to attach my "speech" (slightly edited, but not perfect!) for those of you who are interested. There is also a more formal written report that is printed in the Town Report.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. I am proud of our school, and I hope you are, too. Some of the best things about our school are things that I can't even share with you because they are about individual student successes, but you should know that we have a staff here that not only cares about academic success, but truly cares about each one of the students in the building. We try really hard not to let kids fall through the cracks. By all working together, we are continuing to build on the tradition of BHCS.

Warmly,  
Shelly

---

### **Falls Bridge Closed**

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after vacation, the Blue Hill Falls Bridge will be closed for repairs. The work will be done from 8am to 4pm. The school bus will be able to complete the morning run as usual but will not be able to go down Falls Bridge Road in the afternoon. Thursday and Friday it will be open for one-lane traffic.

---

### **Chess Team Bake Sale**

The chess team will be having an Easter Bake Sale on Saturday, April 15 from 9 am - 12 pm at Tradewinds. Let us help you with your Easter dinner with pies, rolls, and desserts!

#### **Dates to Remember**

April 13	School Play, 7 pm
April 14	Dance in Brooksville 6-9pm
April 14 - 21	No School, Spring Break

### **Spray Notification**

Now that we have some warmer weather, wasps have begun to join us around the building! Over vacation, on Monday, April 17, Orkin will be coming in to spray in and around the building. Since they are using pesticides we wanted to notify you that you may not want to come play on the playground Monday or Tuesday of April break.

---

### **Screen Free Week**

BHCS will be celebrating Screen-Free Week May 1-4. This is a great opportunity to reflect on how often we all use electronic devices in our daily lives. To encourage everyone to unplug, we will be hosting some special after school activities. There is a yellow sign up sheet that was sent home today that outlines the opportunities. Please contact Heather Nelson if you have any questions.



---

## HOP! Trail Run & Egg Hunt- April 15<sup>th</sup>, Blue Hill Town Park

<http://bluehillheritagetrust.org/2017/hop-trail-run-egg-hunt/>

The Blue Hill Heritage Trust, Blue Hill YMCA and Blue Hill Peninsula Community Compass are teaming up to host the **2nd Annual HOP! Trail Run & Egg Hunt** Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Blue Hill Town Park.

Registration for the race/hike opens at **8:15am** on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the race will begin at **9am**. Suggested donation for the race is \$5. T-shirts for the first 50 to register. As runners finish they can draw an "Egg" for a chance to win a great prize!

The egg hunt is open to **children 12 and under** and will begin at **10am PROMPT**. **Children under 5 will get a head start.**

Light refreshments will be available to all!

---

Beginning Monday April 24, First Congregational Church of Blue Hill UCC is hosting an after school program meeting Monday afternoons for children in grades 6-8, Your Money, Your Values. A values-based program in financial literacy, the program will help kids navigate a world of constant advertising and competition. The afternoon begins with snack and drop-off from 2:45 to 3:15 pm, followed by class time from 3:15 TO 4:15 PM. For more information and to sign up for Your Money, Your Values, please call Wendy Ritger, 374-2891 or email [info@bluehillcongregational.org](mailto:info@bluehillcongregational.org).

---

### BHPL Programs

52 Weeks of Giving's April project is the Blue Hill Cares Community Cleanup! We will meet at BHPL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Gloves, visibility vests, bags, and light refreshments will be provided. Let's keep our community clean and shiny!

This month our Inklings Book & Movie Club will be reading "The Capture" by Kathryn Lasky and watching the movie based on the book series "Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'hoole". Please join us April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM for the movie, snacks, prizes and an amazing craft!

Community articles submitted by the Blue Hill community are posted as-is. Those interested in submitting community news for the newsletter may contact Tracy Gandy ([tgandy@bhcs.org](mailto:tgandy@bhcs.org)). Views/opinions expressed in this section are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official school positions or policies.