



EXPLORATIONS

Blue Hill Consolidated School

60 High Street • Blue Hill, Maine 04614

October 24, 2013

“Unfortunately, many Americans live on the outskirts of hope – some because of their poverty, and some because of their color, and all too many because of both. Our task is to help replace despair with opportunity. This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America.”
~~President Lyndon Johnson (State of the Union Address, 1964).

This quote by President Johnson is also found in Donna Beegle’s book, *See Poverty...Be the Difference*. President Johnson’s *War on Poverty* resulted in such programs as Head Start, Medicare and Medicaid, work-study for college students, and food stamps, to name a few. And, as mentioned in an NPR report in 2004, “the programs initiated under Johnson brought about real results, reduced rates of poverty and improved living standards for America’s poor.” Today, however, the plight of poverty is again very real, more aggressive than ever, and it’s going to take some very real actions to alleviate it for the good of our society. Poverty impacts all of us in some way, whether it’s our schools, neighborhoods, our economy, or our social culture.

Donna Beegle was the speaker at Healthy Peninsula’s conference on poverty last Saturday. There were about 185 area folks in attendance, including BHCS teachers, ed techs, and staff. While the day’s focus was on facing the realities of poverty in the United States (and Blue Hill), there was a glimmer of hope because of the huge turnout of people who are truly concerned about helping those in need. There are many people of all walks of life on our Peninsula who are anxious to make a difference. Raising awareness is a start, but action plans should follow. One of the ways that you can help is to develop caring relationships with neighbors who need assistance. No one wants to live in poverty, but sometimes people do not have the prerequisite skills to effect change. We may erroneously assume that they do, but within the culture that they are living, they may simply

not know what the possibilities are. At school, we teach kids to be kind and giving to each other, but adults in our communities are the very best models for them. I’ll end with another quote from Donna’s book; it’s from a dear old friend, Mr. Rogers.

“As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has – or will ever have -- something inside that is unique to all time. It’s our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression.” ~~Fred Rogers

Maynard Moose was here!

We had a real treat this week with a visit from former Blue Hill resident Willy Claflin. An educator, musician, award-winning storyteller and author, he entertained our 5-8 and K-4 students with stories, songs and puppets Maynard and Gorf. It was a great way to close the NECAP testing window, and everyone left smiling! Some of us remember his show here 20 years ago in the then "new" library.

If you would like to order autographed copies of Willy's books (w/CD) -- [The Uglified Ducky](#), [Rapunzel and the Seven Dwarfs](#), or [Bully Goat Grim](#), or his double CD of Maynard Moose stories from the National Storytelling Festival, an order form is attached to this newsletter. Please return the order forms by Friday, November 1; the books should be here by mid November.

Library

*We will be closing up the book fair first thing Friday morning, but if there was something you wanted to get but didn't, it isn't too late! Click on the Book Fair link at the top of the BHCS webpage, and you can shop online until November 5. The books will be delivered to the school, and the library will benefit from the purchases. It is a nice way for relatives to shop; students can create a wish list and send it out.

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

Original Works Orders

The orders are being packed up and will be shipped out Monday morning. Get any last minute orders to school by 8 AM Monday to be included in the order.

Reach for the Stars Parade!

BHCS students will parade through town on October 31 with some of the masks and banners that students have made in classes related to "REACH FOR THE STARS" and other curricular themes. The jazz band and Planet Pan will provide us with festive music. We will be leaving the school at 1:30 PM. Come out to cheer us on that Halloween day.

UNICEF

For the fifth year, we are taking part in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. Next week your child will bring home the "trick-or-treat" box, so thank you in advance for helping children all over the world.

Sports News

Both the soccer teams and the cross-country runners did very well this season!

**At the final X-C Coastal Championship meet, our girls placed 4th overall, winning a beautiful trophy. The boys placed 5th overall.

Congratulations runners, and thanks, Coach Kim Williamson.

**The Peninsula soccer team won 75% of their games.... congratulations! And, the soccer Clinic team had a total of 22 players this year. Thank you, Mr. Baxter, for coaching both of these teams.

**The Coastal soccer team won yesterday's play-off game with Trenton, and now they advance to the Coastal League Championship at MDI on Friday. Best of luck to this amazing team, and thank you, Mike Astbury, for being our coach!

RESULTS Basketball with Mr. Baxter

Saturday, November 9th, at GSA. ((9 AM-1 PM)

Girls and boys in grades 3-8 may participate. \$30 per student and family discounts will be offered.

For information: mbaxter@bhcs.org

At the Public Library...

*This Friday October 25th Technology teacher Matt Jurick will test his spelling abilities against other peninsula personalities in a Celebrity Spelling Bee to benefit the Blue Hill Public Library. The event will take place at the Bay School's Emlen Hall with musical accompaniment by Paul Sullivan. Former BHCS principal and teacher, Fred Cole, will be the Bee Master and the director of Cookie Court, Shelley Latham, is the MC. Refreshments start at 6:30 PM, the Bee starts promptly at 7:00 PM. Kids 12 and under are free, \$5 – students, \$10 – Adults (includes 1 glass wine).

*Local author Kelly Cunnane will share her new picture book Deep in the Sahara this Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 AM. All ages welcome! Books will be available for purchase and signing. There will be regional snacks and artifacts to enjoy.

YOGA is Coming to BHCS

BHCS is proud to announce a new after school YOGA PROGRAM! This will be taught by Rebecca Rose Tousigant, Certified Yoga Instructor, who specializes in teaching yoga to children. Yoga is an amazing tool for teaching children body and breath awareness, stress reduction, and working through emotions and feelings in a positive way. This class is fun and playful, and geared especially towards children.

This program will run in a 6 week session starting in November. Cost for the program is \$42 for the 6 weeks. It will run after school on Mondays, November 4, 11, 18, and 25 and December 2 and 9. Yoga will be held from 3-4 PM in the library. Students are asked to bring a light snack to have before class. Scholarships are available for students in need who are interested in attending.

To register for this very special program or for more information, email Rebecca Rose at vitalevolutionyoga@gmail.com or call at 207-991-1255.

Wade Dow – Christmas is For Kids

Wade Dow raises money each year to buy warm winter clothes for children in the area. There is a dinner and music evening on Saturday, November 9th at the Sedgwick School to raise money for this important event.

Dates to Remember

Fri., Oct. 25	No school for students
Thurs., Oct. 31	Reach for the Stars PARADE through downtown, starting at 1:30 PM at the school
Fri., Nov. 1	6 th Grade Survival Day
Sat., Nov. 2	7th Grade Band to Honors Festival
Sun., Nov. 3	Daylight Saving Time, turn clocks BACK an hour
Mon., Nov. 4	8th Grade Jazzband plays at Parker Ridge
Tues., Nov. 5	Election Day
Mon., Nov. 11	Veterans' Day, NO SCHOOL
Wed., Nov 13	School Board, 5 PM
Thurs., Nov. 14	PTF Mtg., 2:45 PM
Tues., Nov. 21	8th Grade Jazzband plays at Parker Ridge
Nov. 27-29	THANKSGIVING BREAK, last student day is Tues., Nov. 26

**Trick or Treat at Parker Ridge
Kindergarten – Third Graders**
***You are invited to come to
Parker Ridge Retirement Community
for Treats!
4:00 – 6:00 PM
Thursday, October 31st***

Attachments: Willy Claflin order form