

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: The John & Helen Villaume Foundation

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William Gibney receives the Helen Villaume Education Enrichment Grant

The Board of The John and Helen Villaume Foundation has announced the selection of one of the recipients of the 2016 Helen Villaume Education Enrichment Grant Award.

Mr. William Gibney, a Physics Teacher and Chair of the Science Department at Honesdale High School, received an award of \$5,000.00 from Villaume Foundation board members Rev. William Samford and Lewis J. Critelli. Mr. Gibney will use this grant for an 8 day program titled "Lords of the Arctic - The Ecology of Hudson Bay's Polar Bears" at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre in Manitoba, Canada. While there, Mr. Gibney will be able to study polar bears in their natural habitat and see first-hand the effects of climate change. Mr. Gibney will also be attending lectures on polar bears, tundra plants and wildlife, polar bear research and conservation, Native Eskimo culture and the impact of global climate change. From this, classroom lessons about energy and global climate change, including photograph presentations, interviews and ecosystem information relating to the polar bears of Churchill, will be developed.

The John and Helen Villaume Foundation established grants to provide Wayne County teachers with a unique opportunity to enhance, expand or experiment in their areas of certification, thereby enriching and improving the achievement of their students.

The John and Helen Villaume Foundation, established by Honesdale natives John and Helen Villaume, is dedicated to benefit charitable, religious, scientific, literary and educational programs within Wayne County. Since its inception, the Foundation has made awards totaling over \$1,000,000.00 with Wayne Bank managing the account in the Wealth Management and Trust Services Division of Wayne Bank.

Additional information about the Foundation and grant applications may be obtained from: The John and Helen Villaume Foundation, c/o Wayne Bank Wealth Management and Trust Department, 717 Main Street, Honesdale, PA 18431; by phone: 570-253-8507; or email: trust@waynebank.com.

PHOTO CAPTION-LEFT TO RIGHT: Rev. William Samford, Villaume Foundation Board Member, William Gibney, Physics Teacher and Chair of the Science Department at Honesdale High School and Lewis J. Critelli, Villaume Foundation Board Member.

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