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1-8-2015

January 8, 2015: 29 Nome, Alaska—11 Pittsburgh

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Title: 29 Nome, Alaska—11 Pittsburgh

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1/8/2015—It's been very cold in Pittsburgh the last few days. And it was very cold last winter. How then can 2014 have possibly been the warmest ever? I noticed a pattern last year that has held up this winter. When it is cold—not record breaking, but cold—in Pittsburgh, it is unseasonably warm in Nome, Alaska. And vice versa. When it is warm in Pittsburgh during the winter, it is seasonable in Nome. This suggests to me that there is not as much cold air to go around in the Northern Hemisphere as there used to be. And the warmth in Nome dwarfs the cold in Pittsburgh. Right this minute, around 7 p.m. local time, it is 29 degrees in Nome—16 degrees above normal. In Pittsburgh, it is 11 degrees below normal. This has been the pattern. Pittsburgh is not setting records, but Nome is close to doing so. Pittsburgh will warm up. Nome will get colder. But the trend is unmistakable. People still doubt global warming. George Will just wrote a column about it—a weird one about how other factors warm and cool the climate, as if anyone ever doubted that. But even as they deny, the climate keeps warming.