

Making G.A.I.N.S. for ALL BHS Graduates



Spring/Summer 2024

Ballard High School Foundation



Volume 37, No. 1



**Celebrating
Golden Beaver
& Hughbanks
Scholars**

**Congrats
Ballard Class
of 2024!**

More Opportunities for ALL Beavers

Opportunities. Whether it was shooting around as a junior high kid with varsity Beaver basketball players or buckling down academically, once in high school, to earn a coveted scholarship to the University of Washington, I've taken advantage of many throughout my years. *(Read more about my inspiration in my "Final Word" on page 24.)*



This edition of "The Log" shines a spotlight on the opportunities ahead for the Class of 2024. It also focuses on G.A.I.N.S. mentors who have helped at-risk students get on their way toward a successful high school experience and life post graduation.

I'm "dam" proud of our efforts on behalf of students with regard to the Golden Beaver Scholarship, emboldened by the incredible gift of our Foundation Co-Founder C. David Highbanks '54, and our efforts on behalf of at-risk students through our G.A.I.N.S. program.

You'll be able to read about both in this edition of "The Log", along with information on class reunions, school updates, and how the Foundation works to positively impact the educational experience of ALL Ballard students.

Please consider supporting even more opportunities for Beaver students and graduates, using the envelope insert in the center of "The Log" or on our website at ballardhighschoolfoundation.org. Thank you for your caring commitment to Ballard High School.

~ Dick Lee '61, Executive Director and Co-Founder
Ballard High School Foundation

Thank You Gordie Nygard '69

Special thank you to Gordie Nygard '69 who is stepping down from his role on the Board of Directors.



As Finance Chair, Gordie will still be providing his expertise to oversee the Foundation's significant holdings.

We wish him and his wife, Mary, well. We also are touched by the first year of their "Legacy" Scholarship honoring their son Tim Nygard '01. *(See pages 8-10.)*

Captain Ballard Honoree



At the annual Foundation Board meeting Gloria Kruzner was awarded with the Captain Ballard Award for years of service on the PTSA Board, as President and Newsletter Editor. She's pictured with her Beavers, Charles '24 (left) and Drew '22. The Captain William R. Ballard Award is a prestigious recognition given by the Ballard High School Foundation. The award honors exceptional contributions by individuals or businesses to Ballard High School.

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THE LOG SPRING/SUMMER 2024 |
VOL. 37, NO. 1

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 17626
Seattle, WA 98127
ballardhighschoolfoundation.org

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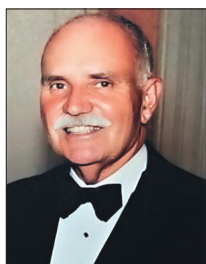
Charlie See '53

The Impact of a New, Life-Changing Scholarship

By Abby Berkule
TALISMAN REPORTER

*Abridged from a February 1, 2024
Talisman article.*

College-oriented Ballard seniors are presented with an opportunity of a lifetime. Scholarship funds graciously given by the late C. David Hugbanks, continue his legacy through generous contributions to the Ballard community.



Hugbanks, a 1954 Ballard alumni, passed away on July 18, 2023, leaving behind his estate in the hands of the Ballard High School Foundation. Located in Sunset Hill, the estate is valued at around \$5 million, all of which will be awarded between Ballard High School and the Seattle Public Schools Scholarship Trust, all in the form of scholarships.

"This could be a significant game changer for a student depending on what their post secondary considerations are," Principal Abby Hunt said. Working closely with the foundation and family members of Hugbanks, she provides valuable insight.

Graduating BHS seniors will have access to \$150 thousand yearly for the next 10 years with around 15 scholarships available per graduating class. This is in addition to the \$40 thousand raised yearly from the Golden Beaver Scholarships. The exact number going to each student has yet to be determined.

"All of this is happening fairly quickly when you consider this much money," Hunt said.

Though all are welcome to apply, students in need of financial support are prioritized. Along with this, scholarships will only be allocated to seniors going onto secondary schooling within Washington State.

"He (Hugbanks) thought that there were so many opportunities and resources close to home that he wanted folks to stay and continue to contribute to the Ballard community," Hunt said.

Hugbanks was one of the co-founders of the Ballard High School Foundation, along with Dick Lee, his close friend and current executive director of the Foundation, and former BHS principal Chuck Chinn.

"He wanted to make sure that funds would go to young people who were needing some support," Lee said.

Lee shares yet another impactful goal for the scholarship money.

"One thing we're going to try and do with these scholarships is to not just have one time grants, but to be able to follow someone through their college experience," Lee said.

Since so many scholarships only cover first year's costs, this is a great advantage for seniors and their college expenses further down the road.

"We want the ability to give 10 scholarships, if possible, for young people that want to go onto more vocational or tech ed career paths," Lee said.



Callum Martinson/Talisman

Dick Lee '61 met with Talisman reporters to share details about the new Hugbanks Family Scholarships.

Hugbanks especially admired less sought after career paths and aimed to cultivate their growth.

When asked about his personal reaction towards his friend's significant donation, Lee reports being overwhelmed, but not quite surprised.

The Hugbanks Scholarships impact will be felt and life changing for the recipients.

As someone who went to BHS himself, Lee expresses his appreciation and encouragement of giving back to the community.

The Hugbanks Scholarship will no doubt achieve its goal of positively

motivating Ballard High School seniors' continuation of post-secondary schooling.

The loss of C. David Hugbanks will be felt within the Seattle community but his memory lives on with his lasting influence on the lives of many.

This (scholarship) could be a significant game changer for a student

depending on what their post secondary considerations are.

~ Abby Hunt,
Ballard High School
Principal

Thank you, Mason '68 & Linda Williams '67

By Gloria Kruzner

THE LOG EDITOR

Longtime Ballard High School Foundation supporters Mason Williams '68 and Linda (Varon) Williams '67 first met in science class.

"Well, we had a chemistry class together," Mason said. "So, I knew Linda. We never did anything except say 'Hello,' but that was about it."

It finally took a sunny Golden Gardens meetup in May of 1967 to find their chemistry.

"One late afternoon, we kind of met through a mutual friend and then we started dating about a week later," he said. Five years later, the couple were married in 1972.

The Williams were kind enough to share some of their sunshine time from their home in Palm Desert, CA, and why they've been so generous with their support of Ballard High School Foundation.

Mason has fond memories of Ballard High School, taking a lot of science and math classes, and playing football for three years and baseball for one year. While high schools didn't have competitive athletics options for young women before Title IX, Linda grew up a skier.

"I still ski a little bit with my grandkids," she said. "So that's pretty exciting."



The Williams family gather over the holidays. That's Linda and Mason on the back right; son Bob '95 and wife Bianca on the front right; daughter Shelly '93 and husband Andy on the left; and granddaughters Becca and Brook (Bob and Bianca's daughters).

Courtesy of the Williams

Linda's older sister, Carolyn (Varon) Fletcher '63, went to Ballard. Mason's older brother, Tom Williams '65, also attended Ballard and had a long career as a Seattle Public Schools teacher at Franklin and Roosevelt High School. He even taught at Ballard for a couple of years. Mason's Uncle Ralph also graduated from Ballard in 1926. While in high school, Mason recalled working many jobs. As a sophomore, he started working part-time on the Ship Canal, at the same fuel dock he would one day own.

THE SUMMER before Mason started his second year at the UW, he picked up even more hours on the fuel dock. With fall quarter fast approaching, Mason found himself facing an opportunity and a big decision.

"My employer, Mitch Covich, got sick and asked me to drop out for a quarter, which I did. He did survive his illness, barely. And he did come back. And at that time, it was marginal. There wasn't a lot of commercial business back then, to keep somebody employed.

"Mitch's strength wasn't quite as much after being in a hospital for a lengthy time, so he asked me to stay on, and I did," Mason said.

Partnering with Mitch's son, Gary Covich, Mason purchased the fuel dock in January 1975 and Covich-Williams Inc. was born. Two years later, when Gary decided he'd rather make a career in fishing, Mason bought him out.

This was a busy time for the Williams family, with their daughter Shelly born in December 1974. Robert "Bob" followed two years later in December 1976.

And from developing those roots, both as a family and longtime area business owner, Ballard has changed a lot over the years!

"I know, but I'm still there," Mason said. And the fuel dock is still serving the maritime industry -- vessels up to 400 feet -- although now they are also providing fuel for trucking operations too.

Mason, with son Bob '95, who has taken over the fuel dock pumps at the family business, Covich-Williams.



Covich-Williams

Their son, Bob, is now taking over the fuel dock, so Linda and Mason can take time off and enjoy their places in Palm Desert and Lake Chelan. They enjoy meeting up with their children. Daughter Shelly and her husband Andy visit their Lake Chelan place from California, as do Bob and

his wife, Bianca, with granddaughters Brook and Becca in tow, eager to enjoy water sports and area hiking trails.

You'll also see Mason and Linda in August, raising their paddles at the Salmon Dinner, and with a cool beverage at Newcastle at the Victor Salvino 24th Annual Golf Classic.

Linda likes to play in the Foundation's annual Golf Classic. She scored a hole in one during the tournament's early years at Echo Falls (although sadly it wasn't on a prize hole).

They've been such long-time supporters, Mason couldn't recall precisely when they came to be involved with the Ballard High School Foundation. He said it likely was through Linda, and her longtime friends from high school, that drew them to participate in alumni events and fundraising efforts.

"We all had kids that were within a couple of years, all going to Ballard High School at the same time," he said. Mason said he remembers a fundraiser, that Dick Lee '61 and Camden Hall '58 became involved in.

"Somehow, somebody brought in Victor (Salvino '51) and Victor just stepped it up a notch or two or three, or 10," he

said of Salvino, a Ballard High School Wall of Recognition member, long-time Foundation supporter, and Golf Classic co-founder and recent host.

Ballard's maritime and hard-working fishing industry are in Mason's blood.

"I grew up in Ballard, the fishing industry is part of my life. We still own a couple of fishing vessels and I went

to Ballard High School, James Monroe, Webster Grade School," he said.

So, it made sense to give something back to the school through their Foundation donations.

Mason also said he was inspired by Camden Hall '58, another Wall of Recognition member, who served as the Foundation President from 1998-2001. An attorney, "Cam" was there with helpful legal expertise in the Foundation's early stages, along with co-founders Dick Lee '61, Chuck Chinn, and C. David Hughbanks '54.

"That's when we got involved a little more, financially speaking, through our company and personally," Mason said.

When their kids were at Ballard High School (Shelly graduated in 1993 and Bob in 1995), Mason noticed that many of the upperclassmen he once admired as a teen, also coming together to the high school as parent volunteers.

"We love helping where we can. That's the bottom line. I mean, we went there. Our kids went there. Our siblings went there. That's where (Linda and I) met."

-Mason Williams, '68

Their support helps their alma mater stay on the map and ensures an excellent high school experience for current and future Beavers.

"We love helping where we can," Mason said. "That's about the bottom line. I mean, we went there. Our kids went there. Our siblings went there. That's where we met."



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studios

Longtime BHS Foundation supporters, the Williams have fun with Stephen Kilbreath at the 2022 Salmon Dinner.



Courtesy of the Williams

The Williams enjoy cheering for the Seattle Mariners.

Mason pointed to new helmets for football players, so they don't get concussions, and new uniforms for building Beaver Marching Band pride.

"Oh, it's a great marching band," he enthused. "We go to the Ballard parade, and here comes Ballard High School. Those things have all kind of waned away from us for a lot of years," he said, reflecting on the school support after he graduated. "You know, there just wasn't the money for instruments and band uniforms, and so the kids just went other directions."

"It's important to us to help the school because they get funds to do things that the Seattle School District won't do, or can't do, because of limited funds.

"So, it puts Ballard High School you know, up and above all the other schools in the in the area. And that's really important," Mason said.

We Have Recently Lost ...

Jerry Darby

'55, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and friend, passed away peacefully on April 21, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.



Born on January 19, 1936, Jerry lived a full life, with a big heart and his keen ability to make people happy with his constant warm sense of humor, practical jokes, tricks, and stories.

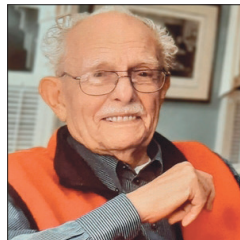
Jerry is survived by his wife Arlene, his two children, Randy (Jeanne) and Linda (Jeff). He has five grandchildren and three great grandchildren who he loved dearly.

As a 1955 graduate, Jerry continued his relationship with Ballard High School by creating an annual Christmas Dinner in the 70s for his class. This gathering was so well received that it evolved into an event for any Ballard graduate to attend, and it became an annual Class Reunion held in the Christmas time frame.

Einar A.

Johanson '47

passed away peacefully on December 3, 2023 at the age of 94. He was born in Ballard January 10, 1929 to Martha and Emil Johanson.



Graduating from Ballard High School, the Class of '47, Einar continued to commercially fish with his father, longshoring in the off season. In 1957 he started Einar Johanson Insulation which he owned and ran for 65 years with honesty and integrity.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Anna Marie (Hansen), daughter Lynn, son Keith and grandson Lael, all of whom live close by. He was a proud member of the Norwegian Commercial Club and the Sons of Norway, Leif Erikson Lodge.

Einar also kindly shared an endowment with the Golden Beaver Scholarship Committee prior to his passing. We are deeply grateful for his kind gift to Ballard graduates.

Gunbjørg Ladstein, 85, passed away on November 3, 2023. Born on the island of Finnøy, Norway, Gunbjørg emigrated with her family to Ballard and attended Ballard High School and Pacific Lutheran University before transferring to The University of Washington where she graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in business administration in 1960.

Gunbjørg was one of the few women in her field working for IBM, and was a committed feminist all her life. She was a member of the League of Women Voters for 57 years, served as co-president and worked tirelessly for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.



Nicknamed "Seattle's Chamber of Commerce" by her family, Gunbjørg was proud of her adopted hometown and spent 20 years working in community relations for Metro, playing a key role getting stakeholders on

In Memoriam

DOROTHY BOE '47
JUDY HENRIKSON BOWE '60
DAN CAMERON '52
BRIAN CUMMINS '83
JERRY DARBY '55
DOROTHY JONES DAVICK '53
JOHN DAY '62
DAVID DOLLARHIDE '53
DONALD ESPELAND '65
DAVID FULTON '57
GAIL GERMANN '61
MICHAEL GARY GLASS '73
MARIE (SVENDSEN) HALVERSON '51
LARRY HENDRICKS '71
RUTH ANN (ARDISSONO) HERTZ '62

FRANK HOLBERG '46
RICHARD HOLMAN '56
DEBRA S HRDLICKA '73
HERMAN "INDE" INDRIIDSON '57
CARL JOHANSON '46
EINAR JOHANSON '47
HERB JOHNSON '53
VERNON JOHNSON '45
JON MARVIN JONSON '46
GUNBJØRG LADSTEIN '56 (ATTENDED)
LOUIS V LARSEN '42
GENEVA (SNOW) LARSON '44 (ATTENDED)
JAMES LARSON '60
MARILYN (BLOCK) MCCLINTOCK RADTKE '44
ELAINE (KIRSOP) MULLINS '51
THOMAS NEILSON '56



FREDERICK N NELSON JR. '76?
MARGIE LOIS NELSON CONOVER '33
JAMES SCRIBNER '63
DELORES (SEVERSON) SHIVERS '48
FRANCES MAE (JENKINS) SMITH '58
PHILLIP TJELLE '52
BETH ANN VAN CAMP '71
CAROL (NELSON) WILSON '60
STEVE WILSON '60

We also mourn the loss of:

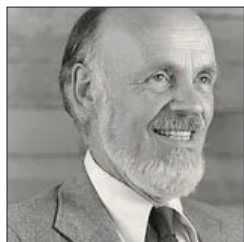
DOUG DIXON, BHS PARENT, PACIFIC FISHERMEN SHIPYARD

board for Metro's downtown tunnel project. Gunbjørg served in many leadership roles at Ballard First Lutheran Church, and volunteered on the board of The Norse Home and the King County Board of Ethics.

Gunbjørg is survived by her daughter, Cecelia Sandvik (Jim Hodgson), grandchildren Katja and Artome, sister Solfrid Ladstein, plus close relatives in Norway and many friends with whom she loved to play pinochle, attend plays and vacation in Mexico. Gunbjørg loved to travel -- especially back to Norway -- and spend weekends at the family cabin on Lake Whatcom.

Louis Valentine Larsen '42 passed away on March 27, 2024 in Everett at the age of 99. Louis was born September 23, 1924 in Seattle to Danish immigrant parents.

In high school Louis focused on his love of art. He was a student of the legendary Orre Nobles at Ballard High School. As one of three art editors for the high school annual, "Ballard Shingle", they earned 1st place in a National Competition for their work.



Louis met his wife Dolores at a Norwegian Independence Day dance and were married on May 2, 1948, for 75 years! They had three sons, five grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.

Louis had quite a resume. He started out working in the local grocery store, building a strong work ethic. During World War II he went to work at Pier 91 in the Navy store's depot warehouse, followed by 13 years with AAA. During his last year he moved the family to Omaha, Nebraska. That was

a drastic change and he was drawn back home to the Northwest.

He landed a job with the 1962 Seattle World's Fair as Assistant Director of Exhibit Sales and Director of Special Events. During this period he rubbed elbows with and escorted many dignitaries which included the likes of John Glenn, Nat King Cole, Elvis Presley, Sen. Hubert Humphrey, Billy Graham, Prince Phillip -- the Duke of Edinburgh, Attorney General Robert Kennedy and one of his favorites, Rafer Johnson, the 1960 Olympic gold medalist in the decathlon.

He worked at the Seattle Center as Director of Marketing and Promotion in the 60's and early 70's. In December of 1967 representing the Seattle Center, he was part of a Seattle delegation that went to New York to present and bid for the 1976 Winter Olympic Games. Next was a position at the 1974 Spokane World's Fair. After that he was hired as Executive Vice-President for Northwest Marine Trade Association.

He was an artist and craftsman. His passion was carving and NW Coast art. He carved a number of totem poles and sold many Indian boxes with silk screened formline designs. Nine of his totems were placed on the outside of the Franklin Building in Sitka, Alaska.

Many who knew Louis would attest to his "gift of gab." It seemed wherever he went he always knew someone. It truly was a "small world for him".

Louis is survived by: his wife Dolores, sons Stephen, Peter and Danny, five grandchildren, and a great grandchild.

Herbert V. Johnson '53 passed away March 16, 2024 at 88 years of age. Herb Johnson graduated from Ballard High School in 1953, and is honored on the school's Wall of Recognition. He entered the U.S. Army, serving in Germany with the 1st Infantry for three years. After finishing the University of Washington, he traveled to Paris, majoring in French studies at the University of Paris.



In Gratitude

"As a **Past President of the Golden Beavers**, Louis Larsen was a strong advocate for the Golden Beavers and the Ballard High School Foundation pooling their resources and merging together.

-**Dick Lee, '61**
Executive Director,
Ballard High School Foundation

After working two years for the federal government in Washington, D.C, he returned to Ballard High School, teaching French from 1962 to 1964. He was regarded as a demanding but fair teacher.

In 1964 he joined the police department and graduated near the top of his academy class. During his 30

years in police work, he had risen through the ranks from patrol officer to sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major and finally Assistant Chief and Chief of Detectives. He had been retired for seven years when Mayor Paul Schell asked him to come out of retirement in February 2000 and become the Interim Chief of Police.

Condensed for space from original obituaries. Share "In Memoriam" notices with Editor Gloria Kruzner at bhsfcomm@gmail.com.

Golden Beavers Scholarship Luncheon 2024

At our 35th Annual Scholarship Luncheon June 2 in the Ray's Boathouse Northwest Room, we celebrated our largest distribution of scholarships yet — a massive \$187,000 worth — to 44 hard working Beaver seniors.

Although contending with soggy skies outside, the mood was bright for this year's celebrants. Principal Abby Hunt shared a warm welcome, and Foundation Vice President Jinoo Mattila served as Master of Ceremonies. Speakers Addy Wynkoop '24 and Audrey McFarland '17 both reflected on what the scholarships meant to their paths ahead in life.

Congratulations to all our recipients and their families.



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studios

Principal Abby Hunt with the 2024 Golden Beavers Scholarship recipients.



Addy Wynkoop was awarded the Tim Nygard '01 Legacy Scholarship.



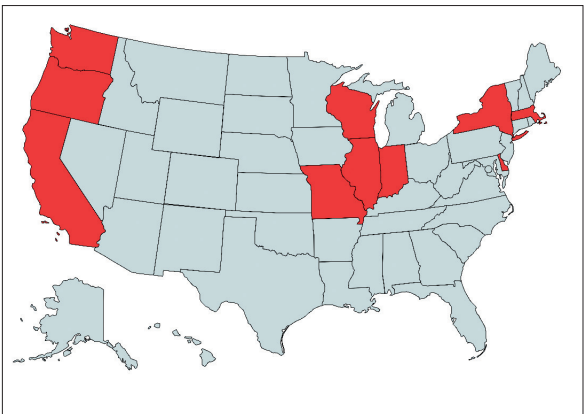
Attendees listen in to alumni speaker and past scholarship recipient Audrey McFarland '17.



Violet Petersen and Colin Newton received the McMuldloch-Lathrop Family Scholarship. Learn more about the Golden Beaver Scholarships and recipients on page 10.



Emcee Jinoo Mattila with Foundation Executive Director and Co-Founder Dick Lee '61.



These are the states our scholarship winners will be attending school, starting next fall. Congratulations on all their accomplishments!

Introducing ...

Hughbanks Family Scholarships

This year, our scholarship efforts were magnified by the massive donation from the C. David Hughbanks '54 Estate, assisting 20 BHS students in need and planning to attend college or a trade program in Washington State.

The Hughbanks Family Scholarship included a \$150,000 grant, including two-year scholarships. And we're only getting started! This grant is the first disbursement of a 10-year commitment.



Mortikye Aylward
Seattle Central
College



Matilda Barber
Seattle Culinary
Academy



Brooke Bean
University of
Washington



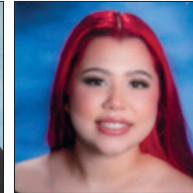
Xelli Berg
Western WA
University



Lydia Blair
University of
Washington



Ryan Bohanan
Pacific Lutheran
University



Aryana Cadillo
Seattle Central
College

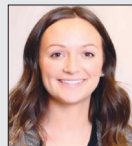


Bnaya Cohen
Eastern WA
University

Thanks to Our 2024 Scholarship Committee

We are indebted to this year's committee who took on even more responsibilities with the addition of the Hughbanks Scholarships.

"I am grateful that I was invited to serve on this committee," said Christie Spielman, who joined the committee this year, along with C. David Hughbanks' cousins Ann Fitzmaurice and Kathy Madden. "I am overwhelmed and inspired by the amazing, mature students applying for the scholarships."



Led by Chair Ryan Carlisle '93 the committee included (top to bottom, left to right) Ryan, John Anderson '01, Meredith Davison, Ann Fitzmaurice, Kathy Madden, Becky Marion '93, Jinoo Mattila, Christie Spielman, and Beverly Verduin '14.



We also thank BHS Counselor Sonja Petersen; Counseling Secretary Carol Bristol; Scholarship Manager Marianne Baker '70; and Executive Director Dick Lee '61.



We look forward to seeing longtime chair (and Ryan's co-chair) Maggie Murphy Moffett '69 back next year, as she was on sabbatical during this year's interview process.



Ava Dodge
Washington State
University



Semai Hagos
Seattle Pacific
University



Finn Long
Undecided WA
College



Giselle Lee
University of
Washington



Makenna Meyer
Washington State
University



Mirabel Petersen
Gonzaga University



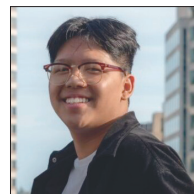
Hadley Redmond
University of
Washington



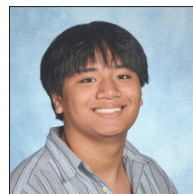
Emme Rousseau
Whitman College



Carmen Sarabia
DiCicco Central
WA University



Sean Tablazon
University of
Washington



Kian Vae'ena
Whitworth
University



Charlotte Van Kley
Washington State
University

2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Golden Beaver Scholarships



Isabel Baraff
Emerson College



Jacqueline Benson
Lasell University



Maisy Clunies-Ross
Willamette U.



Sydney Craig
Loyola University Chicago



Bridget Donnelly
University of Oregon



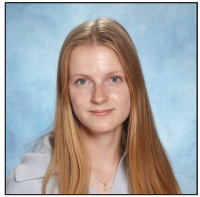
Kate Herndon
University of CA, Santa Barbara



Amelia Higgins
Gonzaga University



Rose Kibelstis
University of Delaware



Sadie Kibelstis
Marquette University



Madeleine Koenig
Westmont College



Justene Li
University of Washington



Mia Mayachar
Chapman University



Peyton Nakagawara
USC



Colin Newton
Purdue University



Violet Petersen
Oregon State University



Serena Pook
Azusa Pacific University



Danny Pottharst
Whitman College



Isabella Rampersad
Chapman University



Anya Souza-Ponce
University of Washington



Tegan Takahashi
Washington University



Lana Towers
Oregon State University



Kaiya VanDenBerg
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo



Addyson Wynkoop
Fordham University



Alina Zahn
University of Washington

More than 35 Years of Scholarship Assistance

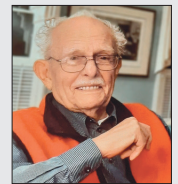
From 1988 to 2024, 463 Ballard students have received more than \$1 million in scholarships. Along with the first year of the **Hughbanks Family Scholarships**, we celebrated our Golden Beaver Scholarships including the following special named scholarships:



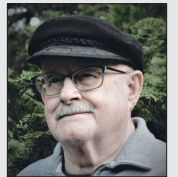
The first year of the **Tim Nygard '01 Ballard "Legacy" Scholarship**, awarded to **Addyson Wynkoop**, in memory of the son of our good friends Gordie '69 and Mary Nygard.



The second year of the **Einar Johanson '47 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Isabella Rampersad**, in gratitude to Beaver alum Einar Johanson, who passed in December 2023, for his significant donation.



The third year of the **John "Jack" Lawson '52 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Addyson Wynkoop**, in memory of Golden Beaver Past President and Scholarship Chair Jack Lawson.



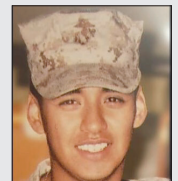
The second year of the **Judith "Judy" Olson Rikansrud '58 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Mia Mayachar**, in memory of Foundation Board Member and Past President, and Golden Beaver Membership Chair.



McMuldorch-Lathrop Family Scholarships, awarded to **Colin Newton** and **Violet Petersen**. This gift is shared by BHS parents **Chris McMuldorch** and **Jennifer Lathrop** to honor their connection to Ballard High School. Chris was a longtime Robotics Team mentor.



Daniel Chavez '03 Scholarship, awarded to **Jackie Benson**, **Maisy Clunies-Ross** and **Serena Pook**, in memory of Marine Lance Corporal Daniel Chavez.



Ballard Nineteen Scholarship, awarded to **Addyson Wynkoop**, in memory of the nineteen Ballard Beavers who died while serving in Vietnam.

Class of 1945 Update

Avid Lifetime Golden Beaver Member Lloyd Trafton '45 (*his dapper senior picture right*) reached out to report that although the Class of 1945 closed down its Reunion Committee in 2016 and stopped producing its popular newsletter, there were luncheon gatherings for local Seattle folks up until 2023.



Usually in attendance were: Vernon and Marilyn Johnson, Harold Pelton, Lloyd Trafton, Frances and Lucas Ostrom, Barbara Durr Zeckser, Miriam Barth Hyde, Robin and Arlene Hess, Lenore and Thornton Lyle, and Greta Lien.



Because age has taken its toll: Lenore, Harold, Greta and Marilyn Johnson are no longer with us. The remaining classmates communicate occasionally on the phone or by email.

"Our 80th anniversary and/or 90th will undoubtedly be held in a telephone booth if there are any left," Lloyd said. "Any out of towners, who would like to fit in the telephone booth, contact any of the above who are survivors. We would be more than happy to hear from you. And that's the rest of the story."

Thanks for reaching out, Lloyd! He can be reached at traftonlf@comcast.net.

Upcoming Reunions

1959

Dear 1959 Ballard classmates. Our 65th Class Reunion will be Sunday, September 8, 2024 (1-5 p.m.) at the Ballard Elks. Please respond with an email to Gary Cook at cookgarym@gmail.com (or write Gary Cook at 2328 Compton Dr., Plano, TX 75025) if you plan to attend the reunion and if you expect to bring someone with you.



For those of you that do not plan to attend, please send a return email to be sure we have your best email address to keep you informed as we go forward. Be well and see you in September.

1964

Hi Class of '64! Yes, it's hard to believe that it has been this long – how fast the time has passed, and it seems as if everything and everyone around us have grown and aged ... except us!

In the spirit of "going home again," we'll be gathering Tuesday, September 11, 2024 (1-4 p.m.) for our 60th Reunion at the Ballard Elks Lodge, 6411 Seaview Ave. N.W., a gorgeous setting we all remember. It's a casual event, with appetizers and no-host bar.

Full details at <https://ballardclassof1964.wordpress.com>
Questions? Email Julianne Olson at julianne60@msn.com.

Class of 1960 Update

We are sad to report the passing of four of our classmates:

We lost high school sweethearts who were married for 61 years, **Steve and Carol (Nelson)**

Wilson (*pictured right*). Steve passed on November 10 and Carol died on December 22, 2023 in their Tucson, AZ home.



James Larson, who lived in Gran Rapids, MN, died February 21, 2024

Judy Henrikson Bowe, of Westport, WA, died on February 26, 2024.

Next year will mark 65 years since our graduation and many have suggested we plan another reunion. Send your current information to: Ballardhigh1960@aol.com in the event we stage a reunion and want to share the details!

Class of 1974 50th Reunion

Saturday, September 7, 2024
Women's University Club, 1105 6th Ave.
5-10 p.m.
Plated three-course dinner and live music!

More details to come and ordering information. Check out our Facebook page: Ballard High School 50th Reunion, Class of 1974.

Questions? Email Julie Pheasant-Albright at jdpheasant@gmail.com

Celebrating a Decade of G.A.I.N.S. Outreach

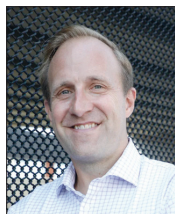
By Gloria Kruzner

THE LOG EDITOR

Graduation Assistance Impacting the Needs of Students. Beyond an acronym, G.A.I.N.S. has been changing lives since it was first proposed in 2010 by past Ballard High School Principal Keven Wynkoop '94.

For more than a decade, G.A.I.N.S. Success Coordinators have worked to engage students and point them on the right path toward high school success and ultimately, graduation. And it all started with a meeting between Wynkoop and Foundation Executive Director and Co-Founder Dick Lee '61.

"He asked me the kind of question that every principal dreams of hearing," Wynkoop recalled. "If you could do anything at Ballard, what would you want to focus on?"



Wynkoop had read an article in the Seattle Times about the "incredible, comprehensive efforts" to raise graduation rates in the Everett School District over the previous seven years. One key strategy was to hire a Graduation Success Coordinator to work with students at each of their high schools.



Former Academic Intervention Specialist and G.A.I.N.S. coordinator Lisa Coacher celebrates with 2019 G.A.I.N.S. graduates at Memorial Stadium.

Photo c/o Lisa Coacher

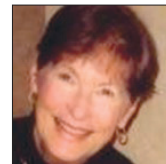
"This resonated with me, because even if Ballard's (graduation) rate was higher than Everett's, every student that doesn't graduate has greatly reduced their future outcomes," he said.

In 2012, Ballard High School had an 89 percent four-year graduation rate, meaning that at any given time, nearly 200 students were at risk of dropping out or falling behind. Wynkoop shared that concern with Lee.

"I didn't want to be satisfied having the highest, or close to the highest, graduation rate in the district, because it still meant that students were leaving Ballard with a much steeper hill to climb in life," he said.

THE FOUNDATION stepped beyond their previous support of investing in capital items, such as the school greenhouse, library books, and uniforms, and developed a partnership with Ballard High School, to launch

the program. Lee reached out to Foundation Vice President Gretchen Scheumann '53, who had led successful campaigns to raise money for the BHS Library. Former Foundation Board Member John Backes also brought his insight to the team, having worked in the high school completion program at Shoreline Community College.



Seattle Public Schools were amid budget cuts, so the team decided to partner with (then Director) Mark Hendricks at the Ballard Boys and Girls Club. The club wanted to increase their connection with teens, Wynkoop said, so he was willing to enter a partnership where the BHS Foundation would raise the money and give it to the Boys and Girls Club to hire the first Success Coordinator, who would then work at Ballard High School.

Joey Thomas was hired as the first G.A.I.N.S. coordinator. And the results were felt almost immediately. After five years of the program, Ballard's four-year graduation rate had risen to 94 percent.

"G.A.I.N.S. has become a cornerstone for our work as a Foundation," Lee said. Through the intercession of G.A.I.N.S. Success Coordinators, the program aims to help students who are most at risk by providing the support and motivation to help these students

Please Give Back to Help Make More G.A.I.N.S.

The Ballard High School Foundation's longtime support of the G.A.I.N.S. program helps foster a community where students can aspire for their dreams.

Please consider a donation today, using the attached envelope! We are fortunate to have a grant from the Grousemont Foundation, through the 2027 school year, allocating \$75,000 toward a coordinator position. This leaves a \$21,000 shortfall from a coordinator's \$96,000 annual salary. We also are committed to paying a second G.A.I.N.S. coordinator, so you can see we need your help and how your kind donation today will quickly go to work for tomorrow's G.A.I.N.S. students.



Ruby Stauffer/Talisman

Joey Thomas served as Ballard's first G.A.I.N.S. coordinator until 2016 and coached the football team for five years.

graduate on time and prepare for success in college and career. (See sidebar for more information.)

Part of the philosophy of the G.A.I.N.S. Program is that students in the program cannot be served by a system or a one-size fits all approach. Their needs and obstacles are unique to that student, so the school created a menu of interventions that could be utilized, Wynkoop said.

"The starting point for the G.A.I.N.S. Coordinators has always been to build a strong, trusting relationship with the students. While that relationship was growing, close monitoring of their grades was a fundamental building block to understanding their needs," he said. The students were also offered field trips to area two- and four-year schools to see what opportunities might be available to them one day.

"G.A.I.N.S. is a long-term investment in young people. They are not going to magically turn things around right away and some will actively resist our efforts, but they are all worth the investment," he said.

G.A.I.N.S. Still Going Strong

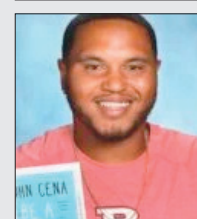
Since starting as Principal in fall 2022, Abby Hunt worked with the Student Intervention Team, and the G.A.I.N.S. coordinators, to reshape the program's delivery into a tiered approach to help students stay engaged in their class work. COVID and a significant human resources transition brought numerous challenges.

See **G.A.I.N.S.**, continued page 14

Meet the '23-24 G.A.I.N.S. Coordinators

Ballard's G.A.I.N.S. Success Coordinators (top to bottom) **Ross Humphries '03**, **Dale Griffith** and **Malik Prince '11** work with Ballard High School administrators, counselors, and teachers to:

- Identify incoming freshmen and existing Ballard students who are at risk for delayed graduation or dropping out due to grades, absenteeism, or disciplinary issues. Refer these students to existing resources for tutoring, credit retrieval, or social services support.
- Mentor these students to provide individualized support, as well as ongoing monitoring of grades, attendance, and behavior.
- Improve the self-esteem of struggling students to support their efforts to better their academic careers.
- Acknowledge students' success at improving their grades, attendance, behavior, and progress toward graduation.



The three G.A.I.N.S. coordinators are also active outside of the school day as coaches for Ballard athletics. Note: *We wish longtime Football Coach Ross Humphries well as he moved onto an exciting new opportunity at Interagency Academy this spring and thank him for his work on behalf of Ballard students.* Dale Griffith and Malik Prince, continue as G.A.I.N.S coordinators, as well as softball and football coaches, respectively.

"We get to build authentic relationships with so many students," the coordinators said via email of their work in the classroom and in the sporting arena.

"Many times, those relationships lead to more credibility or trust when starting to work with new students because we may already have a positive relationship with a friend of theirs. The G.A.I.N.S. program at its foundation is a relationship-based mentorship program that is at Ballard to support students in multiple avenues as they navigate high school."

G.A.I.N.S. Program Works

Sharing their most recent data in May, the G.A.I.N.S. team had 53 students on their caseload. In the last few years, through a tiered system of support, G.A.I.N.S. coordinators have worked to get students back on track and off their caseload so they can assist a different student who has been identified as struggling. This school year, they exited 27 students from their caseload. All their students are expected to graduate and/or be placed in a more appropriate setting (such as an alternative school, Running Start, or a GED Program). The program remains successful in finding a best outcome for all the students it has served.

G.A.I.N.S.: Working to Connect With Students

Continued from page 13

“Those two variables are noteworthy for those students who struggle most when structures fall apart. It was hard for everyone,” she said. “These were incredibly caring, amazing people doing an important job, coming back from remote learning.”

Hunt said she noticed great interactions happening between the G.A.I.N.S. coordinators and the students, but also that the students were often lingering in the office, rather than in their specific classrooms.



She said while the social-emotional piece was important, she and the team also needed to evaluate the academic, graduation outcome, attendance, and qualitative data around the program.

“We were looking at G.A.I.N.S., rather than a fulltime support, but as an intervention, where they were working with a student who had a need and helping them work out of it,” she said. “Our job is help equip students with the social and academic skills to do it on their own.”

Students who have identifiable needs are evaluated by the School Counselors, Administrators, Social Worker, and Nurse to determine if a G.A.I.N.S. intervention is a right fit. It’s a structured referral based on academic, attendance and teacher qualitative recommendation, she said. Some needs are met in other offices on campus, be it with Social Worker Mackenzie Fee, or interventions with the Ballard Teen Health Center’s specialized staff.

This year, G.A.I.N.S. Success Coordinators Dale Griffith, Ross Humphries ’03, and Malik Prince ’11 also serve as 504 Building Coordinators. A 504 plan is a legal document created to ensure that

students with disabilities receive appropriate accommodation and support in school. The plan outlines specific accommodations and services needed to provide the student with equal access to education. Coordinating 504s has allowed the G.A.I.N.S. team to support a larger group of students and identify potential G.A.I.N.S. students who may have fallen through the cracks in our school system.

G.A.I.N.S. coordinators are encouraged to walk the hallways, looking for students to engage with, Principal Hunt said.

“It is not uncommon for the students who would benefit from G.A.I.N.S. supports to be in the halls. So we need to find them where they are and be

present in the halls to connect with them,” she said.

A tiered service approach allows for more of a connection and increased check-ins with the G.A.I.N.S. coordinators and at-risk students.

“So, we’re strategic in how we use our time and resources,” she said.

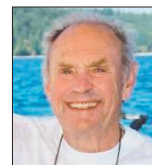
For more than 10 years, the G.A.I.N.S. team have served a crucial role in engaging and inspiring students to be engaged in their high school community.

“We’re working to support all students, because if a Ballard High School student is not feeling a sense of belonging and engagement, that breaks my heart,” Hunt said.

G.A.I.N.S. Legacy of Support

The G.A.I.N.S. program has opened doors for Beaver students through its legacy of support. We are indebted to you, our donors, for helping us do this great work. We also want to thank the following benefactors and facilitators who have helped it flourish:

- Estate of **Doug Scheumann** ’54 (*pictured right*), whose \$100,000 commitment helped hire first G.A.I.N.S. coordinator.
- **Grousemont Foundation**, for their initial \$100,000 grant in honor of Doug Scheumann ’54. Their generosity has continued since then and will continue with \$75,000 annual grants through the Class of 2027.
- **Jeff Bjornstad**, for his recently completed three years of funding a G.A.I.N.S. coordinator position, inspired by and granted in honor of his uncle, **Mel Robbins** ’61.
- G.A.I.N.S. Coordinators **Ross Humphries** ’03 (*who recently started new role with SPS*), **Dale Griffith** and **Malik Prince** ’11 for their care and compassion.
- Past G.A.I.N.S. Coordinators **Joey Thomas** and **Ebony Booker** (*pictured right*); and past Academic Intervention Specialist **Lisa Coacher** for their commitment to Beavers too.
- Ballard High School administrators and staff for their steadfast support of all students.
- **Don** ’58 and **Melissa Nielsen** for hosting G.A.I.N.S. celebrations and resources.
- **Walt and Nan Spady** (Dick’s Drive-In) for past and ongoing support.



Join the Fun, Raise Funds!

Celebrating All Things Ballard Auction & Salmon Dinner Event Coming in August



Get ready to bid on the many exciting vacations, dining opportunities, special Performing Arts musical performances and much more! **Celebrating All Things Ballard** online auction runs August 2-18. *Watch for the auction preview coming soon.* You'll be able to plan your bidding on all the great items available!

But wait, there's more to the Celebration! **Please join us for the Celebrating All Things Ballard Salmon Dinner** and live auction event Thursday, August 15 (6 p.m.) at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard!

Both the online auction and the Salmon Dinner raise money for Ballard athletic teams, Performing Arts, Cheer and Dance Team. There will be a special ask in support of Ballard Strength and Training, which benefits all Beaver athletes and is available to all Ballard students.

Special thanks to Celebrating All Things Ballard's Title and Presenting sponsors, Mason '68 and Linda '67 Williams (Covich-Williams), and John Goodman '71



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studios

We look forward to seeing you at the Salmon Barbecue Dinner on Thursday, August 15 at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard and Golf Classic on Friday, August 16 at Newcastle Golf Course. There's also an online auction option August 2-18. **Interested in attending or bidding?** Email Dick Lee '61 at rjlee@seattleschools.org.

Let's Thank Victor Once More!

Victor Salvino 24th Annual Golf Classic

We are thankful to amazing alum Victor Salvino '51 for three years of hosting the Golf Classic. This year marks the final year of his commitment.



We can't wait for another beautiful day of golf at the Victor Salvino 24th Annual Golf Classic at Newcastle Golf Course (August 16).

Last year, we had a full field, and we're expecting a robust turnout this year. We hope you'll join us to thank Victor for his support.

We are also thankful for our returning sponsors, including John Goodman '71 (Goodman Foundation) and Mason '68 & Linda Williams '67 (Covich-Williams).



In Memory of Don Prindle

A co-founder of the Golf Classic, with his brother-in-law Victor Salvino '51 and Gary Seefried '64, Don continued supporting the Tournament and the Foundation until his passing. He will be missed.



Busy Year for Beaver Athletics

This has been an historic year for Ballard Athletics!

September – An impressive 109 athletes turn out for **Ballard Football**.

Senior swimmer **Claudia Yovanovich** breaks the 200 freestyle team record with a time of 1:57:54 at the Sept. 29 Meet against Garfield.

October – BHS alum and Seattle Public Schools Athletics Hall of Fame member **Sue Stimac Verduin '78** is honored as first recipient of the Woman of Impact Award at the Breakfast of Champions breakfast. *Longtime PE (retired) teacher Bebe Burns will be honored at the 2024 event*



Golfers **Joey Bunich, Justene Li** and **Elsa Sand's** Metro Championship scores qualify them for the District Tournament in the spring.

November – **Claudia Yovanovich** is Metro and State Champ in 50 freestyle. Relay team also makes it to State.



For the second year in a row, the Beaver **Slowpitch** team captures the Metro Championship crown.

Cross Country girls finish 4th at Metro Championships and 6th at State. Sophomore **Cassidy Armstrong** wins the girls race and is named to the WA State Cross Country Coaches Association's All State Team.

Volleyball players **Violet Martel** and **Coco Otto** are named to the First Team of the All-Metro Sound Division.

Peyton Nakagawara is named Metro League MVP for Girls Soccer.

December – Jam the Dam Unified Event features a raucous gym, with Pep Band and Cheer Team, and spirited support for the Ballard and Lincoln **Unified Basketball** teams.



Ed Tanaka

Ballard Unified hosts Lincoln's new team at exciting Jam the Dam event in December.

January – As part of the team's seven wins in a row run, sophomore **Gavin Matuska** breaks Boys Basketball rebounding record with 25 boards in a single game against Franklin.

Girls Basketball hosts a Women in Sports Night, celebrating all female Beaver athletes.



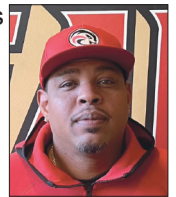
February – **Gymnastics** earns another banner in the gym with its third Metro Championship in a row. Senior **Naomi Kildal** earns the Metro beam championship for the third year in a row and is Metro co-champion on floor. The team wins 3rd at the WIAA State Championship, tying its highest finish ever.

Ballard Cheer earns two National Champion trophies at the USA Nationals in Anaheim.

In the program's second year, senior **Natalie Bauer** represents the Bowling team at State.

Girls Basketball ties for 1st place in the Metro Sound Division. The team has a new coaching staff, led by Head Coach **Jennifer Anderson**.

Boys Basketball finishes in 2nd place in the Metro Sound Division. In his second season, **Lorenzo Durant III** is named Metro Sound Division Coach of the Year.



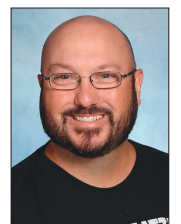
Kian Vae'ena sets a new school record in 100 backstroke with a time of 43.21. With his 8th place finish in the 100, Kian is the highest State finisher for Boys Swimming since 2015. The relay team makes it to State.

The Brawlin' Beavers **Wrestling** team finishes with an 11-2 Metro Record and sends 19 wrestlers to regionals. At the State Meet, **Lazlo Davis Rudin** finishes 5th and **Jackie Benson** finishes 3rd.

March – **Running of the Beavers 5K** draws hundreds of participants to Golden Gardens to support Athletics, Performing Arts, Cheer and Dance Team.

Dance Team competes at State Championships.

Ross Humphries (*right*) steps down as Head Football Coach. Assistant Coach **Malik Prince** is named Interim Head Coach.





Ballard Softball

The Softball team celebrates their District Championship victory.

April - **Angel Le** starts as new Tennis coach.

May – **Softball** team win Metro Championships and District 2 3A Championships, Coach **Dale Griffith** earns Metro Coach of the Year for the second time (also in 2022). The team finishes 8th in the 3A State Tournament.



Track has 181 athletes turn out. Girls Track earns 2nd place at Metro Championships. Program has 30 athletes competing in Districts, a Ballard record. Sophomore **Cassidy Armstrong** wins 2nd in the 3200 meter at State Track Meet, senior pole vaulter **Madeleine Koenig** finishes 6th; and **Marcus Staudenraus** places in four ambulatory events.

Boys Lacrosse wins Metro-Public Championships and makes it to the semifinals in the 3A Public State Tournament. Three new coaches also inspire the **Girls Lacrosse** program.

Boys Soccer finishes 3rd in 3A State Tournament, one year after finishing 2nd.

Baseball finishes 2nd in the Metro Tournament and fields a strong team at State, losing its final game by a run.

Congratulations Beavers!

Foundation Helps Spearhead BHS Athletic Improvements

The Ballard High School Foundation works closely with the Athletic Booster Club (ABC) to address needs as they come up for our athletic teams.

This included the two areas of need brought to our attention at a fall ABC meeting:

- A portable defibrillator (AED) for teams to use in case of a medical emergency while at away games or meets; and
- On behalf of track and field, new high jump and pole vault pits and expansive metal covers.

Within weeks of Athletic Director Eric Ensign's request, the Foundation purchased the AED. For the track safety equipment, Foundation Executive Director Dick Lee '61 was able to bring Seattle Public Schools, Associated Student Body and ABC representatives together to come to a solution:

SPS Athletics agreed that the existing pits and covers were in poor condition and that they would fund the replacement. The equipment was delivered well before the Spring Track and Field season, to great results, as senior Madeleine Koenig took all that practice into her 6th place vault in State! Thanks to Dick, Eric, Principal Abby Hunt, ASB President Addy

Partnerships have helped identify and respond to athletic needs on campus. In addition to Principal Hunt, thanks to (L-R) Dick Lee '61, Eric Ensign '91, Addy Wynkoop '24, Suzanne Dale Estey, Phil Brockman '76 and Ryan Carlisle '93.



Theron Baker

Ballard pole vaulters show off their new jumping pit during a practice session.

Wynkoop and ABC President Suzanne Dale Estey for working toward this solution with Seattle Public Schools, and Track Head Coach Neal Howard '08 for bringing the issue to our attention.



A more longer term project is being considered for Ballard High School Field. Memorial Stadium will be closing soon with its estimated \$110 million retrofit. Seattle Public Schools is now taking a detailed look at the installation of bleachers and sound system updates at Ballard High School Field.

Thanks to Foundation Co-Presidents Phil Brockman '76 and Ryan Carlisle '93 for their conscientious follow up on needed athletic facilities improvements. We'll keep you posted as we hear more.



5th Annual Running of the Beavers Returns

On March 23, nearly 300 participants laced up their running shoes for the **Running of the Beavers 5K** to Golden Gardens Park. The 5th annual fun run raised more than \$7,000 for Ballard Athletics, Performing Arts, Cheer Squad, Dance Team, and Ballard Food Bank. This is double the amount raised in 2023!

Bucky the Beaver, the Pep Band and the Cheer Team brought spirit and support for participants at the start and finish lines, especially motivating with a rainy start to the puddle-riddled very Ballard event. The Senior Class won the Class Competition for the most participants, earning \$500 for their ASB account.

Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Anchor QEA, Event Chair Sue Stimac Verduin '78 (*top right*), and BHS Foundation Board Member Beth Sylves (*below right*); Ballard Athletic Booster Club; Activities Coordinator Laura Lehni; Pep Band (Director Jay Gillespie); Jeff Orswell (Orswell Events).



The next Running of the Beavers is scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 2025 (at 9:30 a.m.). Hope to see you there!



Men's Division Winners:

1. Garrett Knight, 16:38 (*middle*)
2. Dexter Stevens, 16:57 (*right*)
3. Andrade Whissell-Cote, 17:31 (*left*)



Women's Division Winners:

1. Cassidy Armstrong, 17:51 (*middle*)
2. Emme Rousseau, 19:55 (*left*)
3. Sadie Kibelstis, 20:32 (*right*)

Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studios

Link Crew Peer Leaders Welcome New Freshmen

By Max Bykowski
TALISMAN REPORTER

As featured in the May 15, 2024 *Talisman*

Link Crew is a school volunteer program that supports students entering high school. Current sophomores and juniors can sign up to be Link Leaders, upperclassmen who welcome and connect with the freshmen, mentoring them throughout the year and making the adjustment to high school less daunting.

"Link Crew is meant to be a way for (upperclassmen) to help ninth graders with the transition to high school," Laura Lehni, language arts teacher, ASB advisor and Link coordinator, said. "To help them find a smaller group of folks that they can be with on the first day. To help answer questions and get some of those initial high school (fears) out of the way."



According to Piper Obenauer, junior and Link Leader, Link groups consist of two leaders and about 10 freshmen. Link Leaders greet the freshmen on the first day, give them tours of the building, check in with them throughout the year and are a resource to ask questions and get information about events.

Link Crew creates a support system for new ninth graders, who may not know many people when going into high school. It also teaches them the ropes and helps to guide them through the new experiences that they'll have.

"We see Link Crew as this cool thing that can help students find connections," Lehni said.

The Ballard High School Foundation is a proud supporter of the Link Crew program, including \$10,000 donations for both the 2023-24 and upcoming 2024-25 school years.



Photo by Laura Lehni

The 2024-25 Link Crew leaders gather in the Ballard Gym. The program offers incoming Beavers a peer-led introduction into high school life.

"For the ninth graders to have upperclassmen that they can talk to or ask questions of... (and) get connected to other ninth graders as well."

While the main focus is helping freshmen, Link Crew can also bring together upperclassmen, allowing them to find like-minded people who are also eager to help.

"It's a great opportunity for you to find your sense of community," Kian Vae'ena, senior and Link Crew commissioner, said. "Possibly some of your closest friends or even the closest mentors you might have."

According to Lehni, Link Crew has plans to expand beyond the first day of school for next year. There will hopefully be monthly hangouts during lunch time for Leaders to have snacks and connect with their freshmen groups. Link coordinators are discussing bringing the groups together

before large school events such as Homecoming and Winter Spirit Week.

While current Link Leaders have received over 30 service hours for being part of the Crew, increasing the amount of commitment next year will likely also cause that to increase.

"You get a lot of service hours," Lehni said. "It's a volunteer-based organization [and] it's a lot of time, but that recognition of your time is super important to us."

Link Crew is continuously adapting each year to make the transition to high school as smooth as possible for incoming freshmen. According to Luke Lysene, junior and current Link Leader, knowing someone who's been at high school for a while and knows how things work can be useful and make it less overwhelming.

"If you didn't have a good experience (entering high school), then you know you can try to help make the experience better for people," Lysene said. "If you did have a good experience, then you can help others feel the same."

Performing Arts Support Continues

We, at the Ballard High School Foundation, are proud of our support of the performing arts. We're also pleased to announce that the \$40,000+ project to update the Earl Kelly Performing Arts Center (PAC) lighting is nearing completion. We recently celebrated the delivery of the 40 incandescent LED lights, soon to be installed.



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studios

Thanks to Tom and Dorothy (Zemke '64) Sheehan for their incredible \$60,000 donation to Ballard Performing Arts (BPA) and PAC improvements, which assisted with both last year's purchase of wireless microphones and this year's lighting project.

Dorothy (Zemke '64) and Tom Sheehan, at a 2023 Performing Arts fundraiser, have made a substantial \$60,000 donation to BPA and PAC improvements.

*In addition to the Sheehans' donation, we are also thankful for **Jerry Masters'** amazing \$17,000 donation that helped pay for the audio equipment used in this spring's smash production of "The Addams Family."*

We've found more ways to assist our student performers, purchasing saxophones for Band; a needed drum case, and new Choir shirts too (pictured below). We also hosted a dineout at Duke's Seafood promotion in May that brought out the community and raised money for BPA.

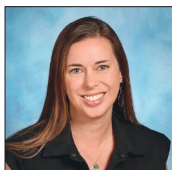
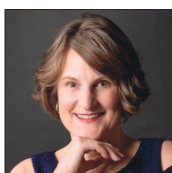


Tansy Velush, c/o Ballard Performing Arts

Ballard Thespians staged "The Addams Family" last spring to wide acclaim in the Performing Arts Center. The show featured brand new audio and wireless mics, purchased by the Foundation. Audiences can soon look forward to enhanced lighting with the addition of new LED lights.



Thanks to BPA Committee Chair Chris Witeck (right) and members Cyndy Clegg '78 and Joel Niemeyer '78 for working with Ballard Performing Arts Department Chair Courtney Rowley and Theatre Director Miller Shor on Performing Arts Center improvements.



Thank You, Jill and Mike Hansen

After 20 generous years, Jill and Mike Hansen are retiring from their supportive roles with the Ballard Performing Arts Booster Club. Jill and Mike Hansen have truly been the heart of the BPA programs.

Mike and Jill Hansen with their children Hollie '17 and Shaun '08.



Photo Courtesy of Hansen Family

Band Brings Ballard Spirit to Syttende Mai Parade



Congratulations to Ballard High School Marching Band that came in 1st place in the High School Marching Band category at the Syttende Mai parade on May 17!

Special shout out to student Mia Chang who choreographed and taught the dance break in "Dance the Night," complete with moves right from the Barbie movie!



Also special shout out to BHS Band Director Jay Gillespie, and the band's awesome drum majors, Etienne Redpath, Hazel Hartman, and Krystian Tamondong. They led the band expertly and looked amazing. Bravo!

In Memory of Patrick Doyle

We were saddened to hear about the passing of Patrick Doyle, 94, on March 12, 2024.



Patrick taught piano at Seattle Public Schools (SPS) for 38 years, ending his career in the 1980s with SPS as Head of Music at Ballard High School, where he also directed choir and band.



Choirs Excel at State Solo & Ensemble

The Vocal Jazz, Chamber Choir, and Tenor Bass Ensemble, soloists Corinne Iacobucci, Katherine Wenrick, Amelia Wignall, Sophie Nash, Eli Graham, and Ezra Hage, and duet Wren Wooten and Amelia Wignall excelled at the WIAA/WMEA (Washington Music Educators Association) State Solo and Ensemble competition April 25-26 at Central Washington University.

Vocalists received "superior" and "excellent" scores and soloists Sophie Nash (2nd place Alto) and Ezra Hage (3rd place Bass) placed in the top three in the state in their solo categories.

Chamber Choir made history as the first BHS soprano/mezzo/alto group to place in the state competition, earning second in the large groups category out of 22 groups. Chamber Choir members include: Corinne Iacobucci, Madeleine Koenig, Miriam Mathan, Ella McLaughlin, Sophie Nash, Izzy Rampersad, Josie Rough, Maddie Singer, Charlie Van Kley, Katherine Wenrick, Amelia Wignall and Wren Wooten.



Ballard Performing Arts
Congratulations to the Choir students, pictured with Director Courtney Rowley and accompanist Serena Chin.

MLK Week Celebrates Black Excellence

By Alina Zahn

TALISMAN FEATURES EDITOR

As featured in the February 1, 2024 Talisman.

Martin Luther King Jr. is one of the most influential people in history. Many know him from his infamous “I Have a Dream Speech”, letters from a Birmingham jail and his leadership in the Montgomery bus boycott.

However, the week of January 8-12, the Black Student Union’s (BSU) involvement within the planning of a school-wide PowerPoint presentation and assembly provided a deeper dive into things people may not know about MLK.

Monday featured a PowerPoint presentation on MLK’s background and included the surprising fun fact that he attended college at 15 years old. His speech “The Power of Love” was then played in each class.

BSU President Semai Hagos felt this speech would be a strong way to begin the week.

“I chose this speech because it’s a speech not many people know, I thought it really showed his character and how he led with compassion,” Hagos said.

The theme of leading with compassion carried on throughout the week. On Tuesday, PowerPoint slides were presented which discussed landmark Supreme Court cases and the impacts of the civil rights movement.

“We wanted to show the big events during the Civil Rights movement that drove MLK to want a change for not

only African Americans but all minority groups,” Hagos said.

To break up the week, Wednesday, students got the time to write down and reflect on what they had been learning.

“This time allowed for students to connect MLK’s message to their lives and reflect on how his achievements impact our school and community on a daily basis,” Hagos said.

On Thursday, BSU organizers wanted to prepare students for the Friday assembly by playing “Life’s Blueprint,” a speech in which MLK addressed high schoolers.

“We wanted to show the big events in the Civil Rights movement that drove MLK to want a change for not only African Americans but all minority groups.”

~Semai Hagos
BSU President

“This speech is relevant and engaging for students, allowing them to connect MLK’s aspiration to our school and community,” Hagos said. “He motivates us to dream big and to strive to be the best in whatever it is we become in life.”

To wrap up the whole week, BSU hosted the MLK Assembly where they arranged for the choir and orchestra to sing “Lift Every

Voice and Sing.” The Washington Diamonds Drill Team also performed.

“We spoke with the drill team on how funk styles such as this one originated from West African tribal dances, which made its way to America,” Hagos said. “During the Civil Rights Movement, hymns and dances became a way for slaves to comfort each other and as a form of protest.”

The drill team’s captivating performance is one that BSU Advisor Malik Prince ’11 grew up with.

Black Student Union Advisor Malik Prince ’11 speaks to the crowd at the MLK assembly.

Dylan Jackson/
Talisman



“At my old high school we used to have drill teams come to school at least twice a year. Performances like these are much more frequent and brought the school together,” Prince said.

After the drill team’s performance, junior Shya Knox performed a self-written rap relating to MLK and his vision. Prince gave insight into how this rap was a way to communicate MLK’s message.

“Personally for myself I feel like I connect more with things when they are communicated on a level that is artistic. I think students feel that way as well, that’s why using hip hop and rap was really important for the assembly,” Prince said.

Hagos hopes that performances like these in assemblies will help to bring the school and community together.

“I think we bond better over fun and interactive events such as dancing, rather than just reading PowerPoint slides,” Hagos said. “The different performances seemed to have been engaging to the students.”

Throughout the week students were educated in an interactive way to help teach MLK’s main message: to bring people together and lead with love, always.

DECA Club Offers Job Training & Fun

By John Filipini and Sidney Moore
TALISMAN REPORTERS

*Abridged from a December 14, 2023
Talisman article.*

Founded in 1946 and with over 206 chapters and 225,000 high school members, the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) saw an influx of participants this year.

DECA's goal, as said on the website, "is to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management."

The club has a wide range of opportunities, competitions and chapters and is encouraging both high school and college level students to be prepared and confident when dealing with real world skills. While



Tansy Velush/Talisman

Marketing teacher Mary Jereczek instructs during a DECA meeting.

some students may want to go through competitions and others want to engage with other business-minded people their age, DECA has created a positive environment for all students according to the club members.

When talking to Madelyn Skinner, an officer for DECA, she emphasized how encouraging the community is.

"Everyone is supportive, no matter how much experience you have," she said.

HAVING A motivating community is important, especially with a club that started the school year with more than 20 new members. All students have individual goals they are able to work on in the club, whether it be working towards competitions or gaining more knowledge about marketing.

Skinner said having the new members is good for getting a leg up in school year competitions.

According to Skinner, the officers and more experienced members are working towards a required number of community service hours. They participated in a pet food drive during Apple Cup Week, bringing different pet foods for the two teams.

Usually during the club itself for the majority of the members it is mainly information gathering and working on general projects. For the newer

members the focus has been on a start-up business proposal and presentation that will be completed in early January.

"DECA is a special club that I love to be in," junior Jackson Matera said. "It's something that I feel is different from anything else in school, and it has highly improved my experience here at Ballard because it's something really special."

Organized by marketing and entrepreneurship teacher Mary Jereczek, DECA meets Thursdays at lunch in Ms. Jereczek's classroom.

"The meetings are always fun," Matera said. "I got lots of friends that do it, and we get to think and work together and that's always a good time."

Creating a product and being able to promote it are skills that require knowledge and experience. Ballard offers many semester-long courses that teach these skills, such as marketing, sports marketing and entrepreneurship, which are all taught by Ms. Jereczek.

The club's weekly meetings are a critical part to the club, and they often provide great times for inspiration and new ideas for the upcoming competitions, as well as being a place for like-minded students to get together and share ideas with one another.

"I love going in at lunch and seeing all my guys in there," Matera said. "We all got good ideas, and when we get into our groups and work together to make our best work, you feel like you've accomplished something good."

Thanks to the Talisman staff for sharing their work with The Log. Read and support student journalism at ballardtalisman.org

DECA Students Earn Top 10 at International Conference



Congratulations to DECA students Violet Petersen and Kate Herndon who participated in the DECA International Career Development Conference in Anaheim. Violet and Kate competed in a 100-question Marketing Exam, 10-Page Promotional Plan Paper, and a 15-minute presentation to beat out 160 competitors and earn Top 10 in the World in the Integrated Marketing Campaign-Service Event.

Photo: DECA

For the Logbook

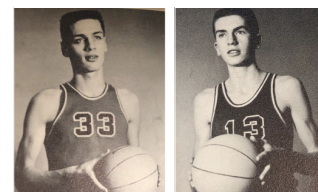


- Aug. 2-18, 2024 | Celebrating All Things Ballard Online Auction
- Aug. 15, 2024 | Salmon Dinner Event, Pacific Fishermen Shipyard
- Aug. 16, 2024 | Victor Salvino 24th Annual Golf Classic at Newcastle Golf Course
- Sept. 17, 2024 | Foundation Board Meeting, 4 p.m. Ballard High School Library
- Oct. 12, 2024 | Breakfast of Champions, 9-11 a.m. Ballard High School Commons, honoring longtime BHS PE teacher (retired) Bebe Burns
- Dec. 3, 2024 | Foundation Annual Board Meeting & Reception, 5 p.m. Blue Ridge Community Club
- March 22, 2025 | Running of the Beavers, 9:30 a.m. Golden Gardens

A Final Word of Thanks

I want to take the time to honor and thank one of my heroes, my good friend and high school mentor, Steve Wilson '60, who passed away in November and is deservedly honored on our Wall of Recognition at Ballard High School.

Already a rising Ballard High School basketball star, Steve invited me — a future Beaver with stars in my eyes — to practice and play hoops with the “big boys” on the black top at Monroe Junior High.



Shingle Yearbook

Beaver Basketball team mates Steve Wilson and Dick Lee

Once I became a Beaver, Steve challenged and encouraged me to keep my head down and work hard, an ethic that one day helped me earn a scholarship to the University of Washington. Carol (nee Nelson '60), his high school sweetheart and future wife, was always there to support, pick up and encourage those around her as well.

Steve was and is one of the best to come out of Ballard High School. His name is on our Wall of Recognition for good reason. He graduated from the University of Washington in 1964 and was a varsity basketball player for three years, earning All-Coast honors, and was the team captain.

As an educator for 42 years, Steve was a superintendent and principal of various high schools and middle schools. Before retiring, he was the Chief Academic Officer of the Seattle School District. While Steve was Principal at Seattle's Ingraham High School, the school gained national prominence as one of the best in the U.S.

Carol passed just a few months after Steve. I'm still buoyed and driven by their optimism, kindness and “get to it” spirit. They were married for 61 years, and adored by their three daughters, seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild. They will both be missed. Thank you Steve and Carol.

~ Dick Lee '61, Executive Director and Co-Founder
Ballard High School Foundation