

# John Goodman '71, Beaver on the Go



Fall/Winter 2025

Ballard High School Foundation



Volume 38, No. 2



*Meet Super  
Beaver Alumni  
Booster*

*John Goodman  
BHS Class of '71*

**Also!  
Breakfast of Champions  
Celebrates Trailblazing  
PE Teacher BeBe Burns**

**Join Our Mission  
Let's Give Back to  
Support ALL BHS  
Students**

# Join Us on Our Mission for ALL Students

*A Note From Executive Director and Co-Founder Dick Lee '61*

**A**s someone who has walked the halls of Ballard High School for multiple generations — and who still proudly wears (and backs) the Beaver red and black — I’m writing to ask for your continued support for something that matters deeply to me: the future of our school.



The Ballard High School Foundation has been a lifeline for students and teachers for more than 25 years. With your generous support, and by reaching out to our strategic partners at Ballard High School, we’ve funded scholarships that open doors, worked to enhance extracurricular activities that shape character and build teamwork, and helped sustain programs that make Ballard a place where young people thrive. From music and athletics to counseling, facility upgrades and college readiness, your gifts have helped us say “yes” when it matters most.

**But none of this happens without your support and financial donations.**

Our Annual Direct Appeal keeps our work responsive to current and future needs. Your donation to the General Fund is 100% tax-deductible and 100% appreciated. Whether it’s \$25 or \$2,500, every gift helps us continue the work of supporting Ballard’s students, faculty, and administration. It’s how we keep Ballard strong — not just for today’s Beavers, but for generations to come. Thank you for your continued support. The envelope in the center of the magazine has gift information.

In our last edition of *The Log*, I noted the passing of our good friend and GREAT Beaver **Laurie (Detert) Anderson '53**. Laurie was a champion of the Golden Beavers Scholarship Program, and a strong believer in giving back and supporting all things Ballard High School. Following the report of her passing, we learned that Laurie’s giving had continued with her bequest of \$124,791 for Golden Beavers Scholarships and \$124,791 for the GAINS program. Thank you for always giving, Laurie.



Before I sign off, I also want to thank **Beth Sylves**, who recently stepped down from her Board of Directors position. Beth was the force behind the return of the Breakfast of Champions and the Running of the Beavers 5K Fun Run event following the break due to COVID. A passionate cheerleader for her wrestling/football playing daughter Cass Sylves '23 and an accomplished professional with WIAA, we’ll miss Beth’s enthusiasm and drive.



## Help Us Continue Our Great Work!

The Ballard High School Foundation can only continue our great work in support of ALL Ballard High School students and staff with your goodwill. **Thank you for sharing a Direct Appeal donation** using the envelope enclosed in the *Log* magazine.



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*THE LOG FALL/WINTER 2025*  
VOL. 38, NO. 2

**BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION**

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**Cover Image c/o John Goodman**

*John Goodman '71 made his own professional and personal success, all while giving back to Ballard High School and local community.*

## Meet BHS Assistant Principal Amelia Yonan

This fall, BHS welcomed a new member to the Administrative Team, Assistant Principal Amelia Yonan. Originally from Modesto, CA, Amelia earned her B.A. in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Washington. She began her educational career in Seattle Public Schools as a reading tutor and later earned a Master's in Teaching from George Washington University, where she also worked in educational programming at the Smithsonian for multiple years.



Amelia's passion for education led her back to the formal school setting and to Baltimore, where she earned her teaching certificate from Johns Hopkins University. Amelia also taught a variety of high school social studies courses, coached athletics, and was an advisor for student groups.

After returning to Seattle in 2013, she earned an additional endorsement in Multi-Lingual Education from UW and began teaching at Kentlake High School in 2014, taking on various leadership and teaching roles for the Kent School District. She earned her Administrator Certification from Seattle University. Before starting at BHS in the fall, she served as Assistant Principal at KentrIDGE High School.

With over 20 years in education, Amelia brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to student growth. She looks forward to building strong partnerships with the Ballard community and is eager to support both staff and students in promoting a thriving learning environment.

Amelia lives in West Seattle with her husband Clint (also an educator), son Atticus (a 7th grader at Denny International Middle School), daughter Anna (a 3rd grader at Concord International Elementary School), and dog Roman (a middle-aged rescue mutt from Texas).

## Principal Welcome



Photo Courtesy of Abby Hunt

*The BHS Administrative Team (left to right): Assistant Principal David Fort, Principal Abby Hunt, Assistant Principal Amelia Yonan, and Assistant Principal James Leutzinger.*

Dear Ballard High School Community,

I am excited to welcome everyone back to another great year at The Dam! We opened the year with great joy as we welcomed in the Class of 2029 with the support and care of our LINK Crew program. Our enrollment and academics remain strong as ever and student life shares a constant hum of excitement throughout the community. In the few months since the school year began, we've been active with Homecoming Week events, SAT/PSAT testing, 9th grade class elections, Curriculum Night, Athletics, Performing Arts events, and more. And it's only the first quarter!

Needless to say, it is a great time to be a Beaver. If you haven't been in the building recently, we'd love to see you at an Athletics and/or Performing Arts event soon. Go Beavers!

~ Abby Hunt, Ballard High School Principal

## Thanks and Welcomes

Well wishes to outgoing Ballard HS Counseling Secretary Carol Bristol, Assistant Principal Jody Shuman, Fiscal Specialist Jana Pitman and Social Worker Mackenzie Fee for their service to the BHS community. In addition to welcoming Assistant Principal Amelia Yonan, we'd like to welcome (pictured left to right) Counseling Center Secretary Sailau Tuitele; GAINS Coordinator Amanda Jantz; Fiscal Specialist Latt Thant; and Social Worker Elly Sprinkle.



# Go, John, Go!

## BHS Alumni John Goodman '71 Only Has One Gear

By Gloria Kruzner

THE LOG EDITOR

**B**allard Class of 1971 graduate John Goodman's story has been deeply rooted in Ballard for generations. Though his name, and success as a commercial real estate owner and developer, may be recognized far beyond the Northwest, his heart remains in the tight-knit neighborhood community he never left.

Born in 1953 as the middle child to James and Pauline Goodman, John was raised in the Lower Phinney home his great-grandfather had built on the corner of 67<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northwest.

The family didn't have a lot of money, but John and his siblings Cathy (Class of '68) and Donald (Class of '74) enjoyed a vibrant community filled with everything a young adventurous spirit would want.

"It was an interesting and dynamic place to live," John said. "You got to meet so many types of people."

Their father, James, a Cleveland High School graduate, worked at the Sweden Freezer factory in Interbay, while their mother Pauline (Edwards '44) kept the household running and raised their family with loving care.

Their Uncle Robert '46 and Aunts Roberta '63 and Barbara '61 also attended Ballard High School.

John fondly recalled his Ballard-famous great-uncles — the six Edwards brothers — renowned for their small fleet and commercial fishing prowess. As his grandfather's brothers, they served as early role models and left a lasting impression.



Goodman Racing

*BHS Foundation supporter John Goodman '71 is passionate about giving back to his community and vintage car racing. In 2008 he took a victory behind the wheel of his '71 Greenwood Corvette at the 24 Hours of Le Mans Race in France.*

(Great Grandmother Caspara, on mom Pauline's side, from the Class of 1921, marks the family's first entry on their Beaver family tree, though she dropped out of school her junior year to take a job at Frederick & Nelson.)

Reminiscing on his early days in Ballard, where he could just run down to the corner store for a Green River soda, John recalled great times as a Beaver. He still has tight friendships from his West Woodland, Monroe Junior High, and Ballard High days.

"The thing about high school, even junior high, I had a blast," he said. "It was just a fun school. I was outgoing, I still associate with the friends I grew up with."

Though he admired his Beaver friends who turned out for athletic teams, John eschewed high school sports in

pursuit of his ultimate teenage goal: a cool ride. He was able to purchase his first car, a 1964 GTO with a giant purring engine to match, by spending after-school behind the counter at the Ballard McDonald's.

Following his graduation from Ballard, John took an interest in commercial real estate while attending North Seattle Community College. To further his knowledge in the subject, John sought out an area professional who mentored him after he graduated from North Seattle.

"I wanted to be trained by a mentor who I looked up to, while growing in my career," he said. "If you want to do it, you got to do it right. The harder you work, the more successful you'll be."

John ultimately founded the commercial real estate company



bearing his name in 1980. Goodman Real Estate has grown to more than \$4 billion in assets across US and Mexico. Companies under his past leadership include Pinnacle Property Management Services (once the largest multifamily manager in the U.S.), Cascade Affordable Housing, and Triad Development.

Now living on the shores of Shilshole with wife Shawn (a Lincoln grad), John's influence spans real estate, philanthropy, and motorsports — with a flair for both business and high-octane pursuits, and a passion for giving back to the community.

John and Shawn founded The Goodman Foundation in 2005 to support “organizations that uplift children and families.” John has remained grounded in his roots, giving back to the same neighborhood he grew up in, with crucial donations to Ballard Boys & Girls Club, as well as the Ballard High School Foundation.

“The Ballard High School Foundation is important because it's a group of people who care and provide school funding beyond government agencies. It needs to continue to survive,” he said of his longtime contributions.

John joined the Ballard Boys & Girls Club as a 6-year-old. He looks back upon those years fondly. He now considers his gifts a special pay-it-forward for today's Ballard youths who benefit from the club's enriching programming.

The Goodman Foundation's \$1 million gift in 2009 helped transform the club's facilities and programming. A recent donation of \$300,000 covered landscaping and painting needs. He's been called one of the most generous individual donors in the club's history.

“It had very positive memories,” John said. “It's important to have a facility that's meaningful and helpful to the community. It's a fabulous facility.”



Goodman Racing

*John Goodman (center) celebrates at Seafair with Goodman Real Estate CEO George Petrie and Company President Kelly Jo Norris, where the Miss Goodman Real Estate U-91 Boat took first in its class.*

The Goodman Foundation is an annual sponsor for the Ballard High School Foundation's Golf Classic and has provided other timely donations toward school needs.

“It's important to provide support for Ballard High School as schools can get pulled in a lot of directions. My focus is based on how I care about this community,” he said. “It's important to me to continue because this is where I grew up. I care a lot about Ballard.”

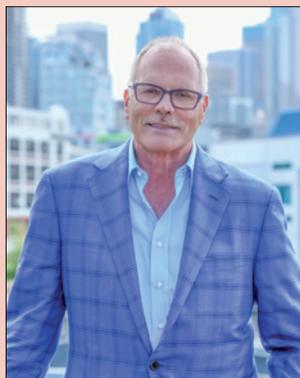
John is among the 58 Beaver alumni who have been recognized on the Ballard High School Foundation's Wall of Recognition.

“It's an honor,” he said. John also appreciated that the wall includes a breadth of talent from a variety of paths. “I hope the students see that these are successful people and that part of their success comes from their school.”

“It is important that we spend time and effort with young people today to educate, help and nurture them, so they're prepared in a positive way and so they have the foundation to move on with their lives,” he added.

## Foundation Wall of Recognition Member

John Goodman was added to the Ballard High School Wall of Recognition in 2011. The Wall of Recognition acknowledges alumni of 25 years or more who have achieved prominence in a variety of fields. The school administration is working with the Foundation Board to make a video display of the honorees, so students and other school visitors can learn more about each of these accomplished Beaver alums. Meet all of the recipients at [ballardhighschoolfoundation.org/wall-of-recognition](http://ballardhighschoolfoundation.org/wall-of-recognition).



See **GOODMAN**, page 6

## Goodman: Focus on Giving Back to Ballard Community

*Continued from page 5*

John and Shawn's Foundation has also been a supporter of Seattle Children's Hospital, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of King County, and the American Red Cross. Their kids, Gillian, Alex and Johnny, graduated from Bishop Blanchet High School, another local school recipient of past Goodman Foundation donations. These days, John and Shawn enjoy doting on their five grandchildren; Gillian with two and Alex with three. Son Johnny will be married early next year.

Aside from making professional gains and giving back to his community, John also has made sure to have a little fun too. The boy who once schlepped fries to earn his first ride was inspired to take lessons in road racing in the early 1980s.

"I found it very interesting," John said, and he's since driven vintage Corvettes and Ferraris, among other muscle cars from the 1960s and 70s, through the racing circuits of US, Canada and Europe. His race team's Interbay garage is just past Fishermen's Terminal on West Emerson Place. He said he enjoys the test behind the wheel and aspiring for the perfection needed in the sport.

"It's a precise thought process," he said. "It's not about speed. One small mistake can ruin the whole race."

His diligence behind the wheel has paid off. John has won numerous car races across the country, including a standout victory at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in France in 2008.

John also enjoys speed on the water. For the past four years, Goodman Real Estate has been a sponsor of the Miss Goodman Real Estate U-91 hydroplane, part of the H1 Unlimited circuit. If you gathered on the shores of Lake Washington last August, you



Goodman Racing

*Miss Goodman Real Estate hydro driver Andrew Tate and John Goodman celebrate victory at Madison Regatta.*

would have seen the boat — featuring a sleek black, gold, and white design — bouncing along the course, piloted by Andrew Tate, as it claimed victory in Seafair's Apollo Mechanical Cup Final. The boat also topped the field at the Madison Regatta in July.

"It was huge," John said of the victories. "It meant a lot for the team."

In his early years, John recalled towing a wooden hydroplane at top speeds behind his bike around his Ballard neighborhood. He also remembers walking down to Green Lake with his dad to watch hydro races, popular there in the 1960s and 70s. He treasured his hydro models, and his favorite boat was the spirited pink "Hawaii Kai."

The race continues for John, and his Ballard community continues to benefit. "Just caring about your community, keeping it safe, fun and healthy for the people who are in it," John explained as his "why" he'll continue to give back to Ballard and the high school that helped shape him.

*Thanks to Deb DeWall, Goodman Real Estate Executive Specialist, for her assistance with this piece.*

### Thank You, John!

**A Very Special Beaver**, John Goodman and the Goodman Foundation are always willing to support the Ballard High School Foundation whenever asked. Never, ever has he said no. Our amazing annual Golf Classic tournament, which raises money for Ballard Athletics and Performing Arts, continues because of his generous support.

Thank you, John, for continuing to give back to the Ballard community.

*~ Dick Lee '61*

**Ballard High School Foundation  
Co-Founder & Executive Director**

**John Goodman's generosity** has been truly transformational for the Ballard Boys & Girls Club. His support goes far beyond having his name on the building — yes, he was pivotal in helping redevelop the Club in the '90s, but he continues to invest in it today.

His ongoing support keeps the space refreshed, vibrant, and well-maintained, and has even included supporting the snack program that fuels our kids each day.

Thanks to John, more than 200 Ballard youth have a safe, welcoming place to go after school — a place to build confidence, find connection, and become their best selves.

We are so grateful to John for all he does for our community.

*~ Lori Bae*

**Chief Executive Officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of King County**

## GAINS Coordinator Updates

The Foundation's longtime support of the Graduation Assistance Impacting Needs of Students (GAINS) program helps foster a community where BHS students can pursue their goals with confidence. GAINS Coordinators work with school administration, counselors, and teachers to identify and engage at-risk students. Last spring, the Foundation Board approved the additional funding needed (beyond a Grousemont Foundation grant and existing budget dollars) to cover staffing costs for the two GAINS coordinators for the 2025-26 school year.

This year, we welcome new GAINS and 504 Building Coordinator **Amanda Jantz**. Amanda shared a quick introduction at the September Foundation Board Meeting.



"I grew up in Kansas, which gave me a Midwestern charm but a great appreciation for the beauty here in the Pacific Northwest," she said. One of 11 siblings, Amanda graduated in 2022 with a degree in English Education from Emporia State University. Amanda's dad is from Honduras, and her mom is Native American (Pascua Yaqui). "Representation as an Indigenous and Latina educator is important to me," she said.

Amanda taught sixth-grade English in Kansas for a year before relocating to Seattle for a position as a Special Education Instructional Assistant. She's excited about her new role as a GAINS and 504 Building Coordinator. "Special Education has taught me a great deal about inclusion, equity, and the importance of relationship-building," she said. "I value the community that exists in the school setting. Having rapport with students and fellow educators is essential to me."

**Dale Griffith** continues in his role as GAINS and 504 Building Coordinator. He received his education degree from Eastern Washington University and has been a GAINS Coordinator at BHS since 2018.



Dale is also the Head Coach for the BHS Softball program and a three-time Metro Coach of the Year. His Fastpitch team has gone to the State Tournament four seasons in a row and looks to three-peat as Metro Champs this spring. The Slowpitch team has won the Metro Championship for two of its first four seasons and competed in the State Tournament in October.

*Thank you, Dale and Amanda, for all you do for Ballard students.*

**>>> Your generous donations help sustain the GAINS program,** assisting all BHS students on their path to graduation.

Please consider a contribution, using the enclosed envelope in *The Log*. **Thank you!**



## BHS Grad Friendly New Face in Counseling Center

Ballard's Counseling Center staff are an integral part of our Golden Beavers/Hughbanks Family Scholarship process. We wish outgoing Counseling Secretary Carol Bristol well, following her recent retirement. (Also, we love this photo of Carol from our June Scholarship Luncheon, just after receiving the Captain Ballard Award for her decade of work in the Counseling Center and support with scholarships.)



*Now, let's say hello to the Counseling Center's newest staff member and a familiar BHS face ...*

Hi, I'm Say Tuitele! I graduated from Ballard High in 2009 and never imagined I'd find my way back here, but here I am! I worked in the Ballard Teen Health Center from 2018 to 2024, took a year off, and now I'm proud to serve as the Counseling Secretary.



I love working with students and helping them navigate high school and life beyond it. When I'm not at work, I'm a busy mom of four amazing girls and you can usually find me spending weekends at AAU basketball tournaments cheering them on.

Coming full circle back to Ballard has been a special journey and like the principal always used to say when I was a student here; "It's always great to be a Beaver!"

# Breakfast Fundraiser Celebrates BeBe, Community

The Ballard High School Foundation teamed again with the Athletic Booster Club this fall to present the inspiring **Breakfast of Champions** community fundraiser. More than 200 supporters gathered in the Ballard HS Commons on October 4 to eat pancakes, dive deep on student wellness, and celebrate sports, teamwork, and trailblazing PE teacher and coach **BeBe Burns**, recipient of the 2025 BHS Woman of Impact Award.

A PE teacher from 1966-96, and coach from 1974-96, BeBe's career spanned the changes brought on by Title IX and female inclusion in athletics, though she always prioritized health and fitness for all Beavers. Her former students, **Teresa Allen '70** and **Sue Stimac Verduin '78**, presented the award, part of a group of alumni, tennis protege and gym friends, who showed up in force to celebrate BeBe. Her powerlifting coach, **Todd Christensen**, was particularly poignant. He shared that even with some significant health challenges following BeBe's retirement, she determinedly put in the work to become the most decorated power lifter in Washington state.

In addition to celebrating BeBe, the breakfast event raised funds for Student Wellness Resources. Thanks to BHS parent alum and Seattle Reign/University of Washington/Seahawks Team Physician **Dr. Jonathan Drezner** for raising awareness on student wellness. The breakfast event also launched a 48-hour giving campaign,



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

*Emcee Erin Mayovsky interviewed Baseball Coach Doug Montgomery '03, Softball Coach Dale Griffith, and Gymnastics Coach Stephanie Gundel. Sue Stimac Verduin '78, BeBe Burns, and Powerlifting Coach Todd Christensen with BeBe's "Woman of Impact" Award and commemorative Wheaties cover. Seniors Tess Keenan and Ellie Pake performed the National Anthem.*

with the Foundation matching all related donations up to \$2,500 — and we hit the mark.

BHS students brought energy and

talent — from the Pep Band's lively entrance to the crisp Cheer and Dance Team routines, and a moving anthem duet by **Tess Keenan '26** and **Ellie Pake '26**. Coaches and athletes were seated at each table to share their perspectives on high school sports.

As with other Foundation fundraisers, 100% of ticket proceeds were shared with the BHS team or program chosen by each attendee. (See the breakdown of giving on page 9.) We look forward to supporting Beaver students — and to another great community event next fall.

## Woman of Impact Award

*Named after Sue Stimac Verduin '78, the award honors the BHS and Seattle University basketball alum's sense of community, teamwork and personal drive. The award is presented, as merited, for outstanding efforts in the classroom, on the performance stage, through volunteer service, and/or school community leadership.*



## Many Hands Helped Make Breakfast Special

Thanks to everyone who helped the Breakfast of Champions a resounding success: Emcee **Erin Mayovsky**, our Coaches Panel (**Dale Griffith, Stephanie Gundel, Doug Montgomery '03**), student speaker **Alessa Iliakis '27**, featured speaker **Dr. Jonathan Drezner**, and Athletic Booster Club President **Suzanne Dale Estey**.

Thanks to the BHS Pep Band (Band Director **Jay Gillespie**), Cheer Team (Coach **Alicia Edgerly**), Dance Team (Coach **Bethany Nielcen**), and Choir Members **Tess Keenan '26** and **Ellie Pake '26** (Choir Director **Courtney Rowley**) for performing. We also appreciate the student-athletes and coaches who joined each table, **LINK Crew** volunteers (coordinated by Assistant Principal **David Fort**), and the **Cheer and Dance Team** representatives who pitched in throughout the event. Shout out to our kitchen and custodial staff for their behind-the-scenes support, and the delicious breakfast spread. We enjoyed BHS Athletic Trainer **Loka Murphy's** hearty oatmeal, in addition to pancakes, fruit and pastries.

Thanks to our generous donors — **Smith Brothers Farms, Rough & Tumble, Duke's Seafood, Seattle Storm, Ballard FC/Salmon Bay FC** — and the **Athletic Booster Club** for sharing prizes.

Thanks to event leads, BHS Foundation Executive Director **Dick Lee '61, Suzanne Dale Estey, Sue Stimac Verduin '78**, and **Gloria Kruzner**. We're grateful to Principal **Abby Hunt**, Athletic Director **Eric Ensign '91**, and all who backed the event.



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

*Suzanne Dale Estey, Dr. Jonathan Drezner, Erin Mayovsky, Sue Stimac Verduin '78 and Dick Lee '61 gathered on stage after the program; BHS Cheer and Dance Team members performed.*



## Donor Impact by the Numbers

Thanks to the generosity of breakfast donors, BHS programs received a total of \$14,175 (through stipends and direct donations). This included \$5,070 for Student Wellness Resources, boosted by the Foundation's \$2,500 match.



Baseball	\$235	Gymnastics	\$500
Boys Basketball	\$285	Link Crew	\$200
Boys Lacrosse	\$200	Performing Arts	\$400
Cheer	\$1,295	Softball	\$270
Cross Country	\$300	Strength & Conditioning	\$600
Dance Team	\$2,920	Student Wellness	\$5,070
Football	\$550	Tennis	\$1,000
Girls Basketball	\$65	Track & Field	\$50
Girls Soccer	\$420		
Girls Swim & Dive	\$85		

# We Have Recently Lost ...

## Richard “Dick” Anderson ‘67

Richard Anderson was born in Seattle on October 13, 1949. He grew up in Ballard, attended West Woodland Elementary, James Monroe Junior High, and graduated from Ballard High School. He joined the Air Force, later transferring to the Washington National Guard. At age 21, he began working at the Safeway plant in Bellevue. After 30 years he retired.



Dick played softball for 30 years on the “Goofy Oldtimers,” with Loyal Heights as home field. He was a Seahawks season ticket holder for 40 years. Dick also had a passion for travel in Mexico. “Skipper Dick” was a nickname he earned due to his love of boating. In 2004 he purchased a home on Whidbey Island. A priority during his retirement years was caregiving for his mother. She lived with him for seven years, passing away at age 101.

## Gloria (Baidin) Burnett Davidson ‘46

Gloria Burnett Davidson passed away peacefully at home on June 7, 2025. She was 96 and surrounded in her

final years by the love and care of her second husband Alex Davidson and her family.

After graduating from Ballard High School, Gloria studied Art at the University of Washington and married James Burnett in 1951. Together they raised five children in a home filled with love and music.



As her family grew, Gloria began teaching piano to supplement their income. After attending a seminar by Dr. Robert Pace, she adopted his teaching method and became an international leader in music education. In 2004 she was inducted into the WA Music Teachers Hall of Fame. She inspired her children and grandchildren to find joy in music and learning.

## Joyce Louise Gauntt ‘54

Joyce Louise Gauntt, a beloved sister, aunt, friend, and floral artist, passed away peacefully on June 19, 2025, at the age of 89.

Born in Juneau, Joyce spent most of her early life in Ballard. A proud

graduate of Ballard High School, Joyce’s roots in the Pacific Northwest shaped her lifelong connection to flowers, faith, and community.



From a young age, Joyce had a passion for flowers. At just 13, she was already transplanting and arranging blooms for 75 cents an hour — the beginning of a career and calling that would span decades. She worked for a total of 42 years at Swansons Nursery in Ballard, where she was known and loved by countless customers and colleagues.

The love of flowers came from her father, Ed, and her deep and enduring faith from her mother, Helen. Joyce carried both of these legacies with joy, always eager to share them with those around her.

Her generosity, warmth, and laughter left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her.

## James Allan Gregory ‘51

James Allan Gregory was born in Seattle on July 7, 1934, where he spent most of his life. He died on July 7, 2025. He was married to Judy

## In Memoriam

- LOIS MARIE (SPARKS) AHRENS ‘45
- RICHARD ANDERSON ‘67
- MARGARET BEAUCAMP ‘54
- MYLA BELSTON ‘48
- KEN BIGLER ‘64
- JULIE (YOUNGBLOOD) BROOKE ‘60
- ALICE (KINNEY) BRYANT ‘54
- SHARRON (OVERHUS) CAIN ‘57
- DON CHASTEK ‘60
- RANDI (RIISE) CIMINSKI ‘68
- MARION COLVIN ‘58
- GLORIA (BAIDIN) BURNETT DAVIDSON ‘46
- MARGARET DEASON ‘50
- NANCY (WILLIAMS) DOMBE ‘64
- ANITA (PERRY) DOWSETT ‘51
- FRANCES DUFFY ‘50
- ARLENE EVARTS ‘51

- ALEN FEDERSPIEL ‘49
- MICHAEL FITZGIBBONS ‘59
- DAVID GAENZ ‘57
- CYNTHIA GARDNER ‘73
- JOYCE GAUNTT ‘54
- WILLIAM GERMANN ‘63
- JAMES GREGORY ‘51
- RICHARD GREEN ‘65
- FRED HILL ‘65
- PATRICIA (MICK) HILL ‘68
- SUE HOLT ‘68
- KATHRYN JENKINS ‘65
- JUNE JOHNSTON ‘41
- ROBERT KORTH ‘60
- CAROLYN (LONEY) LAFOUNTAINE ‘57
- DARLENE (COHEN) LANE ‘53
- RANDALL LEE ‘82
- PATRICIA LEWIS ‘58
- GEORGIA LOE ‘56



- TODD LILLENES ‘83
- LAWRENCE LUNDBERG ‘65
- DENNIS MCKNIGHT ‘65
- DEAN MCREYNOLDS ‘57
- TOM OLSEN ‘60
- ROBERT OLSEN ‘62
- JERRY OLSON ‘60
- KARLEEN (KALDESTAD) RANDALL ‘62
- CAROL (SCHLEITWEILER) RICH ‘56
- KENNETH RUTGERS ‘47
- SIV RIGMOR (INGEBRETSEN) STEPHENS ‘66
- RONALD SMITH ‘55
- RONALD SURIANO ‘74
- WILLIAM TAYLOR ‘56
- PHILLIP TIELLE ‘52
- FRANK WAXHAM ‘51
- JANA (BEAHM) WEINMANN ‘75

from 1958-68 and together they had daughters, Kathy and Debbie. His most special times were spent fishing and traveling with his daughters.

Cherished memories include kicking the winning point for the Beavers Football Team in 1951. According to the *Shingle* yearbook, the team took the City Title against Lincoln, 13-6, and then faced a tough Bremerton squad:

“The mighty Beavers overcame a two-touchdown deficit to go on to a 14-13 victory, highlighting the 1951 football season. Because of the Beavers’ amazing defensive record (only eight points were scored against them in the regular season), Ballard was selected mythical State Champion by Washington State sports writers.”



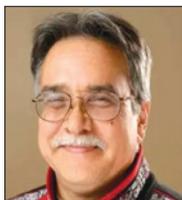
Jim also served in the National Guard and enjoyed living aboard John Wayne’s yacht, “The Wild Goose,” where he served as the resident fishing guide.

Jim will be remembered as a happy, friendly, smiling guy who loved his family and friends. Survivors include his daughters and his grandson.

**Todd Steven Lilleness ’83**

Todd, the “World’s Greatest Plumber,” 60, of Seattle, passed away June 7, 2025 of complications of brain cancer.

Born February, 1965, at Ballard Hospital to Donald and Elfreda Lilleness. Raised in Ballard with many fond memories of his first-generation Norwegian grandparents.



After graduating from BHS, Todd later became a Journeyman Plumber. He was well respected in his over a decade of service as a plumber for Seattle Public Schools where he worked until the day of his diagnosis.

A lover of the outdoors, he spent as much time as he could camping with loved ones. Todd was a true believer in service to others. He served as a volunteer Park Ranger at Lake Cushman, donated blood, and helped others with home and car repairs. Honoring his Alaskan Native heritage as an Aleut, Todd served as a Eyak Native Corporation board member for seven years.

Todd is survived by wife, Deborah; daughter, Serena, stepsons, Rodger and Sean; sister, Teresa; mother Elfreda, and nieces and nephew.

**Philip Tjelle ’52**

Phil Tjelle passed away eight days short of his 89th birthday. Phil was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and uncle. His family will miss his sly humor, smiles, laughter, and hugs.



A true Norwegian, Phil was very proud of his heritage. He liked pickled herring, lutefisk, and krumkake and was known for entertaining people with his Ole and Lena jokes. Salmon fishing was his sport of choice and he went on several excursions to stock the family freezer.

Born in Seattle and a graduate of Ballard High School, Phil attended Whitman College where he developed many lifelong friendships. He then completed graduate school at Stanford University. He retired from Boeing as a chemical engineer. Phil and Carole Jo Boston married August 12, 1956. Upon retirement, they traveled the world, visiting all seven continents.

Survived by his wife of 66 years, Carole; son Jim (Linda); daughters Kristin (Brad), Karli (Larry), Katie (Greg); 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Also his sister Martha Eunice.

Send “In Memoriam” information to [bhsfcomm@gmail.com](mailto:bhsfcomm@gmail.com).

**Lois Marie (Sparks) Ahrens ’45**

January 1928 - May 7, 2025

Written by daughter Joanne Ahrens Hansen

Dear Mom, Thank you for everything. You were a great gal, and an inspiration to a lot of people. To me, of course, you were Mom, and to brothers, John and Jim (Ahrens). You were a beautiful Mom to kids at school who saw you when you came to take class pictures and attend PTA throughout all our school years. You were a fun gal amongst your pals at Emblem Clubs across the 48 states where you attended conventions and at your home club in Ballard.



Ballard, your home for your whole life. Within walking distance of Ballard High School the entire time, 97 years smiling, in color-coordinated and accessorized outfits. And 75 of those years together with Dad, John Marvin Ahrens.

He also grew up in Ballard and went to Ballard High. As did we three Ahrens kids. So did your brother Harold, POW Korea, Sgt. Harold Sparks. Your prayers of 65 years for his return paid off, when he was escorted home to internment at Tahoma Cemetery in 2016. Sister Barbara, and Harold spent summers with you at Golden Gardens where hopefully a bench will be set for others to find a moment to rest with you, Mom.

Thank you, Mom. Your 97 years with us weren’t enough. Angel Kisses are always welcome. Love Jo, Tina, Bill, Rene, James, Colin, Donna, and many others ... including all your friends at Merrill Gardens.

# Celebrating All Things Ballard Auctions & Salmon Dinner

Our Summer 2025 fundraisers — Celebrating All Things Ballard Online Auction & Salmon Dinner, along with the 25th Annual Victor Salvino Golf Classic — delivered more than \$148,000 in outstanding support for the Ballard High School Foundation, BHS Athletics, Performing Arts, Cheer, and Dance, along with this year’s funded item, the LINK Crew freshmen peer-mentoring program.

We are grateful to the supporters who attended the Salmon Barbecue Event on August 14 at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard, as well as those who participated by bidding online August 2-17. Special thanks to **Mason ’68** and **Linda Williams ’67** (Covich-Williams), who once again joined as generous sponsors and bidders!

This year’s online event included a variety of travel, dining and golf options as well as a new collaboration with Cutter & Buck (thanks to CEO and BHS parent **Joel Freet**) for special Beaver logo gear. Coach-led dinner parties and outings were also popular with bidders.

The Salmon Dinner offered a very Ballard vibe, taking place for a third year at the “Pac-Fish.” The Ballard Jazz Combo, under the direction of **Jay Gillespie**, provided a melodic groove



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

*The “Pac-Fish” grill team check on the main course at the Salmon Dinner Event. Auction bidders enthusiastically raise the paddle. Art Olsen ’63 and Sara Easter enjoy the dinner. Emcee Suzanne Dale Estey, Auctioneer Stephen Kilbreath, and Principal Abby Hunt are all smiles.*

while folks grabbed a cool beverage. After Beaver boosters filled their plates with alder-smoked salmon and pork belly sliders and delicious sides, emcee **Suzanne Dale Estey** and Auctioneer **Stephen Kilbreath** encouraged spirited bidding.

Thanks to ASB Advisor and Activity Coordinator **Laura Lehni** and ASB Treasurer **Audrey Papineau ’27** who highlighted the auction’s special ask, funding for the LINK Crew peer-mentoring program.

Thanks to the following individuals for their event support: Foundation Executive Director **Dick Lee ’61**; Principal **Abby Hunt**; **Suzanne Dale Estey**; **Stephen Kilbreath**; the grill team and catering/bar staff; volunteers from the Softball, Cheer and Girls Soccer teams, and **Jim and Christie Spielman**.

Thanks to **Precept Wine** for the Waterbrook wine service. Finally, kudos to our gracious hosts, Pacific Fishermen Shipyard’s **Chris Johnson** and **Raymond Eriksen ’75**.

## Summer Fundraiser Success

BHS programs received nearly \$113,000 in stipends, direct donations and disbursements from summer events. This included \$47,610 for LINK Crew, which included a \$10,000 donation from the BHS Foundation.

LINK Crew	\$47,610	Girls Soccer	\$3,117	Tennis	\$744
Cheer	\$12,510	Wrestling	\$2,460	Dance	\$250
Baseball	\$10,428	Girls Lacrosse	\$2,025	Ultimate Frisbee	\$200
Softball	\$8,498	Girls Swim & Dive	\$981	Flag Football	\$150
Performing Arts	\$7,103	Volleyball	\$963	Boys Soccer	\$100
Golf	\$4,870	Girls Basketball	\$801	Mental Health	\$100
Football	\$4,155	Boys Basketball	\$795	Track	\$100
Boys Lacrosse	\$3,995	Boys Swim & Dive	\$780		

## LINK Crew Support Continues for Five More Years

For three years, the Ballard High School Foundation has been enthusiastic supporters of the school's LINK Crew program, providing \$30,000 in assistance.

This summer, through the Celebrating All Things Ballard Salmon Dinner Event and online auction, we also raised \$37,610 for the program, and the Foundation adding a \$10,000 matching gift for funds raised at the event.

Thanks to donors' kind donations, this help will support LINK Crew activities for five additional years. We'd like to thank and recognize key donations by **Art Olsen '63**, **Cyndy Clegg '78** and **Jerry Masters**, as well as **Raymond Eriksen '75** from Pacific Fishermen Shipyard. Bravo!

LINK Crew involves training high school juniors and seniors to serve as peer mentors (LINK Leaders) for incoming freshmen. Mentors serve as positive role models and help guide the freshmen through a successful transition to high school.

LINK Crew creates a support system for new ninth graders, who may feel overwhelmed with entering high school. LINK groups consist of two leaders and about 10 freshmen, allowing the new students a smaller group of peers to be with as they start their high school experience.

LINK Leaders greet the new Beavers on the first day, give them building tours, check in with them throughout the year and are available to answer questions and share information about school events. The program was previously at Ballard HS and returned in the 2023-24 school year.

This year's mission, as shaped by student LINK Leaders, speaks to the group's ultimate goal: "LINK Crew aims



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio; Trevor Holmgren

*BHS ASB and Activity Coordinator Laura Lehni and ASB Treasurer Audrey Papineau '27 share information about the LINK Crew program at the Celebrating All Things Ballard Salmon Dinner Event.*

*LINK Coordinators Trevor Holmgren, Joe Subido, and Laura Lehni kick off the school year with LINK Leaders and the Class of 2029 in the Main Gym.*

to provide support and resources to new-to-Ballard students by creating consistent relationships that cultivate a sense of belonging, acceptance, and respect."

Thanks to LINK Coordinators **Laura Lehni** and **Trevor Holmgren** and LINK Leader **Audrey Papineau '27** for joining us at the Salmon Dinner Event and sharing the value of this important program with our donors.

# 25th Annual Victor Salvino Golf Classic

The 25th Annual Golf Classic returned to Newcastle's Coal Creek and China Creek Courses on August 15, drawing a full field of enthusiastic golfers in support of Ballard High School Athletics and Performing Arts. It's hard to believe it has been 25 years of Golf Classic competition and camaraderie since **Victor Salvino '51**, **Gary Seefried '64** and **Don Prindle** founded the tournament. The event continues to be a great way for Ballard golfers of all skill levels to enjoy a day on the greens while supporting Ballard High School Dance, Cheer, Athletics and Performing Arts.



We're deeply grateful to our major sponsors **John Goodman '71** (Goodman Foundation) and **Mason '68** and **Linda Williams '67** (Covich-Williams), who stepped forward to cover course fees following Victor Salvino '51's generous three-year commitment.

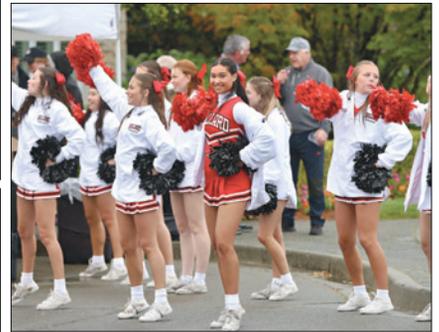


Despite rare August showers, the spirit of the event remained bright, with the Ballard HS Pep Band and Cheer Team providing a warm welcome.

*Continued on Page 15*

## Mark Your Calendars!

The **26th Annual Victor Salvino Ballard High School Foundation Golf Classic** will be August 14, 2026 at Newcastle Golf Course.



## Thank You Golf Classic Sponsors

### Title Sponsor

John Goodman '71  
Goodman Foundation

### Golf Carts Sponsor

Johnny Verduin '13  
DY Sports

### Boxed Snack Sponsor

John and Sue (Stimac '78)  
Verduin

### Presenting Sponsors

Mason '68 and Linda '67  
Williams  
Covich-Williams

### Hole Sponsor

Walt Spady  
Dick's Drive-In Restaurants

### Bottled Water Sponsor

Roam Wolfdog Sanctuary

### Apparel Sponsor

Art Olsen '63

### Hole Sponsor

Brown Bear Car Wash

### Prize Sponsor

Salmon Bay Sand & Gravel

### Apparel Procurement Support

Joel Freet  
Cutter & Buck

### Hole Sponsor

Filco Company Inc.

### Closest to the Pin Sponsor

Robert Schultz '74

### Hole in One Sponsor

Carter Motors

### Beverage Cart Sponsor

Russ Katz & Team  
Windermere Real Estate

### Longest Drive Sponsor

Dylan Jones '09  
Mike Montgomery '76

### Signage Sponsor

SuperGraphics

### Driving Range Sponsor

Ryan Carlisle '93  
Western Ventures

### Friend of Ballard Sponsor

Robert Schultz '74

Those who arrived early were treated to a welcome hot dog barbecue and the annual excitement of the Putting Contest, won by **Sven Swanson '25**.



Cutter & Buck golf apparel, coordinated by BHS parent and Cutter & Buck CEO **Joel Freet** and

sponsored by **Art Olsen '63**, added a spirited touch to the day.



Congratulations to **Doug Montgomery '03**, winner of the 50/50 raffle benefiting Girls Softball. In true Beaver fashion, Montgomery, coach of the Ballard Baseball team, donated his winnings back to Ballard Softball. Thanks Coach!

Special gratitude to **Dick Lee '61** for organizing another outstanding Golf Classic, and to Ballard Athletic Booster Club President **Suzanne Dale Estey**, Foundation Board Member **Beth Sylves**, and volunteers from Cheer, Wrestling, and Softball for their support at registration and across the course.

Shout out of thanks to **John and Sue (Stimac '78) Verduin** and **Johnny Verduin** (DY Sports) who also showed up with clutch sponsorships for this year's event. Additional thanks to Newcastle Golf Pro **Mark Rashell**, Principal **Abby Hunt**, Rowland Studio Photographer **Briane Henak**, Pep Band Director **Jay Gillespie**, and Cheer Coach **Alicia Edgerly**.



## Congratulations Classic Top Finishers

**First Place Coal Creek, 61**  
Bill Kruzner, Lee'or Rutenberg,  
Ben Van Hollebeke, Mike Velasquez

**Third Place Coal Creek, 63**  
Kyle Morean, Nathan Sand,  
Phil Stegemoeller, Matt Tanselli

**First Place China Creek, 59**  
Elliot Dotson, Will Katz, Luca  
Richardson, Lucas Williams

**Third Place China Creek, 63**  
Reid Baker, Josh Carl,  
Cory Dwinell, Troy Vigil

**Women's First Place, 67**  
Erin Belling, Jen Douvis, Debra  
Marsten, Laurie Shank

**Longest Drive**  
Coal: Gary Searle and Erin Belling  
China: Spencer Schultz and Terri Kan

**Second Place Coal Creek, 63**  
Chase Jacobsen, Brian Kreshel,  
Owen Leonard, David Munlux

**Closest to the Pin**  
Coal: Ben Van Hollebeke 1'-3/4"  
China: Bruce Kunning 9'

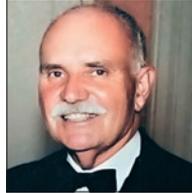
**Second Place China Creek, 62**  
Joey Bunich, Micah Cholerton,  
Bryce Dunbar, Brig Johnson

**Putting Contest**  
Sven Swanson

Photos by Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

# Golden Beavers Scholarships

Since its inception in 1988, the Golden Beavers Scholarship program has awarded \$1.2 million in scholarships to more than 500 students. This includes the 2024 generous infusion of support from the estate of our beloved friend and Foundation co-founder, **C. David Hughbanks '54**. His legacy continues through the Hughbanks Family Scholarships, providing \$150,000 annually through 2034 to expand educational opportunities.



Hughbanks Family Scholarships expand how we can help students who want to study at colleges or trade schools in Washington state, through two-year scholarships.

We are already planning for our 37th Annual Scholarship Luncheon, on June 7, 2026, in the Ray's Boathouse Northwest Room.

## Thanks to Our Golden Beavers Scholarship Committee

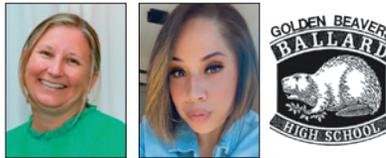
We are again indebted to this year's Golden Beavers Scholarship Committee who celebrate the opportunities to open doors for Beaver graduates.



Led by Co-Chairs **Ryan Carlisle '93** and **Maggie Murphy Moffett '69**, the committee includes (left to right) Ryan, Maggie, John Anderson '01, Meredith Davison, Ann Fitzmaurice, Kathy Madden, Becky Marion '93, Christie Spielman, and Beverly Verduin '14.



We also thank our support team of BHS Counselor Sonja Petersen; Counseling Secretary Sailau "Say" Tuitele (who we welcome aboard on page 7); Foundation Secretary Marianne Baker '70; Executive Director Dick Lee '61; and Communications Director Gloria Kruzner.



## Named Scholarships Honor Special Beavers

The Spring 2026 Golden Beavers Scholarships will include the following special named scholarships. New this year, we're announcing the **Laurie (Detert) Anderson '53 Memorial Scholarship**, in memory of Laurie, and her tireless work with the Foundation and as a lifelong generous donor.



We'll also be offering the first year of the **Richard "Dick" Mitchell '51 Memorial Scholarship**, in gratitude for Dick's support of the Foundation and Golden Beavers. He served in leadership terms for both groups and was outspoken in his support of the scholarship program.

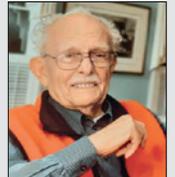


Continuing named scholarships include:

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



The fourth year of the **Einar Johanson '47 Memorial Scholarship**, in gratitude to Beaver alum Einar Johanson and his family.



The fifth year of the **John Lawson '52 Memorial Scholarship**, in memory of Golden Beaver Past President and Scholarship Chair Jack Lawson.



The fourth year of the **Judith Olson Rikansrud '58 Memorial Scholarship**, in memory of Foundation Board Member and Past President, and Golden Beavers Membership Chair.



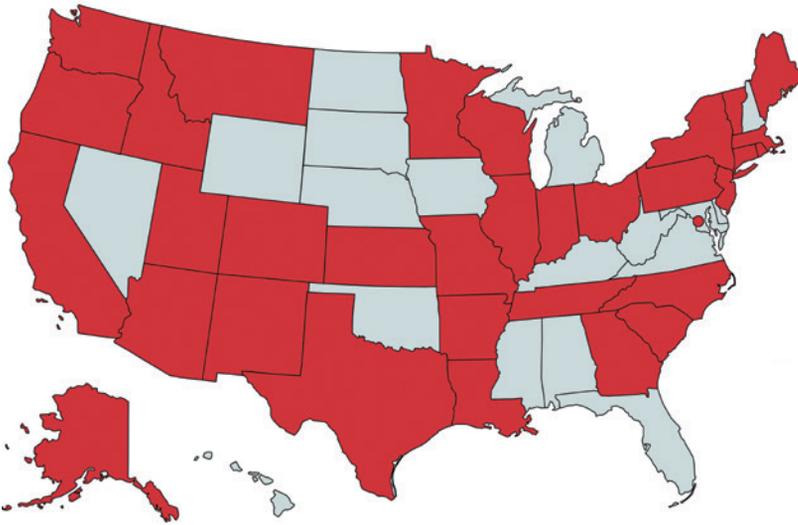
**McMuldloch-Lathrop Family Scholarships**, shared by BHS alumni parents **Chris McMuldloch** and **Jennifer Lathrop** to honor their connection to Ballard High School.



## Where Are They Now?

**O**ur graduates keep looking to the future and more education and training. We know they'll still need support as they move ahead, and we are proud to provide it. We need your commitment and your contributions as much as ever.

Please help us support future Ballard scholars. To make donations to the Golden Beavers Scholarship program, send in the envelope insert. In the meantime, here's where the Class of 2025 landed. Congrats, Beavers!

<b>Alaska</b> University of Alaska Fairbanks (1)	<b>Indiana</b> Butler University (1)			
<b>Arizona</b> Arizona State University (3) University of Arizona (3)	<b>Kansas</b> University of Kansas (1)			
<b>Arkansas</b> University of Arkansas (1)	<b>Louisiana</b> University of New Orleans (1)			
<b>California</b> Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo (17) California State-Chico (1) Chapman University (5) Occidental College (1) Saddleback College (1) San Diego Mesa College (2) San Diego State University (14) Santa Clara University (2) Scripps College (1) University of California-Berkeley (3) University of California-Los Angeles (2) University of California-San Diego (1) University of California-Santa Barbara (5)	<b>Maine</b> University of Maine (1)		<b>Ohio</b> Ohio State University (1) Ohio Wesleyan University (1)	<b>Washington, continued</b> Eastern Washington University (1) Everett Community College (1) Gonzaga University (7) Green River College (1) North Seattle College (32) Pacific Lutheran University (1) Seattle Central College (25) Seattle Pacific University (3) Seattle University (6) Shoreline Community College (1) Skagit Valley College (1) South Seattle College (5) University of Washington (44) University of Washington-Bothell (4) University of Washington-Tacoma (1) Washington State University (13) Western Washington University (35) Whitman College (2)
<b>Colorado</b> Colorado State University (2) University of Colorado Boulder (5) University of Denver (1) University of Northern Colorado (2)	<b>Massachusetts</b> Emerson College (2) Mount Holyoke College (1) Northeastern University (1) University of Massachusetts-Amherst (1)		<b>Oregon</b> Eastern Oregon University (1) Lewis & Clark College (1) Linfield University (1) Oregon State University (17) University of Oregon (4) University of OR - Clark Honors College (1) Willamette University (2)	<b>Wisconsin</b> Beloit College (1) Marquette University (1) University of Wisconsin-Madison (4)
<b>Connecticut</b> Connecticut College (1)	<b>Minnesota</b> Carleton College (1) St Olaf College (1) University of Minnesota (2)		<b>Pennsylvania</b> Pennsylvania State University (1)	<b>International</b> <b>Canada</b> Simon Fraser University (1) University of British Columbia (4) University of Manitoba (1) University of Victoria (1)
<b>District of Columbia</b> George Washington University (1)	<b>Missouri</b> Webster University (1)		<b>Rhode Island</b> Providence College (1) Johnson & Wales University (1)	<b>Germany</b> Bangor University (1)
<b>Georgia</b> University of Georgia (1) Savannah College of Art & Design (1)	<b>Montana</b> Montana State University (8)		<b>South Carolina</b> College of Charleston (1) University of South Carolina (2)	<b>United Kingdom</b> University of St Andrews (1)
<b>Idaho</b> Boise State University (2)	<b>New Jersey</b> Drew University (2)		<b>Tennessee</b> Belmont University (1)	
<b>Illinois</b> Loyola University Chicago (3)	<b>New Mexico</b> University of New Mexico (1)		<b>Texas</b> Baylor University (1)	
	<b>New York</b> Bard College (3) Fashion Institute of Technology (1) Fordham University (1) Syracuse University (1) The New School (1) New York University (1) New York University - Tisch School of the Arts (1) US Merchant Marine Academy (1)	<b>Utah</b> Brigham Young University (1) University of Utah (10)		
	<b>North Carolina</b> North Carolina State University (1) University of North Carolina (1)	<b>Vermont</b> University of Vermont (3)		
		<b>Washington</b> Bellevue College (1) Central Washington University (4)		

## Class of 1975 Gathers for Golden Beaver Reunion

The Class of 1975 gathered for their 50th “Golden Beaver” reunion at Old Stove Brewery in Ballard on September 20, 2025.

“It was wonderful to celebrate 50 years with friends, reminisce about our high school days and make new memories!” said Reunion Coordinator **Paula (Wasmund) Williams '75**.

As the reunion winded down, the classmates gathered for a group shot, and then separated into Webster Junior High alumni (*pictured below*) and James Monroe Junior High alumni (*below right*) group photo opportunities.



## Class of 1970 Celebrates 55th Reunion

The Class of 1970 celebrated their 55th Reunion with a picnic on September 3, 2025, at Magnuson Park. The gathering brought Beavers together, from near and far, and included a barbecue potluck of grilled coho salmon prepared by classmate Glen Moore.

The festivities continued after the picnic with a pint at nearby Magnuson Cafe and Brewery.

~ Photo and report courtesy of **Sharon Hoefler Ford '70**. Beaver alums, send your Class Notes to The Log Editor Gloria Kruzner at [bhsfcomm@gmail.com](mailto:bhsfcomm@gmail.com).



## Class of 1960 Celebrates 65th Reunion

The Class of 1960's 65th Class Reunion took place in August. There were 75 classmates and 108 attendees. The event, held in the Nile Ballroom, was the perfect size for all the joy and friendship shared by classmates so happy to see one another again. All aspects of the event were planned for by the reunion committee.

Safety and maximum enjoyment were the twin goals for this special occasion. The focus was on care for arriving guests with escorted help. Name tags were handy, using senior pictures as a recognition aide. Tables were decorated with hand-crafted floral arrangements. The lunch and dessert tables held tasty selections. At the front of the ballroom displays of memorabilia were posted, bringing back memories of sports, dances, cheer squads and clubs and more. In final goodbye conversations, getting together again was hoped for.

"These golden hours of reunion gave us the chance to rekindle the feelings of belonging to the Ballard High School," noted classmate **Magnhild "Monnie" (Trigstad) Meland**. "Class of 1960, then and now. I believe we came because we are alive and we wanted to be together with our classmates." Best wishes to all alums whether you came or did not attend. We all remember our dear friends and Ballard High School in many special ways.

*Thanks to **Carol McLean Jackson '60** for the report and reunion photos.*



### Want to Make a Class Gift?

*What better way to celebrate your Beaver Class Reunion, and wish future Beaver classes success, than to give back to your alma mater! Donate in the handy envelope, or reach out to Executive Director Dick Lee '61 at [rjlee@seattleschools.org](mailto:rjlee@seattleschools.org) for more details on how you can assist. **Thank you!***

## Baseball Benefit Auction Party Turns Into Reunion

Class of '75 alum **Jim Richards** hosted fellow Beavers for a backyard barbecue, part of the Coaches Dinner package he won at the Celebrating All Things Ballard auction in support of the Beavers' Baseball program.

The "brats and burgers" were prepared by the coaching staff (also all BHS alums), and at the end of the evening, Jim shared a nice donation for Ballard Baseball with Head Coach **Doug Montgomery '03**. *Thanks Jim!* We'll have more opportunities to bid on Team Parties at next summer's auction and Salmon Dinner.



*Left to right: Assistant Baseball Coach Jacob Westerman '15, Head Coach Doug Montgomery '03, Jim Richards '75, Rick Gregor '75, Rocky Nordness '75, Dave Brent '75, Dave Logan '74, Willy Gross '75, and Assistant Baseball Coach (and Ballard High School Foundation Board Member) Frank Airey '13.*

# Running of the Beavers Returns March 21, 2026

**T**ime to lace up your sneakers and start getting your steps in for the 7th Annual Running of the Beavers, scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Golden Gardens Park!



Our 2025 event was our biggest yet, with more than 350 runners and walkers joining the fun. We raised \$10,431 for BHS Athletics, Band, Cheer, and Dance, plus \$750 for our community partner, Ballard Food Bank. Thanks to our race organizers, sponsors, volunteers for their support as well as the spirited encouragement from the BHS Pep Band (**Jay Gillespie**) and Cheer Team (**Brandi Mattila**) for making it such a success! The freshmen won the Class Competition for having the most participants and earned \$500 for their ASB account — with just three more runners than the seniors!



Special thanks to sponsor **Anchor QEA**; event chair **Sue Stimac Verduin '78**; BHS Foundation Coordinators **Beth Sylves** and Executive Director **Dick Lee '61**; Athletic Booster Club President **Suzanne Dale Estey**; BHS ASB & Activity Coordinator and event emcee **Laura Lehni**; and Assistant Principal **David Fort** (who high fived many at the finish line). Refreshments were kindly provided by **Scandinavian Specialties** (lefse), **Duke's Seafood** (chowder), **Grocery Outlet** (fueling snacks), **Smith Brothers Farm** (milk) and **Caffe Appassionato** (coffee). We're also grateful for race coordinators **Jeff Orswell** (Orswell Events) and **Erick Vazquez** (Ready, Set ... Time!), as well as Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Dance, Cross Country and Track team representatives who volunteered around the course. *See you March 21 at Golden Gardens!*



Nick Lewis/Rowland Studio

## Running of Beavers Team Totals

Funds distributed from the 2025 Running of the Beavers to BHS programs totaled \$10,431.\*

Boys Lacrosse	\$1,659
Dance Team	\$1,120
Track & Field	\$1,025
Cross Country	\$991
Band	\$884
Girls Lacrosse	\$791
Cheer	\$540
Ultimate Frisbee	\$416
Girls Swim & Dive	\$234
Greatest Need	\$224
Girls Soccer	\$210
Golf	\$188
Tennis	\$172
Girls Basketball	\$150
Boys Swim & Dive	\$129
Volleyball	\$119
Boys Soccer	\$115
Softball	\$99
Gymnastics	\$98
Boys Basketball	\$91
Baseball	\$84
Flag Football	\$63

\*Team allocations were tabulated through stipends earned from event support and 70% of donor directed registration proceeds. (Remaining 30% applied race management fees.)

### Men's Division Winners:

1. Jack Rousseau (*right*), 15:23
2. Dexter Stevens (*middle*), 16:32
3. Andrade Whissell-Cote (*left*), 16:49

### Women's Division Winners:

1. Ciana Johnson (*middle*), 17:48
2. Dahlia Jansson (*right*), 20:11
3. Sydney Marion (*left*), 20:52



# Volleyball Honors BHS PE Teacher Tami Reese

**B**allard Volleyball kicked off its season against Issaquah on September 4, 2025, by honoring the visiting team's coach. The Beavers saluted longtime PE and Health teacher and Ballard HS volleyball standout player and coach (and current Issaquah Head Volleyball Coach) **Tami Reese '86** by retiring her #5 BHS jersey.

Tami played volleyball throughout her Beaver career. She's also taught at Ballard for 33 years and coached for 25 years (20 at Ballard, and now five more for Issaquah High School).

As a coach, Tami led Ballard Volleyball to its first Metro Championship title in 2017. As a player, she made the varsity team her sophomore year, and was captain both her junior and senior years.

Tami was voted Most Inspirational, Team MVP, and First Team All-Metro. Tami's brother, Jeff Hoover '83, called the celebration "a super night for the family. It was perfect."

## New Banners Adorn Gym

Tami's No. 5 jersey isn't the only new addition to the Ballard HS Gym. In June, the Foundation teamed up with the Athletic Booster Club to fund missing Track and Cross Country celebratory banners for Metro and District Championships as well as top-10 team State honors. This includes three Girls Track & Field banners, five Boys Track & Field banners, six Boys Cross Country banners, and eight Girls Cross Country banners. Thanks to Track Coach **Neal Howard '08** and Cross Country Coach **Day Frostenson** for bringing this to our attention.



Ed Tanaka

*Ballard Volleyball Coach Zach Wurtz congratulates longtime BHS PE/Health teacher Tami Reese '86 as her jersey is retired on September 4, 2025.*

## Athletic Training Room Updated

**F**or nearly 20 years, Beaver athletes have been supported by Athletic Trainer **Loka Murphy**. Loka is employed by Seattle Children's Hospital, but is contracted out to Seattle Public Schools for BHS athletic training services. (The Foundation also pays a portion of his salary.) In June, the Foundation Board approved Loka's request (\$2,500 over three years) for Training Room equipment upgrades:



- A new stationary bike for rehab
- Reupholstery for the taping and treatment tables
- Rehab equipment, leg compression boots, and additional taping supplies.

Loka also assisted at this year's Breakfast of Champions with his hearty oatmeal recipe. *Thanks Loka!*

## Strength Program Opens Doors to Fitness

**T**he Ballard High School Foundation, along with the Athletic Booster Club and Associated Student Body, proudly supports the Strength and Conditioning program. Led by Coaches **Colin Matthesen '08** and **Jared Hubbell**, the program is based out of the **Henry Bendele '24 Fitness Center**.

Super alumni donor **Victor Salvino '51** recognized the possibilities for a weight room when he toured the new Ballard High School building in 1999 and he noticed an empty classroom. After meeting with Foundation

representatives, school officials and athletic staff, the facility was green-lighted and Salvino donated \$50,000 in October 1999 to get it started.

The program, open to all students, continues to be a popular option for Beaver athletes. "We're truly blessed to have this program at Ballard," Coach Matthesen said.

The Foundation recently purchased a door with a window for the facility to increase program visibility for interested students, at the request of Principal **Abby Hunt**.



*2024-25 Ballard HS Strength and Conditioning athletes gather for a year-end photo.*

Courtesy of Ballard Strength

# Ballard Performing Arts Groups Get Boost from Donors

The Ballard High School Foundation is always seeking ways to assist the accomplished Ballard Performing Arts (BPA) with its performances and productions. In addition to \$35,200 in audio improvements for the two Performing Arts classrooms, we've assisted Ballard's talented performers in a variety of ways this year.

At our June meeting, the Foundation Board approved several motions to meet recent needs, brought to our attention by Department Chair/Choir Director **Courtney Rowley**, Band Director **Jay Gillespie**, Orchestra Director **Daniel Valdez**, and Theatre Director **Miller Shor**.

The Orchestra is now fully stocked with cellos, thanks to kind community donations and our Board-approved financial support. It was just last spring that Dan Valdez shared a request for up to three more cellos. Students had been sharing the school's few instruments. Also, those cellos were starting to wear down.

We met with the Directors and Performing Arts Booster President **Cynthia Kemp** and we were able to host a Dine Out fundraiser at Duke's Seafood on May 20, and share a direct ask with Ballard HS families. Thanks to **Heather Cook, Rebecca Fishaut, Mike & Jill Hansen, Helen Hepp, Gordon Lagerquist, Clayton Leckie, Joel Niemeyer '78, Vicki Rydinski,**



Courtesy of Ballard Performing Arts  
*Courtney Rowley directs "Selections From Handel's Messiah" as part of Ballard Performing Arts' 2024 winter concert series. The concert featured members of each of the school's music groups. This year, orchestra and choir members will combine for performances of "Carmina Burana" on Dec. 17-18, 2025, in the Performing Arts Center. Ballard Performing Arts Directors are (l-r, top to bottom) Courtney Rowley, Choir; Jay Gillespie, Band; Daniel Valdez, Orchestra; and Miller Shor, Theatre.*

and **Walt & Nan Spady** for their kind donations. Thanks to **John Moscrip** and Duke's Seafood for sharing 50 percent of the added evening proceeds for the effort as well. We purchased three needed cellos for the Orchestra at a total of \$11,965. A fourth cello was donated by a generous community member.

We bought 50 leather-bound and embossed Choir folders (\$979), so our students look professional when performing and their sheet music is safely stored. We also funded \$27,000 in Band instruments and accessories,

including five tenor drum sets, a contrabass clarinet, five sets of trumpet mutes/cases, a bass trombone and an e-flat clarinet. We're also planning to purchase wireless headsets and belt-pack transmitters (\$3,975) to assist with theatrical productions.

Last school year, we helped raise \$10,000 — including our \$5,000 match — for the Music Lessons for All initiative, making lessons more accessible for all students. BPA also benefitted from our \$50,000+ in renovations to the Performing Arts Center. This two-year effort included new wireless microphones, audio components, and updated LED lighting. We also purchased a spotlight, risers, and an acoustic shell to further enhance performances.

Thanks to Foundation Performing Arts Committee Chair **Chris Witeck** and members **Cyndy Clegg '78** and **Joel Niemeyer '78** for working with the directors to identify continuing program needs.

## Check Out the 2025 Winter Concert Series

Enjoy the sweeping performance of Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana," Ballard Performing Arts' large choral-orchestral work at the Winter Orchestra Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 17, or the Winter Choir Concert on Thursday, Dec. 18. The Winter Band Concert will feature a collaboration with Navy Band NW on Monday, Dec. 15. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. in the Earl Kelly Performing Arts Center. Shows are free, but reserved seats can be purchased at [cur8.com/401/project/133570](http://cur8.com/401/project/133570) with a donation to Ballard Performing Arts. (Concert details will also be on the Ballard HS website.)

## Foundation Funds Audio Improvements Around Campus

Students gathering in Ballard High School's community spaces and music classrooms may have noticed something different at the beginning of the school year. Or, more specifically, they may have heard something different. These facilities were improved with updated audio systems, thanks to the Foundation and our generous donors.

At the June meeting, the Foundation Board approved to purchase updates for the Commons and Performing Arts classrooms' audio systems, and to add an audio system to Ballard's heavily trafficked Library.

The Performing Arts classrooms' needs were brought to our attention by Performing Arts Department Chair **Courtney Rowley**, while the Commons and Library needs were reviewed following Principal **Abby Hunt's** request.

### Water Refill Stations Added at BHS

Over the summer, Seattle Public Schools contractors installed three new water bottle refill stations — one funded by the Foundation (\$3,500), and two supported by the PTSA Grant Program and the Associated Student Body.

Prior to this, the school had only two refill stations serving its more than 1,600 students.

Limited access led to long lines and students crossing campus during passing periods, often missing instructional time. These new stations, first proposed by Assistant Principal **James Leutzinger**, have greatly improved access, while reducing learning disruptions.



"Our Commons and Library serve a range of student, staff, and family needs. In each of these spaces we hold large gatherings ranging from sports banquets, LINK Crew gatherings, Performing Arts meetings, speaker series, staff professional development, and more. These events help bring people together in these spaces and contribute to the strength of our Ballard High School community," Principal Hunt said.

Thanks to Foundation Board Member **Joel Niemeyer '78** for project leadership; Head Custodian **Young Wong** for his assistance; Seattle Public Schools-designated contractor **Keith Evans**, with EKG Enterprises (and the EKG team of installers); and Principal Hunt and the Performing Arts team for bringing the needs to our attention.

These audio improvements, totaling more than \$66,000, were completed in late August and September.



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio  
*Breakfast of Champions Emcee Suzanne Dale Estey uses the updated Commons sound system.*

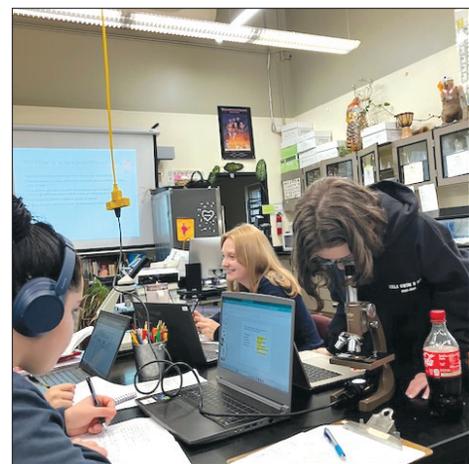
The Library audio installation (\$12,500) included an audio system, amplifier, loud speaker, shelving units, handheld and body-pack lecture microphones, wireless antenna and receiver. The Commons upgrades (\$19,059) included a digital mixer, facility upgrade, amplifiers, receivers, two handheld and two body pack microphones, wireless antenna, and related audio equipment. Performing Arts classroom updates included \$35,154 in audio improvements for the two classrooms.

*Thanks to (l-r) Joel Niemeyer '78, BHS Head Custodian Young Wong and EKG contractor Keith Evans for their work coordinating the audio updates.*

### Science Classrooms Get Outlet Upgrades

Students are now able to plug into elevated retractable power cord outlets at their work stations thanks to upgrades to the school's six Science Classrooms. The total cost of the project was \$56,640. Donors contributed \$26,000 to the effort at the Spring 2025 PTSA BASH fundraiser, and the Foundation contributed \$30,700 to complete the project.

*Thank you for your unrestricted donations, which allow us to be responsive to a variety of building needs as they arise.*



India Carlson  
*Students use microscopes and laptops at their work stations with the addition of overhead power outlets.*

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## For the Logbook



December 2, 2025 | Foundation Annual Board Meeting & Reception, 5 p.m. Blue Ridge Community Club

March 10, 2026 | Foundation Board Meeting, 4 p.m. Ballard High School Library

March 21, 2026 | Running of the Beavers, 9:30 a.m. Golden Gardens

June 7, 2026 | Golden Beavers Scholarship Luncheon, noon Ray's Boathouse Northwest Room

August 1-16, 2026 | Celebrating All Things Ballard Online Auction

August 13, 2026 | Salmon Dinner Event and Live Auction, Pacific Fishermen Shipyard

August 14, 2026 | Victor Salvino 26th Annual Golf Classic, Newcastle Golf Course

September 22, 2026 | Foundation Board Meeting, 4 p.m. Ballard High School Library

October 2026 | Breakfast of Champions, honoring our next BHS Woman of Impact, 9:30 a.m. Ballard High School Commons (date TBD)

## A Final Word

### BeBe Burns Keeps Inspiring

Though I missed **BeBe Burn's** remarkable 30-year run at Ballard High School by just five years, I've long admired her legacy among generations of Beaver alums. And as a proud "girl dad" to **Emma** ('21) and **Ally** ('24), I'm especially grateful for the lessons she instilled in her student athletes over three decades of teaching — both before and after Title IX expanded opportunities for girls in sports. BeBe didn't just teach PE and coach; she inspired students to build strength, believe in themselves, and grow as teammates. A self-taught tennis player, she saw the sport as a gateway to confidence, perseverance, and lifelong wellness. Thank you, BeBe, for opening doors and shaping lives.

~ *Dick Lee '61, Foundation Executive Director and Co-Founder*



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio  
*Breakfast of Champions Featured Speaker Dr. Jonathan Drezner, Sue Stimac Verduin '78, BeBe Burns, Dick Lee '61 and Athletic Booster Club President Suzanne Dale Estey.*