

Dick Lee, A Champion for ALL Beavers



Spring/Summer 2026

Ballard High School Foundation



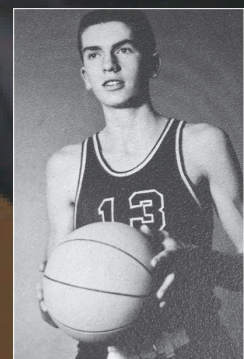
Volume 39, No. 1



**Meet This Year's
Scholarship
Recipients**

**Also
Summer
Fundraising
Golf Classic &
Salmon Dinner**

**From the Court to Ballard HS Support
Meet our Co-Founder
& Executive Director Dick Lee '61**



My Mission Continues for ALL Students

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

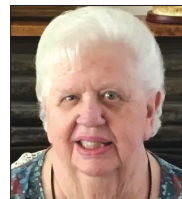
When Editor **Gloria Kruzner** asked if she could feature me in this edition of *The Log*, it made me reflect on the decades I've devoted to my alma mater and to our neighborhood public school. Supporting Beaver graduates — including my daughters, **Emma** ('21) and **Ally** ('24) — has been one of my greatest honors.



With your generous support, and through strong partnerships with Ballard High School, we've funded scholarships that open doors, strengthened extracurriculars that build character and teamwork, and sustained programs that help young people thrive. From music and athletics to counseling, facility upgrades, and college readiness, this work has made a real difference. But none of it happens without you. **Whether it's \$25 or \$2,500, every gift helps keep Ballard strong for today's Beavers and for generations to come.** Gift information is in the envelope at the center of this magazine.

I'm also grateful to **Anita Dowsett '51**, whose estate gift of 1,500 PACCAR shares is a remarkable act of generosity. Her commitment strengthens our ability to support future Beavers for years to come and reflects the lasting impact of legacy giving.

This issue also celebrates this year's outstanding scholarship recipients. I was saddened to learn of the recent passing of program supporter **Evelyn (Sorrentino) Balch '56**. A former Golden Beavers president, she loved attending Scholarship Luncheons and sharing her pride as a Beaver alumna. Her legacy lives on in the students she helped lift up.



Founded in 1997 by C. David Hughbanks '54, Dick Lee '61, and Principal Chuck Chinn, the **Ballard High School Foundation** has raised more than \$10 million for students and staff. Your generosity sustains our work — thank you for sharing a donation today using the envelope in *The Log*.



Editor's Note

In this edition of *The Log*, you'll find many notes of thanks for "Mr. Beaver," Dick Lee. When I started working with Dick three years ago, I was deeply grateful for the chance to learn from him and help promote the Foundation's essential work. He is always aspiring to do more for the school community he loves — and he nurtures that same spirit in those around him. I'd also like to thank Diane Taylor, whose Ballard High School website continues to be a wealth of information, and Briane Henak of Rowland Studios, who helps tell so many of our stories through her photography.



~ Gloria Kruzner

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THE LOG SPRING/SUMMER 2026
VOL. 39, NO. 1

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

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

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Charlie See '56

Cover Image by Bruce Johnson

Dick Lee '61 is honored by Gov. Jay Inslee at the 2019 SPS Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner, where he received the Frank Inslee Service Award.

Golden Beavers Scholarship Luncheon



Photos by Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

Principal Abby Hunt with the 2026 scholarship recipients.



It was a picture-perfect day to celebrate the awarding of \$184,500 in scholarships to 35 talented Beavers at our 37th Annual Scholarship Luncheon on June 7, 2026, in the Ray's Boathouse Northwest Room.

Principal **Abby Hunt** shared inspiring vignettes of the students' many accomplishments and future plans, musing that she wished she could say so much more about each of the worthy scholarship recipients.

"Honorary Beaver" and Foundation Board Member **Meredith Davison** brought her warmth to the program as emcee, assisting with the scholarship presentation, calling the process the "best part of her year."

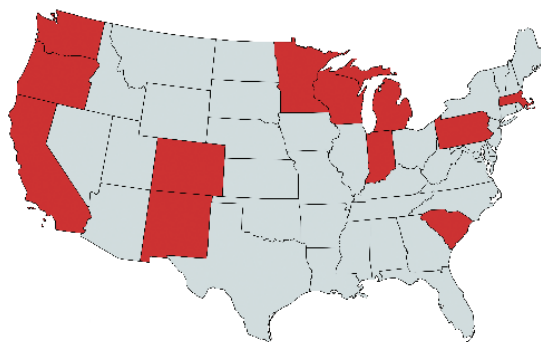
Scholarship recipient and bassist **Rowan Harper** joined Band Director **Jay Gillespie** and fellow members of the **Ballard Jazz Ensemble**, performing for the other honorees and their families as they arrived. Celebrants laughed and mingled, enjoying Ray's Puget Sound views.

It was another inspiring afternoon in celebration of these hard-working students and their families!



Here are states where scholarship recipients will be attending school, starting next fall.

Two students are also heading north of the border to Victoria, B.C. Meet this year's scholars on pages 4-5.



Hughbanks Family Scholarships

Our 2026 scholarship efforts were strengthened once again by the generous support of the **C. David Hughbanks '54** estate, which this year assisted 14 seniors planning to attend school in Washington State. At the June 6 luncheon, Scholarship Committee member **Ann Fitzmaurice** shared an introduction to her cousin.

A Ballard native, Foundation co-founder, and life-long champion of Seattle's civic and cultural life (he helped develop and promote Northwest Folklife and Bumbershoot to name a few), Hughbanks dedicated his estate to students who show perseverance in the face of challenges.



"He wanted you to have the opportunity to gain some form of education ... because any amount of it will add to your story, give you the recognition that he believes in you and your bright future," she said.

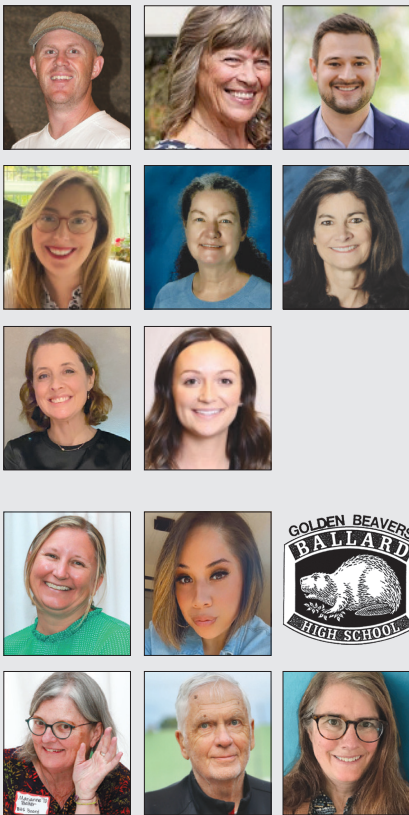
This year's \$150,000 grant marks the third disbursement of a 10-year commitment. These \$10,000, two-year awards will help students pursuing college or trade programs locally. "He wanted you to continue to make Seattle and Ballard a better place to live," Fitzmaurice said.

Thank You, Scholarship Committee

We are indebted to our **Golden Beaver Scholarship Committee**, whose dedication helps open doors for hard-working Beaver graduates.

The committee includes Co-Chairs **Ryan Carlisle '93** and **Maggie Murphy Moffett '69**, along with **John Anderson '01**, **Meredith Davison**, **Ann Fitzmaurice**, **Kathy Madden**, **Becky Marion '93**, and **Beverly Verduin '14**.

We also thank our support team: BHS Counselor **Sonja Petersen**; Counseling Secretary **Sailau "Say" Tuitele '09**, Foundation Secretary **Marianne Baker '70**; Executive Director **Dick Lee '61**; and Communications Director **Gloria Kruzner**.



 Kemka Amaonwu <i>University of Washington</i>	 Konghai Armstrong <i>Pacific Lutheran</i>	 Avalon Casey <i>University of Washington</i>
 Bahiran Endalkachew <i>Western Washington</i>	 Isalena Farmer Rainlyn <i>University of Washington</i>	 Ramon Floresca <i>Seattle University</i>
 Clover Griffith <i>University of Washington</i>	 Noah Jones <i>University of Washington</i>	 Santiago Koscianski Teixeira <i>Western Washington</i>
 Asha Neely <i>University of Washington</i>	 Spencer Nuss <i>Commercial Driver School</i>	 Ryder Rauda <i>University of Washington</i>
 Savannah Reeves <i>University of Washington</i>	 Indro Sypher <i>Central Washington University</i>	

Since 1988, we've allocated more than \$1.2 million in **Golden Beaver** and **Hughbanks Family Scholarships**.

Meet our Golden Beaver Awardees

Over the past 36 years, more than 530 Ballard students have received over \$1.2 million in Golden Beavers scholarships. At this year's Scholarship Luncheon on June 7, we celebrated these Golden Beavers Scholarship recipients along with the third year of Hughbanks Family Scholarships awards.



Abigail Bekele
Boston University



Duncan Blair
Westmont College



Dorothy Bryan
Boston College



Charlotte Cammermeyer
Boston University



Andrew Dean
Colorado School of Mines



Ethan Elliott
Purdue University



Gianna Goldyn
University of New Mexico



Leo Hamm
University of Wisconsin-Madison



Rowan Harper
Colorado State University



Violet Hill
Cal Poly SLO



Dahlia Jansson
Swarthmore College



Amelia Laing
Wellesley College



Natalie McManus
University of Washington



Lake Neill
Reed College



Elsie Nelson Brown
St Olaf College



Clementine Reynolds
Cal Poly SLO



Elsa Sand
University of South Carolina



Helen Scott
University of Victoria



Molly Simpson
University of Michigan



Kai Unruh
University of Victoria



Sabi Yoon
Claremont McKenna College

More than 36 Years of Scholarship Assistance

Our Golden Beaver Scholarships include the following special named scholarships. We thank the families for their considerate gifts to this program:

The **Tim Nygard '01 Ballard "Legacy" Scholarship**, this year featuring two awards to **Lake Neill** and **Elsa Sand**, in memory of the son of our good friends Gordie '69 and Mary Nygard.



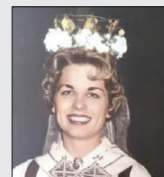
The **Einar Johanson '47 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Ethan Elliott**, in gratitude to the Beaver alum for his significant donation.



The **John "Jack" Lawson '52 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Abigail Bekele**, in memory of Golden Beavers Past President and Scholarship Chair Jack Lawson.



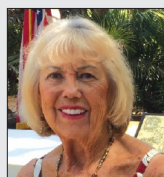
The **Judith "Judy" Olson Rikansrud '58 Memorial Scholarship**, awarded to **Amelia Laing**, in memory of Foundation Board Member and Past President, and Golden Beavers Membership Chair.



McMuldorch-Lathrop Family Scholarships, awarded to **Gianna Goldyn** and **Molly Simpson**. 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.



New this year, the **Laurie (Detert) Anderson '53 Memorial Scholarship** was awarded to **Sabi Yoon**, in memory of Laurie's tireless spark as a Beaver alumni, scholarship benefactor, and generous donor.



Also new, the **Richard "Dick" Mitchell '51 Memorial Scholarship** is in gratitude for Dick's steadfast support of the Foundation and Golden Beavers, awarded to **Leo Hamm**. Dick served in leadership terms for both groups.



Dick Lee '61

A Legacy Built on Care for ALL Beavers

Gloria Kruzner
LOG EDITOR

When students step onto the court or fill the bleachers at Ballard High School, they enter the gymnasium named for Richard N.J. “Dick” Lee ’61 — a towering presence who once dominated the Beaver hardwood and, for decades since, has been a driving force in strengthening the Ballard community.

As co-founder of the Ballard High School Foundation in 1997 and its Executive Director since 2011, Lee has helped equip students, educators, and coaches with the resources they need.

Lee grew up just half a block from Loyal Heights Community Center, where the personable boy forged friendships with the facility manager, who allowed him to slip into the gym during off-hours to shoot baskets.

Those early mornings and late nights at Loyal Heights — and later, the asphalt courts at James Monroe Junior High — helped shape him. The older players who showed him the ropes became the steady influences he needed. His mom, Jenny, worked hard to keep the young man on task, while dad, Joseph, was away for months at a time on his commercial fishing boat, and his brother, Robert ('51), had already moved out.

By the time he entered Ballard High School, Lee said he felt like he had another set of older brothers already looking out for him, including his dear friend, Steve Wilson '60.



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studio

Dick Lee displays the Frank Inslee Service Award he received in 2019 for his community service at the SPS Athletics Hall of Fame. The award was presented by Frank's son, Gov. Jay Inslee; Frank, a 1944 Ballard graduate, was a longtime SPS teacher, coach, counselor, and Athletic Director.

"I picked up a lot of bumps and bruises, which I'm paying for now, but that's what made me strong and experienced enough to play at Ballard," he said.

A standout forward, Lee became an All-City and All-State player, anchoring one of the most successful eras in Ballard basketball history. His junior year, the Beavers were City Champions; his senior year, they made it to the 4A State Championship game, where Garfield topped them by seven points.

"My coach, Norm Goldstein, was excellent," Lee said. "He helped prepare me for high school basketball and for the transition to college."

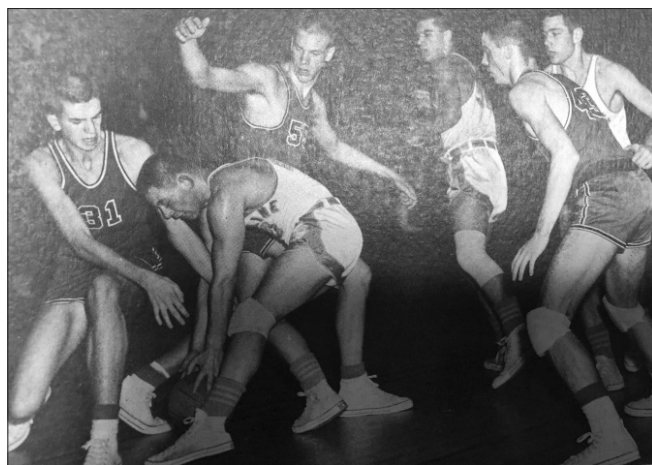
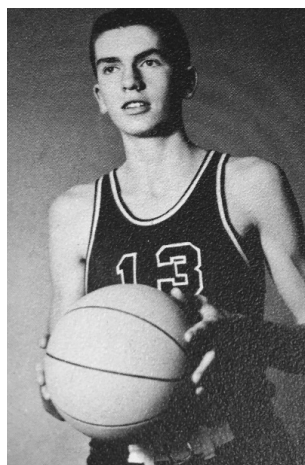
Lee went on to become a three-year letterman at the University of Washington, one of five players from Ballard. Athletics opened doors, but

he credited the adults around him for helping him succeed.

"Without mentoring and patient teachers, I wouldn't have made it," he said. "I had a full-ride scholarship — no college expenses, no loans — and I got to travel and see some great places."

He worked in the UW's Athletic Department Public Affairs office as part of his scholarship. Lee continued with public relations work in Seattle for a few years after his graduation. But he was also eager to get back on the basketball court.

Lee tried out and then became the publicity director for the American Basketball Association's startup Anaheim Amigos. One night, the Amigos were short players following a road trip. Lee got to suit up and he



BHS Shingle yearbook

Ballard Basketball finished second in State in 1961, Dick's senior year. He notes it's "still the best basketball finish in school history."

played two minutes before halftime. He recorded a blocked shot and a rebound.

"My friends tease me, but I always ask them how much pro playing time they have," he mused.

A Return to Community

After settling back into the Seattle area, Lee embarked upon a 30-year career in the restaurant and hospitality industry, opening memorable venues such as the Hansen Baking Co., Sundays Restaurant and Disco, the Shilshole Bay Beach Club, and the Original Ballard Beaver Café. These spaces hosted receptions, proms, reunions, and even the occasional SuperSonics celebration.

"At one point, I had three restaurants at once," he said. He also met his wife, Jani Lauvrak, during this time.

He soon felt pulled back, however, to support the community that had helped shape him.

"Eventually I decided to follow my passion for kids and schools," he said.

He connected with Ballard alum Phil Brockman '76, then principal at West Seattle High School, and helped plan the school's opening celebration after an extensive remodel. That work led to a role with Seattle Public Schools,

where he helped plan events for more than 20 schools during the district's modernization program.

Yet even as he expanded his outreach citywide, Ballard remained close to Lee's heart — and the school was facing changes too. The original Ballard High School, built in 1916, and expanded in 1941 and 1959, was no longer suited for additional modernization work. After a levy failed in 1991, voters finally approved a six-year levy in 1997 to construct a new Ballard High School. Thousands of Beavers and alumni attended an all-class reunion in May 1997 to say goodbye to the old school building.

It was then that Lee and C. David Hughbanks '54 worked with Principal Chuck Chinn to launch the Ballard High School Foundation — a new model for supporting public schools at a time when the district was preparing to open the new Ballard High School building.

Hughbanks proposed forming the Millennium Club, an effort to encourage 100 donors to give \$1,000 each. Within months, 160 alumni and community members had stepped up.

"David's charisma was something to behold," Lee said of his good friend.

See **LEE**, page 8

Thank You, Dick!

Throughout this issue of The Log, you'll find perspectives of many Ballard High School and Seattle Public Schools partners who have worked with Dick over the years.

Dick Lee is a living archive of love for Ballard, and every conversation with him is filled with stories, connections, and tidbits of knowledge that ultimately bring people together. His care and support of Ballard HS inspire me to ensure that BHS is a school that provides a positive, life-long community for all students. In my time as principal here at Ballard HS, Dick and the Foundation have provided key financial support of GAINS, LINK Crew, upgrades to the Performing Arts Center, scholarships to graduating 12th graders, and so many other projects and programs.

Every time I see Dick, he simply asks "How can we help?" I feel so fortunate to work with him, and his care for this remarkable community is contagious and creates a shared excitement with all those around him.

Abby Hunt
Ballard High School Principal

Dick has been faithfully committed to Ballard High School for as long as I have known him. He has supported the entire BHS community in support of students by uniting BHS alumni, SPS staff, and City leaders to create and support school initiatives that promote student success.

Phil Brockman '76
BHS Foundation Co-President,
BHS Principal (2004-10)

Thank You, Dick!

Dick meant the world to me while I was the Head Beaver at Ballard High School. I thought of him as the Big Beaver who not only supported me but as the person who was primarily responsible for restoring the sense of community pride and support for Ballard High School during my years as BHS principal to where we are today.

Chuck Chinn
Principal (1990-2000, 2003)

There is no one that has as much Ballard Pride as Dick, but what has always blown me away is his ability to make vague ideas a reality. Early in my tenure as principal, Dick asked me a question that all school leaders dream of: "If you could tackle any issue at Ballard High School, what would it be?" When I remembered a graduation assistance campaign that I had read about in Everett, he took this morsel of an idea and turned it into Memorandums of Understanding between the Ballard Boys and Girls Club, Seattle Public Schools, and the Ballard Foundation to launch our efforts which became known as the GAINS Program (Graduation Assistance Identifying the Needs of Students). Within 10 years, the program supported hundreds of students working towards graduation and college and he raised around a million dollars to support it. Somehow Dick made all of this happen, while not taking away from the support of other programs at BHS. I was fortunate to be named Washington Principal of the Year and I am 100% confident that this would not have happened without Dick making the GAINS Program a reality. I will always be endlessly grateful to him for his support of Ballard students and for me as well.

Keven Wynkoop '94
Principal (2010-21)

There was a time when (Foundation Co-Founder) Dave Hughbanks was called, "Mr. Ballard" and it was an appropriate label. Today, however, that label belongs to Dick Lee. There is no one who has done more for Ballard High School than Dick and his name and photo belongs on the hall of fame, in the most prominent position. He's been and still is a gift to the school and to the community.

Donald Nielsen
Former SPS School Board Member

Lee: A Vision of Success for Students

Continued from page 7

When the new school building opened in 1999, Lee partnered with Millennium Club benefactor and super-alum Victor Salvino '51 to improve training facilities for Ballard's athletic teams.

"Within moments, he made a commitment to outfit the weight room, and he's been generous ever since," Lee said. Salvino's generosity soon extended to the Foundation's popular Golf Classic, which he founded in 2001 with Gary Seefried '64 and his brother-in-law, Don Prindle. (The tournament is now named after Salvino, in honor of his major financial support of both the event and the Foundation.)

Bolstered by alumni support, the renewed community engagement that followed the opening of the new building, and his years in the hospitality industry, Lee went on to coordinate many of Ballard's signature fundraising events — including launching the BASH, the PTSA's dinner auction and celebration.

He also worked to grow the Golf Classic and its post-tournament Dinner of Champions into additional fundraising and community-building opportunities, including today's Celebrating All Things Ballard events, featuring a two-week long online auction, and an al fresco Salmon Dinner with a live auction at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard.

SEVERAL EARLY Foundation leaders — including its first executive director, Janet Rodgers, a Ballard parent whom Lee helped hire — felt strongly that naming the new Ballard High School Gym after him was the right way to honor the years he spent building the Foundation. After Rodgers passed away in 2010, he was hired as Executive Director.

Lee hit the ground running, and his community-building instincts soon extended to the spring Running of the Beavers 5K at Golden Gardens and the fall Breakfast of Champions event in the BHS Commons — a celebration of student wellness, team sports, and

With the Athletic Booster Club, Dick helped rally support for student mental health at the 2024 Breakfast of Champions. (L-R) Suzanne Dale Estey (ABC), Dr. Jonathan Drezner, Erin Mayovsky, Sue (Stimac) Verduin '78, and Dick Lee.



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studio

the presentation of the Sue (Stimac) Verduin '78 Woman of Impact Award, honoring the Beaver and Seattle University basketball standout.

These efforts have strengthened the community and improved the campus. Over 25 years, the Foundation has purchased a greenhouse for the Botany program; upgraded the Performing Arts Center's audio, lighting, and staging; improved the Library and Commons meeting spaces; equipped Performing Arts students with instruments and coaching; supported the school's athletic trainer and team needs; and backed the GAINS graduation-assistance and LINK Crew freshman mentorship programs. It has also partnered with the Athletic Booster Club (ABC) and Associated Student Body (ASB) to fund the Strength and Conditioning program.

Foundation for the Future

Ask Lee why he continues to show up for Beaver students and staff well into his retirement years, and he'll point to the photo of another class of graduates — hundreds of red gowns filling the field at Memorial Stadium, caps flying as high as their dreams. And as a scholarship recipient himself, Dick knows how that financial support — paired with the community's belief it represents — can truly open doors.

In 2020, he helped guide a merger with the Golden Beavers, uniting the alumni group's scholarship program with the Foundation under one nonprofit. Since 1988, more than 500 students have received over \$1.2 million in scholarships. In 2024, the scholarship offerings grew markedly, thanks to an amazing \$1.5 million estate gift from his friend C. David Hughbanks to support graduates attending Washington colleges or trade schools.

Lee is long familiar with bringing school partners together, having built successful collaborations with the Golden Beavers, the PTSA, ASB, ABC,

and the Performing Arts Boosters. This work has not only strengthened partnerships over the years, but has helped build more than \$10 million in support for Ballard High School.

"There is no public-school foundation anywhere in the country that matches Ballard's," he said.

During the pandemic, Lee helped launch Ballard Cares, a partnership with the PTSA, to support Beaver families in need. After watching a news report about the shutdown's impact on families, Lee and Foundation President Joel Niemeyer '76 approached Principal Keven Wynkoop '93.

"It was clear how devastating COVID would be," Lee said. The community responded and the program raised an incredible \$180,000, distributed in gift cards every two weeks. "It reaffirmed my belief in community and giving back," he said.

Honors & Family

Beyond Ballard, Lee cofounded Music4Life, a nonprofit group to help provide instruments to students in need, and he helped create the Seattle Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame. In 2019, he received the Frank Inslee Service Award at the Hall of Fame luncheon event. Frank graduated from Ballard in 1944 before a lifetime of service as teacher and coach, and Athletic Director for Seattle Public Schools. His son, Gov. Jay Inslee, presented Lee with the honor.

"That day he was pinning on me the Washingtonian of the Day award," Lee said. "Not many people receive that."

In 2022, his event planning services were again requested to help Garfield High School celebrate its centennial, held on a glorious summer day with decades of Bulldog alumni joyfully reuniting.

Through all his community service, Lee has stayed grounded in gratitude —



Courtesy of the Lee Family

Dick joins daughter Ally, his mother-in-law Ruth, wife Jani, and daughter Emma for the family's 2015 annual summer barbecue.

especially for his mother, Jenny. The Ballard PTSA now awards a \$5,000 Jenny Lee Scholarship, an annual tribute that also honors Dick's service to the Ballard community. "She raised me largely on her own and was the driving force in my life," he said.

Lee is a proud dad to three daughters. His eldest, Jennifer, from his first marriage, is a Holy Names alumna. She has built a thriving career in social work and is the mother of his granddaughter, Izzy. With his wife, Jani, Lee raised Emma and Ally, both Ballard graduates. Emma '21 earned her degree from Western Washington University, while Ally '24 is studying at San Diego State.

And his advice for his young daughters and other Ballard grads? "The key is to finish, stay involved, try things, make new friends, and step into situations that feel uncomfortable," he said. "Everyone around you is questioning themselves too. Falling down isn't important. What matters is how fast you get back up."

From the courts at Loyal Heights to the Gym at Ballard High School, Lee continues to inspire those around him to work hard, give back, and stay in the game.

We Have Recently Lost ...

Evelyn (Sorrentino) Balch '56

Evelyn, born and raised in Seattle, passed away peacefully on March 8, 2026. The proud Ballard graduate and Golden Beavers member built lifelong roots in the community she loved. After completing her education, she dedicated many years to the State of Washington, a career that reflected her deep pride in public service.



She had a special way of making everyone feel welcomed, loved, and supported, and those moments will be treasured always by those who knew her. A lifelong Seattle Seahawks fan, she approached every game day with enthusiasm and unwavering loyalty.

She leaves behind a loving family, including her son, James; her daughter, Sharon (Ken); and her cherished granddaughter, Skylee. She is also survived by siblings Beth and Richard, and friends who will miss her deeply.

Russell Quackenbush '52

Russ, a devoted teacher, coach, veteran, and volunteer, passed away in Shoreline on June 2, 2026, at age 92.

He spent most of his life serving his family and community.

Russ graduated from Ballard High School before earning an agronomy degree on a football scholarship at Washington State University. After serving in the U.S. Army, he returned to WSU to complete a bachelor's degree in biology and later, a teaching certificate from Gonzaga and a master's degree at the University of Oregon.



Russ taught biology and marine biology and coached football for 18 years at Ballard High School, then taught for eight years at Bothell, and finished his career at King's. Many remember him for his patient teaching style, practical demonstrations, and encouragement of young people both in the classroom and on the field.

Russ will be remembered for his dedication to family and readiness to help others. He volunteered for 16 years at Bridge Ministries, repairing mobility devices for people in need. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, a daughter and a son, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Patti (Lambert) Kost '80

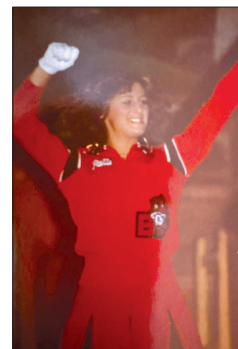
Born on July 26, 1962, in Illinois, Patti was the beloved daughter of George and Loula Lambert and sister to George, Andy, and Mike. In 1984, she married the love of her life, James Kost, at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. They were blessed with three children: Jimmy, Presvytera Ellia (Fr. Nektarios), and Athan.



Patti's greatest joy was her family, especially her 10 beloved grandchildren (with the 11th on the way at the time of her passing).

Patti taught preschool Sunday School at St. Demetrios for decades. She is also fondly remembered for her work through 2012 as registrar while her kids attended Ballard High School.

Throughout her illness, Patti continued to live with grace and devotion to her family.



In Memoriam

NORMAN ARNO '49
EVELYN (SORRENTINO) BALCH '56
KAREN LYNN BARNES '56
WARREN E BOHON JR. '51
GAYLON (OLIVER) BOSTROM '50
DIANNE BROADDUS '59
MARGARETE BRUNO '50
ALICE (SMITH) CHANDLER '47
PETER DIANICH '60
ANITA DOWSETT '51
FRANK DOYLE '54
HOLLIS "SKEETER" EDINGER '55
AARON FANDEL '16
SHIRLEY (FRANCIS) FARIS '56
WAYNE FROST '55.

PATRICIA JEAN JANSEN '59
ROBERT KURUS '59
DAVID GREGORY '64
RICHARD GUTTU '66
WALLACE HAGEMAN '50
DANA HALL '61
CHARLES HANCOCK '87
JOHN PATRICK HANSEN '68
HALLIE "LEE" HARMON '46
THOMAS HAWKINS '66
WILLIAM HECHT '53
JANICE (SEE) HEINRICH '61
KRISTEN JAGER SAUCEDA '97
EVERETT H JOHNSON '62
GLADYS (GALLUP) KOCH '57
PATTI (LAMBERT) KOST '80
ROBERT KURUS '59



BARRY LAFFERTY '50
BARBARA ANNE LUNDY '74
DICK MCDONALD '61
BARBARA (JONES) MEAD '61
PHYLLIS (WICK) MELDAHL '46
JOANN MEYERS '52
DOUG MOUAT '58
RAY NYGREN '53
VALERIE (HEDWALL) OLSON '63
RUSSELL QUACKENBUSH '52
MARIE RUTH '63
BRENT STIENECKER '56
OLE JOHN VARNES '64
PATTI (DURBIN) WHITE '58
TERRY WITTREN '63
HARDY ROY YATES '57

Hollis "Skeeter" Edinger '55

Hollis passed away on November 9, 2025, in Kenmore. He was born December 13, 1936 in Yakima. His nickname "Skeeter" came from a delivery room nurse who said, "He's so cute and small, he looks like a little skeeter bug." His family later moved to Ballard, where he made many lifelong friends. He attended Ballard High School where he met Judy Engstrom in study hall. They married in 1957 and raised their family in Kenmore.

Hollis gained his knowledge of road engineering while working for his family's business, Edinger Sand and Gravel. He was a proud 67-year member of the Local 302 International Union of Operating Engineers and worked on many larger area road projects. He had lifelong interests in airplanes, cars, history, coffee and pie with friends, and fishing. A fishing highlight was winning the Seafair Salmon Derby with a 54-pound king salmon.



He is survived by Judy; five siblings, children Lisa, Brent, and Mia; grandchildren Matt, Danielle, and Sam; and six great grandchildren.

William Hecht '53

Bill grew up in Ballard, where his lifelong love for community and family began. He met Marilyn Kleve at Webster Elementary. They would marry in 1959 and share 66 years together.

A graduate of Ballard and Caltech, Bill went on to earn his medical degree from the University of Washington in 1962, beginning a career in radiology. After serving in the Air Force, he worked at Radiology Associates until his retirement in 1994.

Bill and Marilyn raised their children Jane, Tom, and David in Everett. In

Robert Kurus '59

Bob was born May 22, 1941 in Seattle. He lived within walking distance of Puget Sound and its beautiful views.

Bob excelled in athletics: baseball (all-city and all-state player), basketball, track, golf (city champion), and bowling. At a final school assembly, his baseball coach called him "one of the finest all-around athletes to ever play at Ballard." He also excelled at baseball in college, and remained active.

Bob earned his degree in education and spent three decades devoted to teaching. Throughout his life, Bob was surrounded by close friends — some so dear that he considered them family. For 47 years, Jane Walsh gave him her love and devotion.



Thanks to Legal Counsel, Tom Malone, for sharing a photo of the 1955 Ballard All-Star Team. That's Bob holding the trophy!



1974, the couple found their sanctuary on Camano Island.

Bill ran 10 marathons after age 40 and had a deep love of history and travel. Marilyn and he explored Europe, Russia, China, Israel, Egypt, and India. He is survived by Marilyn and their children; and two grandchildren.

**Barry Lafferty '50**

Barry Lafferty, a lifelong Ballard resident and pharmacist, passed away on February 15, 2026, at the age of 93. Born to Carol and Ben Lafferty, Barry grew up in the Blue Ridge neighborhood and attended Ballard High School. He followed his father into pharmacy, opening Barry Lafferty's Pharmacy in 1961. In 1978, he began creating emergency medical kits for the

Ballard fishing community, a business that continues today as Lafferty's EMS, carried on by his son Michael.

Barry enjoyed dirt bikes, boating, salmon fishing, woodworking, and entertaining.

He was a generous man, devoted to his community through the Masonic Order, Nile Country Club, Jesters, and the Ballard Hospital Foundation.



He is survived by his children Patricia and Michael, and 11 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Barry's warmth touched all who knew him. His favorite saying: "You know what I like about you ... everything!"

Memorials have been abridged for space. Send "In Memoriam" notices to the editor at bhsfcomm@gmail.com.

Celebrating All Things Ballard Auctions & Salmon Dinner

Tickets Now Available for Salmon Barbecue

Join your Ballard High School friends at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard on Thursday, August 13, 2026, for our **Celebrating All Things Ballard Salmon Dinner** celebration and live auction, featuring auctioneer Stephen Kilbreath. Enjoy a cool beverage and a delicious salmon barbecue at this storied Ballard venue, all while raising money for Ballard Athletics, Dance, Cheer, and Performing Arts.

This year, we also will be raising money for Ballard Performing Arts (BPA) **"Lessons for All."** This program provides individual lessons for any BPA student who wants to participate. In 2021 and 2024, we raised money for this important initiative, and it's been so successful in helping students develop their craft, we're continuing this year too.

Special thanks to Salmon Dinner Event sponsors **Mason '68** and **Linda '67 Williams** (Covich-Williams), and **John Goodman '71** (Goodman Foundation).

Can't wait to bid? We're also eagerly anticipating another successful **Celebrating All Things Ballard Online Auction**, from Saturday, August 1 through Sunday, August 16. Choose from great local getaways, golf outings, and dining options galore. Thanks to the Williams and Covich-Williams for sponsoring the online auction, too.

Last year's summer events (including the Golf Classic, page 13) raised more than \$112,000 for the 2025 funded item, LINK Crew, as well as Ballard Athletics, Dance, Cheer and Performing Arts! Dinner tickets and online auction info at ballardhighschoolfoundation.org/events



Auction Preview Open

This year's online auction, August 1-16, will include travel excursions to Roslyn Ridge, dining options at Ray's Boathouse, Duke's Seafood and El Gaucho, an Aldarra Golf Club foursome, and much more! Full details at ballardhighschoolfoundation.org/events



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio



Thanks to ASB Advisor Laura Lehni and ASB Treasurer Audrey Papineau '27 who shared the impact of Ballard's LINK Crew peer-mentoring program at the 2025 event.

Auction support helps LINK Crew Continue

Last year's auction events raised more than \$47,000 for LINK Crew (including a \$10,000 Foundation gift). We're grateful for key donor support from **Art Olsen '63**, **Cyndy Clegg '78** and **Jerry Masters**, and **Raymond Eriksen '75** with Pacific Fishermen Shipyard.

Over the past three years, the Foundation has contributed \$30,000 for the peer-mentoring program. Thanks to everyone who raised the paddle at the 2025 dinner and donated online, LINK Crew is now funded for five more years.

LINK Crew aims to support new Ballard students by creating consistent relationships that cultivate a sense of belonging, acceptance, and respect.

26th Annual Victor Salvino Golf Classic

We are looking forward to hosting a full field of golfers for the 26th Annual Victor Salvino Golf Classic on **Friday, August 14, 2026**, at Newcastle Golf Course. Our annual tournament raises vital support for Ballard Athletics, Cheer, Dance and Performing Arts. This year, we're pleased to celebrate 26 years of continued commitment.



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio

The tournament will begin with a Barbecue and Putting Contest at 11:30 a.m., followed by a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start on the China Creek and Coal Creek courses.

Special thanks to longtime Golf Classic supporters

John Goodman '71

(Goodman Foundation) and **Mason '68 and**

Linda Williams '67

(Covich-Williams) for

all stepping forward

with \$25,000 sponsorship donations

(\$50,000 in total), to host the event for a second year.



Even though amazing alum **Victor Salvino '51** completed his three years of hosting the Golf Classic in 2024, the event will continue with his name, in honor of his years of Beaver spirit and financial support.

We're grateful to **Art Olsen '63** who is returning for this year's event as apparel sponsor.



Carter Motors will also be back this year, offering a chance to win a Subaru or Volkswagen at one of the three "hole in one" contests on each of the courses.



Way to Go, Dick!

Thank you Dick for all your hard work that you have done over the years for the Ballard High School Foundation and its continued success.

Longtime Golf Classic & Auction Sponsors

Mason '68 & Linda '67 Williams,
Covich-Williams

Thank You Golf Sponsors

Title Sponsor

John Goodman '71
Goodman Foundation

Hole in One Sponsor

Carter Motors

Hole Sponsor

Dick's Drive In

Presenting Sponsors

Mason '68 and Linda '67
Williams
Covich-Williams

Golf Cart Sponsor

Johnny Verduin '13
DY Sports

Longest Drive Sponsor

Frank Airey '13
Cummings Fraser & Associates

Apparel Sponsor

Art Olsen '63

Beverage Cart Sponsor

Russ Katz & Team
Windermere Real Estate

Closest to the Pin Sponsor
and Friend of Ballard High
School Sponsor

Robert Schulz '74

Signage Sponsor

SuperGraphics

Boxed Snacks Sponsor

John & Sue (Stimac)
Verduin '78

Sponsors identified by June,
2026 listed.

Beavers Athletes Who Dreamed Big

Alums Include an Olympic Rower, a MMA Fighter, & a Basketball Trailblazer

Shylo Burns

TALISMAN SPORTS EDITOR

The air of the 1984 Summer Olympics filled with endless cheers as a gold medal was placed around **Paul Enquist's** neck, as his own heart filled with a sense of satisfaction. Even though the win itself was already a personal growth achievement to Enquist, he didn't know he had gotten the United States a gold medal in double sculls rowing for the first time since 1964.

Enquist, a graduate of both Washington State University (WSU) and Ballard High School, reflects on the moment decades later.

"After the race while catching our breath at the finish line area, I wasn't thinking about being awarded the gold medal so much," Enquist said in an email. "I was feeling very satisfied. I had executed our race plan well. I had finally won an important race. That rarely happened in my career, especially at WSU."

Surrounded by a surreal blur of action, Enquist didn't realize he had just created unforgettable history by winning the event.

"The rest went by quickly," Enquist said. "The medal, 'Star-Spangled Banner,' the crowd cheers, (all) almost a blur, as it turns out ... winning became a rare event for the U.S."

After this victory, as Enquist noted, the U.S. would not win another gold medal until 2004 which would be in the men's eight and then not until 2024 when another would be earned in the men's four.



Courtesy of Paul Enquist

Paul Enquist '73 earned a gold medal in double sculls rowing at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Enquist, who graduated from Ballard High School in 1973, had played basketball and football for the school. Reflecting back, he recalls loving basketball but doesn't remember receiving any support from his coaches.

"Basketball was my favorite, but partly due to skill and favoritism by the coach, I was kept on the bench most of the time," Enquist said. "I don't remember any encouragement or positive comments from any of the coaches at BHS."

Josh Barnett '96

Josh Barnett, a renowned American mixed martial artist and professional wrestler, had played football and wrestled before graduating in 1996. He went to state for wrestling all four years of his high school career and, unlike Enquist, he remembers receiving support from both his coaches and teachers.

"I'm not sure that I could attribute it to just one, but I can say all my coaches were all encouraging and wanted me

to succeed," Barnett said. "I had some solid teachers along the way as well, and enjoying being in a class can go a long way towards making school a lot easier."



joshbarnett.com

Josh Barnett '96 began his wrestling career as a Beaver.

He currently runs Bloodsport, a professional wrestling event produced by Game Changer Wrestling that features matches in a ropeless ring where victories are only achieved by knockout or submission.

Barnett reflects on his high school experience of wrestling and realizes what he truly loved most about it: the spirit of competing.

"I really loved the thrill of competition, and the feeling that you were in a different world than the one most people know, especially in regard to high school," he said. "You develop so many different relationships and experiences, and from those you end up doing things and meeting people you'd never have expected. Then you go out there and see who's best, and that sort of environment can create great camaraderie and fast friendships."

Sue Stimac Verduin '78

The year was 1978 when the Roosevelt High School gym was packed to the brim with Ballard and Roosevelt fans, as each basketball team fought to win districts in order to move on to state. At last, the buzzer blared, breaking the tension, and the Beavers erupted with cheers. Sue Stimac Verduin, known

then by her maiden name, Sue Stimac, was raised into the air by the hands of her teammates as the game's MVP.

Verduin was a star basketball player until she graduated in 1978, earned All-American Honors at Seattle University, became the first girl at both BHS and Seattle U to have her jersey retired, and now has the Ballard High School Foundation's Woman of Impact Award named after her.

"It never crossed my mind that we were blazing a trail for the future," Verduin said. "Yes, my teammates and I had the first opportunity to compete on teams and begin to set the bar for others. But we hadn't experienced anything different so we were just happy to play and compete."

Verduin explains that in order for women's sports to become more successful, it requires more than just the athletes trying their best.

"I still challenge my family and friends that in order for women's sports to continue to grow, it needs to be supported," Verduin said. "That means (people need to) attend games, matches and meets. Be there for your friends and classmates."

Verduin has stayed connected with the school decades later by organizing BHS Foundation events such as the Running of the Beavers 5K. She reflects that she continues her support because the community has always been important to her.

"My parents taught my brothers and I about the importance of community," Verduin said. "I was raised knowing that faith, family and community were top priorities. That small town spirit has made Ballard such a strong community."



Courtesy of Sue (Stimac) Verduin

Before her All-American career at Seattle University, Sue Stimac '78 aims to lead the Beavers to victory.

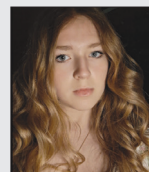
Verduin isn't the only alum who has continued to support her alma mater after graduation instead of abandoning the community and leaving it to fend for itself.

"There are so many alumni of Ballard that have that deep root of community," Verduin said. "They have given back to this community and school and prove to be a North Star for the next generation of Ballard grads."

Support BHS Journalism

SHYLO'S ARTICLE

first ran June 1 on ballardtalisman.org. Thanks to Shylo, Advisor Mike Smith, and the Talisman staff for sharing their work with The Log. Learn more about Ballard's award-winning journalism program on the BHS website.



Shylo Burns '28
Talisman
Sports Editor

Speedy 7th Annual Running of the Beavers

The 7th Annual Running of the Beavers returned to Golden Gardens on March 21, 2026, bringing together an enthusiastic field of 318 runners and a spirited crowd of supporters. The community event raised over \$14,600 for Ballard Athletics, Band, Cheer, Dance, and other BHS programs (see sidebar).

Special thanks to Principal Abby Hunt, who served as emcee, along with Bucky the mascot, the Pep Band (directed by Jay Gillespie), and the Cheer and Dance Teams, whose energy encouraged runners and walkers at the Golden Gardens start and finish line. Top finishers received a new pair of Brooks shoes, courtesy of Brooks Running.

Thanks to race directors Jeff Orswell and Erick Vazquez, Athletic Booster Club President Suzanne Dale Estey, and the many BHS team volunteers who supported the event. Duke's Seafood, Caffe Appassionato, Crown Hill Grocery Outlet, and Smith Brothers generously provided refreshments for participants.

Finally, thank you to all event sponsors — led by Presenting Sponsor DY Sports (Johnny Verduin '13) — whose generosity helped make this year's Running of the Beavers possible. Event sponsors included The Goodman Foundation, Covich Williams, Carter Motors, and Les Schwab Tires. Supporting sponsors were Brown Bear Car Wash and Western Ventures Construction.

We look forward to seeing another crowd of speedy Beavers at next year's event, on March 20, 2027, back at Golden Gardens!

Men's Division Winners:

- 1. Jack Rousseau '23, 16:12.54
- 2. Simon Hagos '27, 16:32
- 3. Luke Bonagofski, 18:05.27

Women's Division Winners:

- 1. Cassidy Armstrong '26, 16:48.74
- 2. Ari Bonagofski, 18:03.62
- 3. Ciana Johnson '28, 18:22.43



Briane Henak/Rowland Studio



Congrats Simon, Jack, Cassidy, and Ciana!

Running of Beavers Team Totals

Funds distributed from the event totaled \$14,601.50, disbursed as follows:

ASB (for Class Competition '29, '26)	\$500
Boys Lacrosse	\$1,197
Band	\$1,068.50
Baseball	\$233
Boys Basketball	\$168
Boys Soccer	\$394.50
Boys Swim	\$113
Cheer	\$717
Cross Country	\$1,230
Dance	\$592.50
Football	\$112
Girls Basketball	\$217
Girls Bowling	\$21
Girls Flag Football	\$28
Girls Lacrosse	\$3,999
Girls Soccer	\$207
Girls Swim	\$409
Girls Volleyball	\$112
Golf	\$21
Gymnastics	\$14
Mental Health	\$736
Softball	\$365.50
Strength/Conditioning	\$14.50
Talisman	\$450
Tennis	\$229
Track and Field	\$1,221
Ultimate	\$157.50
Unified	\$24.50
Wrestling	\$50

Wall of Recognition Updated

The new “Welcome to the Dam” mural installation also prompted a reimagining of the adjacent Wall of Recognition.

As a reminder, the Foundation’s **Wall of Recognition** recognizes alumni who graduated from BHS at least 25 years ago and have achieved prominence. Members are recognized by their peers in fields such as professional work, science, the arts, athletics, business, military service, politics, or public service. Final selections are made by the Foundation’s History/Records/Traditions Committee, said Foundation Board Secretary **Marianne Baker ’70**.

Students often paused at the framed line of pictures but were unsure why those alumni were being honored, said Principal **Abby Hunt**. Her ensuing research about the program on the Foundation website revealed remarkable alumni stories, she added, yet the previous format offered little context — and limited room for future growth.

“We wanted a format that gave each graduate a more dynamic presence,” Hunt said.

To better share these stories and add new ones, Baker and school website editor **Diane Taylor** worked together to create a digital format. The information can now be viewed on a digital reader board, located directly adjacent to the **Victor Salvino Alumni Room**. The slides (a sample shown right) rotate through each honored alumni member and new nominees, bringing their achievements closer to viewers.

Creating a New BHS Welcome



Courtesy of Stevie Shao

Artist alum **Stevie Shao ’15** brightened the school’s main foyer with a mural last summer. The mural neighbors a new Wall of Recognition digital reader board.

The main foyer of Ballard High School has a bright new look this school year, thanks to a colorful mural created by Seattle muralist and 2015 Ballard graduate **Stevie Shao**.

The project traces back to a prior PTSA fundraising auction “Raise the Paddle” effort, which provided teachers with funds to enhance their classrooms and help create a more inclusive, welcoming school environment.

Some of the funds were pooled to focus on a single project, said Principal Abby Hunt. The school administration’s Racial Equity Team explored possibilities and ultimately chose a mural for the entryway — an opportunity to expand public art and create a more student-friendly, vibrant space.

When art teacher **Matt Harkleroad** mentioned that Shao had become a successful muralist, the team reached out. Shao enthusiastically accepted.

Students were surveyed on what they might like to include on the mural. Shao and the team then built a vision board based on the themes, imagery, and values the students felt best represented the Ballard community.

“There’s so much that comes to mind as someone who grew up in the area that relates to the school and neighborhood, so I enjoyed seeing what people had to share,” she said.

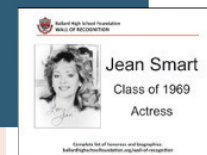
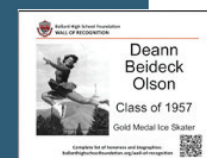
Guided by that feedback, she completed the mural in the summer of 2025.

“In creating the mural, I wanted to incorporate some of the student feedback and evoke pride in the school and community,” Shao said. “There are so many possibilities for young people who enjoy the arts, and I hope it was interesting for them to have a former Ballard High School student come create new artwork.”

Nominate an Amazing Alumni

Know a great Beaver alum of 25 years or more? Nominate them for the **Wall of Recognition**!

To learn more about the programs, special alumni included, and to nominate someone, visit ballardhighschoolfoundation.org/wall-of-recognition



BPA Needs Include Lessons, Instruments and More

The Ballard High School Foundation continues to respond to Ballard Performing Arts (BPA) needs, making sure Beaver musicians, vocalists, classrooms, and stages are truly performance-ready.

This summer, we are excited to announce that the **Music Lessons for All** program will be the funded-item beneficiary at the Salmon Dinner Benefit & Auction on August 13 at Pacific Fishermen Shipyard. (Page 12.) Funds raised will help further BPA's goal of offering free individual lessons to any BPA student who wants to participate. This effort started in 2021 as a way to make the program even more inclusive for those who wanted more practice on their craft. Working with BPA, we helped raise \$25,000 for lessons then, and again, when the funds ran out, due to the program's popularity, \$10,000 more in 2025.

Over the past three years, through fundraising and generous gifts, the Foundation has provided nearly \$130,000 in support for program needs. This includes 2025's lesson support, \$50,000 in PAC upgrades, \$40,000 for instruments, nearly \$5,000 for theatrical wireless headsets, and \$980 for professional Choir folders. This total also reflects our recent partnership with Ballard PTSA to purchase a new sousaphone (our portion: \$3,600, supported by a generous \$2,000 gift from **Joel Niemeyer '78**). We also just contributed \$900 to help bring Union Arts Center's bilingual *Romeo y Juliet* to Ballard for Drama/ELA class study.

Thanks to Committee Chair **Chris Witeck** and members **Cyndy Clegg '78** and Joel Niemeyer for working with directors **Courtney Rowley** (choir), **Miller Shor** (theatre), **Daniel Valdez** (orchestra), and **Jay Gillespie** (band) to identify ongoing program needs.



Courtesy of Ballard Performing Arts
Marching Band took 1st place for bands at Wenatchee's Apple Blossom Parade.



Courtesy of Ballard Performing Arts
Vocal Jazz earned 1st place in the Mixed Vocal Large category at the State Solo and Ensemble Contest in April at Central Washington University. The Tenor Bass Ensemble and Chamber Choir also received Superior ratings.

Performing Arts Thanks Dick Lee

Dick has been a tireless force for good in the Ballard High School community. He cares passionately about our school and is constantly on the lookout for ways the Foundation can help to improve it. Thousands of students in Performing Arts have benefited from the sound systems, microphones, uniforms, instruments, risers and acoustical shell, and music lessons that the Foundation has spearheaded under Dick's leadership. We are so incredibly grateful.



~Courtney Rowley, Choir Director, Performing Arts Department Chair

Digital Film Program Turns Creativity into Awards

Walk into Ballard's Digital Film-making classroom on any given day and you may see students checking out lights for a remote shoot, a script getting a final review, someone troubleshooting audio, someone else editing a rough cut. It feels less like a high school class and more like a small production studio.

Teacher **Steven Bradford** has guided the program since 2019, and he's quick to say that his job isn't to dictate ideas. "I'm pointing them in the right direction and helping them produce their ideas," he said. "You don't have to light a fire under them — you just have to rein them in."

That creative energy, along with the technical skills developed in the classroom and on location, has carried Ballard student filmmakers through another remarkable year.

In November, the Advanced Video Production students gathered to watch the live broadcast of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) **High School Student Production Awards** — or, more familiarly, the Student Emmys.

Ballard had two nominees: Sophia Poole '27 for editing (*Chop Chop*) and Lake Neill '26 (*A Moment in Time*) in Arts and Entertainment Programming.

A Moment in Time — directed by Neill and co-produced by Miriam Goodman '24 and Hazel Hartman '25 — won the national award. The classroom erupted into applause as Neill's pre-taped acceptance speech was aired. It was the program's ninth National NATAS award in eight years.

In May, Ballard received a number of Student Production awards at the **Northwest Regional Student Emmys**. These films will move on to national



Courtesy of Steven Bradford

Film students join teacher Steven Bradford at the Northwest Student Emmys.

competition, with nominees and winners revealed in the fall, Bradford said.

Writing — *Agoraphobe* by Maddie Irish '27, Griffyn Braly '27, and Oleksandra Prokopenko '27

Arts/Entertainment/Cultural Affairs — *Henry* directed by Lucy Bunich '26

Feature News Report — *You Are Not Alone* by Amara Shelton '27, Luella McNichols '26, and Gianna Goldyn '26

Ballard filmmakers also had a strong showing this spring at the **NW High School Film Festival**, with seven films receiving honorary mentions and two earning Awards of Excellence:

Feature News Story — *You Are Not Alone* (Shelton, McNichols, Goldyn)

Documentary — *Culinary Traditions* (Poole, Prokopenko, Sally Solvang '27, Amelia Wagenbrenner '26)

The school year ended with the program's Annual **Ballard High School Film Festival**, on June 6-7, at the Performing Arts Center, a showcase of student productions, including advertisements, documentaries, narratives,

and music videos.

"Every year, our students surprise me with their creativity and originality," Bradford said. "Watching them on a big screen with an audience is like seeing them all new, and I notice creative aspects I missed just watching them as they created them."

In June, the program also celebrated the long-awaited Seattle premiere of *A Storm of Syndicates*, a sci-fi feature created by James Brammer '22 and more than 20 Ballard filmmaking students.

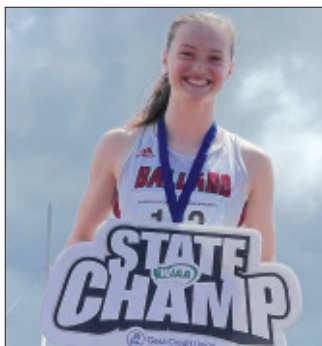
With support from the Ballard High School PTSA and Bradford's guidance, the team spent months building the film. Students filmed in multiple Northwest locations, including Eastern Washington, Lopez Island, and the Georgetown Steam Plant.

On June 18, they finally saw it locally on the big screen at Majestic Bay Theatres, complete with a red carpet and a Q&A that reunited the cast and crew.

Congratulations to the entire Digital Filmmaking crew on another award-winning year!

Track Athletes Excel at State

Ballard High School has two new State Champions! Congratulations to **Cassidy Armstrong**, who won the 3200m (10:13.69), and **Ciana Johnson**, who captured the 800m title (2:08.71) at the State Track & Field Championships. Ballard's relay squads also contributed key points that helped propel the Girls Team to a 5th-place finish — the best in school history. Johnson added a 3rd-place finish in the 400m, made even more impressive by her relay leg just a half-hour earlier.



On the boys' side, pole vaulter **Dempsey Whetsel** set a personal record (14-06.00) to land on the podium in 4th place. Congratulations to Ballard Track, led by Coach **Neal Howard**!

Cassidy Armstrong (top) and Ciana Johnson (bottom) won the 3200m and 800m titles at the State Championship Meet at Mount Tahoma High School.

Ed Tanaka

Athletic Trainer Celebrates 20 Years at BHS

Athletic Trainer Loka Murphy recently completed his 20th year at Ballard High School. He is employed by Seattle Children's Hospital, but is contracted out to Seattle Public Schools for onsite athletic training services. While some trainers cover more than one school, the Ballard High School Foundation funds the remaining portion of Loka's position so our athletes benefit from his consistent, dedicated care. Thank you, Loka!



Ed Tanaka

Loka Murphy works with a Ballard Football player. He recently celebrated his 20th year as Athletic Trainer at Ballard High School

Lacrosse Hits New Heights

Boys Lacrosse made its first State Championship appearance, falling 11-7 to Snohomish and finishing 2nd in 3A. This spring, the Beavers also won the Metro (Public) Championships and set two team records: 61 goals for **Sam Frech** and 140 ground balls for **Aiden Gray**. Congrats to Coach **Ray Pryphun** and the team!

Beavers celebrate at BHS Field. Photo by Ed Tanaka



Essig Hired as Football & Assistant Strength Coach

Ballard alum **Ian Essig '09** has been hired as the Beavers' Interim Head Football Coach and Assistant Coach for the Strength and Conditioning program.



Essig is a Special Education teacher at BHS. Since 2019, he's also been part of the football staff, most recently serving as Associate Head Coach, Defensive Coordinator, and Head of Football Analytics. He grew up across the street from the Ballard Boys & Girls Club and excelled at football, basketball and track.

In his new Strength and Conditioning role, Essig says he's excited to help expand access to fitness for any Beaver student. "I'm passionate about assisting in the weight room so it can continue to be an energetic, encouraging, and safe place to be," he said. The BHS Foundation, BHS Athletic Booster Club, and Associated Student Body are proud supporters of the Strength and Conditioning program.

We also extend our thanks to **Malik Prince '11**

for his leadership as Head Football Coach over the past two years. A former GAINS Coordinator, Prince made

a meaningful impact on BHS students. He continues to serve as the SPS African American Male Achievement Family Support Worker for north-end high schools.



BHS Field Finally Sports Bleachers



Ed Tanaka

BHS Soccer fans enjoy the new bleachers at BHS Field.

After years of anticipation, the bleachers at Ballard High School Field are now a reality! Just in time for Spring Athletics, Seattle Public Schools installers finished the bleacher project, with seating for up to 430 fans.

The Foundation partnered with the Athletic Booster Club (ABC) to advocate for bleachers at Ballard. Thanks to Foundation Co-Presidents **Phil Brockman '76** and **Ryan Carlisle '93** for their efforts on the project. As a Girls Lacrosse parent and area contractor, Carlisle made sure that the build and site lines offered the best fan viewing experience.

The student Captains Council hosted a celebration in April to welcome fans to the new field bleachers, highlighted by free pizza from ABC and a Boys Soccer/Boys Lacrosse double-header.



Athletic Booster Club

Suzanne Dale Estey and ABC volunteers offer free pizza to BHS fans at the April Spring Sports Celebration.

Class of 1976 Celebrates 50th Reunion



Courtesy of Debra Hansen

The Class of 1976 enjoyed their 50th Reunion at the Ballard Elks Club.

The **Class of 1976** celebrated its 50th Reunion on April 25 at the Ballard Elks, where 191 classmates and guests gathered — including 40 alumni attending a reunion for the first time.

The class shared a generous \$5,100 donation with the Ballard High School Foundation, as reported by Board President (and proud Class of 1976 graduate) Phil Brockman. Thank you, Class of 1976! Want to share a reunion gift? Use the envelope in the center of *The Log* or email Dick Lee '61 at rjlee@seattleschools.org.



More Beaver Reunions

Class of 2001 will celebrate its 25th Reunion on Aug. 1-2, with a bar meetup (location TBD) on Saturday and a family-friendly picnic at Golden Gardens on Sunday. Suggested donation of \$20/person will help cover pizza, non-alcoholic drinks, and park rental. Updates will be posted in the Ballard High School (Seattle, WA) Class of 2001 Facebook group. For more info, email Makoto Lokting at makotolokting@gmail.com.

Class of 1986 is having its 40th Reunion on Saturday, Aug 29 at The Pine Tavern (4818 17th Ave NW), starting at 6 p.m. Email Shana Jackson at shanajackson@hotmail.com for more information.

Cheers to 80 Years, Class of 1964

The **Class of 1964** will gather for an 80th Birthday Celebration on Wednesday, Sept. 9, from 1–5 p.m. on the second floor of the Ballard Elks Lodge (6411 Seaview Ave NW). Lunch, birthday cake, and a no-host bar will be available.

Admission: \$50/person; \$60/couple. Make checks payable to: Robert Ramborger, 810 Hickory Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98274. Please mail checks by Sunday, August 9.

Payments received after August 9 will be \$60 per person. Checks and cash will also be accepted at the door. Please RSVP to Robert at rjramborger@gmail.com.

A Dam Lot of Gratitude for Dick Lee

Editor's Note: When I reached out to see if Dick's colleagues could share their perspectives about the Foundation's co-founder and Executive Director, nearly every one responded with a quick 'yes' and some inspired words about the Ballard legend. On behalf of all Beavers, thank you Dick!

Dick is a truly caring and wonderful person. He is the consummate servant leader, leading with humility, and usually the first to credit others for the Ballard High School Foundation's biggest milestones. He was always a steadfast supporter of my priorities as President, and continues to be, always making sure the focus stays on the impact we're making together for Ballard High School students.

Dick's example has been a primary inspiration for my own service to the community. He models a type of leadership that is as much about heart as it is about strategy, and working alongside him has taught me that the most impactful way to lead is by lifting up those around you.

He doesn't just lead the Foundation — he inspires a genuine spirit of service in everyone around him.

Joel Niemeyer '78
BHS Foundation &
PTSA Past President

Dick Lee does not bleed plain red — he bleeds red AND black! No one epitomizes the spirit of a Ballard Beaver more than Richard Lee. From his athletic achievements of the '60's, his efforts helping to found the Ballard High School Foundation — and to his multi-year stewardship as Executive Director — Dick has not only used his great organizational talents for fundraising events, but in the process established and re-kindled deep alumni relationships. Rallying decades of alumni to not only remember their high school experience — but to provide them multiple opportunities to support students and staff — golf tournaments;



Bruce Johnson/Rowland Studio

Dick Lee '61, Sue (Stimac) Verduin '78 and John Verduin, and Paul Plumis enjoy the 2018 Golf Classic.

auctions; breakfasts; fun runs, as well as Direct Appeals — is the hallmark of this great leader. The millions raised for the school via the Foundation have helped to make it a stellar learning institution. Dick Lee and his countless hours of dedicated service to students and staff deserve much credit for making this happen!

Paul Plumis
BHS Foundation Vice President
BHS PTSA Past Co-President (with
Co-President Pam Plumis)

Dick Lee is the engine that makes the Ballard High School Foundation run. His unique talents include his many contacts in the Seattle Public Schools, the Ballard community, alumni and businesses. People are happy to work with him on his many successful fundraising projects.

Gretchen Stroh Scheumann '53
Foundation Vice President

I have had the pleasure of working alongside Dick Lee over the past decade. He is Ballard through and through. He has led the Foundation to

new heights with his leadership and vision. He's a go-getter and willing to take on new projects in support of BHS and the Seattle School District.

Dick not only has made his mark currently for BHS and the greater Ballard community, but his passion as a proud Ballard Beaver will be felt for years to come.

Sue (Stimac) Verduin '78
BHS Girls Basketball Legend

Our family has three generations of Ballard High School graduates so to see Dick's dedication, love and loyalty to BHS has meant a lot to our family. I got to experience first hand his impact on the school and community when I was BHS PTSA president and still witness it today 15+ years later.

John Verduin
BHS Foundation Supporter
BHS PTSA Past President

Dick has organized very well, every single activity of that school. And that would include all the sports teams, and other things that go along with high school activities throughout a year.

Dick has been an A-plus for his work with the Foundation, and that obviously leads into all Ballard High School activities.

Victor Salvino '51
Longtime BHS Donor

Dick is a consummate event organizer. I have a collection of T-shirts from 5K fun runs he has organized over the past 20+ years, including the famous "snarling Beaver" tee from last year's 5K to support Ballard High sports and a now-ragged 6th Annual Boardwalk tee from a 5K run that ended in Husky Stadium to raise funds for Seattle Public Schools sports programs. Dick is a marvel.

Peter Maier
BHS Parent, Former SPS School
Board member

I first met Dick Lee 25 years ago, when our son was a junior at BHS and I was volunteering to assist with the Ballard BASH. Initially, I was impressed with Dick's support and involvement with BHS faculty, staff, and students, and the inspirational role model that he provided for them with his vision and motivation to support public education and other programs.

Since then my husband, Jim, and I have volunteered and worked with Dick on a variety of projects and events that have supported BHS, the Ballard High School Foundation, Seattle Public Schools and other nonprofit organizations. We enjoyed assisting him when he worked with the Seattle Public Schools establishing foundations, organizing events and coordinating auctions — so many auctions — while raising funds for individual schools.

Mostly, we are in awe of his vast networking skills and ability to motivate others to engage and lend their support. His genuine and constant appreciation for those who do become involved, encourages their continued ongoing support. Also, we love how he insists that he has energy for one more campaign idea that would benefit the entire school district and engage the business community. We treasure the personal friendship that we have developed over the years with Dick, as we are certain many, many others do, too.

Christie Spielman
BHS Alumni Parent, Volunteer

It is my pleasure to know and work with Dick Lee at the BHS PTSA. His passion for the students, educators and community shines through in every interaction over my 8 years at BHS. I'm grateful for his mentorship & guidance, especially how he can harness his passion to inspire. He's true creative catalyst leader.

Kim Flin
BHS PTSA President

Orre Nobles Art Collection Grows



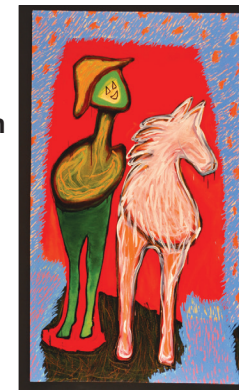
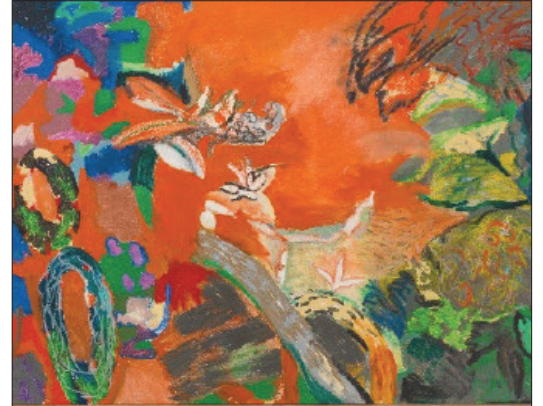
The Orre Nobles Art Collection continues to grow at Ballard High School, thanks to the stewardship of the Visual Arts Committee.

Named for longtime art teacher **Orre Nobles** and launched in 1998, the collection is owned by the Ballard High School Foundation and is on permanent loan to the school. With more than 95 artworks, the collection reflects Ballard's history, its neighborhoods, its diverse student body, and the many artists who call the community home.



This school year brought a wave of new works to expand the collection. Recent additions:

- **Partners in a Blue Window** (1999), oil on canvas by Louise Hoeschen-Goldberg
- **Pipestone Secrets** (2014), lithograph by Lillian Pitt
- **Ying Disc, Sun Disc, and Silver Disc** (1980), silkscreens by Doris Chase
- **Southern Eden** (1993), oil on canvas by Elizabeth Sandvig



Kristin Schimik readies a wall for new artwork at Ballard High School. Recent art additions include **Southern Eden** (above, by Elizabeth Sandvig) and **Partners in a Blue Window** (by Louise Hoeschen-Goldberg).

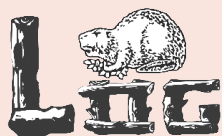
Two additional artworks — already approved by the school's Building Leadership Team and the Visual Arts Committee — received Foundation Board approval at the June meeting:

- **Spirit Bird Landscape** (1996), a textured acrylic on canvas gifted by the Alden Mason Foundation
- **C-24** (2022–24), a mixed-wood wall sculpture by Parks Anderson

Thanks to the efforts of the Visual Arts Committee, led by chair **Matthew Kangas '67**, these new additions add depth to the Orre Nobles Art Collection and reflect the Foundation's commitment to showcasing area artists for the enrichment of Ballard High School students and staff.



For the Logbook



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

August 13, 2026 | Salmon Dinner Event and Live
Auction, 5:30 p.m. Pacific Fishermen Shipyard

August 14, 2026 | Victor Salvino 26th Annual Golf
Classic, 11 a.m. Newcastle Golf Course

September 26, 2026 | Foundation Board Meeting,
4 p.m. Ballard High School Library

December 1, 2026 | Foundation Annual Board
Meeting & Reception, 5 p.m. Blue Ridge
Community Club

March 9, 2027 | Foundation Board Meeting, 4
p.m. Ballard High School Library

March 20, 2027 | Running of the Beavers, 9:30
a.m. Golden Gardens

June 6, 2027 | Golden Beavers Scholarship
Luncheon, 12:30 p.m. Ray's Boathouse
Northwest Room

October 2027 (date TBD) | Breakfast of
Champions, honoring next BHS Woman of
Impact, 9:30 a.m. BHS Commons

A Final Word

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

As my daughters, Emma ('21) and Ally ('24), can attest, I'm proudly a "Girl Dad," and Beyoncé had it right: *Who run the world? Girls!* I'm reminded of that every time I have the chance to work alongside leaders like **Suzanne Dale Estey** and **Kim Flin**, whose partnership and presence over the years have strengthened Ballard in countless ways. Their willingness to collaborate, listen, and problem-solve has made a real difference, and I'm proud of our teamwork.

I want to congratulate them both on their recent well-earned PTSA accolades: Kim's **Lifetime Golden Acorn Award**, recognizing her two terms as PTSA President. Also, Suzanne's **Golden Acorn Award**, celebrating her many seasons cheering from the sidelines and advocating for every Beaver athlete as President of the Athletic Booster Club.

Thank you, Suzanne and Kim, for your partnership and your leadership.

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



Ballard PTSA President Kim Flin (left) and Ballard Athletic Booster Club President Suzanne Dale Estey have been exceptional in their Beaver leadership roles.

