



## The Bear Facts

Welcome to the official newsletter of the Ballard High School Alumni Association. Our mission is to keep graduates and friends of Ballard up-to-date on school and alumni news.

[Visit our Website](#)



### October 2020 Stadium Update: Let the Games Begin!

It's a great time to take a breath and thank all of our alumni for their generous donations thus far. To date, we have received \$652,000 toward the costs of rebuilding Pat Crawford Stadium. We could not have done it without you! The new stadium is in use now. If you haven't stopped by to see this work in progress, we encourage you to do so soon.

We are getting new quotes now on the installation of a turf field to enhance the quality of the playing surface. Our hope is to get this started in December. Watch **The Bear Facts** for more details to come.

**Steve Gowers '72**

September 26, 2020 -- Ballard inaugurates the newly-rebuilt Pat Crawford Stadium against the Broncos from Frederick Douglass High School of Lexington, KY.

*A brick or paver would be a thoughtful memorial for a Ballard grad who has passed away. If you'd like to use this opportunity to commemorate a loved one, please consider clicking on the link below to place an order.*

<https://www.thatmybrick.com/ballardalumni>

**SHRED415**

**SHREDGIVES SUPPORTS**

**BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Thursday, October 29th at 6:45pm

Join us at Shred415 Hurstbourne to raise funds benefiting Ballard High School. Give back while getting a great workout!

\$25 Donation via Venmo @ballardalumniassociation  
Email [hurstbourne@shred415.com](mailto:hurstbourne@shred415.com) to reserve your spot.

Shred415 Hurstbourne // 9347 Leesgate Road

## Help the Alumni Association Raise Money While Helping Yourself Tone Up

The Membership Committee invites you to a "night out" on October 29th at 6:45pm at Shred415 to break a sweat while helping to raise money for the Alumni Association. Shred415 is a one-hour workout divided into four 15-minute intervals alternating between treadmill drills and strength training. The studio is right off Whittington Parkway, and class size is currently limited to 15 people.

A donation of \$25 is requested to help support the goals of the Alumni Association. Reserve your spot by emailing [brittany.abdelahad@gmail.com](mailto:brittany.abdelahad@gmail.com) today.

## Membership Committee Outreach to Alumni Continues

Thanks to everyone who continues to help us gather contact information for Ballard alumni. There are still several classes for which we do not have many email addresses. If you know of any alumni from the following classes, please direct them to our official website to join - <http://www.ballardalumni.com>. **There is no fee to sign up!**

The classes for which we could use extra help include:

- 1981-1988;
- 1990-2000;
- 2006-present.



If you are a class leader or a reunion organizer, please contact Caroline Robinson at [caro61@bellsouth.net](mailto:caro61@bellsouth.net) to coordinate passing on any email information.

Thanks for your continued support!

*Caroline Robinson*

## Help Us Welcome the Newest Directors of Your Alumni Association

The old adage, "it seems like yesterday, but it feels like five years ago" is appropriate as it relates to our renewed Ballard Alumni Association and Board members! But no, it was only one year ago this month!

A big Bruin **Thank You** to two outgoing Board members **Victoria Russell**, class of 1998, and **Christian Bowles**, class of 2011. A year ago we all collectively jumped into this big unknown of our

Paul brings us a strong financial background as a CPA and Sr. Manager for a Big 4 firm. Our fiduciary responsibilities are of the utmost importance to your BAA Board and we will appreciate Paul's support in this regard. These two were elected to a three (3) year terms. **WELCOME ABOARD!**

A Shout out to Barbara Trager class of 1972 for

BAA Board and wow, what a year 2019/2020 has been! These two board members provided us their talent through this difficult year, with Christian supporting our financial start-up and Vickie through her communications and council during a challenging time. I know these two Bruins will not be far away and we can call on them anytime. Thank you, Christian and Victoria!

Welcome **Paul Fischer**, class of 2008, and **Ann Baird Furnish**, class of 1986! Ann brings deep experience to our Board including teaching at BHS, being engaged in sports while her children attended Ballard and has impressive process and business experience in her work life, all experience our Board can benefit from!

agreeing to serve for an additional three year term! Barbara's willingness to take on our Membership Committee and her vision and leadership in student involvement and financial oversight has been invaluable. Thanks Barbara for your commitment!

Your Ballard Alumni Association Board of Directors is in good hands for this 2020/2021 year!

**GO BRUINS!**

**Stuart Ray, Director of Communications**

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## Meet our Ballard Alumni of the Month Jacquelynn Russell

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Jacquelynn Russell, class of 1998, went on to graduate with a bachelors of science & broadcast journalism from the University of Kentucky in 2001. She spent over 10 years at Humana where she discovered her passion for sales and wellbeing. She now lives in Chicago, IL and is the Vice President, Strategic Sales at Virgin Pulse.

Recently Jacquelynn was nominated as a July 2020 MVP for her work to help launch Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiatives at Virgin Pulse before the organization had even formalized their efforts.

Several years ago she founded the Lady Pulsers, an informal employee resource group designed to amplify the voices of women and their advancement in the organization. Later she launched their Black ERG to begin similar conversation among Black employees and providing an outlet to discuss racial injustice and social unrest plaguing our communities. Jacquelynn has partnered with the incredible leaders of Virgin Pulse to create a path toward being a more diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace. **WAY TO GO, Jacquelynn!**

**Know any other Ballard grads with an interesting story to tell? Send me their bio or have them reach out to me at [rmoeller@change-managed.com](mailto:rmoeller@change-managed.com).**

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**Do you have personal news you'd like to share with Bruin Nation? A new job, a published article, a professional recognition? Here's your chance to let everyone know "What's Bruin" in your life. Send your submissions for inclusion in our next issue to [rmoeller@change-managed.com](mailto:rmoeller@change-managed.com)**

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