

## Barks 'N' Growls

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BALLARD R-II SCHOOL First Edition, October 31, 2023

From the Administration Desk....

As I head into my 3rd year at Ballard, it continues to be an exceptional experience. Our student population has increased slowly over the last few years and will hopefully continue to grow. We have a full staff of teachers serving at every grade level. One of our areas of focus these last few years is to try to get as many opportunities as possible for

Publications Staff Editor-in-Chief Mr. Gregory Editors Gretchen Bramell Cade Callahan

these last few years is to try to get as many opportunities as possible for Ballard students and staff. We accomplish this by writing grants. I continue to work with staff to write grants to get opportunities for our building, staff and students that would not otherwise be available. Many qualifiers for these grants are based on our rural location and our population of free and reduced students. Please consider completing your family application even if you have not qualified for free or reduced meals in the past. Sincerely,

Dr. Hartley

# Senior Spotlight 🖗

#### **Gretchen Bramell**

Gretchen,18, is the daughter of Ray and Beth Bramell, and the sister to Destiny, Thomas, Russell Bramell, and Stephanie Ferguson. Some of her favorites include the color yellow, hibachi, the song "Good Times Go By Too Fast" by Dylan Scott. Gretchen's dream car is a 2023 Jeep Rubicon. Some of her hobbies are reading, FFA, volleyball, softball, fishing, and hunting. Gretchen's famous last words are, "Well that didn't go as planned." Gretchen's plans for the future are making it through college and to graduate out of college. When asked, "Where do you see yourself in 15 years?" Gretchen answered, "In 15 years I see myself married having two kids and working on adopting two more, and working a full time job as a registered nurse, and helping provide for my house and my family. I want to have a total of 4 to 6 kids running around the house. I also see a farm house with cattle and horses running the farm.



#### Lillian Rotert



Lillian, 18, is daughter of Chris and Michelle Rotert, and sister to Callan and Jack Rotert. Some of her favorites include the color purple, steak and potatoes, the song Two Dozen Roses by Shenandoah. Lillian's dream car is the new Land Rover, Range Rover Velars. Some of her hobbies are being with friends and family, volleyball, basketball, and FFA. Lillian's famous last words are, "Do you have to?" Lillian's plans for the future are to go straight into college to be a labor and delivery nurse. When asked, "Where do you see your-

self in 15 years?" Lillian answered, "In 15 years I see a beautiful house, a husband, maybe kids, cows on all four sides of my house, and lots and lots of land.





our short vowel sounds! They all know the 5 vowels and are great at reading those letters. We have been reading and learning about pumpkins this week. Some of my students are very knowledgeable about them. We learned that there are more than 100 different kinds of pumpkins!

During math we are working on addition strategies and even and odd numbers. All of us can count by tens to 100, so we are also practicing counting by fives. We have decided that numbers are not scary at all!

Third grade is 🔎 have already learned so dred thousand, we are working on much more!

We are learning the four types of sentences and We have also started cursive writing at the students up learning about plant life. In social studies we have nity and have started talking about the three branches of each one's job is. We love to play games while we learn, and we Third grade classroom! - Mrs. Winter



It is hard to believe that it is already October! Our class has had a great start to the school year and are really diving into learning. 4th Graders are working on Place value and Addition and Subtraction using reasonableness in math, and learning all about the branches of government and other famous documents of the United States in social studies. They have been learning all about how to use context clues, multiple meaning words and all kinds of other topics in our reading. They have been working hard on spelling words and learning new science concepts as well. We are having fun and are looking forward to a fun filled month with spooky learning fun! - Mrs. Hathcock

how to apply these into a good paragraph. request. In sci- ence we have finished learned about commu-

government and what have a lot of fun in our



We are hard at work in 5th grade! We are really getting a handle on division now, we know a lot about ecosystems and biodiversity, and we finished our class book, Wonder. On top of all of our classwork we are learning character skills like practicing positive self-talk, not comparing ourselves to others, and having empathy. We had a great start to our year and we are looking forward for what is to come! - Mrs. Bergen

adding and subtracting two digit numbers, iden-

check on daily. We are off to a great start and

are excited to see where this year takes us.

experiment

tifying nouns, verbs, and adjectives,

and building our reading stamina.

These second graders love to read!!

We have also started a pumpkin life

that the students are excited to

off to a great start. We have been working hard this year and

much! In math we are learning place values up to the hun-

our multiplication tables, rounding numbers, and so

cycle/decomposition

The Sophomore class of 2026 has been very busy with school and other activities such as Cross Country, Volleyball, Football, Trap, and running concession stands at home games. We appreciate all the support from our community, and look forward to drawing another year closer to graduation. We would like to share a joke: "Knock-knock" "Who's there?" "Nobody" "Nobody who?" \*silence\* "...who's there?" \*continued si-

lence\* - Mr. Bergen

lege and Career Fair. It was a great opportunity for students to in-

teract with college representatives as well as those from the work-

force. Dr. McElwain hosted an Application Day for seniors on Wednesday, October 25 from 8-12. Seniors were encouraged to

complete college applications, job applications, FSA ID, and any

Koehn Bakery were provided for the seniors. The FAFSA window

opens later this year, due to some much needed updates to the form. It should open sometime in December. We will host a FAFSA

other items to prepare for their future. Breakfast items from

Mrs. Lovelace and Dr.

McElwain took juniors and

seniors to the Clinton Col-

## Archery and Envirothon have practice Thursday at 6:30 a.m. in the

tice Thursday at 6:30 a.m. in the science classroom If you have any questions please contact me. 816-297-2656 ext 119–Mrs. Chambers

Scholar

Bowl

Scholar Bowl practice will be held Wednesday after school until 5:30 pm Our season is off to a great start! We have a middle school team: Braydon Siebeneck, Gavin Schliem, Owen Meade, Piper Goth

Schliem, Owen Meade, Piper Goth, and Jacob Eidson. Our first meet will be on November 8th, 2023 here at Ballard, at 5: 30 pm please come support your Bulldog team.

Season Schedule Nov 8th at Ballard 5: 30 Dec 13th at Hume 5:30 Jan 24th at Chilhowee 5:30 Feb 21st at Sheldon 5:30 Mar 20th District Conference Hosted by Ballard 5:30

Thank you to everyone who helped support our team this year by purchasing a pizza. Pickup was October 24th, 2023. - Mrs. Chambers



day in January 2024. - Dr. MacElwain

## Counselor's Corner

School Counselor, Mrs. Lovelace, and four freshmen gals (Madison Bogart, Kennedy Boreland, Ashton Siebineck, and Macie Wainscott) spent a day at UCM for the Future Teacher Academy. Inspiration will lead to taking action, so be on the lookout for what Ballard's FTA (Future Teachers of America) has in store! (picture left)



#### Preschool

Typed and Formatted by: Gretchen Bramell



What is your name? Dylan Borland What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Iron Man Food: Sandwiches Color: White Holiday: Halloween Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? Volleyball Player



What is your name? Cooper Bergen What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Peter Pan Food: Cheesy Fries Color: Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? The next Iron Man



What is your name? Ruby Dickson What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Frozen Food: Mac & Cheese Color: Purple Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Doctor



What is your name? Emmett Stiles What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Spider Man Food: Chicken Nuggets Color: Blue Holiday: My Birthday Sport: Football What would you like to be when you grow up? The next Spider Man



What is your name? Khloe Urton What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Astronaut Food: Steak Color: Purple Holiday: Easter Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Ballerina



What is your name? Charlotte Hastings What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Box Trolls Food: Cupcakes Color: Dark Blue Holiday: Christmas Sport: N/A What would you like to be when you grow up? A Nurse



### **New Faces Continued...**



What is your name? Jav Luper What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Cars Food: Ice Cream Color: Blue Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? Car Driver



What is your name? Emma Mayfield What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite:? Movie: Puss in Boots Food: Hot Dogs Color: Pink Holiday: Halloween Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Teacher



What is your name? Greyson Mayfield What grade are you in? Preschool What is your favorite? Movie: Sonic Food: Spaghetti Color: Green Holiday: Christmas Sport: Baseball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Baseball Player



What is your name? Cash Dickson What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite? Movie: Poki Man Food: Chili Dogs Color: Blue Holiday: Halloween Sport: Football What would you like to be when you grow up? A Farmer



What is your name? Wyatt Borland What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite? Movie: Spider Man Food: Mac & Cheese Color: Black Holiday: Christmas **Sport:** Basketball What would you like to be when **vou grow up?** A Teacher



What is vour name? Dakota Lippert What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite:? Movie: Spider Man Food: Ice Cream Color: Green Holiday: Halloween Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Police Officer



What is your name? Bennett Myrtle What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite? Movie: Ninja Turtles Food: Carrots Color: Red Holiday: Easter Sport: Football What would you like to be when **you grow up?** A Firefighter



What is your name? Ellie Lovelace What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite? Movie: Care Bears Food: Broccoli Color: Rainbow Holiday: Christmas **Sport:** Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? Police Officer

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### **New Faces Continued...**



What is your name? Ila Fingalsen What grade are you in? Kindergarten What is your favorite? Movie: Paw Patrol Food: Hamburgers Color: Pink Holiday: My Birthday Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? Police Officer



What is your name? Charley Winter What grade are you in? 1st What is your favorite? Movie: Frozen Food: Pizza Color: Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? Cowgirl



What is your name? Curtis Selfridge What grade are you in? 1st What is your favorite? Movie: Teen Titans Food: Cookies Color: Red Holiday: Christmas Sport: N/A What would you like to be when you grow up? Police Officer



What is your name? Hadley Winter What grade are you in? 2nd What is your favorite? Movie: Jurassic Park Food: Pizza Color: Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? Farmer



What is your name? MaKayla Selfridge What grade are you in? 2nd What is your favorite: Movie: Princess Movies Food: Anything Color: Purple Holiday: My Birthday Sport: Baseball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Doctor



What is your name? Dax Rolph What grade are you in? 4th What is your favorite: Movie: Back to the Future Food: French Toast Color: Black Holiday: Halloween Sport: Baseball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Mechanic



What is your name? Cayson Hester What grade are you in? 4th What is your favorite: Movie: Any Food: Mac & Cheese Color: Blue Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Basketball Player



What is your name? Kinzley Winter What grade are you in? 5th What is your favorite? Movie: N/A Food: Tacos Color: Hot Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? N/A



What is your name? Rylie Schmitt What grade are you in? 5th What is your favorite: Movie: Big Bang Theory Food: French Toast Color: Hot Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Horse Trainer



What is your name? Ethan Hester What grade are you in? 7th What is your favorite? Movie: Stranger Things Food: Pizza Color: Red Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? N/A



What is your name? Bentley Winter What grade are you in? 7th What is your favorite: Movie: Smokey The Bandit Food: Steak Color: Green Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Farmer



What is your name? Mason Buckman What grade are you in? 7th What is your favorite? Movie: The Walking Dead Food: Bean Burritos with Cheese Color: Any Holiday: Christmas Sport: Football What would you like to be when you grow up? N/A



What is your name? CJ Bourland What grade are you in? 8th What is your favorite? Movie: Scream Food: Pizza Color: Blue Holiday: Christmas Sport: Baseball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Tattoo Artist



What is your name? Kaylee Roberts What grade are you in? Freshman What is your favorite? Movie: On Gotten Food: Chicken Color: Baby Blue Holiday: 4th of July Sport: Softball What would you like to be when you grow up? A Vet Tech

### **New Faces Continued...**

Staff.....

What is your name? Jaden McKinney What grade are you in? Freshman What is your favorite? Movie: Any Food: Pizza Color: Red Holiday: Christmas Sport: Football What would you like to be when you grow up? An Investment Broker



What is your name? Alexis Ramirez-Nunez What grade are you in? Senior What is your favorite? Movie: Jurassic Park Food: Hamburgers Color: Green Holiday: Christmas Sport: Taekwondo What would you like to be when you grow up? A Biologist



What is your name? Sabrina Winter What is your Position at Ballard? 3rd Grade What is your favorite? Show or Movie: Virgin River, Yellowstone, Any 90's movies Food: Pizza, Tacos, Pasta Color: I don't really have one, but I do like neutrals and pastels Holiday: Christmas Sport: Volleyball What do you enjoy about being at Ballard?

I have really enjoyed getting to know the staff and students. I absolutely love my class and really enjoy teaching them. I love how everyone is so kind, supportive, helpful, and caring. I could go on and on, but I am really loving Ballard.



What is your name?
Erin Wainscott
What is your Position at Ballard?
K-12 Art and FACS Teacher
What is your favorite:
Show or Movie:
Ginny and Georgia and My Best Friends
Wedding
Food: Lasagna
Color: Cornflower Blue
Holiday: Halloween and Thanksgiving
Sport: Softball/ Baseball
What do you enjoy about being at Ballard?
Its only a 5 minute drive from my house!





What is your name? Bob Grubb What is your Position at Ballard? School resource officer What is your favorite? Show or Movie: Shawshank Redemption Food: Steak Color: Black and Green Holiday: Thanksgiving Sport: Football and Track What do you enjoy about being at Ballard? Small community atmosphere

What is your name? Darby Hill What is your Position at Ballard? Speech-Language Pathologist What is your favorite: Show or Movie: The Office Food: French Fries Color: Pink Holiday: Fourth of July Sport: Volleyball What do you enjoy about being at Ballard? The supportive community! I grew up here, and I'm glad to be able to give back



Cassie Hester What is your Position at Ballard? 2nd grade What is your favorite? Show or Movie: Friends Food: Pizza or Mexican Color: Pink Holiday: Christmas Sport: Basketball What do you enjoy about being at Ballard? I love the closeness of the small town community

(Sorry, No Picture Available) What is your name? Randy Blankenship What is your Position at Ballard? Custodian What is your favorite: Show or Movie: WWE and Westerns Food: Fried pork chops and mashed potatoes Color: Blue Holiday: Christmas Sport: Baseball and Basketball What do you enjoy about being at Ballard? Amazing staff, trying to keep the building presentable

Typed and Formatted by: Gretchen Bramell



#### Attendance



We would like to congratulate Mrs. Winter's third grade class and Mr. Duncan's sixth grade class for winning the attendance award for September!



#### You Make Us Proud!

Congratulations to our two elementary students, winners of August/September Student of the Month. Summer Hastings and Bristol Borland are excellent examples of students demonstrating our character traits of "Friendship and Be Positive"! Their

Student of the Month

teachers had the following words of encouragement and kindness. "Bristol is kind to everyone in her class. She is willing to try new things. She is helpful to her classmates and is willing to share with them. It is fun to work with Bris-tol. She works hard in class and is pleasant to be around. The first graders voted on who



tol. She works hard in class and is pleasant to be around. The first graders voted on who they thought was a good friend. The result was a majority for Bristol. I am happy to nominate Bristol Borland as Student of the Month!" - Ms. Moore And regarding Summer, "Sometimes it can feel difficult to make it through the day. At these times it helps to have a friend to lean on. In sixth grade I've noticed one person more often than not, be that friend. That person is Summer Hastings. Summer is always there for people with a cheerful attitude and quick witted joke. She brings a certain air of positivity about her. Even I have my days



where I'm just not totally feeling it and Summer makes those days a little better.

that with the fact that she gets along with everyone in the class, makes her a perfect fit for the character words "Friendship" and "Be Positive." - Mr. Duncan This year, our winners for Student of the Month from the elementary grades will receive a \$15.00 gift card donated by Ian Meade in honor of his grandparents Charles and Nadine Meade and Ellen Wry. Nadine served the Ballard School district from 1966-1990 as a secretary. Charles served the Ballard School district from 1966-1990 as a secretary. Charles served the Ballard School district from 1966-1974 as a building custodian. Ellen served the Ballard School district from 1979-1981 as a teacher's aide.

Thank you for the service to our community and the donation for our students.

eep it up!

vesome Job<sup>i</sup>

The Ballard R-2 School District is pleased to be working in conjunction with the Adrian Optimist Club to honor a Stu-dent of the Month for the 2023-24 school year.

The Student of the Month for August and September is 7th Grader, Lily Bergen, the daughter of Micah and Kelsi Bergen. This month's special theme is "Friendship and Be Positive". Lily currently participates in Volleyball, Basketball, and Track, and in her free time, she also enjoys playing piano. Her fu-

ture plans are going to college to obtain a teaching degree. Lily would like to say how honored and excited she is to be Student of the Month.

The Ballard staff have said about Lily: Lily is always kind and friendly to everyone, even if they have been an-noying to her! She is always positive and looks for the positive, never the negative. She is such a joy to be around, even if she is tired or not feeling well. She is always willing to help out whenever needed. I am blessed to have her in class!

Lily Bergen is such a sweet and kind person, always ready to lend a hand with whatever you need done. She may seem quiet and soft spoken at times, but when she gets excited about something, then her laughter and soit spoken at times, but infectious, and will light up your day. It is such a pleasure to know her! Lily Bergen is an outstanding student and a "go-getter"! When it comes to being a friend and being positive, Lily is consistent and reliable. Whether it be

assisting a pal on a homework assignment during class or cheering on a teammate during practice. Lily's friends can trust her to lead them in the right direction and depend on her for having a

laugh along the way. Lily is kind-hearted and takes time to write hand-written notes to brighten up your day. She doesn't pass up the chance to show her appreciation. Lily may keep to herself and come across as "quiet", but she carries a large presence and we are all the better for having her in our midst.

For Lily's hard work in school, she has received a certificate of recognition from the Adrian Optimist Club and \$20.00 in Adrian Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Bucks."





#### Meet the Lady Bulldogs Volleyball Team

Introducing the Lady Bulldogs. We wish the team good luck this year!



Back Row (L-R): Ashton Siebeneck, Kaylee Roberts, Kennedy Borland, Lilly Chrisman, Olivia Porter Second Row (L-R): Jordan Blankenship, Abigail Burgin Katlin Blankenship, Macie Wainscott, Keslyn Page, Lily Rotert Kneeling (L-R): Hailey Pray, Valencia Landeros, Autumn Hastings Sitting: Maribel Arredondo

> To the Right (L-R): Coach Ms. Darby Hill Asst. Coach Lexie Ward







## BULLDOGS VS. BRONAUGH

The Lady Bulldogs fought the Bronaugh Lady Cats on Tuesday, September 26th. They came into their game wanting to win, and ended up with a 3-2 victory. Congratulations ladies!!

## Meet the JH Lady Bulldogs Volleyball Team



Back Row (L-R): Coach Russell, Emmalee Scott, Piper Goth, Aspyn Eidson, Vivian Greer, Coach Bergen

Front Row (L-R): Addison Wareham, Delainey Ferguson, Chandler Borland, Lily Bergen, Sofia Porter Sitting: Summer Hastings



## **Meet the Cross Country Team**



(Left to Right ): Ian Bergman, Lucas Crump, Cade Callahan, Coach Duncan

# will run @ the State Cross Co 1

## **Meet the Junior High Basketball Team**

Our JHBB team is having a very successful season, taking 2nd place at the Conference Tournament. Way to go, Buildogs!



#### Back Row (L-R):

Asst. Coach Nathaniel Wainscott, Seth Menken, Gavin Schliem, Waylon Chrisman, Braydon Siebeneck, Aspyn Eidson, Coach John Siebeneck Kneeling (L-R):

Co-Manager Maxton Wainscott, Harry Greer, Ian Bergman, Callan Rotert, Emmalee Scott, Ethan Winter, Nathaniel Fisher, Co-Manager Tucker Newkirk Sitting (L-R):

Lily Burgin, Lane Meade

## Other Sports & Events

EVERYONE wore their pink in support of the fight against cancer. To get the full appreciation of their support, see our newspaper in color by going to the school website at ballardr2.net and downloading the Barks n' Growls



## Senior Night

Ballard R-2 School would like to take this time to recognize the volleyball seniors for their hard work and dedication through-out their high school career.

#### **Congratulations Seniors**

Lillian Rotert Daughter of Chris and Michelle Rotert









FFA National Convention: Nov 1-3 Juniors Chili Supper: 11/04 at 5pm Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday 11/05 Scholar Bowl Meet: 11/08 3:45pm Ballard Salute to Veterans: Nov 10th at 1:15pm HS Boys BB: 11/15 @ Drexel at 6pm Cattleman's Dinner Auction 11/18 at 6pm





- A ham sandwich walks into a coffee shop, the barista says, sorry we don't serve food here.
- What do you call a seagull that flies over the bay? A bagel.
- I get really claustrophobic in elevators. But I've been taking steps to avoid it.
- French fries where not invented in France? French fries have always been made in Greece!
- Why don't eggs tell jokes? They'd crack each other up.