

Success

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hear a pin drop.

Beery grew up in St. Paris and graduated from Graham High School in 2004. She was a member of the yearbook staff and sang in the choir, but her claim to fame was that she performed as Freddie Falcon the school mascot at sporting events. "I really enjoyed the small town setting of living and going to school in St. Paris," she said. "I wanted to keep that feeling and stay close to home, so I enrolled at Urbana University."

Her goal was to become a classroom teacher in the younger grades. "My mother is a business/technology teacher at Northwestern High School," Beery said. "And, I have an aunt who is an intervention specialist and an uncle who is a high school history teacher." Beery's parents Lisa and David Boggess and several of her high school teachers encouraged her to pursue a career in education. "I knew that if I believed in my dreams, one day, I would become an educator."

At Urbana U, Beery was president of the Student Education Association and vice-president of Kappa Delta Pi. She helped with the University's Relay For Life. In 2008, she earned her bachelor's degree in early childhood education.

During her high and college years, Beery worked at various positions at the Champaign Family YMCA. She was a lifeguard, a swim instructor, a water aerobics instructor, the before-after school director, a building supervisor, and a pre-school teacher. "These experiences allowed me to work with individuals of all ages, and helped shape me into the educator that I am today," she said. "I was proud to have had a hand in building strong kids, strong families, and a strong community."

After college, Beery worked at the Y and took long-term sub positions for schools in Champaign, Miami, and Clark counties. In 2010, she was hired by Piqua City Schools to teach first grade at High Street.

Beery's mission is to provide her students with the education they need to be successful, and to present them with lessons in moral values, trust, discipline, and courage. "I want to inspire them to believe in themselves," she said. "If they learn more and do more, in the long run, they will become more. I am amazed by what my students can accomplish." Beery is supportive and encouraging. "In a few years, my students will not remember all the activities and lessons," she said. "But, I want my students to remember the way I made them feel in my classroom."

The second year teacher gives credit to her first grade team and the staff at High Street for making her first years a wonderful time. "I could not have asked for a better staff and school," she said. "We work well together, and there is a real family feeling throughout the building."

At home, Beery and her husband Kevin who is in training as a manager for the Kroger company were married back in July. They live in Urbana with their rescued boxer Carmen. Ashley and Kevin enjoy remodeling their home and visiting with family and friends. They are huge OSU fans and try to attend as many Buckeyes football games as they can.

Success begins with values and courage



BY JOHN HAUER

For the Daily Call
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PIQUA — If you want to know how to quiet a group of talkative first-graders, the key phrase is 'marshmallows in.' That is how High Street Primary School teacher Ashley Beery brings order to her students when they are in line to go to art class. A quick 'marshmallows in' and 23 first-graders close their mouths and puff out their cheeks. It instantly becomes quiet enough to

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— Ashley Beery

MIKE ULLERY/STAFF PHOTO

High Street School first grade teacher Ashley Beery works with Malachi Kimbro in her classroom.