

Press Release



Battle Ground Public Schools

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Public reception to launch BGHS students' photo exhibit at BG Community Center

A Community Photo Exhibit at the Battle Ground Community Center Jan. 14-28 will be a real "two-fer." This double-barreled event will celebrate the personalities and accomplishments of 15 local residents of varied accomplishments, backgrounds, ages and interests while also displaying the talents of Battle Ground High School digital-photography students.

Fifteen students in teacher Emmy Pellico's Digital Photography II class have each interviewed, written about and photographed one area resident for the exhibit.

Public reception: The brief written narrative about each subject and a photo will be displayed in the Community Center beginning with a reception at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14. It is open to the public at no charge. The students and their subjects will be introduced at the reception, which will include refreshments and live music by BGHS choir and jazz band students.

"The students have gained a great deal from this experience," Pellico said. "They have broadened their connection with their own community on a very human level while practicing their craft of photography. There were some not-so-obvious benefits as well. For example, one student got to go on ride along with a fire fighter. Another learned about what it is like to tend to the needs of a very large and growing family."

The Community Center is at the east end of Main Street in downtown Battle Ground. The exhibit will continue during Community Center hours until Jan. 28. There is no admission charge for the exhibit.

The residents who were the students' subjects for the exhibit are:

Jay Atwood, Jenny Bloemke, Mike Ciraulo, Fadul Farran, Diane Harris, Jesse Hillard, Lori Homola, Leroy James, Corey Knotts, George Lingle, Van Matson, Ryan McKee Margarita Simon, Maria Skog and Natalya Vergulyanets.

The student photographers are Megan Brown, Patrick Hall, Jessica Hauck, Ian Humphrey, Kurt Kangas, Alexandra Norton, Briana Porter, Erica Ramsey, Solomon Risner, Melanie Roberts, Allison Sprecher, Bobbi Tangen, Andrew Tedder, Amanda Toivonen and Keith Toivonen.

Caption information for three attached photos:

1. Van Matson, next to red truck: Proud of an old logging truck he restored, Van Matson, of the pioneering Matson family in these parts, has been involved in many aspects of community life. He is in the excavating/hauling business.

2. Jenny Bloemke: Jenny Bloemke has owned a beauty salon and painted murals, but her passion is music. She recently played at Old Town Battle Grounds.

3. Ryan McKee: Ryan McKee, who graduated from BGHS last spring, is well connected in the local music scene and helped get live music into a local Starbucks where he works.



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