

Deck the halls: BGHS band Christmas tree sale underway

By Erin Lee

Come get your Christmas trees this year from the BGHS band boosters! The BGHS band is yet again hosting the Christmas tree fundraiser. The band booster Christmas tree sale, a popular town favorite, began on November 29 and goes through the month of December. Any donations made during the fundraiser will help to fund the BGHS band. The money will be used for

expenses such as buses to get to concerts or parades, professional musicians to come to school and help different instrument groups, and sometimes even for new equipment!

Only parents of band students or students in band are able to volunteer, but other students and families are encouraged to support by buying a tree! This year, the sale will be located in the Albertson's parking lot, on the corner

of Main Street and 20th. Regarding the consistent popularity of the event, Ms. Armstrong, BGHS band director said, "People know they're gonna spend a significant amount of money on a tree, and they'd rather that it goes to kids doing something great. They know that they're supporting a nonprofit organization." Come support the band this year, and come buy a tree this holiday season!

Levy dollars build a community of learners

By Katelyn Sperling

Coming soon to Battle Ground School High School is the Construction Trades Building for our construction curriculum. The Construction Trades

Building will include two classrooms with a large open shop for students to work. Construction is slated to begin this spring.

The class is co-taught by construction teacher, Mr. Willson and geometry teacher, Mr. Scott. Together they blend the math curriculum into a

hands-on learning experience for students at Battle Ground High School. “The intent of the Construction Trades Building is to house our growing Construction curriculum, which right now includes two classes: Geometry in Construction (GIC) and Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC),” said Mr. Willson. Before the passing of the capital levy, Geometry in

Construction faced an issue of working in wet and cold weather conditions. Now, the Construction Trades Building will keep the essential momentum of this class going without the interruption of their projects. Mr. Willson thinks about the future of what this could bring. “The ultimate vision is that the building will serve as a construction-trades training center for the

entire district, with space to build larger projects like tiny homes.”

Although the intent of the building is for students purposes, it can also be beneficial for our local district as it can provide formal training and other great opportunities. The building of the new Construction Trades Building will immerse students and expand their reach into the construction industry.

Bright beginnings: BGHS preschool

By Bella Stokes

Did you know Battle Ground High School runs a preschool inside the building? This preschool is available for children for ages 3-5. Parents can register by calling 360-433-3928. It costs \$165 a month with a \$60 non refundable annual fee. For families who qualify for free or reduced lunches, the price will be adjusted.

The preschool has morning and afternoon

times on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with no school on Wednesdays. The curriculum addresses all areas of developmental skills: motor, social and emotional, language and literacy, math, science, technology, social studies, and art. Students of Battle Ground High School who take Child Development have the opportunity to help out in the preschool. Students who take both Child Development 1 and

2 and pass with a B or better will be eligible for a Clark College credit. Students also have the opportunity to leave the program with their STARS certification, which will enable the students to be employable in child care or preschool settings in the community.

In addition to coursework, students have the opportunity to be trained in first aid, CPR, and food handling. High

school students will also be introduced to the State Training and Registry System. Chloe, a student in Child Development 2, has enjoyed this class, and she has fun working with the

preschoolers. Her favorite thing to do in the classroom is learn about the science part of it as well as math. Chloe's mom works with preschool children, and Chloe is also

considering a similar career because she “wants to go into a job that works with kids.” Chloe would recommend this class to fellow students at Battle Ground High School.

Secret spirit week keeps students guessing

By Jazmin Melchor Sandoval

The secret is out! BGHS staff had a great time participating in their secret spirit week during the week of November 12-15! Tuesday was Ninja Day, Wednesday was Flannel Day, Thursday was Inside Out Day, and Friday was King or Queen Day.

Throughout this week many staff members

participated, including Ms. Dornblaser, who thought the themes were fun to participate in. She appreciated that the theme ideas were easy to dress up for and that the other staff members provided items to help her participate more easily. For example, on Friday, many students were confused about why many

teachers were wearing paper crowns, tiaras, and capes around the school. Many of the teachers had some of the best outfits but no one did it like Mr. Dehler. “He always brings his A-game to spirit days. I enjoyed seeing him and all the teachers who participated in the fun,” said Mr. Karraker.

AFJROTC march to honor vets

By Edward Rodriguez

On November 11, Battle Ground (JROTC) participated in the 35th Annual Lough Legacy Veterans Day Parade next to Fort Vancouver. Senior

Nicolas Mayeda, a currently enlisted cadet, said, “We marched around and played the bagpipes occasionally.” Cadets gathered at BGHS in the

early morning before departing on school buses to Fort Vancouver, where they marched in the parade. The parade formation consisted of a

color guard in the lead, and the rest of the cadets followed behind in a separate formation. Students who have been selected for the color guard have gone through extra training.

JROTC takes pride in the Veterans Day parade and puts the best of the best in the lead. The core commander followed on

the right-hand side, giving the orders of movements and direction. Many folks come far and wide, including veterans, to watch the parade go by with different cars, fire trucks, and other eye-catching groups. There was also a band or two and old vintage Corvettes that passed through the parade. Prairie High School's

JROTC also participated in the parade with a slightly different formation. Prairie's JROTC and Battle Ground's JROTC are considered rivals because the drill teams compete against each other every year. Veterans Day is a day to honor those who served our country for the greater good.

Welcome back: BGHS dance team returns

By Aubrielle Clark

The BGHS dance team is back in business. They are coming back this year under the coaching of Ms. Neely. "The dance team this year will focus on rebuilding the team to a competitive, elite level team," Coach Neely said. The first round of tryouts was held earlier this month, and the last round of tryouts was hosted on Tuesday, Nov 26 from 5:15-7 p.m. From the first round of tryouts, only two students are currently on

the team, and the team is looking for additional students to join.

Coach Neely has big plans for the dance team this year. "Our focus for this season will be on developing flexibility, strength, precision, musicality, advancing individual dance skills, as well as developing performance confidence. Focused styles will include hip-hop, arena jazz, pom, and contemporary, with an emphasis on game-day

styles," she said. Practices will be held from 5:15-7 p.m. in the upper gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students who are worried about not making practices or having other commitments should still consider trying out. "I am very flexible with students involved in other athletics and activities," Coach Neely said. The season will run through the winter sports season and most likely end in March.



Express yourself!

By Frankie Oliver

Battle Ground High School is a community of people melded together by the journey of achieving a diploma. Many students care about their education, and they all add to the mosaic that is Battle Ground High School. Students express themselves through different things, specifically clothing choices.

Upon entering the doors of BGHS, it is quite evident that there are a lot of styles around this school! Some kids wear cowboy boots and cowboy hats, some wear band shirts and ripped jeans, some wear hoodies and pajamas, and some just stay casual! At BGHS there are friendships that

might not seem possible, but just because someone has a different way to express themselves from another person, doesn't mean a new friendship won't bloom!

Students may be different here, but the student culture and integrity of this school is all authentic. One student, senior Ryan Mansour, described his outfit as "country with a touch of modern." He also added, "I got my style from my roots in the south," Freshman Audrina Ganz describes her style as "Grunge, but I prefer baggy shirts." She also added where her style originated. "I got my style from my very cool dad, who I think is awesome," said Ganz.

One teacher that expresses herself authentically is Ms. Bowman, who happens to teach the Clothing Construction & Design class. She describes her style as "business casual, yet minimalist." Bowman loves to use colors that bring out her complexion, yet she tries to keep it casual. "There's many ways to express yourself, and I love to express myself through fashion," said Bowman. All these different styles show that the real beauty of Battle Ground High School is the diverse community in the classrooms and halls.

Right now I'm just as much a cowboy as I'm ever gonna be....

By Ryan Mansour

A lot of things have changed through the course of America's pop culture, but one thing has stayed the same— cowboy boots. Some of the earliest pairs date back to the 1800s, sold to the good ole Kansas cowboys. But with as many miles and styles between Texas, New York, Battle Ground and Kansas, cowboy boots are still one of the most common things you will see in town. Some folk, as much as we wear these iconic footwear for work or just attire, probably couldn't tell you how their boots came to be.

In the ranges and open blue skies of the West where cowboys still ride, their rough rural lifestyles demand a lot of riding boots. Arguably, the grandparent and main inspiration of the cowboy boot, is the Vaquero boot, which translates directly to “cowboy.” These were the shoes worn by the first cowboys from Spain who

came to herd cattle in Mexico and Texas during the 1600s. With this, a lot of their traditions and styles spread north. After the American Civil War, many of the soldiers returned home to their homesteads with their families or headed west to farm, herd cattle, and explore new towns. For the first couple years, the popular option for these former soldiers was their already issued Wellington boots from the calvary. As time went on though, the Wellington boot would fall out of style, and the charm of the cowboy boot would steal the rodeo.

The overall idea of the original Cowboy boot is not to be pretty but to serve a utilitarian purpose. The tall shaft was built up to protect the rider's legs from brush, cactus, and water when on horseback. The angle of the heel allowed for secure locking into the stirrups of his or her steed without the risk

of being trapped. Lastly, the toes were either square or rounded to allow for easy mount. Closer to the modern day, boots that folks tend to wear are the type for rodeoing. The “Roper” had the heel built with shorter sides, allowing the rider to dismount and run in the case of calf roping or other rodeo activities. This also included an even narrower toe to make it even easier to slip in and out of the stirrups. It wasn't until the 1940s with the rise of popular Wild West movies that comfortability would get traded for appearance. When cowboys like John Wayne and Clint Eastwood were depicted wearing stylized pointy-toed cowboy boots, young Americans had a whole new style with which to experiment.

Riding off into the sunset with this week's issue, once again we can all come to see the melting pot doing what it does

best: roping homegrown,
rough and rowdy men and
women alike. A best friend
with a humble and

charming reputation that
can stand the test of time,
boots still offer unrivaled
reliability if treated right.

Now git along little
doggies and appreciate
your boots because they
have a story to tell.

Sculptural beauty: the work of Tom Askman

By Sawyer Rhyasen

BGHS boasts a unique sculpture located on the east end of campus known affectionately as Reach for the Sky. This monumental symbol of growth and motivation is valued at \$26,000. The piece was created in 1999 by Tom Askman.

Born 1941 in Spokane, Askman moved to attend California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, California and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree and Bachelor of Education Degree. He later

received a master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Colorado in 1968. Askman is now a professor of painting and drawing at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. He designed this piece as a metaphor for the “possibility of reaching for goals, climbing to the top, and the hard work it takes to achieve success.”

The art piece features bronze hands modeled after the hands of Battle Ground High School students. He notes that the

hands represent the “power of community, helping, and supporting one another on life's journey.” Another part of the piece is the five sided conical copper form symbolizing many things such as facets or stages of life, various elements of one’s personality, numerous aspects of one’s culture, and the five senses. The piece was acquired for the State Art Collection in partnership with Battle Ground School District.

Chill in the air: BG prepares for winter season

By Lilla Kovacs

The winter season is creeping around the corner, officially beginning in December. As Battle Ground prepares for the coming season, residents are preparing for the typical cold weather, which includes cold and windy rain, occasional snowfall, and raw mornings. Local forecasts predict low temperatures in the day that range from 40-50F and night temperatures dipping to the 20s for the upcoming weeks. Though significant

and deep snowfall is uncommon in Clark County, there is a chance there will be more snow than usual due to weather patterns.

The cold weather also indicates that many holiday themed events are coming soon. For example, the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the Battle Ground Community Center in early December is always a fun event. For those who enjoy the outdoors this time of year, Lewisville Regional Park

and trails nearby are open for the winter with peaceful spots to take in this season's beauty. Even though these spots are breathtaking, locals are advised to look out for icy roads and trails as the temperatures cool. As December begins, our community is ready for the holiday seasons and festivities. Winter in Battle Ground promises to be the season of beauty and celebration.

Data dive: a look into social media engagement

By Jocelyn Smith

People of this generation use their phones for everything—calling, messaging, ordering food, you name it. Of the 185 people who responded to our survey, 68.1% say they often use social media,

13.5% say they don't, and 18.4% say they only use it sometimes. Instagram is the most commonly used social media app in the survey results. "I would say my top apps are TikTok and Instagram.

Well, I use Instagram more for messaging people than anything," said senior Frankie Oliver. In response to this question, there were a wide variety of answers, anything from Pinterest to C.ai.

Now that we have the apps people spend their time on, how long are they on their phones as a whole? The leading answer is 3+ hours per day on average. "I have an average of eight hours per day," said junior Howard Finley. This also raises the question of what people

use social media for? Some people use it to communicate, get inspiration for projects, or just for entertainment. There were even various responses from people who would actually rather be doing other things than scrolling mindlessly on social media. Most people

reported preferring to hang out with their friends, or doing something creative like baking or crocheting. Our world today claims that Gen Z has a problem with social media, but with our data dive, we've found that it depends on the person, not the generation.

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world for the better."

- Marian Wright Edelman



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Every effort is made to ensure that all of the students of the month are highlighted in *The Tiger Times*; however, due to scheduling issues we are not always able to interview them all in a timely manner. Also, some students decline the opportunity to be highlighted in our school newspaper.

By Gina Tanninen



Colten Anders was chosen for student

spotlight because he was given a Tiger Ticket by Ms. Davern for being engaged! Colten has lived

in Washington his entire life. He is a freshman here at Battle Ground High School and is enjoying his

high school experience so far. Colten's least favorite thing about school is math class; however, he does enjoy some of his classes. "I like audio class," Colten said. He has two siblings, an older brother and a younger sister. Colten's

older brother also went to high school here at BGHS.

Someone Colten looks up to is Jesus. One of Colten's hobbies is reading, and his favorite book is the Bible. His dream place to travel is Hawaii, and the coolest place he has ever been to

was Florida. Something Colten wants to accomplish before he dies is true happiness. His greatest accomplishment is getting the student spotlight. If you see Colten in the hallways, don't forget to say hi!

By Elizabeth Miller



Lillie Gomulkiewicz is a sophomore here at Battle Ground High School. She

doesn't mind high school this year, not great but also not bad. Her favorite subject this year is her first period, which is her child development class.

Lillie has four siblings, and she is the youngest.

She enjoys going on hikes and exploring up in the hills. She likes going hiking because it gets her out of the house and allows her to spend time with her mom. She likes to cook and bake, and her favorite thing to bake is her grandma's cookies, which are called Buck Rogers. Lillie's favorite dish to cook is chicken alfredo.

Lillie also likes to play softball. Last year she

played on the BGHS softball team. Her favorite position is catcher because you can see everything that is going on and will get the ball every inning. Her least favorite position is first base. "I'm not tall or flexible enough to reach the ball if someone throws the ball wonky," Lillie said. She also has pets: Ranger, Dixie, and Daisy are her three dogs, and she also has a cat named Snow.

By Jessie Bruckelmyer



Delyla Gruenberg is a junior here at Battle

Ground High School. She is known for her friendly and outgoing personality. Delyla has two older sisters who also attended

and graduated from Battle Ground High School. One of Delyla's favorite hobbies is playing softball, a sport she is very

passionate about. Her greatest accomplishment in softball was making the varsity team during her freshman year.

One word that would describe Delyla is outgoing. Her favorite part about high school is hanging out with her

friends, whether it's during her lunch break or during passing time in the hallways. Among all of her classes, one stands out as her favorite subject. "I really like English!" Delyla said. The coolest place she has ever been is Hawaii, and somewhere

she would hope to visit someday is New York during Christmas time. Her favorite memory is when she went to state with her softball team. If you happen to see Delyla in the hallways make sure you say hi to her!

By Corbin Munson



This issue's student of the month is Chrifton Muir, a 12th grade student who

is well-deserved of this title for being a respectful and thoughtful student. Each day, Chrifton strives to do better and provide support for everyone he can. Chrifton also believes

that everyone could be better if they try their best to be nice to others.

In addition to showing acts of kindness, Chrifton is a perfect example of a good friend and will make sure you always leave with a smile on your face.

Chrifton continues to do what he does best, which is to be the best person he can be.

Chrifton shared some words of wisdom that we can all

live by: "I try to be the best I can be," he said. It is motivational to hear this from Chrifton, as many people don't strive to be as intentional and kind as Chrifton is. He maintains that students are not putting enough effort to try and make someone's day better and are denying the chance of making someone's life just a little bit better.

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself."

- John Dewey

SPORTS

A winning vision: BGHS introduces new head basketball coach

By Brock Hieb

The new head boys basketball coach is Mr. James Ensley, and he is looking to improve the team in many ways. Mr. Ensley is feeling really good about being the new coach. "I think it's an awesome opportunity from a school that I graduated from. It's really exciting for me, and it's really exciting for the kids; it's really great," he said. The qualities that make Mr. Ensley a good fit for this role are that he helps his players outside of sports and aims to teach them the game of basketball in a good way. Mr. Ensley

wanted to be the head coach of the basketball team because he grew up in Battle Ground, and he's always wanted to coach the BG basketball team.

A couple of things that Ensley wants to focus on is the structure of the team and building a family-like atmosphere. Ensley has big plans to improve the team. "Work. We just have to put in work. They are great kids. They want to get better. They want to work hard; it's as we move forward to year-round foundational building blocks," he said. Mr. Ensley was a head coach

for 10 years at a Vancouver high school, ensuring his credibility as a leader. Mr. Ensley handles pressure and stress by "realizing that these are not life or death situations; these are learning opportunities for kids and realizing that every moment we can is a growth opportunity." Mr. Ensley is really excited for the challenge and what is in store for this new opportunity as the boys basketball coach. Come out and cheer on the boys and Mr. Ensley as they embark on a new season.

ENTERTAINMENT

Tyson's comeback: former champion battled Jake Paul in major showdown

By Kenet Utton

On Friday, November 15, a boxing legend came out of retirement for one last fight; this man's name is Mike Tyson. Also known as Iron Mike, he returned to the boxing scene at 58 years old. The man challenging Tyson is a former YouTube star surrounded by controversy now turned professional boxer. Jake Paul, 27, challenged Tyson, and the fight was confirmed back

in April. The fight was originally set for July 20; however, it was postponed due to Tyson having an ulcer flare. Paul went to X (formally known as Twitter) and challenged YouTube star KSI, but he declined due to a fight around the same time. Tyson overcame the ulcer and the fight took place on Netflix on November 15. The fight was streamed live, and you can still find

it on Netflix, along with fights from earlier that night. The fight went on for eight rounds. Each round was two minutes. At first, Tyson had Paul running scared, but as the fight went on Paul started getting in punches and hits and was even knocking Tyson back. After the eight round spat, Paul emerged victorious with a final score of 79-73.

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