

Some of Our Friends from afar!!!

A brief glimpse at three of our Foreign Exchange Students!

Stay tuned for news about Charlotte von Krause and Lou Hoyer.

Bijan Nouri

By Asia Million

A foreign exchange student from Berlin, Germany has been enjoying many things here after his really long trip to America. Bijan stopped a few places to tour and enjoy a few things. He stopped in Amsterdam and Seattle during his plane trip from Berlin. When he arrived in Seattle and saw the next airplane that he would fly on, he thought that it was a box with room to only sit eight passengers. This plane would travel all the way to Medford. After arriving in Medford, he drove to Eagle Point and stayed there a week before moving to Butte Falls.

His thoughts about leaving his family and friends when he left Germany were no big deal to him, only because he knew he was going back home within the year. Back in Germany, he only has one sibling, a twenty year old brother. Of course he misses his family and friends, but he says that leaving his brother is kind of a relief.

He enjoys playing soccer, hanging out with friends at bars, clubs, and cinemas (movies) when he is in his home country of Germany. "Most of the time I am just hanging out," Bijan stated.

Bijan loves playing basketball here in the good old USA. He is very proud to be on a team and share determination, laughter; striving as a team. Something else he has experienced here gave him a big jolt! For his first time in life, Bijan shot a gun, and he loved it!

"The whole system is different, but there are a lot of similar things between Germany and the United States," Bijan said. "In Germany you have to be 28 to get your license, and he wishes he could change that law over there because he can't wait to drive.

"I really like it over here. It is a lot of fun, but I also miss my friends and family in Berlin, along with the City Life, which is much different compared to here in Butte Fall. I would probably stay for a couple more months, then I want to go back home to my family and my hometown-Berlin!" He said that if he could he would love to take Carmen Electra and the CD rack that he made back home with him to Germany.

Bijan spent part of the year living with Michael Hanson and his family. He is now staying with Marcia and Gary Warren. He enjoys his host family and the community!

Refina Azwan

By Charlotte von Krause

Refina, affectionately referred to as Fina, is an exchange student from Indonesia. She is 18 years old and a senior in Butte Falls High School. She wanted to come to America because she wants to know about the culture and about going to an American High School. She loves travelling and wants to visit as many places as possible. She wants to go to college in the United States. She has been recently accepted into Iowa State, which has made her very happy! This exchange program has been a good stepping stone to get into an American College and it will help her to know the American life.

To come here, Fina had to go through an interview and took a test called the S.L.E.P. Test. It is a test about knowledge in English as well as a listening and comprehension test. She also had to fill out lots of application forms and had to get a visa and passport.

Now she is in Butte Falls, staying with the Smith family and she really enjoys it. She loves going to the movies with friends, shopping or just hanging out. She also enjoys watching TV, listening to the radio or browsing on the internet in her spare time.

Her school in Indonesia is totally different than it is here. She had to wear a school uniform and she was in a school with more than 1000 people. She had a six day school week and each day started at 7 o'clock in the morning. She only had four weeks vacation at the end of every school year.

The one thing Fina misses most about her country is all the people. She lives in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital with over 10 million people living in it. She also misses her family and friends really badly.

Fina has lots of plans for her future and is working hard on them. She wants to graduate here because she wants to go to an American College, like Purdue or Iowa State, where she will study business or management. She likes staying in Butte Falls and is very happy to have such a nice host family. Fina played basketball for BFHS, sings in choir, and is in the Recycle club.



Anna Andersson

By: Kari St. George

Anna Andersson is a happy, friendly and very sociable sixteen year old from Sweden. Her mom, dad, twin sister and big brother are all at her home in Traryd, Sweden, "A small town, though it's bigger than Butte Falls," says Anna.

The school she attended previously was about twice the size of Butte Falls High School. Anna enjoys Butte Falls and the people in it, but often complains about the curfew.

Anna is a senior here at BFHS. She really enjoyed going to Medford to sing in the retirement homes over the Christmas holidays with the high school choir. "We get out of school and we also got to go to the mall for an hour, and I love to shop!"

She is happy living here with her host family, the Irwin's. In her spare time she likes to spend time with her friends and go shopping as much as she possibly can. When asked if she wanted to return to her home country, her reply is simply, "Not right now, no!" Anna is not currently involved with anyone, but finding that she enjoys single life in Butte Falls very much.

Anna mostly hangs out with Butte Falls High School student Alec Smith, LuCynda Zartman, Julie Hayes, Hope VanLandingham as well as "Most of the kids in town," says Anna with a laugh.