

The Bark of the Bulldog

February 2020

Edition VII

RCS among first in nation to receive grant for Personal Finance course



Thanks to Personal Finance teacher Jill Clayton, Roxboro Community School (RCS) is one of the first high schools in America to receive the Gold Standard Challenge Grant from Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF).

RCS Managing Executive Director Dave Ebert, high school Principal Darkarai Bryant, Middle School Principal Donna Ingram and Academic Coach Melanie Winstead joined Clayton in her Personal Finance class on Tuesday, Feb. 4 to celebrate the school's receipt of the \$10,000 grant.

Clayton said, "I am very grateful for the grant from Next Gen Personal Finance. I love teaching personal finance and truly believe this course prepares our students with the necessary skills to achieve financial security. The funds provided by NGPF will allow us to provide additional learning tools

and opportunities for our students as we transition the course to a graduation requirement."

Congratulating Clayton, Bryant said he was glad she took the lead to "try and secure resources to help implement this curriculum that is a requirement with our incoming ninth grade class. This will give a great jump start for this class."

The NGPF Gold Standard Challenge rewards and recognizes high schools that commit to ensuring that all students receive a one-semester personal finance course before graduating.

Tim Ranzetta, co-founder of NGPF, said Roxboro Community School is high school number 12 across the U.S. that has earned the grant.

UNC Charlotte adds Bulldog to roster

By Jackson Solomon
RCS Reporter



Zoe Russell, Roxboro Community School (RCS) junior, has recently been recruited by the UNC Charlotte (UNCC) softball team.

Russell, who has been playing softball since age five, said that she likes UNCC's softball coach, Ashely Chastin, and enjoys the 49er's field as well.

Her interest first came from her mother, who played softball at Meredith College, said Russell.

Although it is still a year away, the third baseman said that she is excited to get started with the 49er's. Russell will sign her letter of intent next November.

Melinda Goodson, RCS athletics director, said

she is delighted that Russell was recruited to play in college.

Goodson added that Russell is an excellent athlete whom she thinks will be successful.

Michael Clark, RCS high school softball coach, also has some positive feelings about Russell being recruited.

"I am really proud of her for the hard work and effort that she has put into the recruiting process," said Clark. "Zoe made it a goal to play college softball and she was not going to take anything less."

Clark said he wishes Russell the best in her softball career.

Clayton receives LabCorp donation for biotech lab

Roxboro Community School (RCS) biotechnology teacher Jill Clayton wants her students to have the best possible education, and she is constantly looking for ways in which she can enhance instruction. Recently, she received a \$15,000 donation from LabCorp that will allow her students to get hands-on lab experience.

"The RCS biotechnology program currently does not have any equipment capable of teaching 21st century laboratory skills to students," said Clayton. "With the LabCorp donation, we will be able to purchase materials necessary to provide hands-on instruction and better prepare our students for college and future careers. I am very thankful for LabCorp's support of our program and look forward to implementing new activities into the classroom."

RCS high school Principal Darkarai Bryant visited Clayton's third period biotech class this week, and told the students, "Mrs. Clayton is working extremely hard for you guys."

He later said, "Mrs. Clayton is a new addition to the RCS staff, but has quickly become a valued member. She goes the extra mile to advocate for our kids and to acquire resources that will benefit our students and the whole RCS community."

In a letter requesting funding from LabCorp's Community Affairs office, Clayton wrote, "Roxboro Community School is currently seek-



ing funding to create a Biotechnology DNA/Cell Culture Laboratory. We would like to provide our students an opportunity to learn PCR, electrophoresis, and aseptic techniques used in the process of cell culturing. Students enrolled in biotechnology courses do not have the ability to learn the latest laboratory techniques and methodologies due to a lack of equipment and consumables. With funding, RCS would be able to purchase necessary items to provide hands-on learning for our students. Through lab experimentation, students will be actively engaged in learning. They will be exposed to laboratory skills and methodologies that are currently being taught in college and utilized in real world settings. Students will learn the proper use of lab equipment including, but not limited to, quality control and troubleshooting. Students will obtain valuable hands-on experience while developing professional laboratory skills essential for leadership development."

Who let the Dogs in? Class of 2020 college acceptances

So far, members of the RCS Class of 2020 have been accepted at Western Carolina, UNC-Chapel Hill, NC State University, Limestone University, Averett University, George Mason University, UNC-Wilmington, Tulane, Louisiana State University, East Carolina University, Wingate University, Lenior-Rhyne University, UNC-Charlotte, Watts School of Nursing, High

Point University, Appalachian State University, Brevard College, Campbell University, High Point University, Gardner Webb University, Queens University of Charlotte, Meredith College, Elon University, Florida State University, and others.

Many have been accepted at multiple colleges. Congratulations, Bulldogs!

High School Curriculum Night slated for March 10

Before high school students begin registering for classes, Roxboro Community School (RCS) will offer a High School Curriculum Night on Tuesday, March 10, at 6 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

Parents and students will be able to ask if College Prep, (CP) Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) classes are best, and find out how to prepare for the opportunity to take Piedmont Community

College classes while in high school.

Students and parents will also learn which electives are available, and much more. Students and parents will also have a chance to meet the high school staff and ask questions.

Rising ninth graders are highly encouraged to attend, but rising 10th -12th graders are welcome as well.

Murderous Night at the Museum dinner theater

By Ariel Fryczynski
RCS Reporter

The Roxboro Community School (RCS) students and theatre teacher, Christie Canter, will be performing a murder mystery play on Saturday, Feb. 29, at 6:30 p.m.

She stated, "I've performed in dinner theater venues, but I've not directed one so this is both extremely fun, yet a lot of hard work."

This play will be performed in the multipurpose room and dinner will be included. The entry fee will either be \$15 per person or \$85 for a table of six.

"A new exhibit is opening at the Roxboro Museum and during the opening, there is murder and mayhem," this is the overview Canter gave of the play.

The cast includes Lilly Ronk, Gilbert Hester, Kyndall Gentry, Hannah Carroll, Asher Rogers, Kayla Hawkins, J J Lepage, Alexis Vander Poppen, Elizabeth Chambers, Isaac Harris, Morgan Vanderpoppen, Lynette Moore, Bethany Coleman, Jacob Rogers, Adam Langford, Yadira Alcaraz-Perez, Bryce Yarborough, Alandis Jeffers, Trinity Woods, Cade Howerton, and Hayes Davis.

Playing as Aepep, Jeffers shares a little bit about acting. "This is my first time actually being able to do improv so I am mainly excited about that part of it. The entire point of being in a show is you get to be yourself without actually being yourself."

Being in a show for the first time can be stressful and scary. Many of these actors and actresses were able to overcome these challenges and enjoy performing.

"I'm really excited about presenting to an audience to get an outside opinion on how well we all did and just their general thoughts," said Yadira Alcaraz-Perez. She has been in only one other play and is looking forward to the final result of this play.

Playing as Lucy Luna, Hannah Carroll also shared a bit about how the play will be. "I am mainly excited for the audience to see how diverse the collection of characters are, as well as getting to enjoy the cringe-worthy jokes."

RCS seniors nominated for Outstanding Teen award



RCS seniors JR Paylor, Jackson Carter, Bates Martin and Aivry Coleman were nominated for the Roxboro Jaycees Outstanding Teenager award for 2020. This year's Outstanding Teenager will be named on March 26.

Photo by Mackenzie Clayton

Annual RCS Variety Show coming up March 6, 7

By Jackson Solmon
RCS Reporter

The ninth Roxboro Community School (RCS) Variety Show will be March 6 and 7, said Eric Swanson, RCS band teacher.

Swanson, who created the show, said that the purpose of the performance is to showcase some of the amazing talent that RCS has to offer. Also, Swanson added they hope to put on some quality entertainment.

One of the "quality entertainers" this year will be Aivry Coleman, RCS senior. Coleman, who has been in the variety show since sixth grade said this will be her last year in the variety show. "I will be performing a lyrical dance to Show Yourself," from Frozen, said Coleman. Along with performing a solo act, Coleman will

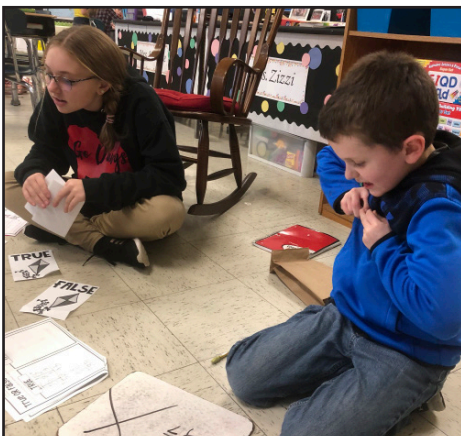
also perform with Jazz club and the comedy troupe.

Nicholas Bradsher, RCS ninth grade English teacher, will be the master of ceremonies (emcee) for this year's variety show. Bradsher, who was a former student at RCS, said this is not the first time he has been the emcee.

"Emceeing the variety show is actually something I have more experience with than you might expect. In high school, I was the student emcee, among other things." Bradsher was also a part of the comedy troupe

Tickets for this year's show will be \$5 and the show will be held in the RCS multipurpose room.

Middle schoolers go to Woodland Elementary School for Bulldog Care Day



Seventh grade students work in math centers with second grade students at Woodland Elementary.