

The Bark of the Bulldog

April 2020

Edition IX

Katie Waldo accepted to NC Governor's School for Dance

By Grace Pryor
RCS Reporter

Recently, Katie Waldo, Roxboro Community School (RCS) junior, was invited to attend the 2020 Governor's School for Dance. She has been assigned to the Governor's West Campus at High Point University.

Even before Waldo was nominated for the program, she already knew about it and was interested in it for two years. She said she was especially interested in it because she knew it offered a program for dance. Waldo spoke passionately about her love for dance, which she has been doing since she was three.

Governor's School is a summer program for high school students that are gifted and talented. There are different disciplines that students can apply for. It is an opportunity for rising seniors. Governor's School is held at High Point University and Meredith College.

Waldo said the application was not complicated. When asked about the application process she said, "I had to fill out a general information sheet that included my extracurriculars and had to write two essays. It felt like a standard academic application, but since I was nominated for dance, I had to attend an audition in Statesville.



There were two possible auditions to attend and about half of those nominated attended each. At my audition, we did a lot of modern dance.

"Modern is very different from what I'm used to but it was very fun to learn something new."

Waldo was excited about being invited even though she was skeptical at first if she would be invited. She said she is excited to meet new people and learn more about dance.

"I am honored to be chosen for the 2020 session. RCS has made this process possible for me and I am very grateful," said Waldo. She also believes that this opportunity will better prepare her for college.

She added, "If anyone is lucky enough to be nominated by their school, please take advantage of that opportunity and apply. You never know what could happen!"

As of this writing, the state still plans to hold this year's Governor's School. That could change, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

RCS newsletter now open to all students who want to submit

By Ariel Fryczynski

The Roxboro Community School (RCS) communications class invites all students to submit poetry, short-shortstories, essays, photographs or personal columns for our in-house newsletter, The Bark of the Bulldog. Personal columns are articles that students

write about anything going on in their lives or to offer their opinions on various topics like current events.

To submit, email the communications class teacher, Phyliss Boatwright, at boatwrightpa@roxborocs.org.

A few days in the life of learning from home

By Mackenzie Clayton
RCS Reporter



I'm not going to lie. I don't think I've ever said this in my life before, but I miss going to school. What has my life come to? Honestly, at this point, I have no clue.

Don't get me wrong, staying at home is nice and all, but I don't think staring at my bedroom ceiling or a candle burning on my desk is anyone's idea of fun.

On March 23, my school began doing distance learning. Basically, this is where teachers can send students work digitally and have meetings online.

This is definitely not how I would describe a typical week during the school year. So, here are a few days in my life of doing school from home.

On that first Monday of distance learning, I had to wake up around nine, which is a little too early for me. I had an online meeting with my biology class. Aside from a few technical difficulties, it went pretty well.

However, Monday was also the day we found out that school will be closed until May 15.

Needless to say, I cried like three different times

that day.

On Tuesday, I woke up around 11, which was extremely nice. Other than that, the day was pretty uneventful. I did some school work, watched a movie, and ate some food.

On Wednesday, I woke up around 11 again, which was not surprising. I decided to be somewhat productive and make some banana bread. I'm not going to brag, but it was pretty delicious.

After I cleaned up, I sat on the couch for probably a good three hours doing absolutely nothing. Other than that, I did end up doing some Spanish and biology school work later that night. I didn't want to feel too lazy.

If this whole pandemic, quarantine, stay-at-home thing has taught me anything, it's that you should always be thankful for the time you get to spend at school and with your friends. You never know when that could just be taken away at a moment's notice.

I also figured how to connect my AirPods to my school computer, which is pretty cool, and that you can never watch too much Netflix.

Keeping busy in quarantine



In the midst of having to stay home due to COVID19, I decided to continue painting and drawing. I've been spending time outside, painting this stool.

Photo by Ariel Fryczynski.

Always beauty to behold



Even while trapped at home, nature is always available to be enjoyed.

Photo by Grace Pryor

Before COVID closure, RCS lacrosse continued rebuild

By Jackson Solomon
RCS Reporter

Two years ago it seemed like our lacrosse program was a lost cause. Losing one of our original coaches was something many Roxboro Community School (RCS) lacrosse players struggled with.

However, we didn't have to wait long for three new coaches to step up and take on this role -- RCS alumni Matt Villaro, Daniel Oakley, and Ben Townsend. A year later, after these three became coaches, the RCS lacrosse program continues to rebuild.

Unfortunately, Oakley and Townsend could not stay with the program this year; however, Oakley's brother David Oakley and Bryce Snow (who are both former RCS lacrosse players) will be coaching.

The RCS lacrosse program means a lot to our players. However, it is also special to our coaches, like David Oakley, who said, "It means a lot to me. I've put a lot of time into this program." Oakley said he had played since seventh grade. He added that lacrosse had given him a foundation -- not just for lacrosse -- but in life.



Photo by Ken Martin

Villaro has similar feelings. He said coaching offers him a way to give back, and it also gives him memories of his high school days.

Oakley and Villaro both have one main goal for the organization moving forward, and that is to be competitive with other schools.

Even though we look towards the future of this Bulldogs lacrosse team, we can't help but remember the roots from which it came. The roots I speak of are of course the two men who started the lacrosse program; Jimmy Reardon (who still helps coach the middle school lacrosse team) and Pete Daly. Both Oakley and Villaro said that they appreciate them for "giving us the game" as Villaro said.

Editor's Note: This column was written before the governor closed North Carolina schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Obviously, this put the 2020 lacrosse season on hold.

RCS seeks candidate to fill Board of Directors vacancy

Roxboro Community School, a tuition-free North Carolina Public Charter School, has a vacancy on its Board of Directors.

The Board provides school oversight rather than day-to-day management of operations.

The RCS Board of Directors encourages applications from interested residents.

Please download an application from the school web site, www.roxborocs.org, and email completed application to Dave Ebert, Managing Executive Director, at ebertdr@roxborocs.org.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, May 1, 2020, at noon.

COVID-19 disrupts my school year, life

By Ariel Frycznski
RCS Reporter



On March 13, there was still a good part of the school year left for me and everyone else. I feel sad to realize that my school year is basically over now, because I am going to be stuck at home the rest of the school year.

My friends and I had a lot of events coming up. I was in dance and attend Christi's Dance Center. I was about to go to a dance competition on March 21 but it got canceled. I also can't go to my dance classes anymore.

As of right now, I am not sure if I'll even have a dance recital or go to camp this summer. My friends are upset because they take dance with me and can't go to competitions either.

Although it's upsetting that my plans for the next few months have been canceled, I am thankful for the isolation. I have a lot of grandparents with health issues and if they weren't told to stay inside their houses, they could've gotten sick.

I haven't really relaxed since being out of school. My brother and his wife decided that they were going to move out of their apartment and live with us for a few months.

This was to save money they would use to move into a house in a month or so.

My family and I spent about four days trying to move them out amongst the chaos in Greenville, where they lived.

We had to go to Walmart a lot and all the toilet paper was gone, along with disinfectants. I also noticed that a lot of people would eye you down if you were holding toilet paper or anything that wasn't stocked.

I noticed a lot of random things were missing in the store like hydrogen peroxide and iodine, which definitely won't protect you from the COVID-19 virus.

My personal opinion is that people who aren't at high risk are freaking out. It doesn't help that the media is only causing panic and not trying to dissolve it.

Elderly people shouldn't be forced to go out of their houses as much as they are just to find nothing in the stores. If you are hogging any items in the stores, remember to keep others in mind, because they need essentials too.

Double rainbow



Photo by Peyton Weaver

Cross Country coach needed

RCS seeks a knowledgeable, passionate, and experienced coach to help build our Bulldog athletic programs. Successful candidates must enjoy working with student-athletes, possess the ability to take initiative, and demonstrate a strong work ethic while maintaining a positive attitude. We currently have a vacancy for a Head Cross Country Coach. Contact Melinda Goodson or Pete Tuck, Athletic Directors, at 336-597-0020, ext. 426/428. Please send an email of interest and/or resume to goodsonmf@roxborocommunityschool.org.