

# RAPPA- HAPPENINGS

## WHAT'S NEW AT RCES?

### Spelling Bee

ISABELLE ROBEY

On January 26th, our school held its school spelling bee. The contestants were all on the stage facing the audience with the microphone at center stage. One by one each contestant would come up to the mic and spell the word they were given. The contestants had to correctly spell a word in order to move onto the next round. If a word was spelled incorrectly, they would sit back in their seat until the round was over. Once the round was over, the contestants who spelled their word wrong would then leave the stage and join their parents in the audience for the rest of the bee.

After many rounds it had gotten down to 2 contestants, 7th graders Adrianna Lee, and Isabelle Robey. The 2 went on for many rounds, going back and forth spelling the words correctly. The final round ended with Adrianna spelling her word incorrectly. In order for Isabelle to win the Spelling bee she had to spell one final word correctly. The championship word was dingoes, She spelled it correctly winning the spelling bee. Now she has to take a test to see if she will qualify for the regional spelling bee.



Isabelle Robey competes in the Spelling Bee.



Cartoon by Lorelei Critzer.

### SCA Elections

**KEVIN CUMBERLAND & HARRISON KING**

The Student Council elections are happening very soon!

Sixth and seventh grade students can run for offices in Student Council. The offices are President, Vice President, Historian, and Secretary. Each office has a different job. The president will make recommendations and give ideas to the faculty, and work with them to get stuff done. The Vice President will also give ideas and help the faculty. The Secretary will take notes and write down what needs to be done. The Historian documents everything in photos.

The candidates are as follows:

**President:** Kevin Cumberland and Xavier McCracken

**Vice President:** Silas Wharton and Emily Wines

**Historian:** Emily Scheulen, Nick Burfield, and Ava Stoner

**Secretary:** Brooklyn Smith

The candidates will be reading speeches to the voters participating in the election. These speeches are meant to tell you what they will do and how they will help the students. The candidates will have their posters throughout the school.

Make sure to vote and support your favorite candidates!!

## NEW GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

### Welcome Kayla Robey

FAITH HARRISON

Here at Rappahannock, we have a not-so-new face back in school! As a 2017 RCHS graduate, Kayla Robey is really excited to be back in her hometown helping students, and doing what she loves. Being a former student and current coach, Kayla is passionate about students and excited to make a difference in the lives of students in the community.

Kayla is a graduate of Shenandoah University with her bachelor's degree, and a Liberty University graduate with her Master's degree. While studying in college, Kayla also traveled the world teaching and learning about different cultures and education. During her trip, she learned a lot of new perspectives and ideas, and she's excited to put them to use, trying to help equip students with the skills to find their strengths and interests. According to Ms. Robey "Having the opportunity to return home and do something that I love is so exciting for me. I look forward to helping all students grow socially, emotionally, and academically, and being an advocate for ALL students."

I interviewed Ms. Kayla Robey with a friend of mine on how she feels about her new job and recorded the questions, and her answers.

Q: "What made you want to be a guidance counselor?"

A: "*When I was younger, I used to always have a lot of kids in my grade who needed help from a guidance counselor, you know? The counselor would always come in and help them, and the way she was, inspired me to want to help kids with their journey. And I've always felt a special connections towards kids.*"

Q: "If you weren't into counseling, what career would you be pursuing?"

A: "*Well, I always joke around that I'd want to be an FBI agent if I wasn't in counseling, but I don't think I could handle that type of job. It's always been about kids and learning for me so this is hard... I'd say if I had to pick I'd get a job in S.T.E.M. Like science, technology, engineering, or math.*"

Q: "Why did you want to become a counselor in Rappahannock?"

A: "*As you know, I've always been in love with counseling, and I feel like it would be beneficial to do what I love in my hometown, where I grew up. The way the counselor I had helped other students in my class, motivated me to want to also help others, like how she did. She had a really big impact on those kids' lives and I'd love to help kids the same way she did, through every and any obstacle they face.*"

Q: "How was your journey on the way to counseling/what did you go through?"

A: "*I started out in nursing school and hated it. I switched to teaching. I loved teaching and everything about children's literature. I love using literature to inspire students, the words are so powerful. As I began my teaching career I was close with the school counselor. I fell in love with her job. I researched the job and decided I wanted to pursue it, so I went back to school.*"

To sum everything up, Ms. Kayla Robey is really, really, excited about her new job and she can't wait to help kids of all ages through any obstacle they may face. Her main goal is to help children with any struggles they may have socially, emotionally, academically, or mentally. She wants to let every child know that they aren't alone in life, and that they won't go through their problems alone. Ms. Robey would like to go through the children's' struggles with them, to fully understand their problems, and to get over them together.

## Ski and Snowboarding Club

AIDAN ROBINSON, NATHANIEL MOORE, & MADDOX SMITH

There is a new club at RCES. The Skiing and Snowboarding Club gives students in grades 5-12 the opportunity to hit the slopes. The skiing and snowboarding club takes place at Bryce resort in Basye, Virginia, on Fridays throughout January and February. The reason people are going to Bryce is to have fun and hang out with friends.

Here's what some RCES students have to say about the Skiing and Snowboarding Club:

Nate Moore - "Snowboarding was so fun."

Aidan Robinson - "I participated and if they have it again next year then I will gladly join."

Maddox Smith - "I like snowboarding and I am excited to come back."



Kayla Robey is a welcome new addition to the RCES family.



## The Mystery House

EMILY SCHEULEN & BROOKLYN SMITH

This story is about the Winchester House. It is still open today and open to the public to come and look around. So we are going to tell you about the Winchester House.

After Sarah's husband's death and her daughters they moved out of their home in New Haven, CT. She then bought a big farmhouse and now what people call the longest home renovation. From 1886 to

1922 she built a house with 160 rooms and a lot more from that. There were Also staircases leading to nowhere, and

there was only one working bathroom out of 13

Back in 1923 the price of the house was 5 million dollars but now it would cost 73 million dollars! One other fact about Sarah was that she did not sleep in the same bedroom every night. Remember, there were about 160 rooms! The reason she slept in different rooms was because she thought that the spirits would get her, and why she thought that was because her family had owned the Winchester Rifle and she thought that the people who had died

from the Winchester Rifle in WWII.

She also thought that some of the spirits were bad and that they would try and hurt her. That was the reason she put wood over the doors and windows and would make a ring on the ground to keep them away. It was usually just the mad spirits that she thought would hurt her. The Mystery House is still open for visitors and tourists.

Do you believe that there were spirits in the Mystery House?



## The Lady in Red

SYDNEY CLEM

Hello, fellow Rappahannock students, I'm here to tell you about the legend of the lady in red that will make you lose your shoes. The lady in red was a mysterious woman who worked with people. There are many different theories of how she died but one stands out to people the most. It goes like this. In 1920 the lady in red was at the Mizpah hotel when her ex-lover caught her with a wealthy man and killed her on the 5th floor outside of their room. Even today if you visited the hotel in the lobby there is a picture of her hanging on the wall. On the 5th floor, there are a couple of rooms designed after her. Even the cleaners are scared to clean that room because of the stories that are told by the guests that stay in there. The Mizpah hotel itself was voted the #1 most haunted hotel.

## Do You Believe in the Paranormal?

EMILY SCHEULEN, BROOKLYN SMITH, & SYDNEY CLEM

We interviewed RCES staff to learn about their paranormal experiences.

*Ms. Robey- Her paranormal experience was not that paranormal but still a little strange, after she lost her Pop-Pop she received a Pennys from Heaven jar, almost every day she found pennies everywhere she went, she also believes in paranormal activity.*

*Ms. McCabe- She's never had an experience personally but her siblings have seen a girl with a red Victorian dress. She also believes in the paranormal.*

*Ms. Seeley- Her paranormal experience was that her, her mom, and her sister all had the same dream on the same time. However, she does not believe in the paranormal.*

*Mrs. Jarret- Her experience is that a close relative passed. At their funeral the lights kept on flickering. She was very young, so she liked to turn the lights on and off. She also believes in the paranormal.*

Do you believe in the Paranormal?