

Robles nabs top spot in class of 2018

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IVN Contributing Writer

Alejandro Robles is valedictorian of the 2018 graduating class of Illinois Valley High School with a GPA of 4.151. Alejandro is involved in many activities in addition to school including S.M.I.L.E. (Science & Math Investigative Learning Experiences), Pathfinders, a job as manager at Carlos Restaurante, an internship at the hospital, coaching youth soccer and playing soccer year-round. When asked about the most challenging aspect of it all he explained, “Maintaining my grades ... balancing everything out with school and stuff but also having sports and work and volunteering. School has been easy - like the academic part - it’s just always come naturally to me; I guess my lack would be homework, that kind of set me back a bit.”

Robles was very self-motivated when it came to his schoolwork but he still gave some credit to specific influential people. “My parents - I have always done

good in school so they don’t really need to push me or anything but I just want to make them proud. All my teachers, they were very helpful. This year during soccer season I was a little behind just because of, you know, homework and everything else but they helped me out and they were always just like ‘Oh it’s OK, just get through this day and you will be fine’ and just stuff like that.”

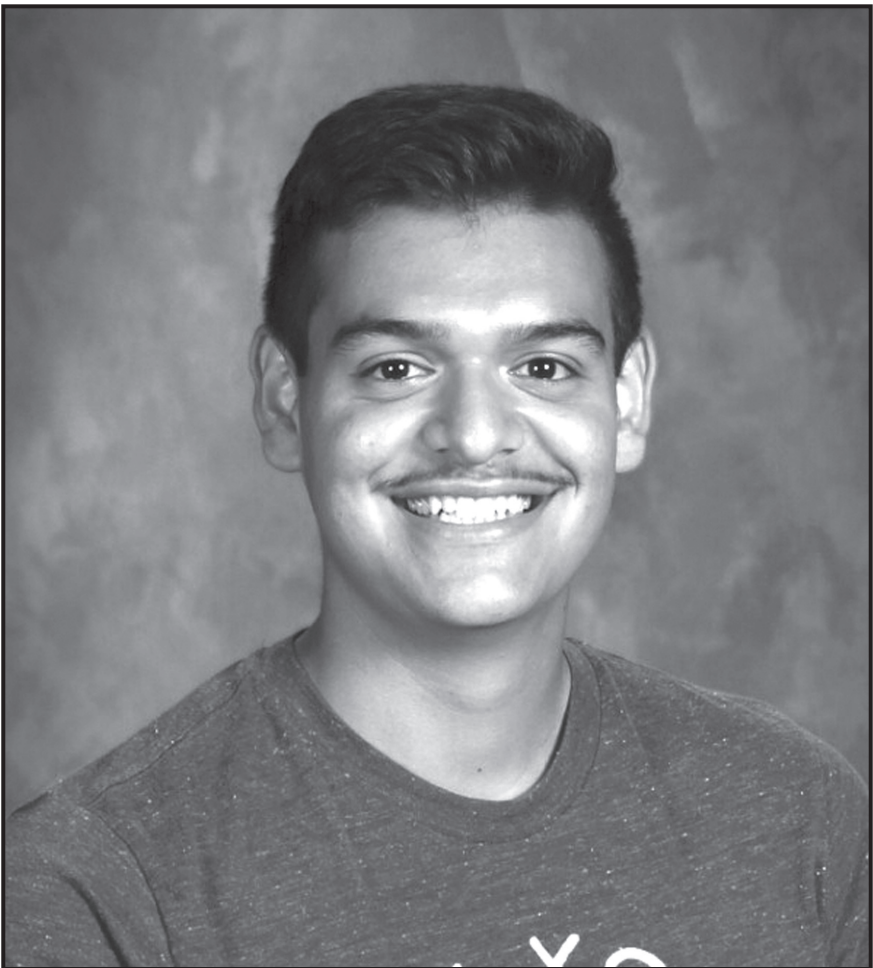
High school contains different challenges for everyone but Robles’ favorite part was “seeing everyone I have grown up with and all the teachers....they have been part of my life, it’s just kind of sad because I’m going to leave soon.”

However, he has some bright plans for the future. “I am going to SCU (Santa Clara University) and do my first few years there and then I am going to apply for the nursing program with OHSU (Oregon Health and Science University) - they have a branch there -and become an RN. I know I want to study further, so either get a master’s or go into medical school. Maybe become a doctor; I don’t know yet. I have always known I wanted to go

somewhere in the medical field, I just didn’t know where; there is just so many options.”

This career was not lightly chosen. Robles was well-equipped to decide because of his hospital internship. He was allowed to follow around the nurses and experience the profession firsthand. “That’s what helped me decide,” he said of this opportunity.

Lastly, Robles passes along some useful advice to fellow students: “I have always been good at school, it just comes naturally to me, but I’ve seen that kinda goofing-off at the beginning or don’t really take anything serious, and I think that when you start high school, you need to start strong. Don’t goof off, don’t do things you shouldn’t be doing and it’s also good to have a relationship with your teachers, so be nice; be respectful. That way when you get older and you are entering your senior year, and you need help, like recommendation letters, etcetera, they are there, and they are willing to help because you have shown them respect.”



Alejandro Robles 2018 IVHS valedictorian

Learn to paint with wool, create tapestries in Needlefelting Workshop at the Guild



The Southern Oregon Guild is presenting “Painting With Wool”, a workshop on creating needlefelted tapestries, at the Guild Gallery and Art Center in Kerby on Saturday, June 2 from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

Dance in the whimsical border between 2 and 3 dimensions in this wild and wooly tapestry class. Explore the wonder of the magical felting needle, and its power to transform imagination into form, and create lusciously colored, richly layered tapestries, embellished or framed with found natural objects such as driftwood or dried kelp.

You will start with a blank piece of prefelt as the canvas, then layer on colors and sculpt wool into bas-relief with the felting needle. Then, attach the natural objects onto

the tapestry, incorporating them into the design by sewing or wiring them onto the piece.

How to create faces will also be included, with no previous needlefelting experience necessary.

The workshop will be led by Guild member fiber artist Corbin Brashear. Corbin has been leading fiber workshops and showing her work for the last 15 years all over Northern California and Oregon. Her work can be viewed at www.wildandwoolyfeltworks.com.

Workshop fee is \$55 and includes all materials. Register online at www.southernorenguild.org or call the gallery at 541-592-5019. For questions and/or registration, you can also call Corbin at 541-659-9839.



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