

Kaya Doolaege earns salutatorian

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IVN Contributing Writer

Kaya Doolaege - hardworker, dreamer and aspiring photographer- is salutatorian of the 2018 graduating class of Illinois Valley High School.

She is involved in numerous organizations such as S.M.I.L.E. (Science & Math Investigative Learning Experience), Pathfinders, National Honor Society and Josephine County Foundation. Doolaege also participated in track and field for three years, and juggled a job at Carlos Restaurante. Balancing all this is what she considered the most challenging part. However, Doolaege is very optimistic and said, "I like working hard; it's what I do. If it's easy I feel like I could be doing better, so I try to aim for higher things. Keep my goals high, so that I can keep reaching them and going higher; building my mind."

Doolaege says that her most influential teacher was Mrs. Szijarto. "She's the best teacher there. She is just so supportive and she's AP so she is challenging and it is nice to have that ... I am just challenged so it keeps me going. So, yeah, and she is a really big support... She is just super nice and a good mentor/teacher/friend person."

She also gives credit to her success as a student to the late teacher Mr. Bradley, and said, "He was so supportive with personal problems. He helped

you with other classes, like he was always there for you." Last, but not least, Doolaege also thanks her mother for being an incredible support, encouraging her through the stress of tough times.

When asked about her favorite part of high school Doolaege responded, "I like going and learning of course, but creating friendships with certain people that I will know I'll have forever and then just being able to really find myself, like who I am and what I like to do... having multiple opportunities and being able to figure out what my interests are freely." She also says that she appreciates school because "it's kinda like opening a door for me to go to college, get more education and then get a job or just like pursue what I love to do."

For her future endeavors, Doolaege plans to attend Southern Oregon University majoring in emerging media and digital arts. "That's what I'm aiming for but I like a little bit of everything. She is well on her way there, already having acquired several college class credits through her high school. After graduating from college she says that, "My childhood dream is National Geographic photographer, like, I've grown up looking at the magazines and I have always wanted to be a good photographer so I would probably do internships, try to work with a photography company, something along those lines, even if it's like,

a newspaper."

Doolaege also encouraged other students. "If we were able to show that school is for their betterment, it's a good thing and not just like seven hours every day that you are sitting in a classroom. You're trying to learn so you can get out and have the ability to go do what you want for yourself like in the future... I feel like there needs to be more encouragement of like, 'Hey,

this is for you, this is a great opportunity, free education', so pursue your dream...a lot of us have big dreams and it's like yeah, live your dreams, go for it. You might be shot down, but I feel like people should pursue what they like to do. I feel like the school needs to encourage students to be themselves more and embrace what they love to do in life."



2018 IVHS Salutatorian Kaya Doolaege

TALES ...

CONTINUED FROM A - 7

*James Randolph Bellah, 40, was apprehended in the 200 block of Caves Hwy. at 3:13 p.m. Bellah was cited to appear on June 21 in JCCC for JoCo misdemeanor warrant for failure to report as sex offender.

*A stolen vehicle was recovered in the 300 block of S. Kerby Avenue at 3:46 p.m.

Saturday, May 26

*Two gals wearing tank tops and shorts were yelling and arguing in the 100 block of Enchanted Way at 10:15 a.m. A witness claimed that they do that all the time, so no one needs to respond.

*A clueless cad drank a fifth of Fireball, then drove a white Camry from Redwood Hwy. and Dowell Road to Cave Junction with a child in the car. The driver was cited to appear June 21 for driving under the influence of intoxicants, with a blood alcohol level of 0.11 percent.

Sunday, May 27

*An aggressive and likely impaired woman in a bathing suit top and black shorts was parading in traffic in the 200 block of N. Redwood Hwy. at 12:47 p.m. She was warned for disorderly conduct and instructed to walk within the fog line.

*A bicyclist tried to escape from JCSO near N. Hussey Avenue and W. River Street at 1:30 p.m., but it didn't work. Michael James Clarke Harford, 26, was apprehended at 1:42 p.m. and detained in JCJ. Harford had a misdemeanor warrant from DCSO for failure to appear for interfering with police and third-degree escape. His latest escapade resulted in additional charges of interfering with a peace officer and probation detainer.

*At 4:24 p.m. a driver was cited for driving 74 in a 55-mph zone in the 36000 block of Hwy. 199. He said he was headed to the coast and had no idea how fast he was going. (He'll know when he gets to those redwood trees.)

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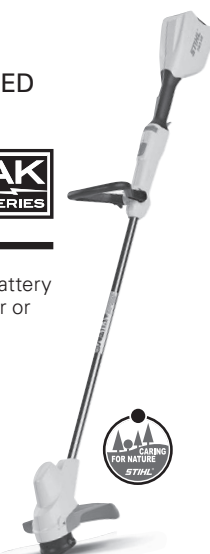
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