RCC announces Presidential Scholars

ASHEBORO — Five outstanding Randolph County high school students have been chosen in a competitive process as Presidential Scholars at Randolph Community College (RCC) for the 2018-2019 school year. Madison Nicole Chisholm, Averi Anna Ridge and Carson Ray Wright, all of Asheboro High School (AHS); and Allyson Cole Needham and Brooke Nicole Richardson, both from Southwestern Randolph High School, will receive two-year RCC scholarships through the Presidential Scholars program funded by the RCC Foundation.

High school students from public, private and home schools throughout Randolph County were invited to apply for the scholarships. Students who met the preliminary requirements were invited to attend a Presidential Scholars Day at RCC on March 20, where they learned more about the college and were interviewed by a committee of faculty and staff members. Finalists were chosen and invited back for a second interview with RCC President Dr. Robert Shackleford Jr., who made the final choice of five recipients.

Students’ academic records and extracurricular/community activities weighed heavily in the selection of recipients, as did the interviews.

RCC Presidential Scholars receive a $2,500 scholarship for their first year of study ($1,250 for fall and $1,250 for spring) that is renewable for their second year of study. The students have the opportunity to serve as Ambassadors for the college and meet regularly with Shackleford.

Dr. Robert Shackleford Jr. intends to major in Nursing, and she was an editor and photographer for the AHS yearbook for this year. She recently completed a mission trip to Puerto Rico with her youth group and lives in Asheboro.

Ally Needham also intends to major in Nursing and has been an active member with the Beta Club, Future Business Leaders of America and Skills USA at Southwestern Randolph. She is an accomplished artist and lives in Asheboro.

Madison Chisholm plans to major in Cosmetology and then Business Administration so she can be fully prepared to run her own salon one day. She has served as chapter secretary and chapter vice president for the Southern Randolph Future Farmers of America chapter and lives in Asheboro.

Averi Ridge lives in Asheboro and has served as drum major for the AHS Marching Band for three years, one of two people to ever do so. She plans to major in Human Services Technology and has also been a very active member of the AHS Student Council.

Carson Wright plans to enter the Funeral Service profession and has played baseball for three years and has run cross country for four years. He is also a volunteer with the Randolph County Tourism Development Authority and lives in Asheboro.

The foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides a margin of excellence for RCC by building a strong relationship with the local community, acquiring and managing contributions and funding activities that support the college.