Culinary Cougars ready for orders for annual Holiday Pie Sale


ASHEBORO — Southwestern Randolph High School’s ProStart program, the Culinary Cougars, are gearing up for their Third Annual Holiday Pie Sale. Students will be baking five varieties of pies, from scratch, to raise money for culinary competitions.

SWRHS’ ProStart program began four years ago, and has turned into one of the highest ranking programs in North Carolina, earning more certifications than any other school in the state for multiple years, as well as boasting the N.C. ProStart Teacher of Excellence for 2017, and finishing second in the state in this year’s culinary competition.

ProStart is a two-year program that connects the classroom to the food service industry. Students learn hands-on about the culinary aspects of the restaurant world, as well as management concepts. After completing the program, students are prepared to enter the industry with credentials such as ServSafe or attend culinary school to further their education. During the course, students are helped to find jobs and/or internships in the community to gain at least 400 hours needed for the ProStart certification.

Students are held to high standards in the classroom, as they frequently prepare lunches for the teachers and staff at Southwestern Randolph as well as catering the prom.

In the Third Annual Holiday Pie Sale, the students will prepare pies in time for Thanksgiving meals. Homemade pecan, sweet potato, pumpkin, Dutch apple crumb and chocolate chip pies will be available for pick-up or delivery (depending on the size of your order) on Tuesday, Nov. 21. All pies are $9 each. All of the homemade pies are baked fresh, then frozen and come with reheating and thawing instructions. The pies freeze beautifully and stay fresh for months, so you may purchase extra to use at all your holiday dinners throughout the season.

To order pies or to help with job placement and internships, contact Kelly Biggs, culinary instructor at SWRHS, at 336-381-7747 or kbiggs@randolph.k12.nc.us.

Pie orders must be placed by Friday, Nov. 17, but job placements are needed year round.

GETTING TO WORK — Kelsey Morris and Madison Boyd, grade 11, and Blair Lamb and Makayla Robbinette, grade 12.

IT’S PIE TIME — Hailey Gravely and Kelsey Morris, grade 11.