RCC offers new programs

Special to the Review

As of the spring 2015 semester, Rappahannock Community College has added six career-friendly programs: associate of arts and sciences transfer degree with health-STEM specialization; associate of applied science degrees in horticulture technology and respiratory therapy; and career studies certificates in pre-medical laboratory technology, pre-nursing, and pre-paramedic.

The AA&S transfer degree with health-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) specialization prepares students to transfer with junior status to four-year schools where they can enter such disciplines as medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, and numerous others.

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College has partnered with RCC to offer three of its programs to area residents. An degree in horticulture technology can start a career in landscape design, landscape and turf management, or plant production, to name a few. The degree in respiratory therapy produces skilled professionals who can provide care for patients with heart and lung problems. And the career studies certificate in pre-medical laboratory technology trains students as phlebotomists and also acts as a stepping-stone to the AAS degree program in medical laboratory technology.

The pre-nursing career studies certificate prepares student for entry into more advanced curricula. It qualifies them for immediate employment in a health care setting, so that they can earn money and gain experience while pursuing more education.

The pre-paramedic career studies certificate covers many of the general education courses required for the paramedic certificate program. It prepares students for the national registry exam leading to certification as an emergency medical technician. A partnership with Northern Virginia Community College has made it possible to offer a degree in fire science technology at More information about all these programs can be found at www.rappahannock.edu, or in the print publication myRCC.