



JAGUAR NATION

NOVEMBER 2015 • VOLUME 5, No. 1

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS FOR ANNUAL WEEK OF RESPECT

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Greetings! It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2015-2016 school year. We have an ambitious year ahead of us as we look to continue our tradition of excellence and student success!

I would like to offer an official welcome to all of our new students and their families as well as our new staff members: Tom Driscoll—Science, Shannon Melick—Science, Cathy Quinn—Cosmetology Teacher's Aide, Meghan O'Reilly—Social Studies, and Farrah Zaidi—Social Studies.

Students and staff actively engaged in several activities in an effort to promote NJ's Week of Respect and Violence Awareness Week. These events benefit all members of our school community and send positive messages that extend beyond the classroom.

School Spirit Alerts for November:

- Annual Holiday Food Drive - Oct. 20 - Nov. 20
- Haunted Halls - October 30 from 7pm to 10 pm (tickets may be purchased at the door)
- Theater Arts Fall Musical Production of *Godspell* - November 20 & 21

Remember to check our website for upcoming soccer games and more detailed information about other SCVTHS activities.

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



As part of the annual Week of Respect (October 5th-9th) and in accordance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (P.L.2010, c.122), the Pupil Services and Linkages Departments at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School implemented daily events for students to recognize the importance of character education through preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying in their school community.

Over the course of the week, SCVTHS students were able to sign a Pledge of Peace, receive informational brochures, "Respect" bracelets and necklaces, as well as create new designs for the ever-expanding Wall of Peace. In addition, students in Ms. Gichan's Photography classes created black and white anti-HIB (harassment, intimidation, and bullying) posters for the Week of Respect. The artwork was put on display throughout the school's buildings, hallways and cafeteria for all of SCVTHS to view.

This year, SCVTHS welcomed motivational speaker, David Flood, a resident of Long Island. Mr. Flood spoke about building respect and cultivating compassion by using personal stories to draw emotion and laughter from the audience. Flood ultimately challenged the SCVTHS students



Motivational Speaker David Flood addresses SCVTHS students during Week of Respect.

to "stop looking on the outside" of others and to "choose kindness" when faced with difficult situations.*

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvths.net.



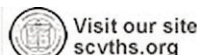
UPCOMING EVENTS

• ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE
Oct. 20 - Nov. 20, 2015

• SCVTHS Theater Arts Dept. presents
"Godspell" - Nov. 20 & Nov. 21



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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JAGUAR NATION

NOVEMBER 2015

SINGH SCORES HER 100TH CAREER GOAL FOR SCVTHS

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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Duane Wallace • *Editor & Designer*
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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

Harleen Singh, a senior at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School, has scored her 100th career goal for the SCVTHS girls' soccer team. Harleen did not even start to think about the mark until last year when she ended with 93 goals. "That's when I realized that I was so close to reaching 100," Harleen explained.

Harleen attributes her success to her parents and brother who have helped her practice from age 5. She also praises her coach Mr. Jack O'Neill, who she says is "a phenomenal mentor with a lot of patience and enthusiasm. He believed in me and my work ethic and gave me a chance. Since then, I made sure not to let him down."

As for the success of her team, Harleen says they continually "work on communication, and that is a significant factor to the success of my team. You need to be able to help, train and direct others to achieve common goals and let each other know what to do. I think that's one thing that sets our team apart from others."

Harleen is the first and only SCVTHS soccer player to ever score 100 goals. Additionally, she is one of only five other high school girls in the state to achieve this mark for their career this school year. With a little under half the season remaining, Singh will continue to add to her school record total. Harleen added, "I am very thankful to my coach, family, teammates, and school for their support. None of it was possible without them."*

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or jstrickhart@scvts.net.



SCVTHS senior Harleen Singh

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Jay Patel



Jay Patel

Jay Patel, a senior in the Integrated Technology Systems (ITS) Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for October 2015. Jay is the son of Hitendra and Priti Patel of Somerset.

Science Instructor Ushma Mehta nominated Jay for the award because he is an "outstanding student in all respects. He accomplishes his tasks in a courteous and timely manner. Jay is always helpful and respectful towards his peers."

At SCVTHS, Jay is a member of the National Honor Society, Rotary Club, Principal's Honor Roll, and the Interstellar Math Team. Jay has also been very successful in his ITS program by placing first overall in the NetRider IT competition out of all participants in the USA and Canada; as well as successfully receiving CompTIA A+ and Certified Electronic Security Network Technician certificates.

Outside of school Jay stays busy by volunteering at the Franklin Township Library, helping around the house, and even helping his father at his store by running the cash register, completing inventory, and helping customers. After graduating from SCVTHS, Jay plans to pursue his dream by furthering his education at the New Jersey Institute of Technology so he may become a Software Engineer.

Jay would like to thank ITS Instructor Mr. Brinkmann, and his other instructors for helping to teach him and give him the best knowledge possible. Jay added that he also wanted to thank his parents and sisters.*