



JAGUAR NATION

JANUARY 2017 • VOLUME 6, No. 3

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

MECHATRONICS, ENGINEERING AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PROGRAM OFF & RUNNING AT SCVTHS

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

We've accomplished many things the first half of this year, and your ongoing support and commitment to our students and school enables us to reach our goals. Recently our HOSA club led by Mrs. Vasaturo collected well over 50 coats this year for the Jersey Cares Coat Drive. Also, Ms. Francis, Ms. Garruto and our Cosmetology students held a special event on December 3 and raised over \$700 dollars in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness. We are so proud of all the students and teachers who freely give their time and services to community projects throughout the year. On behalf of SCVTHS, I hope everyone had a happy holiday and a safe and restful winter break.

Athletics:

Basketball Season has begun! Coaches McClain, Bowers, Gillyooly and O'Reilly are looking forward to a great season! Our boys' varsity team is coming off of a great season last year and hopes to make this year even better. As for our girls, this year marks the first season our Lady Jags will be playing at the varsity level. We wish all the players and coaches the best of luck on the courts. Please come out and support our teams! Special SHOUT OUT's to this year's seniors on the court:

Girls Basketball:

Marla Castillo, Kristen Fernandez, Barbara Follett, Emily Heathcote and Brianna LaFace

Boys Basketball: TJ Driscoll and Ricky Kelly

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



(l-r): Mark Yagual-Bound Brook; Instructor Barry Savar, Malachi Brockman-Green Brook; Kaya Kennette-Hillsborough; Bercymaryam Zuniga-Bridgewater; Anabella Jaime-Marville; Alejandro Valle-S. Bound Brook; David Bilia-Bridgewater; Stephen Dencher-S. Bound Brook; Nolan Patel of Somerset; Instructor Dave Roper, Aidan Vostrovsky-Branchburg; Malachi Melli-Bridgewater; William Smith-Somerset; Kenneth Quizon-Somerset; and SCVTHS MEAM Instructor Dan Dalfonzo.

New this school year to Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School is the Career and Technical Program entitled Mechatronics, Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing (MEAM).

"We are already finished with the first marking period of our inaugural year and I'm excited to say that it's been a great success," said MEAM Instructor Dan Dalfonzo. "On the Mechatronics end, our students have a solid foundation on robot construction and have just begun to tap into their coding skills. Students are seeing the same level of success in Advanced Manufacturing, where they have passed their OSHA-10 test and have learned the basics of operating the bench grinder and bandsaw."

In addition to the new MEAM Program, an Engineering & Robotics Club was also created. Mr. Dalfonzo has worked hard to create a partnership with EnablingTheFuture.org through which SCVTHS students are preparing to become providers of free high quality prosthetics for anyone in need. "We are super excited for this wonderful opportunity to provide our students with industry relevant engineering and manufacturing skills while fostering an understanding that engineering and technology can be used for the betterment of humankind," said Mr. Dalfonzo.

"This partnership Program with Raritan Valley Community College is one example of state and local funds being leveraged to promote relevant and viable career pathways for high school students," said SCVTHS Superintendent Dr. Chrys Harttraft. "It demonstrates the value of providing stackable industry credentials with college credits to enhance post-secondary pursuits and subsequent employment options in the STEM fields."

"The MEAM Program is a huge benefit to many of the

employers in New Jersey. This Program is clearly what the Department of Labor had in mind as part of the Workforce Development Program," added Somerset County Vocational & Technical Schools Board of Education President William G. Hyncik, Jr.

Mr. Dalfonzo summarized his thoughts on the future by saying, "I see our MEAM Program evolving into a magnet Program for Somerset and Hunterdon counties where young people learn the skills to be successful in industry while also preparing for higher education in the STEM fields. A primary reason I am so proud to be part of the MEAM Program is that our graduates will be prepared to enter Mechatronics or advanced manufacturing fields in any capacity they choose."

The MEAM Program is funded by the County Vocational School District Partnership Grant through the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Career and Technical Education. For more information, visit the MEAM program website at: www.scvths.org/MEAM✱

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



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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(snow date: Feb. 11th)
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JAGUAR NATION

JANUARY 2017

SCVTS DISTRICT NAMES 2016 BUSINESS PARTNER OF THE YEAR

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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Janet Cantore-Watson • Photography



(l-r): SCVTHS Automotive Technology Instructor Alan Creveling, SCVTHS 2016 Business Partner of the Year Greg Burchette, 2003 SCVTHS graduate Bryan Salazar, 2012 SCVTHS graduate Brie Glowinski and Bill Finn of Bridgewater Motorworks.

Greg Burchette, owner of Bridgewater Motorworks in Bridgewater, has been selected as the Somerset County Vocational & Technical School District's 2016 Business Partner of the Year. Mr. Burchette was selected for the award for his efforts in hiring SCVTHS students, dedicating his time to helping SCVTHS become NATEF certified, and his involvement as an active member of the SCVTHS Automotive Technology Advisory Board.

Over the past ten years, Mr. Burchette has hired SCVTHS students on a part-time basis through the Cooperative

Education Program and also as full-time employees once they graduate. Automotive Technology Instructor Alan Creveling nominated Mr. Burchette for the award saying, "Mr. Burchette is not only a great asset to our Program, but to our entire school community."

For these notable contributions, Somerset County Vocational & Technical School District is proud to announce Mr. Greg Burchette as the 2016 Business Partner of the Year.✱

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



First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Daria Marini

Daria Marini

Daria Marini, a senior in the Graphic Communications Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for December 2016. Daria is the daughter of Ms. Elizabeth Cabral and Mr. Joseph Marini of Bridgewater.

SCVTHS Photography Instructor Deb Gichan nominated Daria for the award because she is an excellent student who volunteers often and always goes above and beyond what is asked. At SCVTHS, Daria is a member of the Rotary Club, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Yearbook Club, and a three year member of the varsity softball team. In addition, Daria was named CTE Stellar Student for the month of March 2016. Last year, as part of a 20Time project in Mr. Miller's class, Daria's group raised \$600 for The Child Life Program at the Children's Hospital at Saint Peter's University Hospital.

Outside of school, Daria has been a competitive cheerleader for the past 13 years and works as a security guard for US Security Associates. In her free time, Daria studies, enjoys hanging out with her friends and watching her favorite TV show "Castle."

After graduating from SCVTHS, Daria would like to pursue a Marketing degree at either Villanova or Northeastern.✱