



JAGUAR NATION

MAY 2022 • VOLUME 11, No. 7

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS CARPENTRY STUDENTS BUILD PLAYHOUSE FOR VETERAN FAMILY

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

I hope everyone was able to enjoy their families and rest during the Spring Recess. The 4th Marking Period began on Tuesday, April 19th. We are in the home stretch of the 2021-2022 school year. The class advisors, parents and PTO are planning activities for our students to enjoy during the last quarter. Presently, plans for traditional events such as the Prom, Field Day and various trips are being solidified, indicating that normalcy is on the horizon.

The B Building remains closed, but we are optimistic that it will re-open in late May or early June. Unfortunately, we are dependent on equipment and material availability, causing a longer delay. Our staff and students have adjusted to the displacement and are in safe environments allowing instruction to continue.

Our Climate and Culture Committee, PTO and Administration are excited about Staff Appreciation Week, honored nationwide during the week of May 2nd-6th. A full week of activities are being planned with a Spring theme. Please join us in showing your appreciation to the dedicated staff who provide a safe learning environment for our students.

Happy Spring!
Hector Montes



(l-r) SCVTHS students Armando Garcia of Bridgewater, Tyler Lozier of Manville, Vincent Puleio of Belle Mead, William Rogus of Branchburg, Josiah Gonzalez of Hillsborough, Steven LaRosa of Bridgewater, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education Rob Carrig and SCVTHS Carpentry Instructor James Foley

Students in the Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) Carpentry Program recently completed a project for Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, which consisted of building a playhouse for a local veteran family.

Earlier this school year, Mr. Rob Carrig, SCVTHS Supervisor of Career and Technical Education, contacted Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity about exploring opportunities to work together. After some discussion and a tour of the SCVTHS Career and Technical Education programs, Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity explained that they had a program which assists local veteran families. During the discussions, it was mentioned that a local veteran family was looking to have a playhouse built. Mr. Carrig jumped on the opportunity and volunteered the SCVTHS Carpentry Program for the task.

"Under the guidance of Mr. Foley, the construction of the playhouse became a student-led project. The

students were able to work off a set of prints and construct everything from start to finish," stated SCVTHS Supervisor of Career and Technical Education Mr. Rob Carrig. "The students learned key concepts which will help them in their careers including: how to work in teams, interpreting prints, and estimating materials. The students had a great time building the house and we are hoping to work on many more projects in the near future."✿

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net.



6TH Annual
SkillsUSA

GOLF CLASSIC

Monday - May 23, 2022

SCVTHS PTO
CAR SHOW

Sunday - June 5, 2022 • 11am - 3pm



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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

AUTHOR ROB HART VISITS SCVTHS



(back l-r): SCVTHS English Instructor Ms. Brittany Maldonado, SCVTHS students James Marvits of Hillsborough, Luke Donnadio of Hillsborough, Jacob McNeerney of Flagtown, Kalina Trent of Skillman, Scott Landers of Somerset, Author Mr. Rob Hart, Joshua Morris of Manville, Joshua Ortiz of South Bound Brook, SCVTHS Supervisor of Academics Ms. Teresa Morelli; (front l-r): Emily Rosalli of Hillsborough, Makayla Long of Bound Brook, Sanaia Harrison of Hillsborough, Olivia Jaime of Manville, and Kyle Smith of Somerset

On Wednesday, April 20th, students in Ms. Maldonado's English classes at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) were visited by Mr. Rob Hart, author of "The Warehouse." The book is required reading for Ms. Maldonado's junior-level English classes. The novel has been sold in more than 20 different countries and has even been optioned for a film by Ron Howard.

During the two-hour presentation, students and staff took part in a lively discussion with Mr. Hart about his writing process, characters and themes from the novel, as well as what he believes happens after the story has concluded. During the presentation, Mr. Hart stated that he wanted to write a fun to read book that would be hard to put down. Hart went on to add that he wanted to achieve a balance by writing an educational but interesting book that engaged readers and kept their interest.

SCVTHS Supervisor of Academics Ms. Teresa Morelli spoke of the author's presentation stating, "Rob Hart's visit was a way for our students to connect with a living author. Hart explained his process of

writing the novel, as well as the ideas he was presenting, so our students interacted directly with the author during the presentation. During the two-hour Assembly, students had the opportunity to ask questions relating to the story, the characters, and the writer's style, demonstrating their analysis of "The Warehouse."

Ms. Brittany Maldonado added, "I am so grateful to Rob Hart for coming out to interact, answer questions, and engage in academic discourse with our eleventh-grade students. The students posed many analytical questions which not only gave them the opportunity to think critically about the novel but to challenge the author with inquiries ranging from content to real-world parallels to his writing process. Students remained engaged throughout the event. Many stayed after the conclusion of the Assembly to have one-on-one conversations, ask more questions, and get their books signed! It was an enriching experience for all. We are so grateful for this opportunity!"*

For more information on this story, contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net.

ZACHARY HOYER



Zachary Hoyer

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Zachary Hoyer, a sophomore in the Carpentry Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's (SCVTHS) Student of the Month for April 2022. Zachary is the son of Eric and Meredith Hoyer of Raritan.

SCVTHS English Instructor Brendan Downey nominated Zachary for the Student of the Month award stating, "Zach is always respectful of teachers and peers. He participates regularly in class discussions and is eager to be involved in class projects." Instructor Ms. Kristen McNeerney added, "Zack is a wonderful addition to any classroom discussion. He is a conscientious worker who stays on top of his work and helps out fellow classmates if the need/opportunity arises. You can always count on Zack to bring quality to discussions and a smile to the room."

Outside of SCVTHS, Zachary is very involved with BR Skateboarding. Zachary volunteers to build the park and take it down after lessons, as well as serving as a skateboard instructor. Additionally, Zachary works as a summer camp counselor at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center (JCC) in Bridgewater during the summer months. In his free time, Zachary enjoys fishing, skating, hanging out with his friends, and snowboarding in the winter.

After graduating from SCVTHS, Zachary plans to attend college to earn a degree in business. He hopes to start his own carpentry business in Tennessee.*