



JAGUAR NATION

JULY 2020 • VOLUME 9, No.10

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS HONORS SCHOLAR ATHLETES

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

As we prepare to close out the year and finalize Graduation plans, I want to take a moment and thank everyone for their support during my interim period. I think we can all agree that this was quite a year. However, this curveball will only make us better and more focused.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020 for their perseverance. This was an historical year with the pandemic, emergency transition to remote learning and social unrest during what was supposed to be a traditional senior year. Your adaptability and the way you handle these obstacles will make you highly attractive in your future career.

Please take this opportunity to better your community. We will miss you at SCVTHS!

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Sincerely,
Hector Montes



This year's Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Scholar Athletes are Liliana Gomez and Norbert Malik of Bound Brook.



Norbert Malik

Norbert, son of Jacek and Katarzyna Malik, is a four-year varsity basketball athlete at SCVTHS and three-year varsity athlete for cross country and track & field at Bound Brook High School. Captain of the basketball team his junior and senior years, Norbert ended his career with 1,458 points and 1,300 rebounds. Norbert also assisted his discus and pole vaulting teams winning nearly every one of their meets. He currently works as a swim instructor at LifeTime Fitness. Norbert plans on studying engineering and anthropology in college, as well as continuing his basketball career.

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

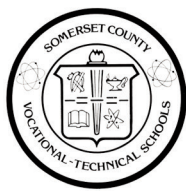


Liliana Gomez

Liliana Gomez, daughter of Gizella Bujtor and Pedro Gomez, is a 3-sport varsity athlete. She served as captain for basketball and softball during her junior and senior years, as well as soccer during her senior year. Liliana holds the school record for most points, rebounds, assists, steals and blocks for girls basketball. Liliana helped lead her team to their first county tournament game victory in school history. She also helped her team qualify for the state tournament during her sophomore and senior years while serving as Vice President for the Student Council during both her junior and senior years. Liliana plans on studying engineering in college next fall.



SCVTHS
CLASS OF 2020
IN PERSON
GRADUATION
Friday - July 10TH





JAGUAR NATION

JULY 2020

SCVTHS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM HOLDS QUARANTINE FRIENDLY BANQUET

JAGUAR NATION

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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

After the cancellation of their in-person end-of-season banquet because of the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus), Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Girls Basketball Coaches Maura Gillooly and Meghan O'Reilly decided to host their own surprise and quarantine-friendly ceremony.

The two coaches, along with the help of the student-athletes' parents, decided to take matters into their own hands by putting together the delivery of certificates, varsity letters and end of season awards. In addition, the coaches also put together a video to commemorate their season.

The video can be viewed here:

<https://www.wefideo.com/view/1716240153>

"When the call was made that we would not be returning to school physically this year, we wanted to give the girls the banquet they deserved, even though it had to take place in a social distancing style. We wanted to make them feel special and celebrated, especially the seniors since this is their last basketball season," said Coach Gillooly.

Coach O'Reilly added, "Most of the girls were speechless when we arrived outside their home and many asked how we found out where they lived, but all were very thankful and



Excerpt from the video coaches made to commemorate the SCVTHS Girls Basketball Team's current season

appreciative. We took pictures of each player on their porch with their awards and signs for another surprise for both the players and parents—a banquet video! For the video, we put together pictures from the season and the 'banquet' and made speeches to announce the certificates and/or awards for each player. We are so proud of the girls and are glad we were able to celebrate them somehow!"*

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

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Nicholas Piano

Nicholas Piano, a senior in the Automotive-Diesel Technology Program, has been selected as Student of the Month at SCVTHS for June 2020. Nicholas is the son of Robert and Amy Piano of Branchburg.

Nicholas was nominated by three SCVTHS instructors for the Student of the Month award. Spanish Instructor Mr. Guillermo Renia nominated Nicholas stating, "I have known Nicholas for two years and have seen him grow as a Spanish student in his study and organizational skills. He just completed his Spanish writer project which he presented to the class on Zoom. It was an excellent performance. Kudos to Nick." In-Class Support Instructor Mr. Charles Schade added that Nicholas is "steady, consistent, conscientious and has outstanding participation." Science Instructor Ms. Shannon Melick said Nicholas "has shown a hard work ethic and dedication throughout the school year. With the abrupt change to virtual learning, he has continued to be an exemplary student."

At SCVTHS, Nicholas has achieved Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications A1 through A8 in his Automotive Program and has assisted with the SCVTHS Proud To Be An American Day.

Outside of school, Nicholas is an antique clock technician apprentice at Grandfather's Clock Shop in Glen Gardner and an entry-level automotive technician at Automotive Service Center in Whitehouse Station. Additionally, Nicholas volunteers at the Central Jersey Volkswagen Society and the Branchburg Rotary Club. Nicholas recently received a scholarship from the Branchburg Rotary Club for his "strong academic achievement, involvement in community service and his desire to continue his education." In his free time, Nicholas enjoys playing guitar, working on cars and spending time with family and friends.

After graduating from SCVTHS, Nicholas plans to attend Raritan Valley Community College to pursue a business degree. Nicholas hopes to someday open his own automotive shop.

Nicholas stated, "It's an honor to be Student of the Month. SCVTHS has given me the opportunity to be able to follow my passion for working on cars and make friendships with people of similar interests. I learned valuable information and made memories I will never forget. I want to extend an extra 'thank you' to my auto teachers Mr. Creveling and Mr. Eng for everything they have taught me."*



Nicholas Piano