



# JAGUAR NATION

APRIL 2019 • VOLUME 8, No. 6

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Spring has finally sprung! Our National Honor Society inducted new members at a special ceremony on March 14th. Congratulations to all the new members and to Advisor Mr. Bryant Jefopoulos.

Sonia Purohit and Evan Sapirman, our Class of 2019 Scholar Athletes, will be honored on May 8 at the Imperia in Somerset. Congratulations!

Students and teachers have enjoyed extended learning opportunities with field trips to the Museum of the American Revolution, Adult Day Care of Somerset County, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Morris County Jail and Morris County Police Academy, and the United Nations, to name a few.

Our 4th Annual SkillsUSA Golf Classic at Raritan Valley Country Club will help support our SkillsUSA students going to Louisville, KY for the national competition in June. Additional information can be found on our website.

### School Spirit Alerts:

- April 13: SkillsUSA State Competitions
- April 15: Tie Dye/'80s Day
- May 6: Annual SkillsUSA Golf Classic Raritan Valley Country Club, Bridgewater
- May 6-10: Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

### On the Field:

Baseball and softball seasons have begun so remember to check out our sports schedule on our website and come on out in a show of support to cheer our teams on. Also, a special welcome goes out to our school's new Head Softball Coach Brittany McGarry. Go Jags!

Sincerely,  
Diane M. Ziegler



## DANCE PERFORMANCE FEATURES STUDENT & FACULTY CHOREOGRAPHERS

The Gifted and Talented Honors Dance Program at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School is proud to present *Beyond*, a dance concert featuring student and faculty choreography which explores the wonders of the Universe.

Dance performances will include student choreography by SCVTHS seniors Brianna Bowlby of Phillipsburg, Erin Ford of Bridgewater, Erica Giurlando of Bridgewater, Jordan Jackson of Somerset, Melodee Petrushka of Somerville and Grace Sellinger of Bridgewater.

"It's a thought process," said Erin Ford. "It's a lot of hard work and effort which will help us with our future in dance."

Jordan Jackson added, "It's a good experience for us professionally and helps us to prepare for college. It also teaches us to work with other people."

"The students have been choreographing and rehearsing this evening-long work since mid-January," said SCVTHS Honors Dance Department Coordinator Sheila Sullivan. Sullivan went on to add, "Each senior choreographer chose a concept in the Universe that they researched and used as the format for their dance work. Student choreographers are responsible for scheduling, rehearsing, costuming, choreographing and lighting their work."

*Beyond* will be presented in the Auditorium of Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School located at 14 Vogt Drive in Bridgewater. Performances are scheduled for April 5th and 6th at 7:30 pm. General admission to the performance is \$12. Twenty-five percent of admission proceeds will be donated to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County. Members of the audience are encouraged to bring food and non-food items for the universal good of those in need throughout our community.

The Gifted and Talented Dance Program at SCVTHS is celebrating more than 30 years of



SCVTHS Gifted and Talented Honors Dance Program student choreographers (back l-r): Erin Ford of Bridgewater, Jordan Jackson of Somerset, Brianna Bowlby of Phillipsburg; (front l-r): Melodee Petrushka of Somerville, Erica Giurlando of Bridgewater and Grace Sellinger of Bridgewater.

bringing Dance to the Somerset County community. The instruction the Dance Program at SCVTHS offers students prepares them for professional careers in the field of dance. While learning and refining technical skills, young artists are encouraged to discover their artistic voice and creative potential. Students from sending schools in twenty-one communities participate in the SCVTHS Dance Program, receiving up to 12 high school honors credits annually.✱

For more information contact Sheila Sullivan at (908) 526-8900, x7277 or [ssullivan@scvts.net](mailto:ssullivan@scvts.net).

### SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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APRIL 2019

## SCVTHS UNICEF CLUB RAISES FUNDS

### JAGUAR NATION

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Duane Wallace • Editor & Designer

James Strickhart • Editorial

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This publication was funded by the  
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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category



(left to right): SCVTHS UNICEF Club students Sangeetha Punnam of Bridgewater, Alyssa Chang of Hillsborough, Ashrita Jagarlamudi of Somerset, Rima Amin of Bridgewater, Anagha Sudhir of Hillsborough and Christopher Masiello of Hillsborough at their empanada fundraiser.

The UNICEF Club at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School has been selling empanadas on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in an effort to raise funds to support the main UNICEF mission of working “in 190 countries and territories to save children’s lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfill their potential, from early childhood through adolescence.” So far, the SCVTHS UNICEF Club has raised \$300 towards their \$500 goal.

SCVTHS Spanish Instructor and UNICEF Advisor Guillermo Reina said, “The goal is to reach \$500 and to support specific programs inside UNICEF. I was impressed by the students’ organizational and leadership skills and the energy they showed while fundraising. They are well organized and have been officially approved by UNICEF to serve in a fundraising capacity.”

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

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## Bohdan Tokar



Bohdan Tokar

Bohdan Tokar, a senior in the Integrated Technology Systems Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School’s Student of the Month for March 2019. Bohdan is the son of Oleksandr and Yaryna Tokar of Manville.

SCVTHS Social Studies Instructor Meghan O’Reilly nominated Bohdan for the Student of the Month Award because, “Bohdan is a diligent and hard-working student. Every day he comes to class with a positive attitude and a smile on his face. He is an active participant in class and he works well with his peers. Bohdan is a true pleasure to teach!”

At SCVTHS, Bohdan has been a recipient of the Stellar Student Award and a member of the Friends of Rachel Club. At his sending district in Manville, Bohdan is a member of the varsity football, track and field teams.

Outside of school, Bohdan enjoys watching movies, spending time with family and friends, as well as traveling. Additionally, Bohdan has volunteered his time helping to create care packages for our troops with Operation Shoebox.

Bohdan’s future plans including furthering his education at either Rider University, Drew University or Rutgers University to pursue a degree in Business. Bohdan added, the past three years he has spent at SCVTHS have been “a really good experience.”✿