



JAGUAR NATION

JULY 2018 • VOLUME 7, No. 9

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS CLASS OF 2018 GRADUATES RECEIVE DIPLOMAS AT COMMENCEMENT

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2018! Everyone at SCVTHS wishes you all the best in the next chapter of your lives.

To all our returning students and families, have a fun and safe summer break. See you in September!

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Class of 2018 Commencement in Bridgewater, NJ on June 21, 2018

SCVTHS Class of 2018

Adeshola Adeleji North Plainfield Cosmetology	Malachi Brockman Green Brook – Academy Mechatronics	Jessica D'Agostino* Hillsborough – Academy
Alexander Alboum* Hillsborough/Auto/Diesel Technologies	Brianna Broderick* Flemington – Academy	Elizabeth Dietrich* Green Brook Agricultural Science
Dustin Alfrey Flemington-Cosmetology	Kiara Brown Green Brook Cosmetology	Anthony DiFelice Bound Brook – Auto Body
Rachel Ambrose Basking Ridge-Dance	Daniel Camacho Manville – Auto Body	Brandon Dobranski Branchburg Integrated Technology
Jimmy Arias Branchburg – Carpentry	Shawn Carter Belle Mead – Auto Body	Loren Donnelly* Basking Ridge Theater Arts
Lauren Arnold* Bridgewater – Theater Arts	Jonathan Cerqueira* South Bound Brook Carpentry	Riley Engel* Branchburg – Theater Arts
Elizabeth Atkins* Somerset – Academy	Lily Chang* Hillsborough – Academy	Eleanor Faherty Basking Ridge – Dance
Robert Barlow* Bridgewater – Academy	Catherine Chen* Warren – Academy	Kira Federici Bridgewater Graphic Communications
Nicholas Barras* Manville – Carpentry	Kristine Chin* Hillsborough – Academy	Justyn Fernandez South Bound Brook Law & Public Safety
Brien Batori Neshanic Station Welding	Franklin Cintron Bound Brook Integrated Technology	Kevin Fernandez South Bound Brook Graphic Communications
Matthew Belskie Auto/Diesel Technologies	Alicia Clark* Bridgewater – Academy	Jose Gallegos Bridgewater – Auto Body
David Billa Bridgewater – Mechatronics	David Dabrowski South Bound Brook Carpentry	Julia Garaffa* Skillman – Academy
Patrick Blood Bridgewater – Theater Arts	Elijah Bowers Somerset Agricultural Science	Jacob Dabrowski Somerset Carpentry
		Alex Garcia-Velasco South Bound Brook Integrated Technology

One hundred and twenty seven students received their diplomas in seventeen different vocational programs ranging from Automotive Technology to the Performing Arts. The ceremony was held on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium of Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School located at 14 Vogt Drive in Bridgewater.

Principal Diane Ziegler welcomed graduates and their guests. Diplomas and awards were presented by Superintendent Dr. Chrys Harttraft, Board of Education President William Hyncik, Jr., Board of Education members Gregory Burchette and Gregory Lalevee, and Board Secretary Raelene Catterson.

The Career and Technical Education Valedictorian for the Class of 2018 was Cosmetology student Haley Kaiser of South Bound

Brook. The Career and Technical Education Salutatorian was Health Occupations student Samantha Shephard of Hillsborough. Valedictorians from the Academy for Health and Medical Sciences were Catherine Chen of Warren, Kristine Chin of Hillsborough and Julia Garaffa of Skillman. The Academy for Health and Medical Sciences Salutatorian was Rea Rustagi of Hillsborough.

Other dignitaries in attendance included Freeholder Deputy Director Brian D. Levine and Freeholder Patricia L. Walsh. Additionally, Somerset County Freeholder Deputy Director Brian D. Levine addressed the graduates on behalf of the Somerset County Freeholders.*

For more information, contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net or (908) 526-8900, x7169.

Tyler Gist Franklin Park Auto/Diesel Technologies	Scott Huff Neshanic Station Auto/Diesel Technologies	Christian Melendez North Plainfield Graphic Communications	Edward Onsko Raritan Electrical Construction	Noah Rodelius Bedminster – Academy	Elle Smith Basking Ridge – Dance	Kristen Volpe Somerville Graphic Communications	John Wolfson Frenchtown Academy
Carlos Gonzalez North Plainfield Auto/Diesel Technologies	Elizabeth Jaeger Branchburg – Culinary Arts	Marissa Miller Warren – Dance	Jessica Paolillo Hillsborough – Dance	Heather Rodriguez Manville Cosmetology	Christine Starozytnyk* South Bound Brook Health Occupations	Autumn Walker Manville Law & Public Safety	Dominique Yachera South Bound Brook Cosmetology
Gillian Gottlieb* Hillsborough – Academy	Haley Kaiser* South Bound Brook Cosmetology	Tyler Minter Hillsborough – Welding	Nikhil Patel* Franklin Park – Academy	Brittany Rojas* South Bound Brook Law & Public Safety	Daniel Stracquadaine North Plainfield Agricultural Science	Justin Walsh Princeton Auto/Diesel Technologies	Sophia Yankowski Somerville – Dance
John Hamor Hillsborough	Joshua Kalapati Hillsborough – Academy	Jenna Molfetta Bound Brook Health Occupations	David Petersen* Somerset Law & Public Safety	Adam Ruiz Bridgewater Electrical Construction	Isabella Szeman Bridgewater Graphic Communications	Shiyan Williams* Somerset Agricultural Science	Ramon You* Somerset Health Occupations
Nadia Harrell* Somerset – Culinary Arts	Morgan Keegan Martinsville – Dance	Katherine Murdock Neshanic Station Theater Arts	Novena Petryk Cordi* Manville – Academy	Rea Rustagi* Hillsborough – Academy	Russell Tenzer* Martinsville Agricultural Science	Jacob Wirzman Hillsborough Electrical Construction	Cristina Young* Martinsville Academy
Nicole Haurey South Bound Brook Cosmetology	Kate Kelly North Plainfield Graphic Communications	Nathalie Murillo-Jimenez* Manville – Cosmetology	Ethan Proffitt North Plainfield Carpentry	Zachary Sarai Bridgewater Electrical Construction	Nathaniel Thiese Bridgewater – Theater Arts	Conor Wojenski* Somerset Law & Public Safety	Nicole Zamora Bound Brook – Cosmetology
Philip Heiser Raritan – Culinary Arts	Matthew King* Auto/Diesel Technologies	Anjana Nair* Franklin Park – Academy	Rebekah Quagliato* South Bound Brook Health Occupations	Ayush Shah* Raritan – Academy	Alexis Thomas Raritan – Cosmetology		
Julian Hernandez Somerset – Auto Body	Madeline Lee Bridgewater – Dance	Matthew Natividad Somerset – Academy	Anthony Quinones Bound Brook Graphic Communications	Darshan Shah* Hillsborough – Academy	Brian Turck* Hillsborough Electrical Construction		
Madison Hill-Glover* Raritan – Academy	Farouk Marhaba* Bridgewater – Academy	Sarah Nerod Hillsborough – Cosmetology	Sandra Raju* Hillsborough Academy	Siddharth Shankar* Hillsborough – Academy	Rahul Ubriani* Somerset – Academy		
Kyle Hishmeh Bridgewater Law & Public Safety	Sebastian Marquez South Bound Brook Academy	Alex Norz Hillsborough Agricultural Science	Hannah Roberts Bridgewater – Dance	Anish Sharma* Franklin Park – Academy	Andrew VanderWal Hillsborough Electrical Construction		
Brian Houston Bound Brook – Auto Body	Ann Marie Masiello* Hillsborough – Academy	Andrez O'Besso Hillsborough Auto/Diesel Technologies	Matthew Roche Branchburg – Welding	Samantha Shephard* Hillsborough Health Occupations			

*Member National Technical Honor Society *Member National Honor Society



SOMERSET COUNTY
VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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www.scvths.org

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Ranked High School!



JAGUAR NATION

JULY 2018

SCVTHS HOLDS FOURTH ANNUAL PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN DAY

JAGUAR NATION

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Duane Wallace • Editor & Designer

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SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

On May 24, 2018, and for the fourth consecutive year, Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Social Studies Instructor Ed Graf put together the event titled "Proud to be an American Day." Mr. Graf's purpose for the yearly event is to teach students the importance of honoring our veterans and the reasons we celebrate Memorial Day. During the day's events, Mr. Graf coordinated a full school assembly, which included:

- Honoring the memories of fallen veterans, promoting patriotism, as well as creating unity as a school community and nation
- A special tribute paid to U.S. Navy Seal, Petty Officer Second Class Matthew Kantor, who was recently Killed in Action in Afghanistan
- Speakers including USMC Lieutenant General Toolan and American Legion New Jersey State Commander Darryl Reid
- Demonstrations by the United States Armed Forces, including armored vehicles and six helicopters landing on the fields of SCVTHS
- Wreaths being presented
- Bagpipe and bugle player performances
- A 21 gun salute performed by American Legion Post 35 out of Union, New Jersey



(l-r): SCVTHS students Aiyden Hanlein of North Plainfield, Sarah Yagual of Bound Brook and Dylan Galiszewski of North Plainfield in front of a MH-53E Sea Dragon at Proud To Be An American Day 2018.

- Cannon volleys
- Honor Guard from the SCVTHS Law & Public Safety Program holding a "Posting the Colors"
- Members of the SCVTHS Theater Arts Program performing patriotic musical selections

Following the events, a luncheon was held for all of the attending veterans, honorees, and their families.✱

For more information, contact James Strickhart at jstrickhart@scvts.net or (908) 526-8900, x7169.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Stephanie Melgar

Stephanie Melgar, a junior in the Law & Public Safety Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for June 2018. Stephanie is the daughter of Mr. Melvin Melgar and Ms. Maria Rivera of Somerset.

SCVTHS Law and Public Safety Instructor Louis Violante nominated Stephanie for the Student of the Month award because, "she is a studious person and a pleasure to have in class. She is helpful, hardworking and has a positive attitude." Mr. Violante went on to add, "Stephanie is on the path for success."

Additionally, SCVTHS Instructor Lee Ann Alves nominated Stephanie saying, "She has a strong work ethic, works extremely hard each and every day, has a positive relationship with all of her peers and teachers and is always willing to help others." Ms. Alves added, "I get to see her in a different setting; she is a very polite and respectful student, who is very dedicated to her schooling."

Stephanie has proven her academic excellence by being named a member of the Honor Roll and Principal's Honor Roll multiple times during her time at SCVTHS.

Outside of SCVTHS, Stephanie works as a cashier at Tropical Supermarket. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys writing, listening to music and spending time with her family and friends.

Stephanie's plans after graduating from SCVTHS include continuing her education at Rutgers or NYU to study criminology. Because she is "always open to different things" her future plans change often, but she does know she wants to pursue a career in law enforcement.✱



Stephanie Melgar