



# JAGUAR NATION

JUNE 2020 • VOLUME 9, No. 9

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## SCVTHS SOPHOMORE WINS AT 2020 NEW JERSEY FFA AGRISCIENCE FAIR

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

As we get closer to conclude the year, plans are being developed to create a virtual graduation for the Class of 2020 with pre-recorded speeches to avoid possible connection issues. This was a collaborative decision and consistent with county high schools. With the uncertainty of the virus, this was the safest option.

In addition, a tentative schedule is being developed for students to retrieve their belongings and return school property starting on Tuesday May 26th. We will start with the seniors. It is during this time that caps, gowns and lawn signs will be distributed.

Lastly, as part of the "no harm" philosophy recommended by the Department of Education during remote learning, SCVTHS has instituted a Pass/Fail system for the 4th marking period only, with no Final exam. It is our hope that this system will help alleviate some of the pressures that an abrupt change in instruction delivery can bring.

Please be safe and enjoy your Memorial Day weekend.

Sincerely,

Hector Montes



Parthavi Patel, a sophomore from South Bound Brook in the Agricultural Science Program at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School, recently placed First in the Food Products & Processing Systems division at the 2020 New Jersey FFA Agriscience Fair. Parthavi will be recognized during the New Jersey FFA State Convention, which will be held in May.

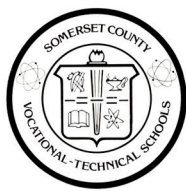
This year, the New Jersey FFA Agriscience Fair was held virtually and students submitted their work prior to the April 29th poster judging. For placing First in her division, Parthavi will receive an award check, certificate and pin. Additionally, Parthavi is now able to advance to the National FFA pre-qualification round.

SCVTHS Agricultural Science Instructor Mr. Erik Fargo said of Parthavi's accomplishment, "Parthavi is a hard-worker. She knows work ethic, adds quality to her work, and demonstrates this in all that she does. Her writing abilities and ability to reason are strong. She is a leader in the program and holds the position of Somerset FFA chapter Sentinel. I expect that Parthavi's performance in the NJ FFA Agriscience Fair is the first of other, and far greater, accomplishments to come. It's an honor to have students like Parthavi."\*



SCVTHS Agricultural Science sophomore Parthavi Patel of South Bound Brook, who placed first in the Food Products & Processing Systems Division at the 2020 New Jersey FFA Agriscience Fair.

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at [jstrickhart@scvts.net](mailto:jstrickhart@scvts.net).







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JUNE 2020

## SCVTHS CTE VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION BRINGS LESSONS TO REALITY

### JAGUAR NATION

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New Jersey School  
**NJSPRA**  
Public Relations Association

First Place Winner - Newsletter Category

With the announcement of remote learning being extended to the end of the academic school year, Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's instructors are finding new and interactive ways to bring their lessons home.

Cosmetology Instructors Ms. Julie Francis and Ms. Jessica Cicero have incorporated lessons where students post services they are performing on themselves and their family members.

Additionally, the instructors have created a video on how common household items could be used to practice on a state board manikin. Some of the household items used include: paper clips, binder clips, shampoo, paper towels, plastic bottles and aloe vera. In addition, several students also came up with different substitute items to complete their work. Cosmetology Ms. Julie Francis stated, "We are trying to help the students keep some dexterity with their hands and give them alternatives to help move them forward. When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!"\*

For more information on this story contact James Strickhart at [jstrickhart@scvts.net](mailto:jstrickhart@scvts.net).



(left): Shampoo is used in place of gel for the fingerwaves.

(right): Paper towels are used in place of end papers for the perm



A paperclip and bobby pin are used to secure pin curls and rollers

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Nicole Gaeta, a junior in the Cosmetology Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's (SCVTHS) Student of the Month for May 2020. Nicole is the daughter of Anthony and Susan Gaeta of Hillsborough.

SCVTHS Photography Instructor Ms. Deb Gichan nominated Nicole for the Student of the Month award because, "Nicole consistently demonstrates the finest qualities of a vocational student. In addition to her attentiveness to class work, she demonstrates the qualities of work readiness." Ms. Julie Francis, Nicole's Cosmetology instructor, went on to add, "Nicole is a very deserving student of this award. She is an extremely dedicated, reliable, consistent and hard-working student!"

At SCVTHS, Nicole was named the October 2018 Student of the Month, has been a Cosmetology Stellar Student, a SkillsUSA competitor in the Cosmetology Advanced Competition and has been on the Principal's Honor Roll every quarter for the entirety of her high school career. Additionally, Nicole is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Chapter and the 2020 Dean's List at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC).

## Nicole Gaeta

Outside of school, Nicole has attended The Art Academy for portrait oil painting and practices archery. She has served as a representative of the Yong Moo Tae Kwon Do Studio for State Forms and on the exhibition team as a 2nd degree black belt. In her spare time, Nicole practices various hair techniques, spends time with her family and enjoys gardening.

Nicole currently attends the Early College Credit Program at RVCC to obtain her associate degree in business administration. Nicole stated, "My goal is to transfer to Fairleigh Dickinson for their Entrepreneur Program with a master's degree in marketing. I plan to attend additional master's level classes for haircolor and hair-cutting techniques in New York City and to pursue my certification to teach Cosmetology to students and to give back to future cosmetologists like Ms. Francis, Ms. Cicero, Ms. Garruto and Ms. May have done."

"I thank all of my teachers for their encouragement and helping me to reach my goals academically and technically," said Nicole. "They have provided me with the support to push my creativity and my studies to new levels," said Nicole.\*



Nicole Gaeta