



JAGUAR NATION

DECEMBER 2014 • VOLUME 4, No. 2

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCVTHS FUNDRAISERS GENERATE DONATIONS FOR CANCER RESEARCH

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

As we begin the holiday season, energies are focused on collecting food for our school's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. This is a community service project and our entire school is working together to make the holiday season special for SCVTHS families.

Basketball season has begun! This year, I am proud to announce that we have added a girls JV basketball team to our school sports program. We are excited for Coach Gillooly and wish her and the Lady Jags a great first season! Please come out in a show of support for our Jaguar players.

School Spirit Alert:

- The SkillsUSA fundraiser is set for Saturday, December 13. Come out and have Breakfast with Santa and help support our students.
- Our Health Occupations HOSA club is currently collecting gently used winter coats for one of its annual community service projects. Donations are greatly appreciated and will be accepted in the High School main office through December 12.
- Our Boys' Varsity Basketball Team is running its annual Holiday Toy Drive. New toys can be donated from December 1-23. The toys are delivered on Christmas morning to children at the Matheny School and a hospital in Peapack, NJ.

Sincerely,
Diane M. Ziegler



Diane M. Ziegler



Health Occupations Program Students (left to right, front, in blue): Teresa Markey, Jacquelin Ortega, Kelsey Kurth, Jennifer Calderen, Megan Flores, Margaut Moret; (back): Casandra Adams-Black, Instructor Kim Vassaturo (third from left, in black), Bethany Panza, Mackenzie Trotter, Mary Health, and Kayla Agins.

Cosmetology Program Students: (left to right, back to front, in black): Julie Fendt, Amy flora, Rebecca Liptak, Diana Mendoza, Bryanna Perren, Kayla McLaughlin, with Instructor Julie Francis (second from right, in white).

Not shown: Amanda Barbiero, Emily Dayton, Julia Heller, Emily Molfetta, Monica Perez, Molly Piano, Vanessa Richards, Havanna Velazquez, Dominique Yachera, Heather Rodriguez, Nicole Zamora, and Parker Zentner.

During the month of October, students and instructors from Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Cosmetology and Health Occupations Programs held two separate fundraisers to generate donations for cancer research.

Cosmetology Instructor Julie Francis and her students hold a yearly Cut-A-Thon to raise money for Cure Search for Childhood Cancer Research in memory of Francis' niece Mackenzie Wright. At age seven, Mackenzie Wright of Delaware Township lost her battle with Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of cancer of the connective tissues typically found in children. This year on October 18th, Mrs. Francis and her students cut and styled their way to \$700 worth of donations for Cure Search for Childhood Cancer Research.

In addition, throughout the month of October, Instructor Kim Vasaturo and students from the Health Occupations Program collected donations for their "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" campaign. Altogether, the

students from the Health Occupations Program were able to raise and donate \$220 to the American Cancer Society for breast cancer research.

These two programs have had such success fundraising, they plan to continue their efforts for years to come.✿

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

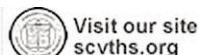
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SATURDAY – DECEMBER 13, 2014

2 SEATINGS: 8:30-10 AM • 10-11:30 AM



SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
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A US News & World Report Top Ranked High School!





JAGUAR NATION

DECEMBER 2014

SCVTHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES DURING ANNUAL WEEK OF RESPECT

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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*This publication was funded by the
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Volume 4, No. 2 • December 2014

Duane Wallace • *Editor & Designer*
James Strickhart • *Editorial*
Sharleen Leahey • *Graphic Production*
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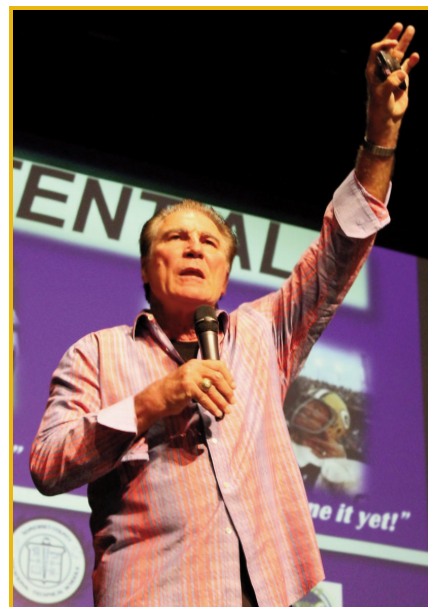
As part of the annual Week of Respect (October 6-10) the Pupil Services and Linkages Departments at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School implemented daily events for students to prevent harassment, intimidation and bullying in their school community.

Over the course of the week, SCVTHS students were able to sign a pledge of respect, given "Hero" dog tags, "Respect" bracelets, and created new designs for the ever-expanding Wall of Peace. In addition, students in Ms. Gichan's photography classes created black and white anti-HIB (harassment, intimidation, and bullying) posters for the Week of Respect which were put on display throughout the school's buildings, hallways, cafeteria and on its digital monitors.

Further enhancing the Week of Respect activities, SCVTHS welcomed former Philadelphia Eagle Vince Papale, who was the inspiration for the movie "Invincible." Mr. Papale, now a resident of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, overcame all odds to earn a spot on the Philadelphia Eagles when he was 30 years old, despite having played only one year of high school football. Papale spoke of being bullied throughout his life, from his childhood in grade school, and even on the football field as an adult. Mr. Papale encouraged students to "treat others and yourself with respect," and to take action against bullying. "Don't be bystanders. Get off the sidelines and into the game," he said.

Papale's themes included how "being successful is cool." In addition he encouraged the students to "act on your dreams." Papale spoke of his own personal heroes and how they have inspired him with their courage, persistence and tenacity. As the presentation drew to an end, Papale told the students to believe in themselves and not give up on their dreams. Mr. Papale closed with the Langston Hughes poem "Dreams": ❀

*Hold fast to dreams / For if dreams die / Life is a broken-winged bird / That cannot fly
Hold fast to dreams / For when dreams go / Life is a barren field / Frozen with snow*



Vince Papale addresses students during the annual Week of Respect at SCVTHS

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

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Tyler Gist

Tyler Gist, a freshman in the Diesel Mechanics Program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for November 2014. Tyler is the son of Doug and Deborah Gist of Franklin Park, NJ. Instructor Angie Maggs nominated Tyler for Student of the Month because of his A average, involvement in class discussions, and respectfulness to his peers and teachers. Instructor Maggs added that Tyler works very hard to maintain his A average.

Tyler has only been in high school for a few months, but commented that he already really likes his teachers and classes. Tyler's favorite class is Diesel Mechanics, as he loves "getting to work on the vehicles." For these reasons, Tyler stated that he was glad to be at SCVTHS.

Outside of school, Tyler is very active in the Boy Scouts. In September Tyler advanced to a First Class Scout in Troop 90 (Kendall Park) and more recently he was elected the Troop's Quarter Master. Tyler plans to continue in the Boy Scouts and ultimately become an Eagle Scout.

In his spare time, Tyler enjoys playing golf and tennis, camping, hiking, mountain biking and building model cars. In the Spring, he plans to try out for the tennis team at Franklin High School. Tyler's long-term plans include attending college to study engineering so he can eventually become an Automotive Designer. ❀



Tyler Gist, the November 2014 Student of the Month at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School.