



# JAGUAR NATION

JANUARY 2014 • VOLUME 3, No. 1

SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School Hosts Seventh Annual Open House

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Jaguar Nation,

Our annual Santa Breakfast was a great success and with the efforts of students, staff and parent volunteers, we were able to raise \$1,800.00 for our local SkillsUSA organization! Also, our school tradition of doing community service work is alive and well as evidenced by two December projects—a toy drive and a coat drive. Thank you to all for helping to make a difference in the lives of others.

As we close out 2013, I hope everyone has a restful holiday break filled with lots of time with family and friends.

#### School Spirit Alerts:

##### UPCOMING EVENT

Save the date for our annual Open House event, Saturday, February 1, as this is a great day for families of current students to come and see what their child is learning as well as giving new families and prospective students a chance to see what is offered here at SCVTHS. More information about this day is covered in this month's issue and additional social media information will be forthcoming.

##### ON THE COURT

Basketball/Cheerleading season has begun so remember to check out our sports schedule on our website and come on out in a show of support and cheer our team on! Go Jags! Also our school is hosting a NJTAC Basketball Tournament on December 27, 28 and 30.

Sincerely,  
Diane M. Ziegler



Diane M. Ziegler

Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School

## SCVTHS OPEN HOUSE

Saturday February 1, 2014 9:00 am-Noon

Snow Date: February 8, 2013

### College, Career or Both!

Academy for Health & Medical Sciences • Agricultural Science  
Auto Body • Automotive Technology • Carpentry • Cosmetology • Culinary Arts  
Diesel Technology • Electrical Construction • Graphic Communications  
Health Occupations • Integrated Technology Systems • Law & Public Safety  
Performing Arts • Plumbing • Small Engines • Welding



EARLY APPLICATION • GIVEAWAYS • DEMOS • TOURS  
Pre-Register online at [SCVTHS.org](http://SCVTHS.org) or call 908.526.8900 x 7243  
EOE/AA 14 Vogt Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807

In celebration of Career and Technical Education Month, Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School (SCVTHS) will hold its 7th Annual Open House from 9 am to 12 noon on Saturday, February 1, 2014. A snow date of February 8th has been set in case of inclement weather.

During the event, faculty and staff will be available to answer questions as well as provide information on each of the seventeen Career and Technical Education Programs available at SCVTHS.

Some highlights of the day will include campus tours, a full review of all academic offerings, and program demonstrations. In addition, hors d'oeuvres will be served by Culinary Arts students in the cafeteria where guests can meet with the advisors for SCVTHS sports teams, extracurricular activities and clubs.❖

All interested guests are encouraged to pre-register for this event online at [www.scvths.org](http://www.scvths.org) or call 908-526-8900, ext. 7243.

BEST  
HIGH SCHOOLS

US News

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# JAGUAR NATION

## SCVTHS Students Build Santa's Sleigh

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### JAGUAR NATION

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Duane Wallace • Editor & Designer  
James Strickhart • Editorial  
Sharleen Leahey • Graphic Production  
Janet Cantore-Watson • Photography



SCVTHS Carpentry students (left to right in sleigh): Ryan Montuori of South Bound Brook, Nicole Oliva-Sullivan of Raritan, Zach Ciancia of South Bound Brook and Zach Scrape of Bridgewater. (left to right in foreground): Graphic Communications students Ariel Conner of South Bound Brook, Anna Simoncelli of South Bound Brook and Noel Twombly of Somerset.

Students in the Carpentry and Graphic Communications Programs at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School have been hard at work preparing Santa's sleigh for the upcoming holiday season.

The project, which was initiated by the Somerset County 4H, was gladly accepted by SCVTHS Carpentry Instructor George Lee. "You never know what a client may ask for. This is a great learning experience for the students," Mr. Lee explained. Mr. Lee went on to add that the project will give the students the ability to expand their set of skills, think outside of the box, and work on something truly unique.

With materials acquired at a generous discount from the Home Depot in Bridgewater, the Carpentry students carefully crafted a sleigh fit for Santa. After the sleigh's construction was complete, students from the SCVTHS Graphic Communications program joined the project by helping to paint and decorate the sleigh.

Now that the project is finished, the sleigh will be used by the Somerset County 4H for photo opportunities with Santa, 4H members, and their animals during the holidays. ❄️

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

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### Breana Cox

Breana Cox, a junior in the Cosmetology and TOPS (Technical Occupational Preparation for Success) alternative program, has been selected as Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School's Student of the Month for December 2013. Breana is the daughter of Cliff Cox and Stacy Watts of Bridgewater.

Cosmetology Instructor Janet Blue was one of many teachers who nominated Breana for Student of the Month. Ms. Blue spoke highly of Breana stating, "She is a great student and always goes above and beyond to help out in any way possible." In addition, Ms. Blue noted that Breana "has such passion for not only her family, but for others as well."

At SCVTHS, Breana is a leader in TOPS' Community Service activities, a member of the TOPS Council, and even started a peer Anti-Bullying Group. Breana is also very involved in her studies and has a variety of awards to show for her accomplishments. Breana has won the TOPS Excellence in History award, Outstanding Community Service award, Best in Shop award, and

Best in Skills award. Breana was ecstatic to win the award and wanted to "thank my TOPS teachers, all the TOPS kids and the program itself. Without them I wouldn't be getting this award. Everyone is so supportive and helpful. We are family and I owe this to them."

The TOPS faculty and staff are very proud of Breana, adding that she "is a positive force within the class and program. She is a role model for other students through her enthusiasm and leadership in community service projects. While being very active in volunteerism, Breana has also achieved academic excellence by working hard and always doing so with a smile."

Outside of school, Breana enjoys spending time with her friends and family, practicing cosmetology and playing softball. Upon graduation from SCVTHS, Breana plans on attending Berkeley College where she will study to become a pre-school teacher for students with special needs. ❄️

For more information contact **James Strickhart** at (908) 526-8900, ext. 7169 or email [jstrickhart@scvts.net](mailto:jstrickhart@scvts.net).



Breana Cox, the December 2013 Student of the Month at Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School.