

Coventry High tests cyber skills

State-wide competition winners to be awarded in January

JESSICA BOISCLAIR
jboisclair@ricentral.com

COVENTRY — Congressman Jim Langevin has begun a competition, which started in March, that he hopes will teach students and create jobs in the growing industry of cybersecurity.

According to Langevin's spokesperson, Jonathan Dworkin, the Rhode Island Cyber Foundations Competition tests the computer networking skills of high school students.

Congressman Langevin started the competition by forming partnerships with such organizations as the Rhode Island Department of Education, the Rhode Island Science and Technology Advisory Council, Tech Collective and the New England Institute of Technology, which held the competition.

"We must create a skilled workforce in areas like cybersecurity to compete in the global economy," said Langevin, who co-founded the Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus. "Cyber skills should be a core fundamental of the science, technology, engineering and math fields, which are critical to improving innovation."

According to the press release the competition is held nationally by the U.S. Cyber Challenge Coalition.

This coalition works to enhance the work force of cybersecurity through skill development activities, mentoring and resources.

The press release also states that they award scholarships, internships

See MORELLI, Page A-2



Times File Photo

Junior Kyle Morelli was given an award by Congressman Jim Langevin for being the top student at The Regional Career Center in Coventry during the first competition in March.

Morelli recognized for cyber skills

Continued from Page A-1

and employment opportunities for the future generations of America.

The first competition took place throughout March and April and brought in 91 competitors from 17 schools in Rhode Island.

According to the press release, the winner of last year's overall prize was Narragansett High School senior Luca Spinazzola.

The top students from each participating high school are recognized also at the awards ceremony and Junior Kyle

Morelli from The Regional Career Center at Coventry High School took that award.

Dworkin said the competition consists of various timed quizzes that last approximately an hour.

Each of the quizzes tests a student's skills in the three biggest areas of cybersecurity: networking, operating systems and system administration.

The second competition was held from Oct. 21 to Nov. 18 and brought in 201 students from 12 high schools to compete, doubling the number of competitors from last spring.

For this competition the over-

all winner in the state was Adam Sowden of Exeter West Greenwich Regional High School.

Students from The Regional Career Center at Coventry High School competed against the other students in the state and senior Joseph Millette came out on top of the school.

Dworkin said that the top students from each school will receive an engraved award.

These students, along with the top three winners of the state, will be acknowledged at a ceremony held at New England Institute of Technology in January.