

Photos available at the end of the release. Photo credit: Aaron Fortin

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Fitzgerald seniors and senior citizens dance the night away *FHS students mark 10th year of putting on party to thank senior citizens*

WARREN, Mich. – More than 200 area senior citizens experienced a night to remember at the **10th Annual Senior Citizen Prom**, hosted by students at **Fitzgerald High School**.

Organized by the **Senior Class Student Government** officers, the event relied on senior class members to serve as hosts and dance partners for senior citizens. Representatives from every student group, every sports team and all performing arts group pitched in with different aspects of the event, and the junior class provided wait staff at a spaghetti and meatball dinner served immediately before the dance.

“It started a few years ago when the senior class student government leaders were looking for a community service opportunity,” said Rebecca Akins, senior class sponsor and district instructional technology and data coach. “The students came up with this as a way to give back to the community for supporting them through their schooling.”

Some senior class members attend with a senior citizen whom they invite, like a grandparent. Others become the “date” for the senior citizens who come without a student partner. Akins said all are welcome and there is no requirement for dress attire.

Aaron Fortin, a local photographer, donates his evening to take prom portraits, and a local florist donates flowers for students and guests to make corsages.

The night featured sneak-peek performances of the school play and music by the staff-student band and a DJ.

“It is the best feeling ever to be involved in this,” said **Sadia Jiban**, Senior Leadership Council secretary and co-chair of the senior citizen prom. “This dance is a great opportunity to connect with local seniors, make memories with grandparents and give back to our community in a unique way.”



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