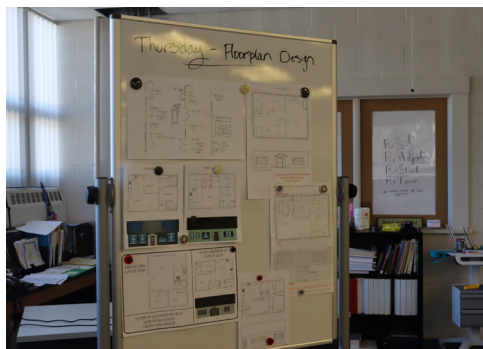




## FRESHMAN UPDATE

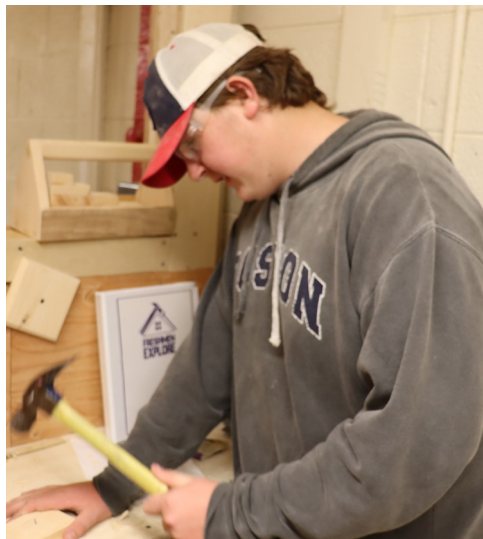
BY MILO JONES

Hi everyone, it's Milo, and I'm here with the newest freshman update! We have been working our way through the Exploratory program, and making progress with our academics. I'm here to share some of my overall experience has been as well. First off, what do I think about the academic workload? I think that it's quite a bit of work to do in the short amount of time we get; but it's understandable why we have so much since we only have 90 days of actual academic school. I'm sure most can agree that academic weeks are stressful, as the work is back-to-back, but the balance is nice during shop week because it allows us to have breaks and learn to manage our time better. Secondly, how would I rate the shop weeks so far? I really like shop weeks, as do many others. They're super fun and it's amazing to learn about all sorts of different types of trades. Lastly, how would I rate the freshman experience so far? I'd say it's kind of stressful but overall, very fun, enjoyable and informative. I hope you all enjoyed this month's freshman update!





# EXPLORATORY IN ACTION





# TRUNK OR TREAT

BY NISHTHA LAMSAL

On October 23, Trunk or Treat, a fundraising effort for the Merrimack Valley Samaritans that aims to use the proceeds to prevent suicides, was held at Shawsheen Tech. Participants decorated trunks to fit the theme of Halloween. Some were rather haunting, and others were inspired by fictional works, in which the people working the trunks would dress up as the fictional characters of the work. Toy Story served as inspiration for one amusing trunk, which featured people wearing Mr. Potato Head and Rex costumes. A plumbing and HVAC company called The Bruno Brothers sponsored the event and brought 26 vans. Many volunteers manned the registration area, where they handed out adorable, spooky trick-or-treat bags and managed the donations. Children visited the event to obtain candy and enjoy a fascinating trip to a new world, or in this case, trunks. The program included a station where kids could decorate their own cookies, and many of them had fun making their own tasty, colorful treats. The event earned a total of \$1,965, and the Bruno Brothers contributed \$1,500. It was an exceptional festivity that should be recorded in history books based on the joy it created! Ms. Caira, who ran the event, described the occasion as "a beautiful example of what can be done when the community comes together." We can now only hope to have just as much fun next year.



## SHAWSHEEN AT THE STONE ZOO

Students at Shawsheen Tech continued their long-standing tradition of creating new additions for the Christmas Village at the Stone Zoo in Stoneham, MA! Thanks to students and staff in:

- *Graphic Communications*
- *Design & Visual Communications*
- *Carpentry*
- *Metal Fabrication & Joining Technologies*
- *Automotive Collision Repair & Refinishing*



# CLUB UPDATES

## ART & YEARBOOK

BY LILLY O'HEARN

The Yearbook club meets on Monday's after school every week in Graphics, run by Mr. Hewitt. They come up with ideas and build the Senior Yearbook. They do things such as choosing the theme, taking shop photos and creating and putting different pages together. All grades are welcome.

Art club is a club to come and create amazing things. Recently they have been meeting during freshman/junior shop week on Wednesdays. It is run by one of the DVC teachers, Mrs. Ouellette. There are plenty of supplies to borrow. Come relax and create art, all are welcome!

# GSA REGIONAL MEETING

BY STANLEY MORGAN

On October 13th, Shawsheen's GSA took a field trip to Greater Lowell Technical High School, to meet with other GSAs in the surrounding area. At the meeting there were stickers and flags, as well as a trip to Donna's Donuts in Tewksbury on the ride there. But why did the GSA have a regional meeting? Well, regional meetings are so local GSAs can have unity and pride together and speak on issues that more than one GSA may be facing. They also create performative plans for the school and present them to the surrounding GSAs. For example, the Shawsheen Tech GSA has been working on a plan on how to handle accessibility, specifically in the auditorium.



# FALL FAIR WRAP UP

BY ALANNA PAQUIN

As the weather gets cooler and winter slowly approaches, Shawsheen Tech hosted the Fall Fair! It is a craft fair which hosted over 60 vendors this year, and the event in question took place on November 19th from 9AM-3PM. While the school was absolutely packed in the cafeteria, it was not solely due to the vendors but rather the massive amounts of visitors that attended. As visitors walked around the stations they saw there were several raffles and activities such as the class of 2024 sponsored raffle, the SkillsUSA sponsored raffle, a cookie decorating station, and a face painting station. The Fall Fair was very much so for all ages and is especially enjoyable for collectors! So next year when the event comes back again make sure to stop by, hopefully it's even better than this last one!

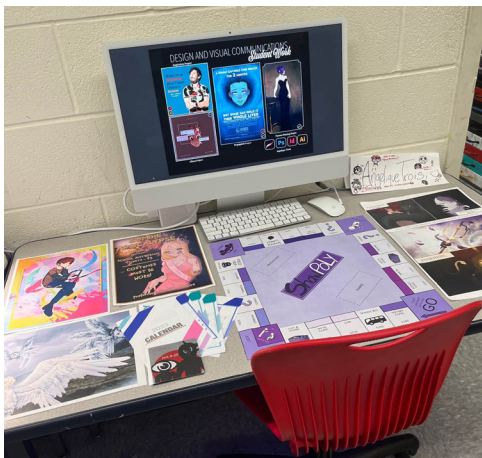




BY ALANNA PAQUIN

# 2022 OPEN HOUSE

Every year Shawsheen Tech opens its doors for the Community Open House, an event which introduces future students to our school. The vocational programs allow guests to try some of the activities that Shawsheen students perform every day, as well as the chance to show off some of the work students have produced this year. The students from SkillsUSA greeted the public with a raffle and offered tours. Also on display were the extracurricular tables, and the section showing off the academic performances for all for the public to view. This year's Open House contained a steady flow of people, and most were younger individuals curiously wandering around the shops. Student volunteers at each shop offered activities to our guests. For instance, Culinary offered food samples, Graphics provided vinyl stickers, and Masonry built an impressive display of a Chick-fil-a restaurant. Thanks to the staff and student volunteers who made Open House a success!



# TOYS FOR TOTS A NEW RECORD!

BY NISHTHA LAMSAL

Toys were contributed by students and faculty for the Toys for Tots charity, which provides gifts to children whose parents are unable to do so over the holiday season. Toys for Tots is a non-profit initiative administered by the United States Marine Corps Reserve and was created 75 years ago. Given that 627 million toys have been distributed, the program has undoubtedly had an impact on a significant number of kids. This year, 246 toys were donated from Shawsheen, which is 57 more than the number of the previous year. Every child deserves to experience Christmas joy, and the program ensures that they do. Hopefully, the following year and the year after that will see even more gifts given!



*Front row: Shawsheen's SkillsUSA Chapter President Lucy Malfy, Parliamentarian Jasmine Johansen, Secretary Isabella Louis, Historian Joan Dickie,*

*Back Row: Lauren McInnis, Treasurer Eva Oppedisano, Christian Riveria, Carly Heichman, Maddison Hardy, and Gemma Sweeney*

# OPERATION: CHRISTMAS WISH

BY NISHTHA LAMSAL

The Christmas spirit was back in town and more upbeat than ever. The Student Council, which Ms. Mountain oversees, took part in Operation: Christmas Child, a project run by the Samaritan's Purse organization to send gifts to kids all around the world. Some of these children reside in war-torn areas where buying gifts for loved ones could be more challenging because of ongoing hostilities. Students filled the shoe boxes, provided by Ms. Mountain, to the brim with goodies. Some members worked together to find gifts for children of various age groups by shopping in stores or searching through their homes. They gave away accessories, non-liquid hygiene products, toys, school supplies, and even personal notes wishing the child a happy holiday! Council Members might even get a letter in return if they included their name and address on their notes. Smiles were sure to appear on the faces of many children thanks to the donation of the shoe boxes.

## JOIN US AT NEWSPAPER CLUB!

Meetings every Tuesday/Thursday morning during homeroom in DVC (505).

### Student Editors

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Stanley Morgan

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Sarah McLaughlin

### Content Coordinator

Alanna Paquin

### Newspaper Club Staff

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Leila Hurley  
Milo Jones  
Nishtha Lamsal  
Lilly O'Hearn  
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