

# Tower Tribune

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## Interact Club – Adopt-A-Teacher

Mr. Alaouie and Ms. Saed were the recipients of some wonderful gifts in the Adopt-A-Teacher day held at Fordson on Friday, November 22nd. The Interact Club gave students the opportunity to choose a teacher who impacted or influenced them in a positive way and the students were able to show their appreciation with a small gift. Teachers were grateful for the gifts and were appreciative of being recognized for their efforts.



## Blankets 4 Kids

Recently, Key Club members joined forces with an organization called Blankets 4 Kids. At this particular event, groups of children along with teens and adults learned about the prevalence, signs, and prevention of child abuse and neglect. Our Fordson students were able to make fleece blankets for children who have experienced child abuse or neglect and children in at-risk circumstances, many of whom live in foster care.



Social service agencies such as the Department of Human Resources and Family Alliance for Change helped with the distribution of the blankets.

It's not uncommon for up to 1000 neglected and abused children to receive the warm fleece blankets. Fordson Key Club members made a total of 28 blankets.



## Movie Review by Safaa Hachem

*Dr. Strange* is extraordinary. As in every Marvel movie, it showed how someone was willing to change not only for themselves but for others. *Dr. Strange* had all the cool action and explosions, but with a new Marvel character that you've never seen on screen before. It had a good amount of comedy and sarcasm. With amazing acting by Benedict Cumberbatch, who performs *Dr. Strange* perfectly, it's an awesome and fun movie for anyone with a taste for adventure and excitement. When Dr. Stephen Strange gets into a terrible car accident he loses the ability to move both his hands and loses his job. He tries every medical way possible to move his hands again but they don't seem to work. He travels around the globe to meet a strong master who might be able to help, and ends up fighting bad guys and becoming the most powerful sorcerer in all of existence. If you are looking for something to do this winter break, *Dr. Strange* could be possibly be the cure you're looking for.



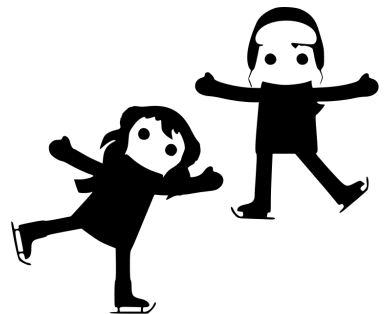
## Winter Break Activities



by Mohammed Hamid



Happy holidays Fordson Tractors! It is that joyful time of year again when we get our well-deserved long Winter Break! Rather than waste this time off, here are some ideas to make it fun and memorable. Head over to a nearby movie theater and watch Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them or Rogue One: A Star Wars Story. Set in the worlds' of Harry Potter and Star Wars, these movies are sure to be great hits! Visit Campus Martius Park to see the best of Downtown Detroit, and participate in the famous ice skating there for \$8. But what if you want to swim? Play basketball? Lift weights? Exercise? Climb rock walls? Look no further than the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, better known as the Civic Center, where you can do these and more for a \$9 one-day admission fee (memberships also available). Take a step back in history and visit The Henry Ford Museum! Experience a wide variety of historical artifacts, including the Lincoln Assassination Chair, Kennedy Assassination Car, and Rosa Parks Bus for a \$21 admission fee and \$6 for parking. For a relaxing evening with your family, experience the Wayne County Lightfest on Hines Drive, the largest holiday light show in the Midwest. For just \$5 per vehicle, cruise down the long road and enjoy the holiday spirit with Christmas lights and decorations lighting up the night sky. No matter what you do over the break, make sure it is safe, fun, and unforgettable.



## Fordson Art Club Decorates the Halls



Ms. Curtis and the Art Club have been working overtime to beautify the walls of lower B hall. Their tireless efforts have helped make Fordson's main hallway attractive to all who pass by.



## FHS Key Club

By Reem Aoun

What has the FHS Key Club been up to lately? The Key Club is something to be really proud of. They have been doing amazing things for our community. Recently, FHS Key Club members visited Heartland Nursing Home. They handed out Thanksgiving cards to patients, and to make those cards more meaningful to elderly patients, they were handmade. Members shared stories and had deep conversations with the patients. It put a smile on all their faces. Another activity members of this club did this month was spending their morning helping LAHC (Leaders Advancing and Helping Communities) feed 1,000 families in the southeast region of Michigan. LAHC is a non-profit organization that provides human services and advocacy work in our community. The members in this club are very committed to helping out our community. Key Club does a lot of wonderful things for not just our community, but for our school as well. Let's not forget, none of this would be happening without the Key Club Advisor, Ms. Zreik. We would like to thank her for her ongoing efforts and her commitment to serving our community.



## Student Spotlight by Marwa Hachem

One of the many superb qualities about Fordson is the students within it. Each student has his or her own special characteristics which makes Fordson unique. Two inimitable students, Hadi Cherri and Noor Saad, have been interviewed to highlight the great features they possess and the numerous amounts of dedication they put to help make Fordson successful.

### ***Q1 : Are you taking any AP or Honors Courses? If yes, what are they?***

A: "I'm taking AP Calc, AP Lit, and AP Physics." -Noor Saad

"I am taking AP Studio Arts, AP Lang, and Honors Physics." -Hadi Cherri

### ***Q2: What is one thing you find important or great about Fordson?***

A: "One thing I find important about FHS is the physical environment of the school, which plays a key factor in the overall safety of the students, staff, and visitors."-Noor Saad



"It is a school with large opportunities. It changes lives positively." -Hadi Cherri

### ***Q3: What is your favorite subject and why?***

"My favorite subject is math because it requires practice and logical thinking. I've never had difficulty with it and it is simple." -Noor Saad

"Art, Art, Art. Art is a passion that I have been bestowed upon. It brings joy to my heart to hold a pencil and create what my imagination carries. This art subject brings me one step closer to surpass Leonardo Da Vinci." -Hadi Cherri

### ***Q4: Are you involved in any clubs or sports? If so, do you hold any positions?***

"I'm involved in the art club and programs outside of school. I am a member of the LAHC Youth Leadership Diversity Education Program, the LAHC Youth Lead Movement, and Teen Grant Making Initiative with ACCESS. I plan on starting a club at Fordson. The name of the club will be 'Save the Children' and this club will benefit millions who were denied healthcare, education, and protection." -Noor Saad

"Not only am I a link leader, I hold the honorable position of President of the Art Club." -Hadi Cherri

### ***Q5: Being that you are a junior, how have you changed since entering Fordson's doors?***

"I first entered the doors of Fordson in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Ever since that day, I knew that high school was either going to be challenging or the best experience of my life. Until this day, I've had the best experiences. I started off quiet. I thought that was going to be a good thing until I realized that it wasn't going to benefit me. I began to join clubs in and out of school. Now, I'm not as quiet as I used to be and I'm more involved." -Noor Saad

"I was a very troublesome student that only cared about how I appeared socially (not academically). I would get very low GPA scores. Until... A sudden change appeared. After hanging around more productive students I decided to completely change my view towards my education. I began listening and studying until I received perfect scores. I became more active and now I aspire to become president of the entire student body. This immediate change showcases my dedication to my school and my education." -Hadi Cherri

**Q6: Fun Fact about yourself?**

“ A fun fact about me would be that I love to help people wherever I can.” -Noor Saad.

“As much as I aim to become President of Fordson, I am also a prestigious Chess Player.” -Hadi Cherri

## **Teacher Spotlight** by Fatima Elmoukahal

The Tower Staff had the opportunity to sit down and find out a little bit more about Fordson teacher Mrs. Wilkinson.

**1. What inspired you to be a teacher?**

*It was an occupation I could earn a living cooking and sewing and working with children.*

**2. What quote do you live by?**

*“The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you; to yourself, respect; to all men, charity.”*

*By Benjamin Franklin*

**3. What is your favorite color?** Aqua-blue

**4. Where do you wish you could travel to?** The Colorado Rocky Mountains!

**5. Do you have any hobbies?** Sewing and baking bread or rolls!

**6. Any advice to people who want to pursue a career in the culinary arts field?**

*Get a good amount of training as well as experience in the field.*

**7. What is the best thing a student did for you?** *Get excited about cooking, sewing, or parenting and go on to make a career in that field.*



**8. When did you decide to become a teacher, and why did you choose this field?** *I didn't decide to become a teacher until college classes made me see I was not cut out to be a dress designer (what I thought I wanted).*

**9. What is your favorite book or movie?** *I love Jan Karon's Mitford series and Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House series. Both series make you feel like the characters are your friends and you are included in their adventures.*

**10. Favorite food?** *I enjoy different kinds of foods but my real favorite is a prime cut filet mignon boiled outside. It just melts in my mouth.*

**11. Do you own any pets?** *Our family had a dog we rescued from the pound which was a shepherd/chow mix. He looked like a wolf and was a very good watch dog. He lived 15 years and we loved him. I still miss him.*

*Something you don't know about me is that I went to a one-room school for the first 3 years of school. That one room had one teacher and 12-20 students and 3 or 4 different grades. Until I was 8, I lived on a farm and my favorite thing to do was make mud pies and decorate them with leaves and twigs. I guess that is part of the reason why I enjoy cooking now.*



# Student Government Thanksgiving Harvest Dinner



On Wednesday, November 23rd, the student executive board held its annual Student Government Thanksgiving Harvest Dinner. The dinner was held at Habib's, with all student government and club board officials invited. FHS Alumni attended the dinner. Mohammed Charara, a Class of 2016 alumni, is currently attending Wayne State University, and attended the dinner. Fifty one people enjoyed the evening. Club advisors were also present. The dinner was kicked off by a speech/presentation by the Executive Board President Marwa Hachem. Clubs were acknowledged for their success throughout the year in fundraisers, events, and other activities. Shortly after an admirable speech, there was a comical Fordson Family Feud hosted by Secretary Ali

Tarhini. The game was modified for fairness and was Fordson and Thanksgiving themed. Although many participants did not agree with survey answers, it was a pleasurable experience for everyone. The winners each received a Starbucks gift card. Overall, the dinner was a great success for the FHS student body, and it made us a stronger family. ~Ali Tarhini



## #NoDAPL by Hanin Elhagehassan

If you've  
about

*Editorial*

been on social media or watched the news lately, you've most likely heard something about the No DAPL (Dakota Access Pipeline) protests. Native Americans are protesting the North Dakota pipeline because it has the potential to contaminate their drinking water.

The reason for this pipeline dates all the way back to the late 2000s. North Dakota had been using fracking techniques to get ahold of oil deposits from shale formations, which ultimately led to a higher demand for adequate pipelines to carry the oil. Oil pipelines are much cheaper and more efficient than shipping via trains. The problem with this pipeline is that there's a possibility of leakage, and if the Dakota pipeline were to leak, it would contaminate the Standing Rock Sioux tribe's main source of fresh water. Not only can it contaminate their drinking water, it also runs through sacred burial grounds which the federal government is responsible for protecting. At first, the pipeline was to be built north of Bismarck, across the Missouri River. The proposal was rejected because it was a threat to, wait for it, Bismarck's water supply. Keep in mind that the majority of Bismarck's citizens are white (surprise). The protests are still going on. Protestors are being tear gassed, pepper-sprayed, etc. And on November 21, law enforcement took to using water cannons against protesters in freezing weather. Many protesters have been injured despite the fact that their protests have been nothing but peaceful. That's something for white people to think about this Thanksgiving; Native Americans have been suffering at the hands of white men from the moment Christopher Columbus "discovered" America. How are people of this nation going to sit down idly on land that was never theirs and ignore the dangers of this pipeline? Change can still be made, although the pipeline is almost complete, it's not quite done. How can you help? Donating money is probably the best thing you can do. You can donate and read more about this through [www.ocetisakowincamp.org](http://www.ocetisakowincamp.org) and [www.standingrock.org](http://www.standingrock.org).

## NHS

The Fordson National Honor Society is an organization that provides opportunities for our students to serve in the local community. We believe that it's not enough for students to achieve academic distinction--to be leaders they must, first and foremost, be of service.

On Thanksgiving Day, 27 Fordson NHS students spent a few hours preparing meals and gifts for veterans at the Michigan Veterans Foundation. The NHS students once again represented what it means to be a Fordson Tractor.



Like Mother  
Like Daughter



## Tea Time

Fordson, Edsel Ford, and Dearborn decided to host a mother and daughter tea party instead of their annual run. Members of Peer to Peer participated as waiters in the event. Throughout the event, mothers and daughters were served tea and sweets, while they were entertained by the most talented students from each school. Some students sang, others danced or played musical instruments. Later, raffles were drawn and participants had a chance to win baskets full of goodies donated by the schools. At the end of the event, winners of the best scarf and best hat contests were awarded. A plethora of Fordson staff members, including the principal and her daughter, attended the event with their daughters. The event was elegant and relaxing. It was a great opportunity for the community to come together and it allowed the mothers to bond with their daughters. ~ **Mariam Alley**



**SHOE DRIVE**

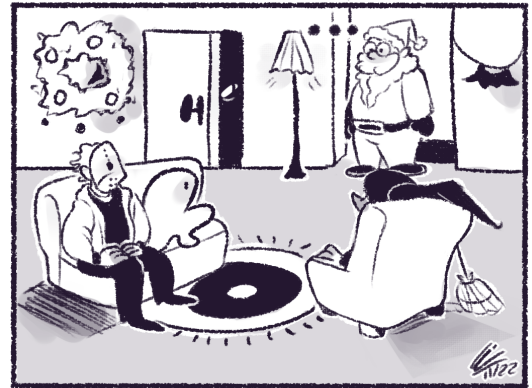
LOVE IT. SHARE IT. LIVE IT.



**Kiwaniis**

The FHS Key Club is coming out with something new, collecting shoes and sending them to third world countries. Key Club is sending its donated shoes to more than 26 developing countries worldwide. While helping the less fortunate, the club is also promoting the cleaning of landfills in America. The deal is, for every 25 pairs of shoes, 5 babies are saved. This is accomplished through using some of the proceeds to help vaccinate children within the local village.

The project has also taken the initiative to build businesses in poverty-stricken countries like Haiti and Guatemala, where hundreds of jobs can be created through the work of refurbishing shoes. Drop off your shoes at Ms. Zrieks room in F201. Shoes must be in wearable condition. Key Club challenges Fordson to, "Shoe us what you can do! Save your shoes, Save a baby!"



Jasmine Elhagehassan



Card marking two is over and I still don't have an A? There must be something wrong with the teacher because just because I can't swim doesn't mean she should give me a zero for not trying... right?

You can think of it like that. You can put the blame on the teacher. But in the end, your teacher isn't going to be the one who uses the knowledge YOU learned. So, how do you get this exquisite, so called life-changing "A?" You achieve more than what you thought possible, especially during finals week!

Here is what you should do to improve your grade: examine, complete, and understand the homework, review it before your chapter tests or quizzes, read the sections you are learning, take notes, go to your teacher afterschool for help and form a study group so you all can help each other. You should also study days before (not one day before), make flash cards, make up your own questions and most importantly - PAY ATTENTION DURING CLASS!!

One thing you should remember is that everyone learns differently. These tips have helped me thrive since my freshmen year and I want to give you ideas on how maybe you can work differently to achieve the same goal! Next stop is finals week, the week that will either make or break you. Take my advice, don't waste time, and study, study, study! Prove yourself elite and get that A!

## Freshmen Forum: Studying Tips

By Marwa Hachem