

Tower Tribune

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Fordson High School

February 2015

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Teens for Jeans

By: Marwa Hachem

It doesn't have to be Christmas for you to keep giving and surely- The Do Something Club is well aware of that! Since the beginning of January, Do Something members have been donating jeans for their annual "Teens for Jeans" event.

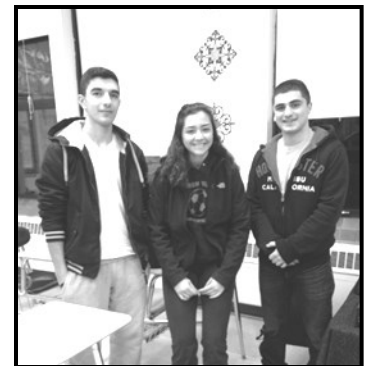
This club is a group at Fordson that volunteers with a lot of things for our community. Since the last school year, the club began to collect jeans for homeless kids, and they continue to do so this year. Even though they collected 2,600 jeans last year, they surprisingly and impressively strive for more this year. The members are determined to exceed their goal of 3,000 jeans this year and they have until February 12th (the deadline) to do so. "We are trying to surpass the number of jeans we collected last year. Even though we did really well, I hope we do better this year," states Vice President of the Do Something Club, Ahmed Saad.

"Children of the Dumps" is the organization that the jeans will be sent to this year. This organization delivers the jeans to kids in Nicaragua who "sell what we collect in order to feed their families," says a member of the Junior Board, Ayah Massiri. The treasurer of the club, Sadiq Almothafer, mentions "We get to help children in need that don't have what we have."

The club asks for jeans because it is the most requested item by homeless teens. It helps them blend in. Everyone usually donates clothes for little children, so by collecting jeans for teens and up, the members

help to make the teens fit in and feel less unwanted. "It's something as simple as jeans. If you think about it, a majority of people need it" claims President of the Do Something Club, Mohamed Mazeh.

Along with all the incentives given and the money reward at the end of the "Teens for Jeans" national competition, there is nothing better than the pride left in your heart knowing that you donated. "We see it as something different. We see it as helping out all these teens that don't have jeans because they need it more than we do. We do the best that we can to help," says Ahmed Saad. Mohamad Mazeh adds, "we do this out of the goodness of our hearts." "It feels good to be able to donate and realize that you made a difference in a child's life," replied Ayah Massiri.



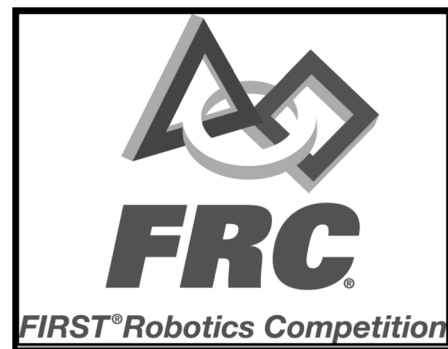
Clubs & Events

Robotics Team

By: Noor Fakh

Fordson is hosting a Robotics Team for the first time in what seems like forever! I know, I know, what is robotics club? Do you guys just build robots? Both are common questions that I get asked, and let me answer with a simple yes, but we build only one robot. This robot will compete at the FIRST Robotics Competition or FRC for short. Each year the robotics team will visit the kickoff, or the start, of the robot building season at Novi High where we receive a kit of basic things to help start building a robot and the unveiling of the game that our robots will play. Each year there is a new theme, and this year the theme is Recycle Rush. We have 6 weeks to build our robot. Now that seems like a lot of time but when you actually get down to it, it is almost impossible to complete a functioning robot in JUST 6 weeks. Our progress seems to

be pretty good, but there is still so much to do. There are also many complications such as lack of funding to buy parts for our robot. Our team is known as Team 5467 or RoboTractors, and if you know someone who could sponsor us or donate some money, please check out our website at <http://team5467.wix.com/5467> and donate through our GoFundMe, contact us after school in D110 where we practice almost every day, or contact us at our email address, robotractors@gmail.com.



The National Honor Society

By: Reem Aburukba

What is NHS and its purpose? I thought that maybe they did things to better the community and help people like Key Club and Do Something Club. However, they're so much more than that. I recently attended one of their meetings and I can tell you firsthand that you're missing out. The club has four pillars: Character, Service, Leadership, and Scholarship. Every single person in that auditorium represented those qualities and it moved me, because they don't simply help to help. They intend to help with a goal and they're so set on their goal that it's highly admirable. They direct projects such as: Strive for a Safer Drive, Coalition for Success, Help End Hunger, etc. and when you think about it, it's really awe inspiring with little assistance. Their character and leadership rope you in because every one of them speaks passionately about their projects. You could tell without question that they are serious about providing a service that rarely anyone ever gets help with in our community. Also, the scholarship that they embodied spoke beyond words to me. Their profound knowledge and abilities to correspond with organizations and the accomplishments that they've had inspire me to be like them. Actions speak louder than words and those four pillars speak the loudest of all for the members of the NHS.



Clubs & Events

Business Professionals of America

Over four hundred students from Business Professionals of America, Region 6, held their competition at Henry Ford College on Friday, January 9th. Fordson had seven students compete. They are (left to right): Laila Saad, Maram Mohammed, Abdallah Mrech, Mohammed Charara, Abbas Hamade, Amira Haidar, and Bashar Midani. Congratulations to all of the BPA students for all of their hard work!



Four students placed in their competitions. They are (left to right): Maram Mohammed – Prepared Speech; Mohammed Charara – Fundamental Spreadsheet Applications; Bashar Midani – Fundamental Word Processing Skills; Amira Haidar – Advanced Word Processing

Key Club By: Ali Fakh

Key Club members partnered up with Gleaners to package food for the community. During winter break, December 20th, the Key Club helped packed food for the needy and helped make a big difference in the community. “Going out to Gleaners was a great way to give back and after all the hard work it was a very rewarding experience” says Key Club advisor Ms. Zriek. The Key Club has been working hand in hand with Gleaners for a very long time. Ms. Zriek then answered a couple of questions for us.

What is one thing you are most proud of?

“One thing I am most proud of is that I can involve my kids in learning the value of community service.”

When will the next trip be?

February 7, 2015

What is your favorite part about Key Club?

“My favorite part would be, being able to give back to the community with students and my children, while having fun at the same time”.

How long do you typically stay at Gleaners?

“About 3 hours”.



In the Spotlight!

Mohammad Abdulghani and Harvard

By: Reem Aburukba

that he was just ecstatic and so was his family. Congratulations, Mohammad-you have made Fordson proud.

Mohammad Abdulghani, a Fordson senior, was recently accepted to Harvard University. Harvard University is a prestigious university in Cambridge, MA with a 5.9% acceptance rate. Abdulghani, however, has sailed right through that and received early admission to the coveted Ivy League school. He holds a 4.44 GPA, takes 3 college classes and is the lieutenant governor of Michigan's Key Club Division 12. Abdulghani is also ranked number 1 in the 2015 graduating class and intends to keep it that way. His interests are centered on math and science, but he is undecided on what he should study. However, he is leaning towards the medical field or engineering. Abdulghani has also been accepted to the University of Michigan and is waiting on Princeton. He will make his final decision in the spring. Abdulghani is also a black belt in martial arts and is an active member of the NHS. When asked about his admission to Harvard, he said



A Fordson Graduate Looks Back!

By: Marwa Hachem

Mariam Hachem, a junior at the University of Michigan- Dearborn, is a former Fordson student. She reflects back on her high school experience by answering a few questions.

What was the best part about high school?

"I enjoyed freshman year because I met a lot of new friends."

Would you like to give a shout-out to any teachers?

"Yes, Mr. Hargraves. He helped make my chemistry class at UMD very easy."

What advice would you give to the seniors this year?

"Do not give up on your dreams, sometimes even if you start at a low position, you will work your way up. Enjoy your journey, but know that this is just the beginning."

What advice would you give the incoming freshmen?

"Do not fool around in class. Try to join as many clubs as you can and take AP classes later on so you can apply for scholarships."

Which class in high school would you choose as your favorite?

"Chemistry was interesting because it was all new to me, and I enjoyed learning about the components of

life. I also enjoyed AP literature with Mr. Alexander because we read Shakespeare and also went to Stratford, Canada to view a Shakespeare play."

How would you describe college?

"Very tough and competitive. But you enjoy your freedom; it's a chance for you to really get to know yourself."



In the Spotlight!

Teacher Interview: Mr. Nack

By: Reem Aburukba

How long have you been teaching in general?

"I've been teaching for 13 years in the district and 5 years at Fordson."

What subject do you teach and do you coach any sports?

"I teach American History and AP US History. I also coach boys and girls tennis."

Why do you teach?

"I just enjoy teaching in general and I enjoy the students and making teaching fun."

Where did you attend school?

"I got my teaching degree from Central Michigan University and a graduate's degree from Wayne State University."

What are your hobbies outside of school?

"I like hockey, soccer, and tennis. I also enjoy going to the movies with my wife."

What's your favorite subject?

"American History, that's why I teach it."

What's your favorite book?

"Atlas Shrugged, you should check it out it's a really good book."

What's your favorite food?

"Anything Italian and I like Chicken Shawarma too."

Sports

Athlete Spotlight

By: Israa Ali



One of Fordson's varsity football players and wrestlers is Mohammed Hamka, a hard working dedicated junior carrying on his family's legacy of athletes and the love of competition. He was happy about the football team's undefeated season. Recently, the wrestling team finally beat Annapolis after losing to them twice. With the motivation of his family, coaches, and friends, Hamka is working hard to make it to the state wrestling championship meet along with his fellow teammates.

"Fall down seven times, get up eight." –Japanese Proverb

Tractor Swimming

By: Noor Fakh

The Boys' Swim Team started off their season with success at a charger relay! A charger relay is when schools compete in just relays, or races against groups of 4 people. In addition to that, swimmers are provided with the opportunity to win medals for themselves or their school. Our swimmers did exceptionally well and took home multiple medals! The season unfortunately went downhill after the relay be-

cause the boys had to face tough rivals like Belleville, Dearborn, and Edsel.

Things have improved since a win against Ypsilanti. On January the 29th, the swim team had seniors' night for their four seniors from both the girls' and boys' team: Zobida Elamine, Luma Alsamarai, Mahdi Berry, and Jad Elhousseini. The coaches strongly believe in the young team's capability and skills to win the rest of the meets this year. They hope not only to win

the rest of the meets, but also to have a winning record this year! Let's wish



Extra

Mid-Winter Break Activities

By: Mohammed Hamid

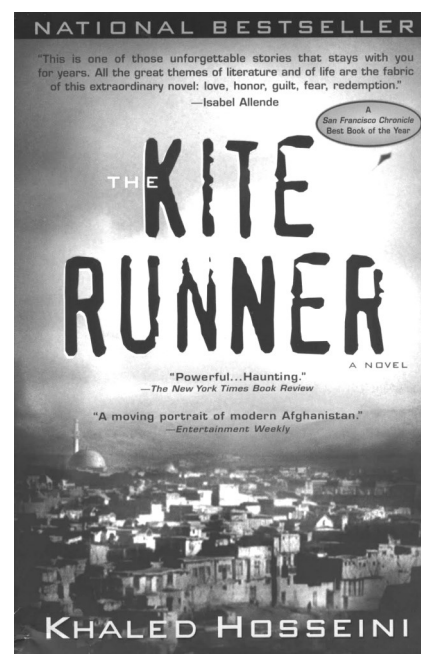
Hello Fordson Family! As we roll into the new semester, everyone has their sights set on our Mid-Winter Break in February. Rather than go through with our usual break routine of video games and sleep, try to make this break unforgettable. Travel over to a nearby movie theater and watch The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies, the stunning conclusion to the fantasy trilogy based on the famous J.R.R. Tolkien novel. Or watch the wildly popular Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part I in preparation for the finale coming November 2015. Visit Campus Martius Park to see some of the best of what downtown Detroit has to offer, and participate in the popular ice skating there for \$8. While in the area, enjoy some of Detroit's finest food from Supino Pizzeria, which I personally approve of. Explore the physics of our world in the Michigan Science Center, full of exhibits, an IMAX Dome, and even a planetarium for a \$13 admission. Need physical and mental exercise? Look no

further than the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, and the Henry Ford Centennial Library, next door to one another. Sit down in the library with a good book and travel to fantastical worlds with amazing characters while never leaving the comfort of your chair. Want to swim? Climb rock walls? Lift weights? Exercise? Play basketball? The Performing Arts Center mentioned, more commonly known as the Civic Center, provides all of these activities for only \$8 for one day's admission, with long term memberships available. Travel to the past and visit the Henry Ford Museum, which is littered with famous pieces of American history from the Lincoln Assassination Chair during the Civil War to The Rosa Parks Bus from the Civil Rights Movement. Admission is \$20 per day. Bring out your inner artist and travel to The Detroit Institute of Arts, which is FREE to residents in Wayne County. Show some school pride and come out to support our Fordson Freshmen, JV, and Varsity Basketball teams! Check the schedule for game times and dates, with a \$5 cost to get in.

Book Review: *The Kite Runner*

By: Israa Ali

The first book written by the amazing Khaled Hosseini was *The Kite Runner*. It follows the story of a young boy, Amir, who undergoes major changes in his life. Due to the discrimination of Hazaras in Kabul, Amir never got the chance to be nice to his best friend and servant Hassan. The two boys grow up together playing in the fields of Kabul. They are surrounded by the many conflicts in Afghanistan, from the fall of its monarchy to the Soviet military intervention when the boys are split. Years later Amir learns that it is never too late to be good again.



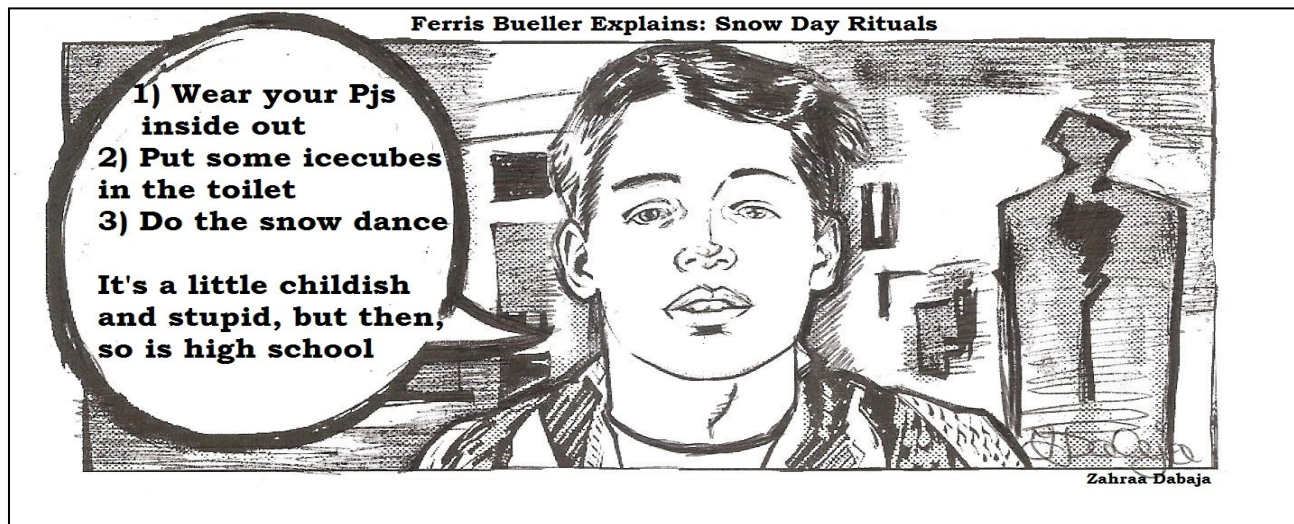
Extra

Famous Movie Quotes

By: Mirvat Chammout

Can you name the actor/actress and movie this famous quote is in?

1. "There's no crying in baseball!"
2. "I believe whatever doesn't kill you, simply makes you...stranger."
3. "You can't handle the truth!"
4. "Go ahead. Make my day."
5. "If you build it, he will come."
6. "As God is my witness, I'll never be hungry again."
7. "A martini. Shaken, not stirred."
8. "Say hello to my little friend!"
9. "It's not who I am underneath, but what I do that defines me."
10. "Here's looking at you, kid."
11. "Don't ask me about my business, Kay."
12. "Show me the money!"
13. "My mama always said, 'Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get.'"
14. "You've got to ask yourself one question: 'Do I feel lucky?' Well, do ya, punk?"
15. "Houston, we have a problem."



Answers: 1. Tom Hanks/*A League of Their Own* 2. Heath Ledger/*The Dark Knight* 3. Jack Nicholson/*A Few Good Men* 4. Clint Eastwood/*Sudden Impact* 5. Ray Liotta/*Field of Dreams* 6. Vivien Leigh/*Gone with the Wind* 7. Sean Connery/*Goldfinger* 8. Al Pacino/*Scarface* 9. Christian Bale/*Batman Begins* 10. Humphrey Bogart/*Casablanca* 11. Al Pacino/*The Godfather* 12. Cuba Gooding Jr./*Jerry Maguire* 13. Tom Hanks/*Forrest Gump* 14. Clint Eastwood/*Dirty Harry* 15. Tom Hanks/*Apollo 13*

Hello, Sophomore Leader!

Are you interested in representing your school in unique leadership opportunity with Generation of Promise?

Generation of Promise is perfect for you if you have ever wanted to:

- ♦ Discover the world outside of your school.
- ♦ Explore the diversity throughout metro-Detroit.
- ♦ Develop your leadership skills.
- ♦ Improve the Detroit community.
- ♦ Make new friends from all over metro-Detroit.
- ♦ Develop teamwork skills that will help you succeed.



Generation of Promise is a free, 10-month program that will allow you to enhance your understanding of leadership and diversity as you join a class of 60 top leaders from area high schools. The program begins during August 2015 and follows you through your entire junior year. Monthly sessions require you to miss class to attend field trip events that engage participants in leadership development and diversity awareness outings.

Applications are available now and must be returned in March! To get an application or for more information, please see Mrs. Cantrell in room A-100.



www.generationofpromise-focushope.org

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

WEDNESDAY THE 11TH=LATE START

MONDAY THE 16TH—FRIDAY THE 20TH=MID WINTER
BREAK