

# TOWER TRIBUNE

Your School. Your Voice.

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Dearborn MI, Fordson High School



## Fordson’s Generosity Shines Again

Staff and students are to be commended for their efforts during the Canned Food Drive at Fordson during the month of November. Fordson, in conjunction with Gleaners Food Bank, was able to collect 4,746 items. This correlates into 3,800 pounds of assorted food. This donation will provide 3,004 meals for those in need this winter in and around our community. One of Gleaners’ missions is to nourish communities by feeding hungry people. Gleaners collects over 2.5 million pounds of food from these kinds of drives and distributes them to more than 600 partners each year. The classrooms that collected the most items were Ms. Reda (1,241), Mrs. Moussa (1,071), and Ms. Naura (905). The Tower Tribune wants to send a special thank you to Mrs. Durfee for being the driving force behind this successful event.

## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: MR. NACK

By Reema Baydoun

This month I had the privilege of meeting with my former history teacher, Mr. Nack, to conduct an interview about him and his experiences.

**Q: How long have you been teaching?**

A: “This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year in the district, and my 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Fordson.”

**Q: How do you feel about this school?**

A: “I really do enjoy teaching here. Out of everywhere that I have been, Fordson High School is my favorite school to teach at.”

**Q: Where did you go to school?**

A: “I have an undergraduate degree from Central Michigan and a graduate degree from Wayne State.”

**Q: What subjects are you qualified to teach?**

A: “Any form of social studies and industrial arts.”

I decided to ask Mr. Nack some more personal questions, to which he responded with humorous and informative remarks.

**Q: What are your hobbies?**

A: “I enjoy long walks on the beach, books that make me cry, and puppies.” After I let out a few chuckles, he answered truthfully. “I play hockey and soccer on the weekends. I like watching the Barcelona soccer team, and I love the Detroit Lions.”

**Q: What is your favorite part of teaching?**

A: “The energy that people have.”

Mr. Nack says that his favorite part of teaching World History is World War II. His favorite part of American History is seeing how the past can still have impacts on the future.

**Q: If you weren’t a teacher, what profession would you go into?**

A: “Some type of engineering, like structural or chemical.”

Mr. Nack is one of my all time favorite teachers. His clever sarcasm and witty jokes make history more fun, and for that reason, I felt that he needed to be under the spotlight this month.



# SPORTS

## BOYS BASKETBALL

By: Amal Choucair

"Simply get better every day" is Coach Oss' message to his boys basketball team this year. He knows that come playoff time, his players will buckle down and play their hardest to accomplish their ultimate goal of being city and district champions. He expects a lot out of his players in every game and practice they have. They are determined to play harder than anyone they face and show great improvement from last year. Last year's underclassmen are now asked to step up and show their growth on the court. Coach feels that everyone is important to the team and doesn't recognize any certain players as starters. However, he does have key pieces to his team that include senior captains Jawad Hachem, Abbas Kanaan, and Ahmad Hamade who are all 3-year varsity players. Coach believes the team's hard work will pay off, and they will be rewarded with a successful season. Good luck to the Boys Basketball Team as they continue to push for a prosperous year.



Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Osama Abulhasan is excited about his teams effort so far this season.

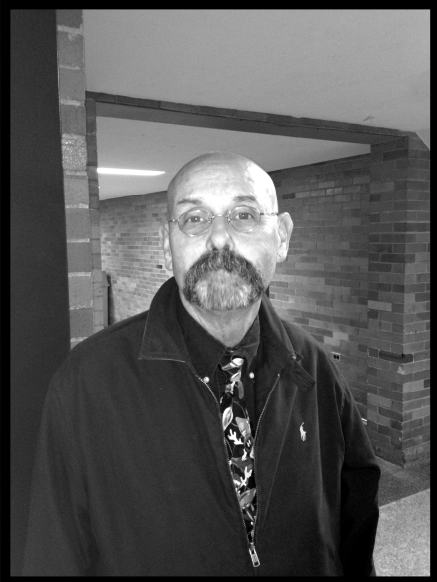


## GIRLS BASKETBALL

By: Amal Choucair

"A winning record over-all and in the league is always our goal" says coach Doug Marks of the girls varsity basketball team. He believes every year should be a stepping stone for the team to improve and continue to climb to the peak of their performance. The girls had their first game on November 27. They traveled to Riverview to face the Pirates in a tight contest but unfortunately came up short. On November 30th, the team recorded its first victory with a win over Melvindale to put them at 1-1 overall.

This year's team has a solid group of senior leaders and Coach Doug is anxious to see how far he can take the team. Captain Talia Hamid returns for her fourth year on varsity and is again seen as a key piece to the team's success. Juniors Souha Homayed & Madina Fawaz will share the point guard spot and both bring energy and a defensive presence to the team. Each year a common goal is set to be better than the previous year and compete well in league games. Their coach says the Dearborn and Edsel games are a yearly focus, and the team hopes to "continue our run of good play against those league & city rivals." He knows that anything can happen throughout the season but he hopes that his team will be "playing their best basketball by the time districts roll around." Good luck on the season Tractors!



Girls Varsity Basketball Coach Doug Marks is looking for improvement throughout the season.



Fordson High School Varsity Basketball  
Presents:  
**Toys for Tots Benefiting Children's Hospital of Michigan**  
Join us on December 11th, 2012 at 7 pm in the Big Gym for a Boys Varsity Basketball game benefiting Children's Hospital of Michigan  
**Admission is only a brand new unused children's toy**  
We hope to see you there!!



# CLUBS

## DO SOMETHING CLUB

By: Alex Zapien

The Do Something Club is a community service club founded in 2011 by Lena El-reichouni, a Fordson High School alumni. What sets this club apart from others at Fordson High School is its very unique purpose. The Do Something Club was founded to allow every student the opportunity to leave his or her mark in the community. Not many clubs can boast such a wonderful aspiration that gives each and every student at Fordson High School a chance to give back to their community.

Philanthropist Lujine Nasralla said, “Currently, the club is fund raising for Life Straws, an organization that provides specific technology which filters dirty water in Africa and other third-world countries so that they can have healthy water. We are also planning a volunteer trip to the animal shelter.” That’s not all. Some of The Do Something Club members, mostly seniors, are fund raising for their trip to New York City. This is entirely run by the students with some guidance from Mrs. Howell, the teacher sponsor of The Do Something Club. The students raising money for their NYC trip have only recently concluded a successful fundraiser at the local Leo's Coney Island.

But don't take it from me, The Do Something Club is always open to new members. See Mrs. Howell in room C-203 if you are interested in giving back to your community!

## Weekly Meetings

### Environmental Club

**When:** Every Friday at 6:45 am  
**Where:** Mr. Seymour's room -A210  
**Sponsors:** Mr. Seymour and Ms. Rabac

### Medical Society Club

**When:** Every Wednesday at 2:20  
**Where:** Mr. Mustafa’s room-A-118  
**Sponsor:** Mr. Mustafa

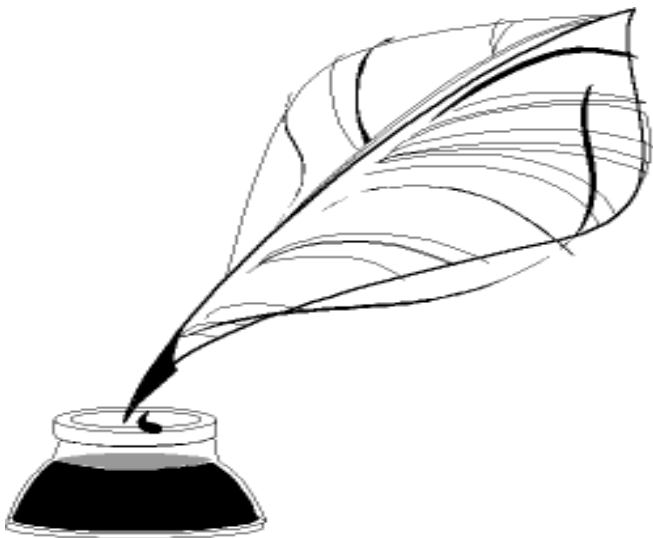
### International Club

**When:** Every Friday at 2:20  
**Where:** Mrs. Mikulak’s room-A-109  
**Sponsor:** Mrs. Mikulak

## INTERNATIONAL CLUB

By: Siham Saleh

The International Club is a club that joins together the many different cultures of the world. It began after Mrs. Mikulak came to teach at Fordson. Former French teacher and founder of the French club, Mrs. Scaramucci, thought to join together with Mrs. Mikulak and thus, the International club was born. Some of the activities that have occurred so far are the Japanese Tea Party and Italian Night. The club is working on a few exciting projects for the future. One of the projects is to have a few sales and donate that money to Gleaners Food Bank. The club meets on Fridays in Room A109 at 2:30. New members are always welcome!



### Quill Update

The Quill, Fordson’s Literary Magazine, will begin accepting submission of original artwork and writing starting after the winter break. Submissions can be dropped off in Ms. Jamieson’s room, B207. The Quill will be on sale in May.

## KEY CLUB

By: Sekna Dabaja

On November 17, 2012, The Michigan District of Key Club held a Fall Rally at Wayland High School Fine Arts Center. Members and advisors from across Michigan attended, eager to make a contribution. Members participated in the Walk for Kids Against Hunger and attended leadership workshops and sessions on confidence building and public speaking. Fordson students shined brightly! Within minutes of their arrival, Key club advisors and other members introduced themselves to our students and asked for tips on how to be as successful as Fordson’s Key Club. Well done Fordson Key Clubbers.

Kiwanians have been hosting a bowling tournament for special needs individuals in our community for the past 30 years. On November 25, 2012, our Key Club members participated in this special event! They were able to help and cheer on special needs bowlers. More than 150 bowlers attended, and 35 professional bowlers were assisting in every lane. This is just another one of the many great ways Fordson has been reaching out and touching lives all across the community.



# NEWS AT FORDSON

## FHS COURTYARD

By: Sekna Dabaja

The Fordson Courtyard Project has been an ongoing endeavor in 2012, and hopes are to have it completed by the end of this 2012-2013 school year. Much progress has been made up to this point. Constructors have raised a wrought iron fence and built and filled several planter boxes. Additionally, the “F” topiary as well as a flowering tree have been planted. The first order of commemorative bricks, which are part of the last phase of the project, have been delivered and are being stored until their time of installation.

Much more has been arranged for the new courtyard. If weather permits, another student work day will be held. Ongoing plans include a fountain, benches and plantings, which will become a part of the science curriculum and will be used by our Environmental Club. If you know of anyone who would like to order a brick, the school will be collecting orders through this coming Spring.



## ADVICE TO PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS

By Lujine Nasralla

Some of us seniors have already submitted our applications to universities and colleges across the nation. Phase one is complete. Now, it is time to work on filling out every scholarship possible. Here are a few pointers on approaching the “X that marks the spot”:

1. **Do NOT Procrastinate:** this could become your biggest weakness. Senioritis might be contagious, but keep yourself academically healthy (at least until May). Get essays done on time and have several copies of your transcript on hand and ready to go.
2. **Essays, essays, essays.** Recycling is not just for glass and plastic; if a topic is similar, try to recycle your previous essays to avoid late-night flashing computer screens and arthritis from typing.
3. **Stay up-to-date with the latest scholarships.** Subscribe to websites, check the Class of 2013 Blog, and visit the scholarship board in the counseling office. By the way, do not be shy to ask peers and helpful teachers for advice.

As for the current juniors, save yourself from constant mental breakdowns and start your college essays over the summer. Make yourself comfortable with your options and aware of your capabilities.

## It: A Short Story

By: Sekna Dabaja

She had it one day, and the next it was gone. It belonged to her, but then it didn’t anymore. She had been able to touch it... smell it... hear it... taste it, but then it was just an inadequate memory. How had she reached such a low point in her life? It’s funny how a person can have everything and never realize she does until it’s all gone. Poof. Just like that: in an instant. It was all taken away from her. She never even had the chance to fight for it. Her hold on it was too weak because she never thought she would have to be without it. It was almost comical. With reflection, she realized that she probably never deserved it to start with. How could she, when she had never even fathomed the magnitude of its worth? Gratitude is a funny thing, she thought to herself. Those who have it lack everything, and those who lack it have everything.

Aside: We are so fortunate to have the things we need and the things we want. There are millions in the world who cannot say they have even half their needs. I hope this story has sparked some gratitude in you, and incites your capacity to give to others, not just during this holiday season but in your daily lives.