

Tower Tribune

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Fordson High School

November 2014

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FORDSON PINK OUT 2014



On Wednesday, October 29th, Fordson competed against Crestwood in a "PINK OUT" for breast cancer awareness. Students and staff from both schools were asked to wear pink on the 29th to show their support. Leaders of the project included teachers Ms. Naura and Ms. Ayoub. Student leaders included Mohamed Mazeh, Ayah Aburabi, Angela Bazzi, Ahmed Boomrod, and Wesam Mettit. There were 350 t-shirts sold for the event. Staff and students showed overwhelming support for this project by decking out in pink.



Fordson Football Team Continues to Roll

The Fordson Football Team ran its record to 10-0 after an impressive victory over Fraser in the first round of MHSAA playoffs on Friday, October 31st. The Tractors will play Detroit Cass Tech on Friday, November 7th at 7pm at Fordson. Coach Zaban and his staff have brought together one of the finest football teams in recent history. We wish them the best of luck through the playoffs.



Happy Thanksgiving

From Fordson's Tower Tribune!

Each year on the fourth Thursday in November, Americans gather together for a day of feasting, football, family and friends. Thanksgiving has its historical roots in religion and culture, and has been celebrated for hundreds of years. Thanksgiving was once called "Days of Fasting or Days of Thanksgiving." Thanksgiving was often celebrated in churches up until President George Washington announced the first nation-wide Thanksgiving celebration in America, on November 26, 1789. He announced that it would be a day of public thanksgiving and prayers. At the end of the day, Thanksgiving is an annual event where all family's gather together around the dinner table and feast. Happy Thanksgiving to all!
- Ali Fakih

Clubs & Events

Joyful Heart Foundation

By: Iman Ali

On Saturday, October 18th the Joyful Heart Foundation attended a Trunk and Treat event at the local Methodist Church. Fordson students were able to meet and give out candy grams to foster children who come from homes of domestic violence. In hopes of raising awareness throughout the year, Fordson High School's Joyful Heart Club welcomes interested students to attend their Thursday meetings held in the auditorium at 2:30. Cham Alden, club president, started this club at Fordson as a chapter of the Joyful Heart Foundation founded by *Law & Order* actress Mariska Hargitay. Throughout the year, Joyful Heart Club has planned visits twice a month to the foster homes and plans on raising \$500-\$1000 throughout the year to give to local domestic violence shelters. Cham would like to give a new perspective on domestic violence by refusing to say "why does a woman choose to stay with an abusive partner," and instead, to assert that "we must put an end to this." Domestic abuse should not be overlooked, and the blame should not be placed on the victim for "choosing" to stay. We need to understand that many of them have nowhere else to go.

Domestic violence does not occur on a rare occasion. In fact, one in every four women will or have experienced domestic abuse at least once in their lives. Please do not hesitate to join and raise awareness with the Joyful Heart Club.



Key Club

On Friday, October 24th Key Club members passed out Halloween hand made cards to patients in Heartland Nursing Home. Members were engaged and enlightened!

Furthermore, that same evening Key Club members had their annual couch potato event during the Fordson homecoming game. They sold baked goods and raffled off tickets to win a seat on the sidelines to finish the second half of the game.

During this breast cancer awareness month KC raised nearly \$200 that will go towards relay for life in June.



Class of 2018



On Saturday, October 11th the class of 2018 volunteered at the Zaman International Fall Clothing Drive for several hours. The director of Zaman was very impressed with how efficient the Fordson students worked. The students sorted clothing that was brought in during Saturday's clothing drive. It's an impressive day when Fordson Students impact the lives of others within our community.

In The Spotlight!

Teacher Spotlight

By: Mohamed Ahmed

Out of the many teachers that dedicate their time to Fordson High School, **Mrs. Howell** stands out. She is one of the two AP Language and Composition teachers here at Fordson. However, she is much more than a teacher to her students. Ms. Howell acts as a mentor, a friend, and an advisor. Howell is also one of the most caring individuals you can ever possibly know. She sympathizes, jokes, and learns with her students every single day. In fact, she does all of this while juggling recommendation letters, grading, and family. She walks in everyday with a smile on her face and passion in her heart. As a result, Mrs. Howell truly deserves

this month's teacher spotlight!

What is your Alma Matter?

I graduated from Marygrove College with a Bachelor's in English and am currently working on my graduate degree in English there too. I also have degrees from Ferris State University and Siena Heights University.

How long have you taught at Fordson?

I have been teaching at Fordson for 6 years.

What is your favorite part of being a teacher at Fordson?

I love teaching at Fordson because the students are amazing young men and women: polite, kind, generous, witty, and intelligent. Fordson students are a joy to teach.

If you weren't a teacher, what would you be?

I have a wide range of interests. I love writing and research. I can imagine being an editor, a psychologist, or even a writing consultant. But teaching is truly what I love!

Do you have any special skills/talents?

I can't say I have any special skills or talents, but I would love to learn to play the acoustic guitar.

Quote you live by?

One of my favorite quotes is by George Patton. He tells us "if everyone is thinking alike, then someone isn't thinking." In response to that, I say creative ideas may be influenced by other ideas, but anything truly original involves divergent thinking.



Athlete Spotlight

By: Israa Ali

One of Fordson's very own hard working athletes is Fatima Dakroub. She started competitive swimming in the 7th grade and running in 10th grade. "The great thing about swimming and running is that you can do them your entire life, but they are still team sports. You can't win leagues without everyone pushing," says Fatima. For Dakroub, her teammates along with her coaches and family motivate her to achieve more. Fatima is currently the varsity captain on

the swimming team, top 5 cross country runner, and AP student. She is working very hard to improve her overall 5K time. "Time management is the key to paradise," she says. "Whether it's in school, in the pool, or on the track you can achieve anything with a positive mind set, and a little blood, sweat, and tears."

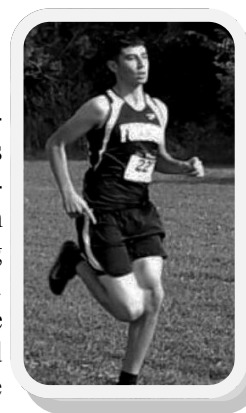


"To Get Faster"

By: Marwa Hachem

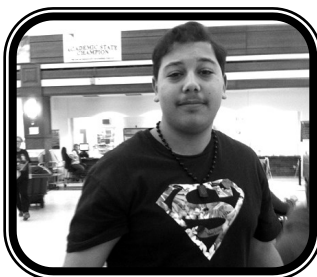
Returning athlete, Hassan "CP" Hammoud, wows us again with his efforts in his desire to run and his determination to be the best he can by joining Cross Country again this year. Although he was considered the greatest last year, Hammoud decided it was time to elevate his game and go above and beyond. He wasn't completely satisfied with what he achieved the past year and decided to aim higher. The main reason he joined Cross Country is to get faster and break Fordson's records. Impressively, Hammoud started at a 20:20 in a 5k and pushed himself to attain a 17:53. However, he wasn't extremely content with that. "... I did not achieve what I wanted to achieve last year so I'll continue until I do."

As of right now, all we can do is encourage and support him and wait to see what else he has set for the future.



Spirit Week!

A Tribute to History



Hollywood Day



College Rivalry



Hawaii vs Texas



Color Wars



Pep-Rally!



Pie Eating



Tug-of-War



Box Racing



On October 25th, Fordson held its annual pep-rally. "The pep assembly is to honor and acknowledge all of the fall sports' teams and coaches that help make Fordson a great high school on the courts, fields, and classrooms," said Mr. Mosallam. The seniors appeared to be the loudest at cheering, but the freshmen were first in the most spirit points. The pep rally kicked off with the refrigerator box race, followed by the announcement of the fall sports' teams. Afterwards, the pie-eating contest between the boys and girls was held. However, the event that created the most excitement for the students was the tug-of-war between the teachers and the seniors. The teachers came out victorious by beating the seniors in 10.5 seconds. At the end of the day, the pep rally inspired school spirit in all of the students and the teachers. By: Mirvat Chammout

Editorials

Local FHS Student Baker Goes Viral

By: Marwa Hachem

Fordson junior, Kassem Beydoun, begins his journey to the real world at only the age of 16. Recently, Beydoun created an Instagram account for his love of baking and decided he should make his own business called “KBcakeZ”. Compared to present day, Beydoun states that his business “improved big time... The word is spreading everywhere and people are recognizing me.”

His passion for baking first grew when he was in fifth grade. Beydoun decided he wanted to bake a cake, and surprisingly, he fell in love with it. Usually, an average fifth grade child would only care about things like video games, drawing, or maybe even social media websites. However, Kassem had a dream, and he was dedicated to follow it. “I’ve always wanted to create a business before I start culinary school and after I finish high school, but then I ended up creating it March 8th, 2014.”

In addition, Kassem was inspired by his true self. With this motivation, he strives to be the next big thing. His goal is to start working at a bakery and to be well-known everywhere. “I want to make my business much bigger and I want to buy my logo soon because I am looking into the way I want my logo to be.”

In a couple of years, it is almost certain that the name Kassem Beydoun will be trending everywhere and it is likely for him to say “I made it.”



Book Review

By: Lara Nassar

Tired of reading old, boring books that your teachers assign you? In the mood for a thrilling, eye catching book? Go to the nearest library and check out *Before I Fall*, by Lauren Oliver.

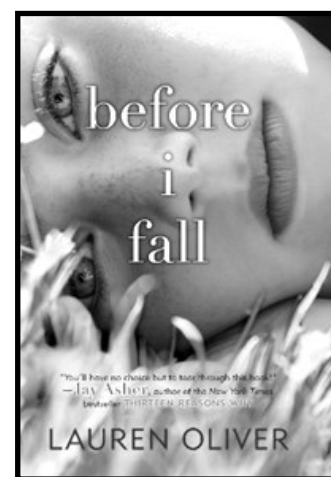
What if you only had one day to live? What would you do? Who would you kiss? And how far would you go to save your own life?

This book is about Samantha Kingston, a girl in high school who doesn’t really care about anyone other than herself. Friday, February 12th, is the day things turn a bit wild. Having to repeat

the same day over and over again, always ending with her death, Samantha tries every way possible to figure out the cause behind her fate. Soon she discovers the true value of everything she is in danger of losing.

I would give this novel 4.5 out of 5 for many reasons. *Before I Fall* raises thought provoking questions about death, love and how one person’s life can affect everyone. Samantha is determined to gain redemption, the second she realizes the mistakes that she made in the past, which made me realize how much she develops as a character, in a good way of course. Told in seven chapters, each day a different way, *Before I*

fall tells the story of a typical ‘popular’ girl who gets six days to right some wrongs. So if you’d like to figure out what happened that first night, I suggest you go and check it out!



Extra

DID YOU KNOW FACTS?

By: Mohamed Ahmed

1. Which month has the highest percentage of births?

- a. August
- b. October
- c. December
- d. February

2. The colored part of your eye is called the what?

- a. Iris
- b. Ovules
- c. Corniouses
- d. Buolbuy

3. Which colored light has the highest wavelength?

- a. Red
- b. Green
- c. Yellow
- d. Blue

4. Akousticophobia is the fear of?

- a. Noises
- b. Garbage
- c. Boxes
- d. Heights

5. The first city to reach 1 million people was?

- a. London
- b. New York
- c. Tokyo
- d. Paris

All answers are: a

Fordson Historical Highlights

By: Riyam Mahdi

Fordson High School was built in 1928 on a 15 acre parcel of land which was the village of Fordson. The school was designed be architect Everett Lane Williams in Collegiate Gothic style. Citizens raised about \$2.2 million to build Fordson. It was inspired in part by the buildings of the University of Michigan Law School. Fordson's architecture was represented in the 1987 film, *The Rosary Murders* when the library and tower were displayed. The school became recognized as a Michigan Historical site in 1998. Fordson was also hailed as "one of the finest school buildings in the United States." Finally, Fordson High School has a rich history graduating students of many nationalities and cultures who have become leaders in all fields. Fordson also has some notable graduates, such as UAW president Walter Ruether, U.S. Senator Robert Griffin, and Dr. Jerome Weisner. As a result, Fordson High School has an amazing history that will continue on throughout the years.

Soccer Studs

By: Salwa Badreddine

Coach Saab and Coach Bazzi were proud of the soccer teams performance this season. The teams overall record was 17-1-1. The team finished in first place in the WWAC. Coach Saab started coaching five years ago, and he has helped students hone their skills. He believes that the team is very talented and credits part of this success to the outstanding defense. In these past few years, the players have become more disciplined, and this has played a role in their 17 victory season. There were 12 seniors on the varsity team, which is the most a Fordson soccer team has ever had. As Coach Saab said, "The Fordson family is finally feeling the soccer spirit."



Quill Club

Calling all Fordson High School students!!! Quill Club welcomes your creative and original ideas. We are accepting short stories, poems, and art work throughout the year. Every month has a different theme for submission, and November is a satirical take on Thanksgiving.

You do not have to publish under your name, you can choose a pen name, or simply publish as "anonymous." Please do not think twice about submitting, just do it! Submissions can be given to Mrs. Durfee in room B-209.



Help us to identify this man who was found wandering the Fordson Football sidelines recently.



- a. Vince Lombardi
- b. Wayne Fontes
- c. Fred Flintstone
- d. John Belushi
- e. Counselor Kostovski's husband

Fordson Cross Country Captures 4 All League Spots



Israa Ali, Hassan Hammoud, Allen Swaidan, and Mohammed Charara display their All League hardware.

The athletes earned these awards for finishing in the top 15 during the Western Wayne Athletic Conference meet held on October 14th

A Fortunate Farewell

A sight that will smolder, smoke drifting over the confines
of my mind, a dreaded departure.

Hands that never embraced nor touched shall remain so.
How close could they come before retreating, tell me how
far.

Familiar ground with foreign shoes, enclasped in my arms
I
Held on as tightly as you held on to me.

Take captive my breath, exhaling only
To subdue the pugnacious nature of our lungs.

Those empty walls tear us asunder, they will wait no longer.

The final glance unto your eyes and yours unto mine.

It is truly marvelous to know someone
Who makes it this difficult to say goodbye.

By. Alex Zapien

A big shout out to Ms. Patrick's Advanced Photo students who
contributed many photographs to this edition!