

Tower Tribune

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Feelin' Green

By: Mirvat Chammout

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated every year on March 17th. This day honors the Irish patron saint, St. Patrick, and celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish. One theory of why St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17th is that it is the day that St. Patrick died. He is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland. On St. Patrick's Day, it is customary to wear green and shamrocks because it is said that he used the shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish. Cities celebrate this day with parades and feasts. Some cities even dye their rivers and streams green! However, some people decide to spend it in their own way. "On St. Patrick's Day, I go to church in the morning with my family and celebrate the feast of St. Patrick's Day," says Mr. Shannon. "Then, I go to the pub and teach others an Irish step dance. The next day, I go to the Hibernian Hall for a fundraiser living in exile in the United States." A classic St. Patrick's Day meal is corned beef and cabbage. Guinness is a very popular drink on St. Patrick's Day and almost 3 million pints of Guinness are consumed on this day. Leprechauns were first mentioned in the 8th century. They were said to have spent most of their time making shoes and storing their coins in a hidden pot of gold.



Go look for your leprechaun today!



Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Club News

Peer to Peer Club

By: Ali Fakih

The Peer to Peer club encourages positive interactions among the students, both in the school and within the community as a whole. “The club allows students to interact with other students they have not met before. We provide programs to our population that are supportive and may change somebody’s high school experience to something with more positive memories, such as Circle of Friends. High school can be a difficult time even for those who have everything they need. Peer to Peer provides students a chance to be there for each other and to learn how to reach out to others with guided adult support” says Peer to Peer advisor, Mrs. Schankowski.

What are some activities/events you have done or are working on?

“We have been active in anti-bullying activities such as the district anti-bullying extravaganza at the beginning of the year; we also just completed a very successful fundraiser, the Prom Exposed Fashion Show, for First Step of Wayne, a non profit organization that assists families and/or individuals who have been affected by domestic violence or sexual assault. Our

next project is under way, the Dearborn, Edsel Ford, and Fordson (DEFF) Unity run which will be held on May 3rd at Ford Field Park. Proceeds help benefit a scholarship fund for a senior from each high school who is active in leadership, diversity, and building community.”

How does your professional job tie in with this club?

“I am blessed to work with some amazingly caring students in this club. These kids become mentors to some of the students I work with on my caseload as a school social worker. This club is a perfect complement to my professional job in the school. And may I add that there are many times I feel that some of the Peer to Peer students help balance me.”

What is required for someone to become a part of Peer to Peer?

An application is required at the end of the year for the following year. There are two staff referral signatures required and a short statement about why the applicant feels would benefit the program. “We are looking for students who want to make a difference, not only for their school but for their families and their community as a whole”.

The National Honor Society

By: Reem Aburukba

The National Honor Society is viewed in many different ways. Two sophomores, Fatima and Zahraa, have both been given a great first year as NHS members. They had both known about NHS since middle school (NJHS) and have always aspired to be a part of the Fordson NHS. Zahraa's favorite part of NHS is going to the VA hospital because she wants to go into the medical field and is just thrilled to have this opportunity. Fatima likes the NJHS (National Juniors Honor Society) and getting to see the overall middle school environment again. They also both like how the club gives them so many chances to help out people that they’ve never met before and going on monthly visits to Gleaners and the VA hospital. To qualify for NHS and to apply you need a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, 30 hours of community service, 1 recommendation letter from a teacher, 1 recommendation letter from a club sponsor, and an additional recommendation letter. Fatima and Zahraa urge students to join NHS because although it may seem difficult to get in, it is worth the effort. In reality, it makes you a better person and opens you up to countless new experiences.

Club News

Key Club Does it Again!

Over the years the Key Club organization has been very successful in devoting their time to help others in need. On Saturday, February 7th, the key club members, Mr. Roger Frank, and a local church group from Grosse Ile joined together to help elementary students take home food over the weekend. Together the groups packed 10,962 pounds worth of food in 2 1/2 hours. The elementary students were thankful and excited to be the recipients of the Gleaners' Backpack Food Program.

By: Asmaa Abdouny



Teacher Spotlight

By: Mohamed Ahmed

Research continuously demonstrates that modern students are excelling at theoretical and conceptual knowledge but have exponentially lost the hands on experience that older generations were exposed to. It is rare for modern students to fix their own bikes, build home furniture or be able to perform car repairs. The love for hands-on skillful work is diminishing. However, the people that are attempting to reform the way students think are none other than the wonderful tech instructors we have here at Fordson. One notable instructor is Mr. Kent, Fordson’s auto tech instructor, who believes greatly in his students and wishes that they can be certified technicians, mechanics and engineers one day. His passion is for auto repair and for teaching his students. I’ve had the privilege of interviewing Mr. Kent and here’s what he had to say:

Alma Matter?

I attended Clarenceville High School and went to Central Michigan for my Bachelors Degree. I then graduated with my Masters Degree from Eastern Michigan.
I have been at Fordson for 22 years and spent one year at Bryant Middle School teaching Tech Ed.

Why did you choose to become an Auto Mechanic Instructor?

I liked planes as a child but realized odds were I would not become a fighter pilot. I got into cars instead.

What is the favorite part of your job?

When students have that “ah ha” moment, like when they start an engine they put together for the first time.

What do you enjoy about Fordson?

The pride, tradition, and legacy, seriously! I'll be in Florida renting a boat or walking through an airport and run into an old Fordson student.

If you weren’t an instructor, what would you have liked to become?

A crew chief on an automotive racing team.

What special talents/hobbies do you have?

I like to ride bikes, and I love watching Formula One racing. I enjoy taking my car to the drag strip. I love working on old cars and I'm building a 1935 Ford pickup truck right now with a 4" top chop.

Right now, what is your favorite car?

That's a tough one today - right now maybe a 1955 Chevy.

What is a quote you live by?

"This is your life, it's the only one you get, so no excuses and no do overs. Your job is to be the very best person you can be and to never settle for anything less."

- Former Texas Governor Ann Richards.



In the Spotlight!

Athlete Spotlight: Hadi Chamas

By: Marwa Hachem

As the days grow longer, the memories get better and the goals get bigger. Fordson’s own, Hadi Chamas, a tenth grade striving student, recalls his successful football days and aims for continued triumph throughout the school year. Hadi answered a couple of questions based on his experiences.

Which sport teams did you join this year?

“I joined football and wrestling, and I’m also going to join track.”

Why did you join football?

“Because I like the sport and it has always been something I’ve been great at.”

Who or what motivates you to give it your all?

“I basically imagine my nephews watching me play football. If I were to quit, what will they learn from that?”

What was the best thing about playing football?

“The best thing about football was definitely how the whole team was like a family. We won or lost together, and there were just so many memories we had.”

Why do you want to join track?

“Because I am one of the best jumpers in the school and I wouldn’t want to waste that.”

What do you have planned for the upcoming track season?

“I’m going to surprise everyone on my first year joining, and I hope that I’m one of the best runners out of all the schools.”

What would you tell your coaches if they were reading this?

“I would like to tell my coaches, Coach Cheito, Beydoun, and Nayaf, that they didn’t just coach me and make me a better football player. They treated the team as their younger brothers and made us better men.”



Athlete Spotlight: Chadi Mazeh

By: Reem Abouzeid



Many believe that sports aren’t that important. Well, those people are wrong. Currently, there are a lot of young ambitious athletes like Chadi Mazeh, a junior at FHS, who are happy to share their love for sports. For Chadi, soccer is everything. Read on to see his accomplishments these past years and his experience on the FHS soccer team.

When asked how he got started in soccer, Chadi says, "I've been playing soccer since I was living in Africa, I used to see my older cousins playing and I fell in love with the game ever since."

Chadi started playing soccer when he was 4 years old.

Yet even though he prefers soccer, Chadi still played basketball to keep in shape.

The famous Brazilian soccer player Neymar was his inspiration. When asked why, Chadi replied with, "I've known Neymar since the day he got drafted with a team called Santos. His age and skills led him to be one of the youngest soccer players to achieve so much. He also was the youngest captain for the Brazilian team which is really impressive."

As you might have noticed, Chadi plays with our FHS soccer team. When asked about this season, he explains that although it was his first season, it has been a good experience. Looking back to when they won the division finals against Garden City but fell short against Dearborn in the district finals, he believes that they could've done better.

When asked about the team’s connection, he answers straight away with the teams starting point, "For the first couple of games, our team chemistry wasn't that good because we were all new people and it was my first year. But after the awkwardness passed, and when I got used to it, we started playing better and better."

Chadi is a midfielder. His role to the team is to pass the ball, create plays and score goals.

Sports

Taking Their Game to the Next Level

By: Zainab Alrabiah

Fordson is known for their football team being better than the rest. Some of our students have signed on to play at various colleges in Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. We'd like to congratulate Derrick Hallman on his scholarship to St. Joseph's of Indiana. Michael Hazime was accepted to Wayne State University to play ball on a full ride. A big congratulations to Hussein Kdouh for his scholarship to Saginaw Valley State University. Abdallah Jaffal deserves a warm applause for his Ball State University football award. Last but not least, we'd like to congratulate Jamil Sabbagh on receiving a football scholarship to Central Michigan University. The young men have worked hard to get where they are now. They have earned themselves a place in Fordson High School's tradition of football excellence. Congratulations to all of our Fordson signees.



Grapplers Bring Home the Hardware Once Again

The Fordson Wrestling Team completed yet another successful year by winning the district championship with a 42-34 win over Crestwood. This is the fourth straight district championship for the Fordson Wrestling Team. Congratulations to the 4 coaches who dedicated their time to ensuring success for our Fordson athletes: Coach Ball, Coach Beydoun, Coach Berry, and Coach Beydoun.



1. What percentage of people are left handed?
A 11% of people are left handed
B 17% of people are left handed
C 9% of people are left handed
D 13% of people are left handed
2. Which month has the highest percentage of births?
A October has the highest percentage of births
B January has the highest percentage of births
C August has the highest percentage of births
D July has the highest percentage of births
3. How long does it take the average person to fall asleep?
A 4 Minutes
B 7 Minutes
C 10.5 Minutes
D 15 Minutes
4. Unless food is mixed with saliva you can't taste it?



January	July
February	August
March	September
April	October
May	November
June	December



True or False

Answers are A, C, B, & true

Original Work

The Mighty Rio Grande

The sense of frisson that overpowers the senses and leaves us
With but a physical feeling incapable of matching the raw, bloody
Mess of emotion when someone leaves us; This Will Destroy You.

Time, but a construct of imagination is very much alive. The rain
Will always fall, but following the floods a most wondrous
Full Monty of colors shall render it all worthwhile; This Will Destroy Me.

We must keep moving forward. Tears held back, a choking sensation
Will overcome you. Our resolve to do great things will cross that line of
Demarcation between mortality and humanity; This Will Destroy Us.

By: Alex Zapien

The Fordson Tradition

By: Israa Ali

Fordson is a spectacular school with a beautiful building constructed in 1922 to look like the University of Michigan's Law School in Ann Arbor. It is named after Ford's son, Edsel, whose name graces Edsel Ford High School. Fordson's tower was used during World War II along with the school's vast underground tunnel system. Always rich in culture, Fordson also has an outstanding graduation rate and successful athletes who often play at the next level. The athletic teams at Fordson have had an outstanding record since its beginning with 10 state championships in total. Some notable alumni include athletes Abdul Alzindani, a national cross country champ from 1996 and Tom Anastos (1981) a Montreal Canadians hockey player and current head hockey coach at Michigan State. Michael Berry was the first Muslim lawyer in Michigan and longtime chairman of the Wayne County Road Commission. Also, William K. Brehm (1947) was the Assistant Secretary of Defense under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford and founder of the Brehm Center for Diabetes Research at The University of Michigan Medical Center. Finally, 1951 graduate Marian Bayoff Ilitch is the co-founder and owner of Little Caesars Pizza and Motor City Casino.



*A wonderful, impressive work
of mosaic artwork at your
school! Try to locate it the next
time you're walking down the
grand hallways of Fordson
High!
-Fatima Rizvi*