

Tower Tribune

Volume 232

Fordson High School

January 2018

2018

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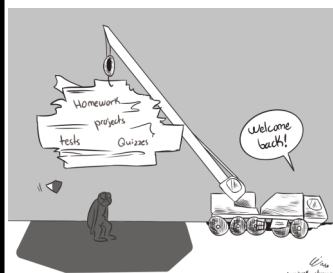
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Fordson Joins New Athletic League Next Fall

For the past several years, Fordson has belonged to the Western Wayne Athletic Conference. However, in the fall of 2018, Fordson will join a more competitive athletic league called the

Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA). The KLAA includes Fordson, Belleville, Dearborn, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Stevenson, Westland John Glenn, and Wayne. The above mentioned teams will be in one division. The other division will include Plymouth, Canton, Salem, Novi, Northville, Howell, Hartland, and Brighton. It's safe

to say that our sports teams will be facing even more competition than ever before but will be open to new opportunities. It'll also be an exciting way to begin a new school year for the Tractors. ~Jana Lakkis



On Wednesday, January 3rd the Class of 2021 held a bowling fundraiser at Cherry Hill Lanes in Dearborn Heights. For twenty dollars students were able to bowl for two hours, have pizza and pop, and enjoy a fun night out. The event brought together a total of sixty five students, staff members, and parents and was considered a huge success. The Class of 2021 is planning a fundraiser at Midway Sports in the spring and a trip to Cedar Point at the end of the year.



Coach's Corner with Guy Delgiudice

Fordson assistant basketball coach Guy Delgiudice has been a Fordson icon in the coaching realm for over 3 decades. We were able to sit down and find out what makes him such a successful coach and person.

When did you graduate from Fordson? I graduated in June of 1966.

What are your fondest memories of Fordson as a student?

Meeting my wife Janet, meeting lifelong friends, and being able to play sports, especially basketball.

List any accomplishments or awards you received at Fordson

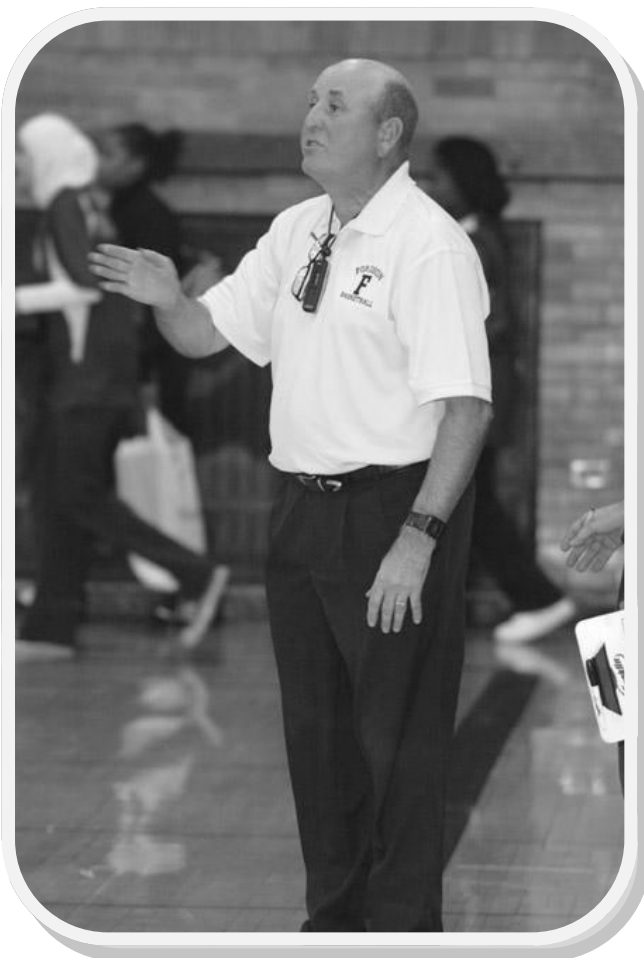
I was a 3 year starter on the varsity basketball team, and captain as a senior. We won 3 Districts and 3 Regional Championships, I was an All - State Guard and Player of the Year as a senior. I was a 2 year varsity tennis player, and received the Most Improved Player award as a junior.

How many years have you been coaching at Fordson? I have been actively coaching at Fordson for over 30 years.

What sports have you coached at Fordson? I have coached boys, girls junior varsity and girls varsity basketball. I have also coached boys junior varsity and varsity tennis. I am currently coaching boys varsity basketball, and boys and girls golf.

What are some of the challenges you have faced as a coach? Although coaching is a very rewarding experience, the greatest of the challenges is being away from your family. This truly is and was my only regret.

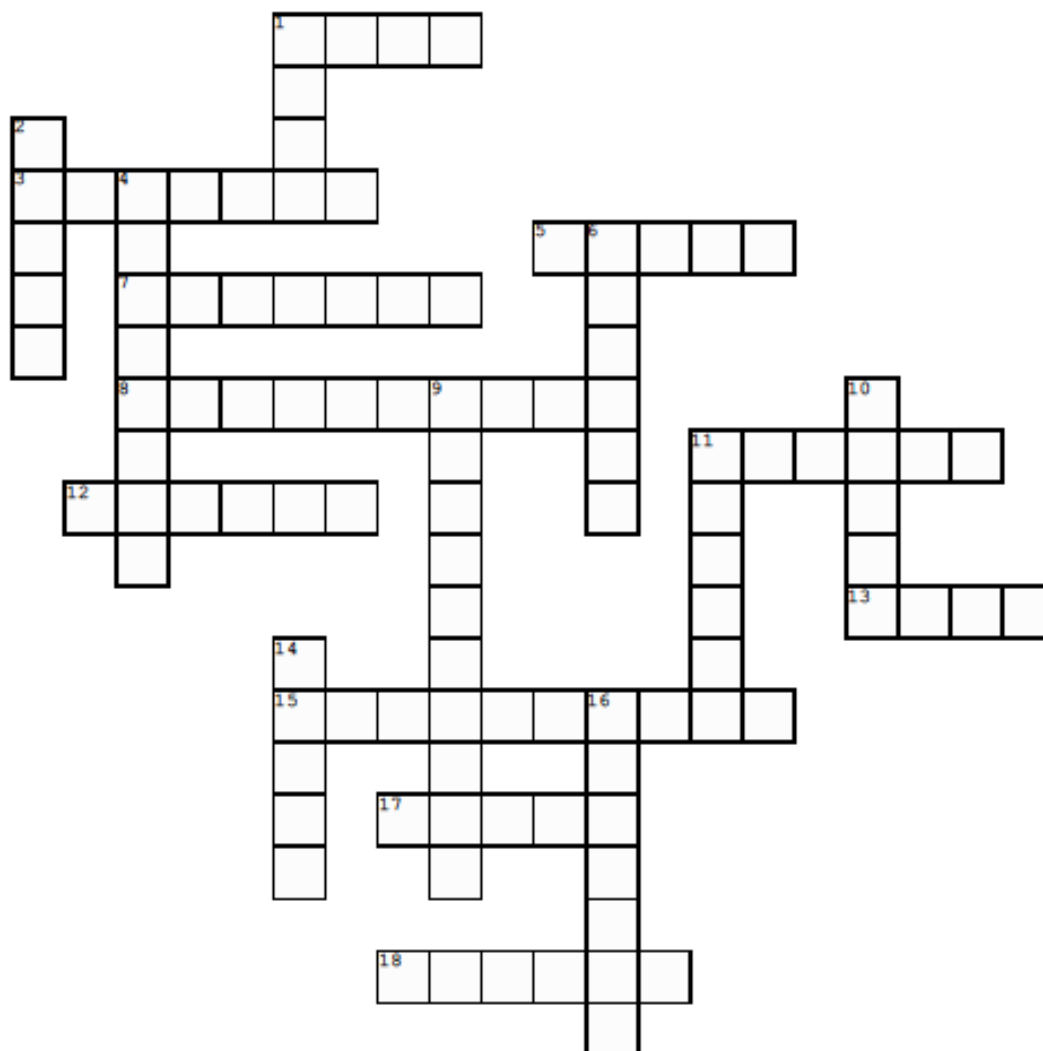
What has coaching brought to you as a person--what are the benefits? The most rewarding thing about coaching is the feeling a coach gets when a young lady, or a young man, improves their skills to the point where they can compete individually, or with their teammates. When I see their unselfishness and dedication, this brings me great joy.



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Fordson Staff

Complete the crossword below—all answers are Fordson staff members



Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Generator](http://TheTeachersCorner.net)

Across

1. Fordson engineer
3. 2nd year girls basketball coach
5. Fordson swim coach
7. Astronomy and physics teacher
8. Athletic director
11. The bearded man in lower A hall
12. Counselor who was stolen from Edsel Ford
13. The auto man
15. Graduation Specialist who works in the counseling office
17. Choir director
18. The bearded man in upper A hall

Down

1. allie and osman
2. Most common Fordson teacher last name
4. Fordson principal
6. Wood shop expert
9. Head of the counseling department
10. Key club advisor
11. 9th grade leader
14. Fordson football coach
16. Irish History teacher

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Something to Cheer About

After over four years, the varsity cheerleading tradition at Fordson has been restored. This year, there are 11 varsity cheerleaders, ranging in class from 9th to 12th grade. The girls cheer at every home varsity basketball game, for both the girls' team and the boys' team. They do cheers from the baseline and stands during the game, and during half-time, they perform their floor cheer. The cheerleaders attend around 2 games a week. During last Friday's game, the cheerleading team performed their stunting routine, which included flips and cartwheels. Mrs. Hadous, the cheerleading coach, is excited to train them, because she was a former cheerleader in high school and has missed it. Although it is a lot of work, she said it will also be a lot of fun as well. Mrs. Hadous said she is planning a tumbling routine for the team, which includes: backflips, round-offs, and backhand springs. Next year, the cheerleaders plan on attending all the home football games, in addition to the home basketball games. We wish them the best of luck in celebrating school spirit. As Mrs. Hadous said, "GO TRACTORS!" ~Khadeja Jomma



Finals

By: Khadeja Jomma

Finals are here, brace yourselves! Although finals can be intimidating, it is important to remember that they aren't impossible. The 2018 final exam schedule looks like this: finals begin on Wednesday, January 24th and end on Friday, January 26th ; 1st and 2nd hour exams are on Wednesday, 3rd and 4th hour exams are on Thursday, and finally 5th and 6th hour exams are on Friday. For freshmen, who are taking final exams for the first time, each exam lasts 90 minutes, with a 10-minute break in between. This means that school is dismissed at 10:30 every day of finals. So, don't think of final exam week as horrible, look at it as a chance to have 3 half days in a row. Remember that semester grades go on your permanent transcript, so that means passing your finals is important. Work hard now, and be rewarded later. Make sure to get a good night's sleep (8 hours are recommended) before each day of finals and eat a healthy breakfast, so you can do your best and earn the grades you deserve.

Final Exam Schedule

Final Exam Schedule – January 24, 25, & 26

<u>Wednesday, Jan. 24</u>	<u>Thursday, Jan. 25</u>	<u>Friday, Jan. 26</u>
1 st Hour Exam	3 rd Hour Exam	5 th Hour Exam
7:20 – 8:50 90 min.	7:20 – 8:50 90 min.	7:20 – 8:50 90 min.
Break 10 minutes	Break 10 minutes	Break 10 minutes
2 nd Hour Exam	4 th Hour Exam	6 th Hour Exam
9:00 – 10:30 90 min.	9:00 – 10:30 90 min.	9:00 – 10:30 90 min.

No Lunch – School is dismissed at 10:30—Breakfast will be served

New Years Resolution

By: Khadeja Jomma

As 2017 comes to a close, the best thing we can do is look back and try to learn from our mistakes, in an effort to improve ourselves. To help, here are three things you can do to become a better person:

- 1. Be kind to others.** There is so much hate in the world already, the best thing you can do is to help and care for others. Follow the motto, "Treat others the way you want to be treated."
- 2. Be yourself.** Don't worry about what others think of you., their opinions don't matter. The only opinion that does matter is your own.
- 3. Work hard.** Everybody has a dream, even if they don't know what it is yet. You have to work hard to achieve your dreams. As Mr. K says, "No pain, no gain."

These are just a few things to keep in mind during the 2018 year. At the end of the day, what makes us better human beings, is caring about one another.

Unis Middle School Hosts Robotics Event

By: Fateema Bazzi

On December 9th, the FIRST Tech Challenge, or FTC, held qualification matches at Unis Middle School. FTC is the middle school division of challenges held by FIRST, an organization that encourages innovation in science and technology for children of various ages. Around 30 middle school teams in Michigan came to the event in order to compete in hopes of making it to state championships. The event lasted almost the entire day, and is run almost entirely by volunteers. Many Fordson students were seen helping to keep the event running smoothly, and support the middle school teams in our district. Hopefully, that support will be seen in March, when Fordson's own robotics team, the Robotractors, will be competing in their qualification matches in the high school division.



Joyful Heart

By: Angelina H. Haidar

“Human trafficking is ugly, it’s heinous, it’s disgusting, it’s degrading, it’s painful.” -Joyce Dixson Haskett

Joyce Dixson Haskett is a human trafficking survivor that was invited to speak to Fordson students by the Fordson Joyful Heart Foundation (JHF). JHF joined forces with Key Club and invited all Fordson students and staff to hear her speak in the Fordson Cafeteria after school on December 7th. It was here that Joyce shared her story as a survivor of human trafficking.

She was molested at the age of seven by a family friend who had walked into her bedroom in the middle of the night during a house party. As a seven-year-old, she did not understand depression or the concept of feeling worthless. “I wasn’t trying to be a slut,” she says, it was just all she knew. After this, Joyce says that she was a molestation magnet, being molested by family friends and relatives all her life.

At sixteen, she had her first baby. At eighteen, her second. This was when she struggled with the concept of love. She gave herself to men because all she wanted was love. She knew it was wrong, but it was all she knew. She thought that being a good person meant giving her body away to whoever wanted her whenever they pleased.

Fast forward a year, Joyce is 19. A man had been watching her for a while. She didn’t know how long a while was. He drove up to her with his car, validating her. He showered her family with money, getting to Joyce through the lavish treatment of herself and her parents. However, as time passed, living in his household became like hell. He would beat her and pimp her out, tearing her down physically, emotionally, and mentally.



A question she gets often is, “Why didn’t you just leave?” Her answer to this is that she had no support system, no help. She would go and see her mother, all battered and bruised, and all her mother would say is, “What do you keep doing to this man to make him do these things to you,” and “What if you leave this man, what about us, he’s good to us”. This was her support system, and if she decided to leave, she was threatened that her mother and two sons would be dead. She wasn’t afraid for herself, rather for her family. That’s what kept her coming back.

So, she did what she had to do. She met with random men in hotels night after countless nights, not knowing what these men were going to do to her, “It’s horrible, and it’s degrading, and it’s filthy, and they beat you. They beat you and do their deplorable things to you, and while all these things are going on, you’re lying there, praying that’s it’s over, you want it to be over. You don’t know if you’re going to make it out or not.”

One night, she was almost beaten to death by a group of men who were playing a game of, “Who can hurt her the most,” with a pool stick. After the first pool stick broke, they sent for another one. At this point, one man suggesting killing her. Instead, they wrapped her up like a mummy, drove to Henry Ford Hospital, and threw

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her on the dock in the back. She was found by a maintenance man hours later.

One person in the hospital asked her what had happened, but she wouldn't tell and no one asked again. She was in the hospital for 13 days. They released her back to her pimp, the man responsible for her hospital stay.

This was her breaking point, she had to save herself. It was either he would kill her or somebody else out there would. Out in Detroit, she bought herself a gun, went back to the house, gathered her courage, and waited for the opportunity to kill him.

She shot him in the head, killing him instantly, feeling nothing but relief. Joyce was on the run for two weeks but returned and turned herself in for the sake of her sons. Her trial lasted for a day and a half, ultimately she was sentenced to life in prison for murder in the first degree. In court, they made the man who ruined her life the victim and made her the killer.

After 17 years and 120 days, Joyce was up for parole. During her stint in prison, she had turned her life around and became the first woman to graduate behind bars from the University of Michigan- Ann Arbor. At her hearing, her teachers from the University of Michigan came to support her, telling the judge that she is a hardworking and innocent woman. They told the judge that if he released her that day, U of M would have a place for her in their Master's Program at the School of Social Work. She was released that very day, with the judge telling her to, "Have a good life."

Joyce closed her talk by telling us that, *"It's not how the story begins, but rather, how it ends."*

Collaboration

Class of 2020 and the Student Government collaborated over a several week period to raise money to make blankets to send to the DMC Children's Hospital.

The two groups were able to raise close to five hundred dollars, make 40 fleece tie blankets, and buy 40 stuffed animals. One hundred and fifty people donated money to the cause as well.

Students came to the cafeteria with the materials, set up stations at the tables, volunteered a large chunk of their time, and actually took some of the work home to make sure the task was completed on time. The number of students who participated was overwhelming and their motivation to help others was truly amazing. Staff members also put forth a solid effort to contribute to ensuring that enough blankets were made and distributed to the DMC.



Choir Sings Out 2017

The month of December was a busy one for Fordson's choirs. First, all of the choirs performed in the Fordson Choir Holiday Concert on Tuesday, December 19th. All of the choirs sang together to begin the show with Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence. The Men's Ensemble greatly enjoyed one of their selections, Mele Kalikimaka. To quote Ibrahim Khachab of the Men's Ensemble, "I like the way it sounds. It's a fun song to sing." Bushra Berro and Dyanta Smith soloed beautifully a rendition of Let It Snow. The evening came to a close with all of the choirs on stage again to sing Peace, Peace and Silent Night.

On Wednesday, December 20th, Fordson's Chamber Choir performed at Spirit of Detroit Plaza from 11:15 AM to 12 PM. The event was free and open to the public. As the photos attest, this event was fun for the audience and performers.

Finally, on Friday, December 22nd, Fordson Choir Students premiered their original compositions created using Ruby coding language LIVE via Instagram live.



Joyful Heart Foundation Brings Joy to Kids

Yara Saad

The Joyful Heart Foundation collected toys to give to kids on Christmas. When the toy drive came to an end, there was a total of 874 toys donated for foster kids, the children's hospital, and Syrian refugees. All contributions went towards the effort to give kids a great Christmas experience. JHF would like to thank all the students, teachers, and staff that participated in collecting more than double the 300 toy goal and bringing joy to hundreds of kids. It is efforts like these that make Fordson a place where learning and giving go hand in hand. Serving has become one of Fordson's strongest assets over the past several years. Go Tractors!

**"I AM SEEKING.
I AM STRIVING.
I AM IN IT WITH
ALL MY HEART."**

-VINCENT VAN GOGH

