

## Alumni Association

*Keeping Ties with Our Alumni*



**TAYLOR**  
School District



July 2020 Newsletter

# IN THE NEWS

## Alumni Directory Project

Last year the Alumni Association engaged the services of an outside company (PCI - Publishing Concepts) to update our alumni records and ultimately produce an updated directory (digital and hardcover book) available for purchase. The last directory we had published was in 2008.

We would like to thank everyone that participated in updating their information. All of the updated data will be given to the Alumni Association to update our online database which helps us keep in touch with all of you!

PCI has indicated the directory should be sent out late summer/early fall.

GO RAMS, EAGLES, COUGARS and GRIFFINS! 📁

## ALUMNI NEWS!

REMINDERS....

- ✓ Do not forget a lifetime membership is only \$25.
- ✓ Keep your records updated by letting us know of changes to telephone, email, or addresses.

EXCERPTS from one of our old alumni newsletters from December 2005...

✓ Marsha Solem Bunch, JFK Grad of 1972 and Truman High School teacher wrote an

continue on page 2

Taylor Alumni Association  
11501 Beech Daly Road,  
Taylor MI 48180  
[tayloralumni.org](http://tayloralumni.org)

# Taylor Center High Class of 1964

— **Rich Beckerson** beats the odds with the COVID-19 pandemic —

At the end of March, Rich started feeling ill. His daughter, Mandy noticed how bad he looked when she came to visit her parents. As they were social distancing, Mandy saw her father through the window and noticed he did not look well. She drove him to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor where he was admitted and diagnosed with COVID-19.

Rich almost died three times while in the hospital but fought back with the help of his ER nurse. Molly Milligan, an ER nurse and childhood friend of son, Brett Beckerson, was there for the family when they could not go inside the hospital to see Rich. Rich was one of the first hospitalized patients in



Nurse Molly and Rich Beckerson  
(Photo Source: Thedetroitnews.com  
supplied by the Beckerson Family

Michigan to get convalescent plasma which is one reason for his recovery.

Rich's family is now able to visit him in St. Joseph's and are excited to have him home again next month. His homecoming will include a celebration with his wife Becky of 36 years (TC Class of 64), six children, eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



After 70 days apart, Becky Beckerson sees her husband, Rich Beckerson, for the first time in the hospital on June 4, 2020. (Photo source: Clarence Tabb Jr., Thedetroitnews.com.

Rich Beckerson and his wife, Becky, were childhood sweethearts. They met in middle school and dated until they parted ways in 1964 after their senior year. To read more about Rich's story which was

featured in the Detroit News go to <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2020/06/21/family-awaits-dad-homecoming-covid-19/3217075001/>



Continue from page 1 (Alumni News)

essay for the national "Hope for Education" contest. Out of 100,000 entries she was announced one of the winners. As a result Truman High School received \$10,000 worth of electronic equipment.

✓ Taylor Chief of Police Glen Bondy, TCHS Grad of 1967, was elected president of the Wayne County Association of Chiefs of Police. He is also chairman of the Downriver Narcotics Task Force.

# OBITUARIES



*The Alumni Association members would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the former classmates mentioned below. You will forever be in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Please Note: Some of the deceased listed below are from years past. This information was just given to us. If we receive deaths from the past that are not listed in our newsletter, they will be posted on the "In Memoriam" section on our website. If you know of a deceased graduate that is not listed in the Memoriam section of our website please let us know the name, school, graduating class and date of passing.*

## **Taylor Center High**

Gerald Waske, Class of 1971 (passed October 8, 2019)

Michelle Reitzi, Class of 1988 (passed June 6, 2020)

Nancy Bills Levon, Class of 1965 (passed January 20, 2020)

Sal Nieves, Class of 1985 (passed May 6, 2020)

## **OLDER OBITUARIES FROM TAYLOR CENTER**

Debby Cain, Class of 1971 (passed October 2019)

Monique Darrell, Class of 1988 (passed December 15, 2017)

Richardson Williamson, Class of 1965 (passed in 2015)

Linda Simmons Harshberger, Class of 1967 (passed December 8, 2008)

Ted Carpenter, Class of 1965 (passed in 1998)

Yvonne Bish, Class of 1965 (passed in May 1965)

## **Staff**

Dale Herron, Class of 1965 (passed February 10, 2018)

*Thank you for letting us know about the older obituaries. We encourage others to do the same. Any information you can give us will help us update our records. You can also go to "Taylor Center Friends Who Have Gone Before Us" group on Facebook to see the lists.*

For more information about the deceased and their families, please visit the alumni website [tayloralumni.org](http://tayloralumni.org) and click on "In Memoriam".