



STEVE AVERY INDUCTED INTO THE MICHIGAN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

By Jesse Goldberg-Strassler
July 7, 2022



LANSING, Mich. – The 2022 Class of the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame, Steve Avery and Frank Tanana, were inducted into the Hall of Fame Saturday, July 9, before the 7:05 p.m. Lansing Lugnuts/Great Lakes Loons game at Jackson® Field™. Founded January 28, 2015, the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame is dedicated to those players, coaches, teams, and contributors representing the foremost in achievement and lasting impact, from Little League to the Major Leagues.

The mission of the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame is to:

- *Honor* the state’s baseball heroes of yesterday
- *Celebrate* the national pastime today
- *Inspire* the baseball fans and ballplayers of tomorrow

A special pre-game ceremony had Avery’s and Tanana’s Hall of Fame plaques unveiled beyond the left field wall. (Continued on page 2)

Steve Avery first introduced himself to the Michigan baseball landscape in taking Taylor American Legion to the 1986 state title, receiving the Kiki Cuyler Award as tournament MVP.

In 1988, he was named Michigan's Mr. Baseball for his dominance at Taylor's John F. Kennedy High School, going 13-0 with a 0.51 ERA and 196 strikeouts in just 88 innings, plus a .511 batting average with eight home runs.

Avery was drafted third overall by the Atlanta Braves in 1988; three years later, he was named National League Championship Series Most Valuable Player after tossing a pair of gems against the Pittsburgh Pirates, totaling 16 1/3 scoreless innings. A 1993 National League All-Star, Avery made 18 appearances and 12 starts in the postseason, winning the World Series with the Braves in 1995. He concluded his 11-year Major League Baseball career with his hometown Detroit Tigers in 2003.

FROM NMU MAGAZINE

Bob Cowell, 1970 graduate of John F Kennedy High School, is in the "NEWS". Below is a picture of Bob and wife Kathleen at the Northern Michigan University Hockey Arena in Marquette, Michigan. They were to be honored and recognized for establishing a multi-year MILLION DOLLAR endowment to the Northern Michigan Hockey Program.

Upon graduating from JFK, Bob attended Michigan State University, majored in accounting, and became a Certified Public Accountant. He established a very successful business in Marquette and was very active with NMU Hockey, becoming president of the Blue Line Club. He loves the area and enjoys boating and golfing. Retired from his business, Bob and Kathy have now made Big Bay, Michigan their home which is located on the shores of Lake Independence a short distance from Marquette and the NMU hockey team.



The Taylor Public Schools Alumni Association is extremely proud of Steve and Bob and the thousands of other successful graduates of the Taylor Public Schools.

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR

Get ready Taylor Chick-fil-A is heading your way!

Developers recently submitted applications and detailed plans to build a Chick-fil-A location on the site of the currently vacant Little Daddy's Restaurant at 22250 Eureka Road. The plans call for demolition of the existing building and a totally new rebuild on the site.

"I'm just very, very excited about this," Mayor Woolley said. "When the developers asked for a meeting and walked in and sat down, we had no idea that they were planning to bring in a Chick-fil-A location. I was surprised ... pleasantly so. From that point forward, we were just waiting on official plans to be submitted to the city.

"When you combine this type of news with a Taylor Summer Festival week, when the weather looks fabulous and we're looking at a tremendous turnout (Saturday night's Dylan Scott country concert VIP seating has already sold out), it just makes for a great week."

The new 4,995-square-foot Chick-Fil-A will have indoor seating, an outdoor patio and drive-up window. They currently plan on employing 75-100 people.

The Taylor location will be a tremendous asset to the Eureka Way! business and entertainment district, anchored by Southland Mall, one of the original four J.L. Hudson's Detroit-area malls. Southland remains vibrant and has added such businesses as Cinemark Southland Center and XD; BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse; and Primati Brothers. Trader's Point took over the adjacent corner property on the southeast corner of Racho and Eureka, where new locations of Menards and BJ's Wholesale Club now stand.

Just a few blocks away from the new Chick-fil-A location now stands Kudos Taproom & Fieldhouse on



Pardee, which moved into the old Gander Mountain site. Kudos just held its grand opening a few weeks ago.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

This year, third graders at Randall Elementary School completed a project that is certain to be one they'll remember forever – creating their own math board games, and then playing them with their parents and peers.

“The last year has been a challenge for these kids,” says Donna Cahalan, third grade teacher at Randall. “We wanted to give them a different type of project to get them back into a groove. We know they needed to get those social interactions that they haven’t had a chance to get due to COVID.” The project started out in the beginning of the school year when students were introduced to several different board games, including classics like Candyland, Monopoly and Operation. They were then given the chance to play them in school.

“When we started the project, we knew we wanted to have parents come in and play these games at the end of the year,” said Donna. “We wanted them to have a project-based learning opportunity that then they could show off to the people they love.”

As the project went on, students were given the opportunity to play an online logic game called CoraQuest where they were able to work on their team building and writing skills. “We wanted to look at topics they were struggling with and incorporate those into the project, which is why we landed on creating a math game. We went step-by-step through the writing process for instructions, then played Coraquest and finally broke them into cooperative learning groups to get those social interactions that they haven’t really had over the last couple of years,” said Donna.

That’s when the real fun started.

“Students were shown how to design a board game,” said Donna. “They were given lessons on creativity and templates to get some ideas. After that, they were asked to start thinking of their own games and what they could be.”

Jessica Hatfield, the instructional coach that co-led the project, also sees the importance of the timing of this project.

“We know these students needed a space to socialize and interact with one another,” she said. “Students who were excelling at math and reading were able to gain more social skills, and kids who were struggling in both areas were able to gain some exposure in both of those areas.” Despite all the great moments during the project, the highlight was at the end when parents were invited to play the game with the “game masters,” the title of the students who created the games. “We had nearly all of the parents attend and participate in the games,” said Jessica. “The kids were very excited about it.”

1847 to 2022 - 175 Year Celebration of Taylor, MI

By Caroline Patts

This year we are celebrating our 175th year as a community with a family focused celebration on Saturday, August 6, 2022, from Noon - 5:00 pm at Heritage Park. There will be many activities for families to participate in. The Taylor Schools Alumni Association will have their very own tent to display items from all four of our high schools. Fellow classmates will be in attendance along with some additional groups that are focusing on their reunions. There will be a Classic Car show where you can take a stroll down memory lane and talk to the owners of a car you may have owned yourself in the early days. The Cascardo Art Action Experience will be providing our visitors with an opportunity to paint a part of a mural that we will display in our own community once it has been completed. There will be a drawing for prizes from many of our wonderful Taylor business partners.

The historical society cemetery committee is hosting a free cemetery walk on August 7th at Noon, at [Golden Ridge Cemetery](#) on McKinley Road. The walk will showcase some of Taylor's oldest families and the work the cemetery committee has done and are raising funds to complete. To learn more about the cemetery committee's work join the [Taylor Michigan Historical Society](#) on Facebook. Read more in the September edition of this newsletter!

UPCOMING EVENTS

John F. Kennedy, Class of 1972, 50 Year Reunion: Venue was changed from Taylor Meadows to Lakes of Taylor to allow for more of our graduates and guests to attend. (Taylor Meadows had a maximum limit of 100.) We have surpassed that number, but now there's plenty of room for all of the JFK Class of 1972 and their guests who would like to attend. The reunion will be held at:

Lakes of Taylor 25505 Northline Rd, Taylor, MI 48180
Date: Friday, September 23, 2022 6-11:00 pm
The price will be: \$50.00 per person
Checks payable to: Debbie Favors – due NLT August 12, 2022

John F. Kennedy, Class of 2002 20 Year Reunion: Saturday, September 24, 2022, Market Center Park, 13631 Eureka Rd, Southgate, MI. 48195, Starting at 7pm Food, music, outdoor games, indoor cash bar. RSVP by July 31 to Jasmine Bishop (Sheffield) by phone or email: jasmine@jasminesheffield.com or 734.624.7562. Cost is \$25 per person payment must be received by July 31st. Payable via Venmo @KENNEDYREUNION (If you are unable to pay via Venmo, please contact Jasmine). Join the Facebook Class of 2020 Twenty Year Reunion page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kennedy20yearreunion>

Party time for JFK classes of '66, '67 & '68: Join your classmates at Playoff Sports Grill, 27409 Goddard Rd, Taylor MI, on August 6, 2022 from 4:00 -?? PM. Casual attire. Free entry with beverages and food available for purchase. Mr. Pantalone will have "Big D's" personal yearbooks available for purchase. The committee has fun activities planned for all! For more information contact Chuck Bonner via email Chuck@ChuckBonnerUSA.com.

Taylor Center High School – Class of 1972

Love & Laugh Reunion Tour 2022:

- ✚ Monthly Breakfast with Larry - 2nd Saturday of every month 8:30am; Leo's Coney Island 9845 Telegraph Rd, Taylor MI
- ✚ Michigan vs Michigan State Basketball gathering Saturday, January 29, 2022, at 12:00pm JP McGuires, 21138 Goddard Rd, Taylor MI
- ✚ Taylor Summer Festival Fireworks gathering - Saturday, June 25, 2022, at 3:00pm - after fireworks Moe's Grill & Subs 22697 Northline Rd, Taylor
- ✚ Golf Outing - Friday, July 22, 2022, at 8:30am for sign in & 9:00am; scramble start at Taylor Meadows Golf Club 25360 Ecorse Rd, Taylor. Contact: Tom Olinzock 313-478-3570 to reserve a spot
- ✚ Telegraph Cruise gathering - Saturday, July 23, 2022, from 9am to 8pm; Parking lot north of thrifty florist (8150 telegraph, Taylor) --Look for tents and banner
- ✚ Cocoa Beach Weekend - Wednesday, September 14 - Monday, September 19, 2022. LaQuinta Inn 1 Hendry Ave, Cocoa Beach, Fla Beach. Pool, dancing, and lots of time to catch up. Details to follow
- ✚ Main Event Dinner Dance - Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 5:30pm - 11:00pm; Lakes of Taylor Golf Club, 25505 Northline Rd, Taylor; \$65 per person
- ✚ Michigan vs Michigan State Football party - October 29, 2022; Kudos Taproom, 14100 Pardee Rd, Taylor. Contact: Becky Kennedy/Noffsinger at 734-845-0160



A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR



I hired a handy man and gave him a list of 5 things to do. When I got home, only 1-3-5 were done. Turns out he only does odd jobs.



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: 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 SCHOOL

- ✚ Charles LaPointe, Class of 1958 (passed June 11, 2022)
- ✚ Jack Thackery, Class of 1967 (date not provided)
- ✚ Sherri Elaine Edmonds, Class of 1976 (passed March 31, 2022)
- ✚ Charles “Chuck” McGeorge, Class of 1965 (passed June 23, 2022)

STAFF

- ✚ June Mead, Librarian Holland Elementary (passed June 23, 2022)
- ✚ Margaret Rose Stowers, Elementary Librarian (passed July 16, 2022)

For more information about the deceased and their families, please visit tayloralumni.org and go to the In Memoriam tab at the top of the page.