



Taylor
Center High



John F.
Kennedy High



Harry S.
Truman High

Board Of Directors

President: Caroline (Craddock) Patts	TCHS 1973
TC-Vice President: Jennifer Fowler-Glumm	TCHS 1992
JFK-Vice President: Bea (Leonards) Holland	JFK 1985
HST-Vice President: Sheri (Graham) Engelbrink	HST 1977
Secretary: Sandra Kyte	TCHS 1962
Treasurer: Nancy Mascaro-Miller	JFK 1967

Join the Alumni Association. Become a lifetime member!

Membership is \$25 per person for a lifetime membership. Part of the proceeds will go to the "Taylor Schools Foundation of Excellence" Scholarship Fund. Your payment may be tax deductible.

Send your check payable to "Taylor School District Alumni Association" to:

Taylor Alumni Association
22770 Northline
Taylor, MI 48180

Or visit the website at:
www.tayloralumni.org and use the online application feature

Taylor Schools Alumni Association

Volume 2, Issue 1

May 2006

From The President.....Caroline (Craddock) Patts TC '73

OUR HOMETOWN.....July 6-9 This year's City of Taylor annual summer festival theme is "Our Hometown". The Parks and Recreation department has asked the Alumni Association to help out on this year's family day (Saturday, July 8). To tie into this year's theme we would like to have a homecoming of sorts — alumni activities maybe a tug of war, softball pitch, etc. Planning is going on right now and we would love to have any ideas for activities you may have. Write or e-mail the alumni association at: tayloralumniassociation@yahoo.com. We would love to have as many alumni as we can to share in the "hometown" feeling. We would like to see this be a yearly event for Taylor Schools alumni.

The Alumni Association has changed membership requirements. Instead of a yearly membership fee of \$20/person, membership will now be a "lifetime" membership at a one-time fee of \$25/person.

If you know of a reunion coming up for your class, let us know about it. Many alumni use the Classmates website but not everyone is a member so they are unable to respond to the information mentioned or the e-mails listed. We have a "class notes" area on our website where you can leave information for all to see.

If you have not visited our website lately, try it out. We strive to keep it updated for you. You can also access the City of Taylor, Kennedy High School and Truman High School websites.

If you know of someone who has passed away, please let us know. We would like to mention it on our website and in our newsletters. Also to keep our records up to date, please let us know when you have a change of address or e-mail.

Mark your calendar for the Alumni Association monthly meetings, always the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Taylor School Board Office on Northline Road. Changes and cancellations are sent out via e-mails so make sure we have your current address. Even if you have not joined the Alumni Association we would love to have you at the meetings or send your ideas and suggestions on making the Association successful to our e-mail address or the US mailing address. **New Alumni directories will be coming out in 2008 so make sure you have all your information updated.**

Have an enjoyable summer and keep safe! Hope to see everyone at the annual festival.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE TAYLOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

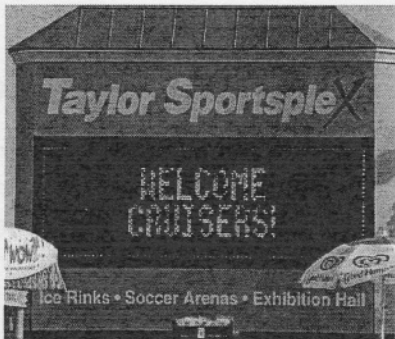
Our Hometown—July 6-9, 2006



News About Taylor

Lots of good things are always happening in Taylor. Taylor is home to the new Gateway Bridge which welcomes visitors on I-94 at Telegraph. Two golf courses, Lakes of Taylor and Taylor Meadows offer lots of golf entertainment plus great food at the Lakes House Grille at the Lakes or the Greenside Grille at the Meadows.

Heritage Park and the historical village area offers many things for the whole family. The park petting farm is home to lots of friendly animals including Alpacas. The Taylor Sportsplex (TSX) is one of the greatest sports complexes around. Located on Telegraph at Northline they have



two NHL size ice rinks and two arenas for indoor soccer. There is open skating and many other special events are held there.

Come see the beautiful new Midtown Taylor Fire Station and 23rd District Court located down the street from the City Hall on Goddard Road between Pardee and Tele-

graph. The William Ford Senior Center located on Ecorse Road is a beautiful place for fun and interaction among Seniors.

June 2 will be the Pet-A-Palooza at Heritage Park (a pet-adoption event); Art in the Park Festival will be held at Heritage Park June 10-11, July 6-9

the fantastic Summer Festival will be held with lots of rides, wonderful fireworks, great bands and just a host of great family activities. The 2006 Telegraph Cruise is scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 29, 2006. The hours for the Cruise are from 9am to 9pm. The Cruise route will go from Van Born Road to the South up to 5 Mile Road to the North. Last year the city of Taylor started the cruise at Northline with businesses and organizations on Telegraph joining in the fun with activities. More info about the Cruise can be found at www.cruzintelegraph.com. The Junior League World Series of Baseball runs from August 13-19; Taylor Sports and Recreation Hall of Fame Induction on November 2. For more information visit the City webwebsite at www.cityoftaylor.com/events.

School District News

MEAP test results for grades 3-8 have arrived. Students did well, but the district is hoping for high scores next year.

The Taylor School District has a new superintendent! Congratulations to Lee Lewis who has been appointed to the position. Lee has spent his entire career in the Taylor Schools. In 1973 he was a student teacher at John F Kennedy High School with Norm Fletcher as his critic teacher. That year he began teaching at Truman Jr. High. In 1990 he became Assistant Principal at Hoover Jr. High. In 1993 he was appointed Principal at Hoover and held that position until 1998 when he was named Assistant Superintendent for Special Projects. A year later he was named Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education. We wish Mr. Lewis a successful tenure as Superintendent!

Due to the reversal of the decision to close four elementary schools and shift the sixth grade to the middle schools, the Taylor School Board is gathering together a community-wide coalition of residents, parents, educators, community and business leaders to formulate a strategy to "right size" our district.

Truman High Coach Chuck Suttles (TC '68) led the Truman Cougar Basketball Team to the State quarter finals before losing a hard fought game to Redford High of Detroit. This Truman team became only the 3rd team in the 50 year history of Taylor Schools to advance to the Quarter finals. The first team to do so was the 1960 Taylor Center Rams. The second team was the 1978 Truman Cougars.

In our next newsletter we will have an article featuring the 1960 Taylor Cen-

ters Rams. Anyone having information on any players from that team send it to John Pantalone, 7558 Melvin, Westland, Michigan 48185

Barbara Whitaker Suttles (TC '71) announced her retirement from the Taylor School District after 32 years. She has been a secretary in the District with assignments at The Board Office, Truman High School, Taylor Center High School, Randall Elementary and Student Services. Barb is going to try a new experience; she is going to be a marketing representative for reverse mortgages, a program for senior citizens. Thank you Barabara for 32 years of service to the Taylor School District and good luck in your new venture.

And now a word from our sponsor....John Pantalone

"Looking for a former teacher"?

We received an e-mail from an alumni asking the whereabouts of Roger Craig, band director from high school. In 1965 Roger became John F. Kennedy high school's first band director. He established a magnificent program. His bands won many state awards and marched in several major parades. He later became an administrator at West Junior High and Truman High School. He was selected to be Assistant Superintendent for secondary education and later became superintendent of Taylor Schools. Roger currently resides in Ann Arbor.

He sings with several musical groups and enjoys golfing.

Let us know of any past faculty/staff member you would like to know about.

Van Kostegian Event

The Alumni Association held a very successful event on March 3, 2006. The Association helped Mike Baum (TC '69), current JFK Basketball Coach and Mike Wilkinson (JFK '67), former JFK basketball player organize an event honoring Van Kostegian for his many years of coaching Kennedy Basketball. Some 50 of Van's past players and co-workers

were at the Kennedy/Allen Park basketball game for a pre-game celebration. After the game a gathering was held at the American Legion Hall in Taylor. A great time was had by all. More events like this were requested. The response was tremendous.



Busy Reunions Schedule!...

Taylor Center High Class of '62

Friday, August 3, 2007 Pia's; Saturday, August 4, 2007 Lakes of Taylor North Ballroom \$40/person; Sunday, August 5, 2007 Heritage Park Picnic. \$40 check made out to Karen Boyer Drog, 3627 Grindley Park, Dearborn, MI 48124, memo on check: TCHS class of '62

Taylor Center Classes of '75 & '76

The classes of 1975 and 1976 are having a combined 30th and 31st reunion on November 25, 2006 at the Southgate Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline, Southgate, Michigan. Cost is \$110/couple or \$60/single which covers open bar and dinner, possibly a band or DJ if there is enough response. RSVP by June 30. Pass the word and respond by classmates.com. Send check to: 8819 Dixie, Redford, MI 48239. Any questions e-mail to TAYLORRAMS1976@aol.com. Any teachers or staff from those years are invited to attend the reunion. Contact Tom Ebelt at www.par54@msn.com or call (810) 434-0938(cell)/(810) 329-9487 (home). Also contact reunion coordinator Debra (Gore) Bernwanger at 313-220-2693.

Taylor Center Class of 1985

Taylor Center Class of 1985 is looking for former classmates' home addresses and email addresses for an upcoming reunion. Please contact: classof1985reunion@yahoo.com or mail info to: Class of 1985, 3225 Royal Blvd Commerce, MI 48382

Taylor Center High Class of '86

The planning committee is working on a class reunion. To help or more info contact Toni "Almas" Owens at (734) 287-3108 or (248) 766-9869

Taylor Center High Class of '96

The planning committee is working on a class reunion. To help or more info contact Nikole Karody (734) 284-1996, 15830 Humphrey, Southgate, MI 48195

John F. Kennedy Class Of 1981

25 Year Reunion Picnic on July 22, 2006 from 11 am-8pm at Champaign Park, Shelter #1, Allen Park, MI (Corner of Pelham and Champaign Roads. Shelter #1 is the big shelter located on the Champaign side of the park. Cost: A buck or two per person to offset the cost of reserving the shelter and ball diamond. Any extra money will be used for future casual reunions. **Extra Cost:** \$100 to anyone that cannot behave and causes us to lose our alcohol permit deposit. (See website for details) Rick Leedy: rleedy@chartermi.net Karen (Killips) Stenzel: kkillips81@wideopenwest.com Debbie (Tietz) Payter: jfpnn3@wideopenwest.com

Truman High Class of '96

Truman class of '96 reunion will be on Friday, June 23, 2006 at 7pm. Respond with your current address/e-mail so that more info can be sent. Contacts: bmmccandless@wyann.org; cdobroolec@hotmail.com

Please let us know how your reunion turned out so we can put the info in future newsletters. Pictures we can include with the info would be great.

In the News

Congratulations to **Judy Retzloff Gorski**, (TC '65), former teacher, drama coach and administrator in the Taylor School District, was elected to the Board of Education in Grayling, Michigan. Judi moved to Grayling after her career in Taylor. She then served as an administrator in the Houghton Lakes and then Grayling School District. *Once an educator always an educator.* After being retired for a few years, she decided to get back into the educational atmosphere and ran for a school board position. She was the top vote getter in a field of four that included two incumbents.

Congratulations go out to two of our alumni who have recently been appointed to positions within the City of Taylor, they are:

Jacques Desrosiers (JFK, 1974) was appointed as the Director of Police Services for the City of Taylor. We wish Jac the best in his new position!

Charles Hokey (JFK, 1973) was appointed to serve on the Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Taylor. Congratulations Chuck!

Congratulations to **Barb (Weigel) Schultz** (TC 1958). Barb had a hole-in-one on January 25, 2006 at Pembroke Golf and Country Club in Leesburg, Florida.

Marsha (Solem) Bunch (JFK 1972) apparently has the "write" stuff. For the second year in a row, Marsha was a national first place finalist in Samsung's "Hope for Education" essay writing contest. The big winner of the contest was actually Truman High School where Marsha currently teaches in the Language Arts Department. Truman Principal, Ron Vespri (JFK 1968) was given a list of Samsung electronics equipment and a \$10,000 credit to select whatever was needed for Truman. This was in addition to \$10,000 worth of Microsoft software the high school was also awarded. This brings to \$30,000 the prize winnings for the past two years thanks to Marsha.

If you have news about alumni, please let us know

In Remembrance.....

The Taylor Alumni Association would like to extend our condolences to the families of alumni that passed away recently...

Michael Alexander (JFK 1970)

Marc Farrand (JFK 1970)

Alexa Mullins (TC 1992)

Wayne Woodford (TC 1958)

Lisa Radtke (JFK 2000)

Donald Noah (HST 1979)

Michael Leever

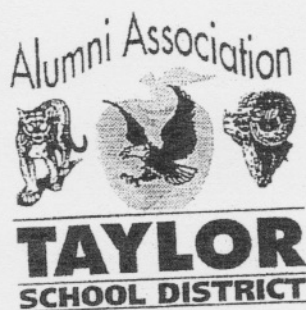
Elementary Teacher and TC basketball coach

Michael Brehmer (JFK 1971)

Teacher at McDowell Elementary School

Thomas Jung (TC 1962)

Nick Dibrano Jr (TC 1971)



Taylor Schools Alumni Association's purpose.

To enhance the educational atmosphere of the Taylor School District by developing an active alumni association for the common good of both the graduates and the school district.

Alumni Directories \$30 for non-members \$10 for paid members.

Alumni Mugs \$5 gray with all 3 mascots on them.

Window Clings \$1 Alumni Association has Ram, Cougar & Eagle on it.

Taylor Center Pins \$3 It says 1953-1997

Taylor Center Brick (comes with plaque and letter of authenticity) \$10

Organizing Committee

Nancy (Vauris) Myers	JFK 1968
Nancy Mascaro-Miller	JFK 1967
Linda Pilous	JFK 1967

Barbara (Weigel) Schultz	
TCH 1958	

Mickey Turcheck	
TCH 1960	

Gloria (Villet) Blommer	JFK 1967
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Claudia (Michael) Boyda	JFK 1967
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Mary (Swartout) Rusnak	JFK 1972
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Lora Coats	HST 1983
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Sharon (Campau) Barnett	TCH 1964
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Clair (Wasil) Conway	JFK 1967
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Bea (Leonards) Holland	JFK 1967
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Advisory Members

Charles Dickelman	Faculty
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(Retired)	
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Robert Haarala	Faculty (Retired)
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John Pantalone	Faculty (Retired)
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Amy Skehan	
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Executive Director, Taylor Foundation For Education Excellence	
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Alumni Association Membership Benefits...

The Alumni Association is often asked "what benefits do I get for joining the Taylor Schools Alumni Association?". The first and perhaps most important benefit is being able to stay in touch with people like you, Taylor School Graduates. Our website has great connections with the high schools and city so even if you no longer live in the area you can keep up-to-date with what is happening in your old hometown and high school. There are news items posted, class reunion information, a chat room and bulletin board. There is even a yellow pages section where alumni with businesses can post their information. Visit the website at www.tayloralumni.org.

All active members receive a quarterly newsletter full of info on alumni, faculty, death notices, news from the high schools, etc. Non-active members that provide us with an e-mail address will also receive the newsletter via e-mail (e-mail us at tayloralumniassociation@yahoo.com with your current e-mail address).

We can assist reunion committees with address lists and lists that can be downloaded to labels. The database is constantly being updated to try and keep addresses current.

Alumni events such as get togethers at the summer festival in July, homecomings and just general alumni get togethers are coordinated by the association.

We are attempting to establish a Distinguished Alumni Program to show the world what great alumni we have!

A portion of membership dues goes to the Taylor Schools Foundation of Excellence which provides scholarships and special projects for the schools.

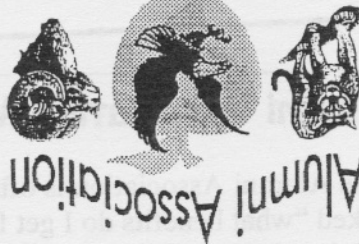
We are working on getting free admittance to sporting events at the high schools for active members. We have lots of other ideas but need everyone we can get to provide input and help. Remember, any association is as good as its members. Please consider joining today!

Taylor Alumni Association
22770 Northline
Taylor, MI 48180

Web: www.tayloralumni.org
E-mail:
tayloralumniassociation@yahoo.com

Tell us what you would like to see in future newsletters; e-mail or write to use at the addresses above

Executive Director, Taylor Foundation For Educational Excellence	
Amy Shuman	Faculty (Retired)
John Fanning	Faculty (Retired)
Robert Harrel	Faculty (Retired)
Charles Dickinson	Faculty
Advisory Members	
Joe (Retired) Johnson	JK 1967
Clark (Retired) Conroy	JK 1967
Sharon (Conroy) Barnett	TCH 1964
Steve Conroy	HS 1963
John (Retired) Conroy	JK 1975
Claude (Johnson) Boyce	JK 1967
Gloria (Vetter) Blomster	JK 1967
TCH 1960	
Michael Fuchsch	
TCH 1978	
Barbara (Wagner) Smith	JK 1967
Chris Flook	JK 1967
Henry Harrel - Miller	JK 1967
Henry (Vetter) Myers	JK 1968



TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

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 Annual dues \$25 per year with \$5 discount on them.
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 high schools for active members.
 We have lots of other ideas but need
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