

## Alumni Association

*Keeping Ties with Our Alumni*



**TAYLOR**  
School District

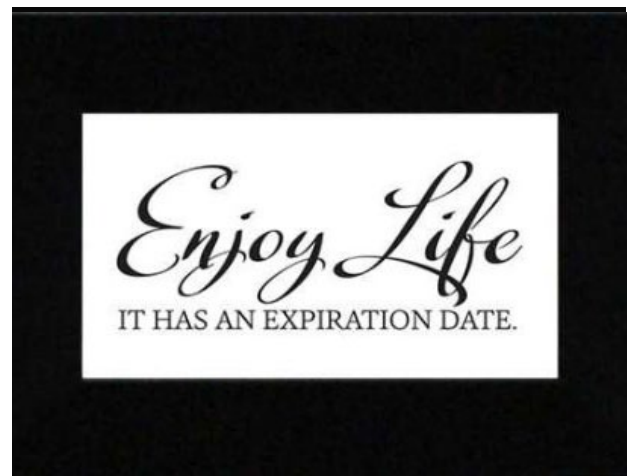


January 2020 Newsletter



## NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS THAT WILL HELP YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**JOIN** - If you are not a paid member...a lifetime membership is only \$25. So easy, just make check payable to "Taylor Alumni Association" mail it along with a note indicating the school and year of your graduation to **Taylor Alumni Association, 11501 Beech Daly, Taylor, MI 48180.**





## GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### SCHOLARSHIP DONORS APPRECIATION DINNER

The Taylor Foundation for Educational Excellence sponsored their annual "Appreciation Breakfast" for donors of scholarships. They enjoyed a buffet breakfast prepared by Culinary Arts students at the Career Center "Chopping Block Restaurant". Following breakfast, a program was presented. The theme of the program was "America is Great because it is Charitable". This theme was illustrated by a review of charitable acts of the U.S.A.; immigrants accepted, foreign aid committed, money, time and items donated to charity, dollars for world research and American lives lost on foreign soil in times of war. Four students from Taylor High School read their award-winning essays on these topics. The program closed with five high school choral students singing "God Bless America". All donors received a miniature American Flag and an enameled lapel pin. The program was planned by Scholarship Committee Chairman, Mr. Ken Nelson, who also was the M. C. The program was well received by all attendees.

## THERE IS A LOT HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR



► Below are activities offered at the City of Taylor Library during the month of January. Call the Library (734-287-4840) for dates and times.

Toddler Story Time

Lego Club

Knitters and Crocheters

Computer Basics

Writers Workshop

Oscar-Worthy Movie Marathon

Experimental Cooking

Adult Book Discussion and Book Sale

Responding to Islamophobia (*dislike of or prejudice against Islam or Muslims, especially as a political force.*)

► The following are offered at the Ford Center. Call (313-291-7740) for dates and times.

Line Dancing Classes

Yoga

Strength Training

Woodworking Workshop

Quilting



## WE HEARD FROM YOU!

► **Lee Snider, JFK Class of 82,** I received this message as part of a Happy Birthday Wish. It's an example of how much a compliment can mean to a person. It truly reminded me to compliment someone when I truly mean it. JP

*I don't know if you remember me or not, my name is Lee Snider and I was supposed to be part of the class of 1979' JFK. Back then I was into music (band) and not much of anything else except not going to school. I ended up quitting school in my junior year and then I joined the Army when I came of age. I did come back to visit JFK once while I was still in the Army and met up with you. You were very encouraging and told me that you were very proud of me. You saying that to me stayed with me for a very long time because you were the first person to ever tell me that they were proud of me. I ended up getting a Diploma from JFK through the Army in 1982. I stayed in the Army for 10 years and met my wife while stationed at DLI (Defense Language Institute) in The Presidio of San Francisco (The Presidio of San Francisco is a park and former U.S. Army military fort on the northern tip of the San Francisco Peninsula in San Francisco, California). She was also in the Army at the time. My MOS was "German Interrogator" and, needless to say, it was a very*

*interesting job working with Military Intelligence. My wife and I have been married going on 35 years now. We live in Baraboo, Wisconsin and have legal custody of our 3 grandkids who are 11, 10 and 9 years old. We have had them for the past 8 years. Ayden, the oldest, we have had since he was born. I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior back in 2006, which was the best thing I've ever done in my life. My wife and grandkids are also Christians. I actually got to baptize my grandkids at our church. That was very special. Well, I hope you have had a wonderful life John over these past 39 years since I saw you last. Take care my friend and may our Lord God bless you and keep you.*

*Another success story giving credit to the education they received in the Taylor Public Schools.*

► **Carol Plummer Waskiewicz and Don Waskiewicz,** Carol and Don have been married for 36 years and are living in Leslie, Mi. Carol is a RN and is working in a recovery room at Chelsea Hospital. Don received a Bachelors, degree in Quality Management and in 1982 went to work at Caritas, one of the largest asset managers in the world, developing data driven solutions. He also started companies of his own and each time was bought out by one of the clients. Don laughingly stated, 2 or 3 more buyouts and I can retire. Mr. Waskiewicz is currently chief architect working on massive database in Amazon Cloud. He is connected to the startup network of Lansing

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continue from page 3 (We heard from you!)

and MSU. As an adjunct, he has taught a class on entrepreneurship at MSU. Don states he is contemplating a move into state level politics as his next venture.

He closed with this; "Life has been good for Carol and I and we credit the education we received in the Taylor Schools for a big part in our success". 📎

## ALUMNI NEWS!

### Please consider helping your Taylor Alumni Board

Your board is always looking for ways of improving our service to you the members. We are looking for a representative from each graduating class to be a class "AGENT". The requirements are minimal; keep us updated on happenings from your graduating class such as life event changes, retirements, deaths, honors, births, changes of addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers and other information you feel would be of interest. We would use this information on the alumni website: [www.tayloralumni.org](http://www.tayloralumni.org), informational emails and our newsletters.

If you are interested in being a class Agent, send us an email with your name, school and graduation year. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Updates** – Please notify us of any changes in email address, mailing address and phone number.

## A HISTORY OF PRESENT AND PAST SCHOOL BUILDINGS

### TAYLOR JR HIGH

- ★ Built in 1954
- ★ Need your help on last year of operation as a Jr High.
- ★ It has been used in several ways since closing as a school. Currently parts are used by the Taylor Career Center

### BRAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- ★ Built in 1958 (36 rooms)
- ★ Closed in 2007
- ★ Reopened in 2007 as Sixth Grade Academy.
- ★ Closed 2016
- ★ Now used as annex for various programs.

### WEST JR HIGH

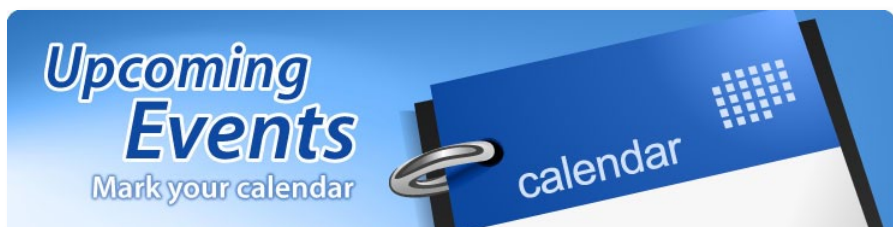
- ★ Built in 1963
- ★ Still operating as Middle High.

### HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

- ★ Built in 1974
- ★ Still operating as Middle School

—Document prepared by Caroline Patts





## Athletic Schedule For January Home Games

### Taylor High

Varsity & Jr Varsity - Boys Basketball home & schedule times - 5:30 pm JV & 7:00 pm Varsity

January 14th	Allen Park
17th	Southgate
18th	Inter-City Baptist time to be announced
31st	Woodhaven

Varsity & Jr Varsity – Girls Basketball home schedule & times - 5:30 pm JV & 7:00 pm Varsity

January 7th	Lincoln Park
10th	Edsel Ford
19th	Inter-City Baptist 5:30pm
21st	Garden City
24th	Trenton
28th	Gibraltar

9th grade Boys Basketball home schedule & time 4:00 pm

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January 9th Taylor Foundation Meeting—School Board 8 am - open to the public

January 18th Taylor Alumni Association Meeting—School Board 6 pm - open to any Alumni

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## 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.*

We have received many reports about people who passed away several months ago, and in some cases, even years ago. Many are being reported as a result of post cards or calls being made by the company working on the directory as they've tried to contact these individuals.

That prompts me to ask the following: If you know 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

Shelia Craddock Papp, Class of 1963 (passed December 9, 2019)

Ruth Ann Garner, Class of 1973 (passed April 22, 2002- notified December 12, 2019)

James Hill, Class of 1961 (passed August 26, 2015- notified December 4, 2019)

John Fuhrman, Class of 1963 (passed December 27, 2019)

### John F Kennedy High

Tom Fraser, Class of 1967 (passed December 9, 2019)

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