



Enhance the educational atmosphere of the Taylor School District for both the graduates and the school district.

July 2017 Alumni Newsletter

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Taylor Alumni Association
11501 Beech Daly Road,
Taylor MI 48180
tayloralumni.org

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS



DYLAN JONES
NEVER MISSED A DAY OF SCHOOL **4**

John F Kennedy High

On June 5th, Local 4 News at 5 (Detroit WDIV NBC News Station) featured Dylan Jones, a 12th grade student at John F Kennedy High. Dylan had not missed a day of school in 13 years, Perfect Attendance from Kindergarten through grade 12. Another way of saying it, he had attended school for 2,227 consecutive days. He was also a part of the sufficient dual enrollment program, giving him credits

for a year of College. What an accomplishment.

The Taylor Alumni Association congratulates Dylan Jones on his remarkable achievement.



Harry S. Truman High School

Harry S. Truman Marketing Program

The Marketing/DECA Club under the leadership of Instructor Cary Lundgren-Barnard had a tremendously successful year. All Marketing students became Vocationally Certified. They had 100% membership in Distributive

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Educational Clubs of America (DECA); 28 students qualified for State competition, 5 qualified for Nationals and one student, Amario Massey, brought home a medal. This was a huge accomplishment as he competed with 19,000 students from around the World. In addition to receiving the medal, Amario was awarded a Scholarship from the Marriott Foundation.

The competition was not all this fabulous group succeeded in. Students, Shyann Beard, Hannah Dixson and Darius Denard coordinated and organized the annual "Safe Halloween Event". They invited kids from all Taylor Elementary schools to come to Truman and enjoy Halloween. Events included, Haunted Hallway, trick or treat, crafts and face painting. They also had 18 businesses set up booths in the gym and had free giveaways and candy for those who attended. The DECA Club goal was to showcase Truman in a positive way, provide a service to the community and make it an event to remember for our

future Cougars and their families.

Students also attended multiple field trips such as, Sky Zone, Southland Mall, Gleaners and Toledo Mudhen's game. This provided students with the opportunity to job shadow employees, put together and present marketing plans to managers, win prizes for their ideas and even have some fun!

The Taylor Alumni Association is so very impressed with this organization and the Teachers and Staff of Truman High School. We will have another segment of DECA in the next edition. ✍️

ALUMNI NEWS!



The Taylor Alumni Assoc.

Welcome to our newest Lifetime member Steve Meharry, JFK Class of 1979

To join send your name, school and year of graduation along with \$25 payable to the Taylor Alumni Association and mail to the Taylor Alumni Association, 11501 Beech Daly Road, Taylor, MI 48180. It's that easy.



WE HEARD FROM

Yana Sache JFK 1977— is looking for her 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Ross, whom she had in 1968. If anyone knows her or her contact info., please let us know.

We would like to hear from more of you. Let us know how we can make your alumni association better and what you would like your board to do, etc. ✍️

TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS AT THE TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT'S TWO HIGH SCHOOLS.



The Taylor Public School Foundation for Educational Excellence awarded a total of 29 scholarships to graduating Seniors at the District's two High Schools, John F. Kennedy and Harry S. Truman on June 7 and 8 respectively. Ken Nelson, Chairman of the Foundation Scholarship Committee, along with the financial sponsors presented these scholarship checks at the Farewell Assembly of each high school. The total of all scholarships awarded was \$ 16,250.

The donors or sponsors, are dedicated individuals who have all had a connection with the Taylor Public Schools in some form or another. Some are former students, former teachers, present teachers, Board of Education members, Taylor business and community leaders.

The names of the scholarships and winners awarded at **J. F. Kennedy High School** are: The Ann Robertson Drake Scholarship, Ashley Nelson; The Charles Dickelman University of Michigan Scholarship, Rosemary Nnangobyia; The Environmental Solutions Scholarship, Rosemary Nnangobyia; The Educational Athletic Scholarship, Filomena

Savastano and Kyle Wright; The DFCU Financial Scholarship, Phylisha Howell, The Grodman Cure Foundation/Shane Simmons Memorial Scholarship, Jacob Brophy; The Mayor Sollars Scholarship, Jacob Brophy, The Taylor Changing Lives Scholarship, Blake Hardin; The Taylor Ministerial Making a Difference Scholarship, Filomena Savastano; The Taylor Public School Foundation Scholarship, Kyle Wright; The Taylor School District Alumni Association Scholarship, Houston James, Total Community Credit Union, Houston James; The Women's Auxiliary of the Democratic Club of Taylor Scholarship, Breanna Swain, The Angela Croft for Educational Excellence, Hosanna Kline; The Taylor Police Auxiliary Scholarship, Joseph Nagy; and The A.J. Webb Memorial Scholarship, Jessica Greer.



The names of the scholarships and winners awarded at **H.S. Truman High School** are:

The Charles Dicklemana University of Michigan Scholarship, Sarina Holmes-Johnson; The DFCU Financial Scholarship, Janaid Hussain Syed; Mayor Sollars Scholarship, Raelyn Maroney; The Taylor Changing Lives Scholarship, Julia McCloud; The Taylor Ministerial/Making a Difference, Brandon Cople; The Taylor Public School Foundation Scholarship, Sicely Jeffery; The Taylor School District Alumni Association, Julia McCloud; The Total Community Credit Union Scholarship, Vanessa Balderas; The Women's Auxiliary of the Democratic Club of Taylor Scholarship, Cierra Pace; The Taylor Police Auxiliary Scholarship. Sicely Jeffery; and The A.J. Webb Memorial Scholarship, Sidra Siddiqui.



LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT MICHIGAN

- ▶ The Packard Motor Car Company in Detroit manufactured the first air-conditioned car in 1939.
- ▶ The oldest county (based on date of incorporation) is Wayne in 1815.
- ▶ In 1817 the University of Michigan was the first university established by any of the states. Originally named Catholepistemiun and located in Detroit the name was changed in 1821. The university moved to Ann Arbor in 1841.



THINK ON THIS...

- ▶ A QUOTE FROM ALBERT EINSTEIN
Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.

MEETING OUR LEADERS

Mayor of Taylor Rick Sollars is a 1992 Graduate of Taylor Center High School.



Thinking back on his days at TCHS, Rick is quick to point out the lifelong friendships that began in the Taylor School District, and the strong influence that various teachers and staff had on him. He was especially fond of Mr. Dickelman and Mr, Strauss. Always one to enjoy athletics, Rick played football and baseball for the Rams, and really enjoyed “Spirit Week” because the teachers got directly involved.

While he’s gained many a vote as a political figure, some of the most meaningful votes came his way long before he entered government. He was elected a member of the Homecoming Court and his classmates voted him “best looking and nicest smile”.

Rick states the most important relationship started while he was an eighth grader at Hoover Middle School. That was when he met Alicia Bassonetti who later became his wife. Alicia a 1993 graduate of TCH and Rick have always lived in Taylor and now have three Children, Carson, Peyton and Ashton.

After his graduation from TCHS he attended Henry Ford Community College focusing on computer-aided design, and engineering classes while working in his family’s manufacturing business. He then went into the management side of the business and remained there until he was elected Mayor in 2013.

The mayor has kept a heavy emphasis on rebuilding Taylor’s business and development environment, with positive results. The Eureka Road retail and entertainment corridor is on of Michigan’s hottest development districts.

Rick has also been a big booster of recreation with vast improvements to Heritage Park and other smaller parks, and the golf courses. Over the past three years Taylor has reopened Northwest Park Pool and the Taylor Recreation Center and has built a new splash field in Heritage Park.

What it really comes down to “if it is good for Taylor then it is good for me”, he said. That is the measurement that I live by as Mayor. It started with my education in the Taylor Schools, and now people like me are trying to build a better community not only for ourselves and our families, but for the next generation.

The Taylor Alumni Association thanks Rick Sollars for his Community Service and kind words of the Taylor Public Schools. 🙌



- July 29th JFK class of 1967 50th reunion, 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 pm Taylor Meadows, \$45 per person. A block of rooms are being held at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 6778 Telegraph Road in Taylor at a rate of \$89.99 by mentioning "Kennedy Reunion 1967". Questions contact Linda Pilous 248-478-4145, Gloria Villet 734-775-6167 or Nancy Mascaro 313-291-3556.
- September 23 TCH Class of 1960 party has been canceled.
- October 7th TCH Classes of 1966, 67, 68 & 69 Reunion. Holiday Inn Southgate. \$75 per person. Dinner, Dance, Open Bar & Souvenir. Make checks payable to TCH and mail to TCH Reunion at 25143 Lyncastle, Farmington Hills Mi 48226. Please direct questions to Joan Cleveland Graham (248) 476-3558 or email to jngraham2@aol.com.
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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.

Taylor Center High

Linda Sower Sholar, Class of 1967 (passed May 18, 2017)

For more information about the deceased and there families, please visit the alumni website tayloralumni.org and click on "In Memoriam".