



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

# July Alumni Newsletter 2015

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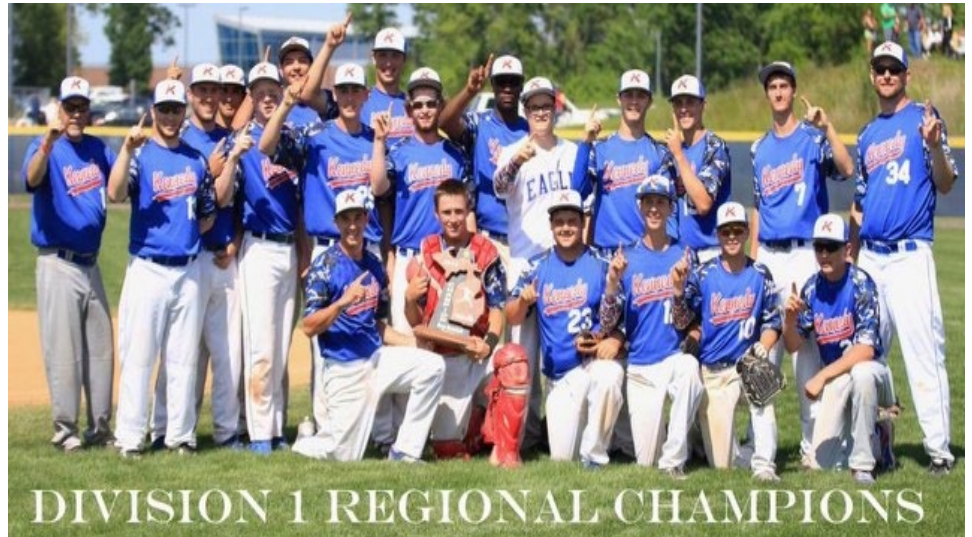
#### **Obituaries**

Our deepest sampathy go out to the families!

Taylor Alumni Association  
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[tayloralumni.org](http://tayloralumni.org)

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Kennedy High School Eagles**



Division One Regional Champions - In Division 1 regional play, the Eagles of JFK faced Saline the regional favorite.

JFK pitchers, Cody Serafin & Tyler Butsin combined to throw a 2 hit shut-out as the Eagles defeated Saline 1-0. Earlier in the day JFK defeated Wyandotte 2-0 and are now holding a season record of 31 wins and 9 losses. Playing in the quarter finals of the State of Michigan the Eagles were defeated by Portage Northern.

What a run for the JFK Baseball team, reaching the quarter finals in the state. The Eagles were tied for first place in league play, won the district title and advanced to the final 8 teams in division one before losing.

The Taylor Alumni Associations congratulates the players and staff of the JFK Baseball team for a wonderful season.



## Two Graduates, One Path



PAT DRAKE, a 1970 Graduate of JFK and JOHN MARTIN, a 1972 Graduate of JFK, decided on the same path to their careers. Both started as police officers in Taylor. Pat and John continued with their education and both became successful attorneys. Mr. Drake is with the Drake-Franco firm and Mr. Martin is with the Plunkett-Cooney firm.



The Taylor Alumni Association extends congratulations to both on excellent careers.

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## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### TCH Class of 65' President



The TCH Class of 1965 is celebrating their 50th reunion—a good time to find out what has happened to the President of the class.

Dan Lewandowski enrolled at Central Michigan University and attended there for one year on a partial football scholarship. He decided college football was not for him and transferred to the University of Michigan. His formal education was interrupted with stint in the Marine Corps Reserves. After his time in the service he returned to the U of M and graduated in 1970 with a degree in journalism. He

tried several jobs in various states and arrived at a decision to become an author. His first attempt was a novel entitled "Perhaps it was in Vail", a story about his skiing experiences. The novel did not

sell. He tells us he then went broke writing his second novel, "Worth Winning". Fortunately it was published by Wm. Morrow in hard cover and by New American Library in paperback and in the UK by Grafton. The novel was also translated into Swedish. Now the really good part—it was made into a movie starring Mark Harmon. Dan tells us the book did not sell well but the movie paid for the house they now live in near Chapel Hill, NC.

Dan went on to work for the University of North Carolina as an editor for various publications and websites. He retired from the University three years ago and now enjoys his hobbies, including table tennis and tap.



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## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

### JOHN F KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

#### Ann Robertson Drake Scholarship

Awarded to Loralyn Peeler 3rd in her class with a 4.158 GPA. Enrolled at Eastern Michigan University and majoring in Woman and Gender Studies.

#### Scholar Athlete

Awarded to Andrea Campbell. She participated in Basketball, Tennis and Volleyball. Enrolled at Wayne State University in Mechanical Engineering with a 4.04 GPA.



### **Friends of Northern**

Awarded to Teresa Savastano, who graduated 4th in her class with a 4.16 GPA. She will be majoring in Zoology while attending Northern Michigan University

### **Dr. Grodman/Shane Simmons Memorial**

Awarded to Nancy Wu who will be attending The University of Michigan and majoring in Biology. Nancy graduated number 1 in her class with a 4.238 GPA.

### **Mayor Sollars**

Awarded to Jenna Grabowski. She will be attending Wayne State University and majoring in Graphic Design. While earning a 3.97 GPA she still found time to be Editor—in-chief of the yearbook and Captain of the Tennis Team.

### **Changing Lives**

Two recipients—One went to Devon White who is enrolled at Wayne State University majoring in Political Science. She has done volunteer work at both the Dearborn and Taylor Animal Shelters. She has a 4.02 GPA.

A second award went to Loralyn Peeler (see Drake Scholarship for information).

### **Taylor Ministerial**

Awarded to Hannah Howard. She is enrolled at The University of Detroit Mercy and majoring in Pre-Dentistry. She has a 3.26 GPA.

### **Taylor Alumni Association**

Awarded to Morgan Alexis. She is enrolled at The University of Michigan and will be majoring in Education. She was in Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Bowling Team Captain and still found time to earn a 4.19 GPA.

### **Taylor Community Credit Union**

Awarded to Leanna Cloutier. Enrolled at Eastern Michigan University and majoring in Marketing. She was President of her freshman class and has been on the Honor Roll every year. She has a 3.46 GPA.

## **Democratic Club—Women’s Auxiliary**

Awarded to Hannah Howard (see Taylor Ministerial for information).

## **HARRY S TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL**

### **Addlyn Grace Woods Scholarship**

Awarded to Monik Shepherd. She is enrolled in a Business Curriculum at Michigan State University with a 3.97 GPA. While in school she volunteered at Taylor Parks elementary school.

### **Scholar Athlete**

Awarded to Brianna Dixson. Undecided as to school or curriculum. She has been accepted to both Eastern Michigan and Wayne State Universities. Brianna is undecided between Nursing and Special Education. She has a 3.36 GPA.

### **Mayor Sollars**

Awarded to Malorie Dyda. She will enroll at Northwood University and plans to major in Business Management. Malorie has received Perfect Attendance Awards and has participated in Band and National Honor Society along with several other activities. She has a 3.93 GPA.

### **Changing Lives**

Awarded to Kieesha Ferguson. Kieesha made a complete turn about after transferring into Truman High. Terrible grades in grade 9 and then Honor Roll in her senior year. Her goal is to become a success in Theater and hopes to be a professional singer.

### **Taylor Ministerial**

Three recipients—First was awarded to Russell Yandura. He plans to attend the University of Michigan-Dearborn Campus and major in Business Administration. While a student Russell started a Bible study class that has grown to encompass students from both Truman and Kennedy. He has a 3.59 GPA.

Second was awarded to Andrew Lucas. He has been accepted to Spring Arbor College and Eastern Michigan University but is undecided on curriculum. Volunteer work: Life Group Leader, Woodland Church Kid Zone, Easter Eggstravaganza and Christmas Tea. He has a 3.94 GPA.

Third was awarded to Quartney Alchin. He will be attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn and major in Nursing. He has been in volunteer work for his church for over ten years; collecting clothing and blankets for the homeless, canned food for the hungry and providing backpacks for children. He has a 3.97 GPA.

### **Taylor Alumni Association**

Awarded to Rose Dobek. She will be attending the University of Michigan majoring in Accounting. Rose was involved in many school activities and volunteer work and was still able to be the 2015 Valedictorian of Truman High School with a 4.13 GPA.

### **Taylor Community Credit Union**

Awarded to Zachary Ovaes. He will be attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn majoring in Pre-med. A member of both Marching and Symphonic Band, Soccer, National Honor Society and was class President. He has a 4.04 GPA

### **Democratic Club—Women’s Auxiliary**

Awarded to Stephanie Neddo. She will be attending Michigan State University and majoring in Pre-med. Stephanie was a cheerleader, on the Principal’s advisory board, played softball and was a class officer. She has a 4.03 GPA.

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## **UP COMING EVENTS**

### **Taylor Conservatory & Botanical Gardens:**

- July 8th Jazz in the Park—The Marcus Elliot Quartet
- July 15th Christopher Codish & The Brother’s Groove
- July 22nd Saxophonist Deon Yate
- July 29th Don Middlebrook & The Pearl Divers – Jimmy Buffet style



July 18th ..... JFK Class of 1975 40th year reunion. Any questions should be directed to Kim Romas-Porcelli at [alkim249@yahoo.com](mailto:alkim249@yahoo.com)

September 12th ..... JFK Class of 1970 45th reunion. Direct questions to: Sue Epperson at [eppersonhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eppersonhs@sbcglobal.net) or Pat Kocher at [tricialou68@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tricialou68@sbcglobal.net)

September 18th ..... Annual all school/all class party - mark your calendars. More info to follow.

September 18th ..... TCH Class of 1960 three-day (18th - 20th) Reunion.

October 10th ..... Class 1965 50th Reunion.

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## OBITUARIES



Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing. And when you have reached the mountain top, then you shall begin to climb. And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.

~ Khalil Gibran

### **John F. Kennedy High School**

Daniel Vigna, Class of 1974 (Passed April 27, 2015)

Justin Waddell, Class of 1977 (Passed May 19, 2015)

### **Taylor Center High School**

Linda Gowen Corrolo, Class of 1965 (Passed May 17, 2015)

### **Harry S. Truman High School**

Michael Loomis, Class of 1977 (Passed May 21, 2015)