



WARS BRING HEAVY DEVASTATION TO THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED

As we have observed in Ukraine, the loss of lives and awful damage in cities is almost beyond belief. We can all be thankful that no war against foreign enemies has ever been fought on our soil. During the 2ND World War there have been minor attacks on the mainland, though none closer to our immediate area than in March of 1945.

The Japanese Military developed a balloon bomb they named FU-GO. The balloons were 33 feet in diameter and were made from thin, fibrous paper and filled with hydrogen. Hanging from the balloons by rope was a “chandelier” containing batteries, one high-explosive bomb, and two incendiary bombs. Between November 1944 and April 1945, the Japanese launched over 9,000 fire balloons toward North America. Carried by the recently discovered Pacific jet stream, they were to sail over the Pacific Ocean and land in America, where the Japanese hoped they would start forest fires and cause other damage. The effort mostly failed. Though about 280 were reported as reaching America, little damage was caused.



Two of the balloons are known to have landed in Michigan, one in Allegan County on the west side and one in Livonia at 8 Mile Road and Gill. Neither caused any casualties or damage.

However, near Bly, Oregon, six people (five children and a woman) became the only deaths due to an enemy balloon bomb attack and the only U. S. fatalities from an enemy attack on the U. S. mainland in WW II. None of this was made known at the time as the U. S. Military had asked the media not to report it. They feared it would cause panic if the populace knew there were “bombs” dropping from the skies. They also did not want to give any information to the Japanese that they could use to improve the program.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR

Annual Spring Gathering

Tickets for one of the City's most popular spring events, the Bunny Trail, go on sale March 1. Anyone interested should click on www.universe.com/Bunny22 to reserve your spot and purchase tickets.

The April 9 events will have an "Alice in Wonderland" theme, and tickets are very affordable: \$5 per resident child, \$10 if you are a non-resident. The event is geared for children 12 and under. Included in the price is an Easter treat bag; visits with famous characters from "Alice in Wonderland"; and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny. Don't forget to bring your camera.

The Bunny Trail will be anchored in the Sheridan Center Open Air Pavilion, 12111 Pardee Road. Plenty of free parking will be available.

For further information on the 2022 Bunny Trail, call the Taylor Recreation Center
(734) 374-8900 Ext. 2.



TAYLOR SUMMER FESTIVAL- LARGEST IN THE DOWNRIVER AREA

The Taylor Summer Festival is scheduled for June 23-26 in Heritage Park, and will feature a performance by rock star Stephen Percy, the Voice of RATT, with guest Slaughter on Friday June 24. Dylan Scott will perform on fireworks night, Saturday, June 25.



TAYLOR VETERANS' MUSEUM

The museum, which has been expanded, is now located at the Media Center Building.

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Taylor High Girls Basketball Team was rewarded Statewide recognition when they were named All-State Academic Team. The 12 members of the team have a combined Grade Point average of 3.42 and four members of the team have a 4+ GPA.



Taylor Unified Special Olympics Day
May 20, 2022
13500 Pine St. Taylor, Mi 48180

Taylor School District is holding its inaugural Special Olympics for Taylor students this May and you have the chance to make it even better for the community. They are accepting donations which will allow their team to purchase medals, t-shirts, food, and supplies for activities for all the participants.

For more information, to volunteer or contribute, visit: www.taylorschools.net/page/unified

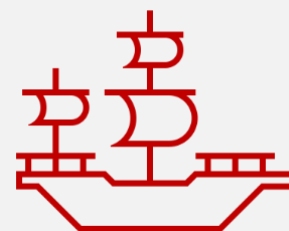
They are looking for first responders to volunteer.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

March 4, 1996, President Bill Clinton, visited the City of Taylor



A LITTLE HUMOR



In April of 1620 it rained. That same year the Pilgrims arrived. I SUPPOSE THE SAYING IS TRUE—APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAYFLOWERS

UPCOMING EVENTS



September 23rd 50 YEAR REUNION JFK Class of 1972

For more information contact Debbie Favors Lentz 313-295-2811

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR



Mrs. Martha A. Stanislaw was sworn in as Supervisor of Taylor Township in 1956. She became the first woman in Township history to hold that job (and, as of today, the only woman ever to serve as Supervisor or Mayor) She took over the position from former supervisor, Harold Rippe who resigned. At the time, she was a Trustee on the Township Board. Mrs. Stanislaw was a member of the Taylor Township Board of Education from 1951-1954; serving two years as Board secretary. She was a member of the board of directors of the Taylor Parks Taxpayers' Association as well. Additionally, she was appointed by Governor Williams in 1954 to serve on a fact-finding commission to help settle a bus drivers' strike in the area. Mrs Stanislaw was also a director of the Penrickton Nursery for Visually Handicapped Children (now Penrickton Center for Blind Children).

In a November 18, 1956 Detroit Free Press article she stated her goals were "...to make the township's government as efficient as it can be and, next and most of all, I pray that our local government be organized so every one of our 38,000 residents feel he is an important part of it."

Article submitted by the Taylor Historical Society



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

- ✚ Constance “Connie” Riopelle, Class of 1957 (passed February 15, 2022)
- ✚ Roseann Keeler, Class of 1960 (passed August 2013)

JOHN F KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

- ✚ Kenneth White, Class of 1981 (passed March 4, 2022)
- ✚ Todd Baum, Class of 1991 (passed February 28, 2022)
- ✚ Ellen Jean Keeler McLaughlin, Class of 1967 (passed July 31, 2020)
- ✚ Daniel Hardy, Class of 1966 (passed July 16, 2017)
- ✚ William “Bill” Ford, Class of 1966 (passed August 7, 2013)

HARRY S TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL

- ✚ Jeffrey Zapczynski, Class of 1977 (passed March 3, 2022)

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

- ✚ Emily Blanton, Class of 2019 (passed March 15, 2022)

STAFF

- ✚ Robert “Bob” Haarala, Teacher & Administrator (passed March 2, 2022)

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