

## Alumni Association

*Keeping Ties with Our Alumni*



**TAYLOR**  
School District



December 2018 Newsletter

# THEATER OUTING FOLLOWUP



**The Taylor Foundation is Overwhelmed by the Response to helping the Students with their theater field trip.**

We asked for assistance to provide students the opportunity to see a live theater production of Phantom of The Opera at the Fisher Theater. Our goal of \$1,400 was reached, and then some.

A total of \$2,375 was donated by November 21. We thank all of you for your generous donations. The \$975 above our goal will be secured in an account for future student enrichments. Thanks again to the best alumni in the world.



**Thank you for your generous donation.**

The following individuals sent donations that made it possible for the students to attend the theater and for us to carry on projects and scholarships for future students of Taylor Public Schools. Every cent received goes to projects benefiting the students.

- ☆ Kathy Newsome Bowyer, JFK 1969 and John Bowyer, JFK 1970.
- ☆ John Cruden, TCH 1964 and Sharon Holland Cruden, TCH 1964.
- ☆ Joan Gebhardt, retired teacher and administrator.
- ☆ Joanne Keller, retired teacher.

Taylor Alumni Association  
11501 Beech Daly Road,  
Taylor MI 48180  
[tayloralumni.org](http://tayloralumni.org)

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- ☆ Louanne Kostigian, wife of coach Van Kostegian
- ☆ Gordon Krater, JFK 1976
- ☆ Bonnie & Lee Lewis, retired teacher and administrator
- ☆ Yolanda Mitts, TCH 1965
- ☆ John Pantalone, retired teacher counselor and administrator
- ☆ Rebecca and John Pershon, HST 1976
- ☆ Wiley Rasbury, TCH 1960
- ☆ Ron Reyna, JFK 1971
- ☆ Bill Riggs, TCH 1960
- ☆ Jan & Steve Rimar, JFK 1973
- ☆ Tim Rodgers, JFK 1974
- ☆ Darold Schosheck, TCH 1960
- ☆ Debbie Stellini, TCH 1977 School Board and Foundation
- ☆ Cheryl Mccollum Sturgeon, JFK 1973 and Rod Sturgeon JFK 1973
- ☆ Roger Swap, TCH 1967 and Pamela Michaels Swap, JFK 1967
- ☆ Gary Villet, TCH 1960

## Kennedy Souvenir T-Shirt

Available for \$15 while supplies last is the Kennedy souvenir T-shirt, it makes a great stocking-stuffer. Contact the association for more information.



## Kennedy and Truman Photo Essay DVD

With the closing of Kennedy High and the "rebranding" of Truman High forming the new Taylor High School, one of our Alumni, Michael Isaacs created a photo essay of each school. The DVD's feature photos throughout the school (inside and out). The Alumni Association is pleased to offer the photo essays on DVD. You can purchase a DVD of the individual school or a combined DVD of both schools. Cost for the DVD is \$10 plus shipping and handling (if required). Great stocking stuffers! If you are interested, please contact the Alumni Association at [tayloralumniassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:tayloralumniassociation@yahoo.com).



## MEETING OUR LEADERS

**M**athew D Hall, Principal Hoover Middle School.

I received my B.A. Degree from Hillsdale College in Elementary Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education. I earned my Masters in Educational Leadership from Wayne State University.

I have been with the Taylor School District for the past 24 years. First as a 5th and 6th grade teacher before becoming the Assistant Principal of the Sixth Grade Academy. Currently I am the Principal of Hoover Middle School. I am very proud to be part of the Taylor Educational Family

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

T. M. DORAN, TCHS (1971)

**T**om Doran graduated from TCHS in 1971

and received a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University. He is married to Sherry Moore (TCHS 1973).

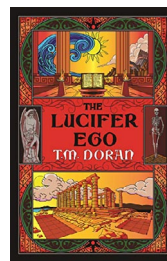
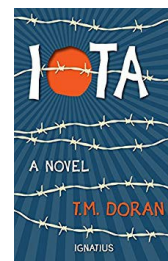
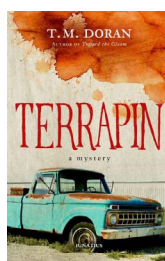
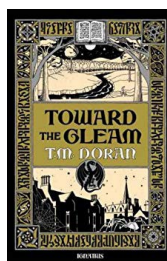


Most recently, he was a Partner at Hubbell, Roth & Clark (the firm where he began his engineering career). Previously, he was a Partner at McNamee, Porter & Seeley, and the founding President of McNamee Industrial Services. He assisted Tom Monaghan with a new Town and University, was an Adjunct Professor of Civil Engineering at Lawrence Technological University, and chaired the Engineering Society of Detroit Editorial Board (ESD). Tom received the Purdue University Alumni Achievement Award and was elected to the ESD College of Fellows. He's a frequent contributor to the Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post (and others) on the environment, infrastructure, and non-technical subjects. Tom is the author of *Toward the Gleam* (Ignatius Press, 2011), *Terrapin* (Ignatius Press, 2012), *Lota* (Ignatius Press, 2014), and *The Lucifer Ego* (TM Doran Books, 2018) all are available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Tom's book *Terrapin* "Terrapin" is a deep dark mystery novel set in a fictional Taylor of the 1960s and 70s. Close friends, four boys and a girl, grow up in Terrapin Township where they experience things that affect their lives for good and ill. When a series of murders devastate what was supposed to be a joyful present-day reunion, Dennis Cole is forced to get to the bottom of it...and fast, as he is in the cross hairs too! How relationships, events, and choices shape lives for years to come is explored.

People who knew the Taylor of the second half of the 20th century will recognize the place where they grew up and the popular culture in those days, along with being immersed in the menace of the story. The author grew up on Irving Street. Tom's latest book "*The Lucifer Ego*", is the anticipated sequel to *Toward the Gleam* which was Inspired by J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, C.S. Lewis's *Narnia* stories, the *Inklings*, G.K. Chesterton and other great spirits of the 20th century, and is packed with suspense, mystery, and big questions.

Tom and Sherry have been blessed with 3 children and 6 grandsons.







## GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Students from the S.T.E.A.M. Academy of Taylor High School went to an Expo at Cobo Hall in Detroit. They had an opportunity to explore career opportunities in construction trades.
- JR. ROTC Inspires During Veteran's Day  
The cadets presented the nation's flag at church events and assisted living facilities in Detroit and Taylor. The congregations cheered and applauded in appreciation after the cadets performed. The highlight came when someone requested the "Chicken Dance", which many had learned while serving in Germany during World War II. Cadet Kristen Long was a hit with the residents as she danced the "Chicken Dance" for them.

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



- **Fletcher Discovery Trail** will eventually connect Taylor's midtown along Goddard Road with Heritage Park, the Wayne County Community College Campus, a new park near Superior and Pardee and even the "Eureka Way" district. A ten-foot wide asphalt pathway is designed for non-motorized vehicles. A great trail for bicycling, walking and jogging.
- **Trackman Golf Simulators Return to Meadows**  
Last year Taylor Golf became the only location in southeastern Michigan with four Trackman Golf Simulators. It allows you to play or practice just like the pros. It extends the season, and in Michigan that is important. This might amaze you: three hundred fifty of the world's top golfers own their own Trackman.

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## ➤ What's New in Town

- ☑ Home2 Suites by Hilton - Four story hotel going up on Pardee Road.
- ☑ Taco John's & Dog Haus set to be built on Pardee across from Southland Center
- ☑ Bubba's 33 restaurant is building a 7,100 sq. ft. facility in the Eureka Corridor.
- ☑ Beaumont Taylor Campus is adding a 13,500 square foot building near its helipad. It will house an orthopedic center.
- ☑ Timber's Edge Condo Development will build on Goddard Road near the post office.

## ➤ Santa's Magic Forest (Heritage Park Activities Building)

Events through Christmas:

December 1st - "Lunch with the Clauses" at the Petting Farm 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.

"Skate with Santa" Sportzplex 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

"Taylor Dance" performs Nutcracker at the Ford Performing Arts Center in Dearborn. (advance ticket sale only)

December 8th "Breakfast with Santa" 9:00 am at the Lakes of Taylor

"Reindeer Days" 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Petting Farm

December 9th "Reindeer Days" 11:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Petting Farm

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## YELLOW PAGES

Looking for a Gymnastics School? Check out the "Yellow Pages" on our web site [TaylorAlumni.org](http://TaylorAlumni.org).



Send us information on a business you would like to post. Remember there is no charge. Mail a business card to Taylor Alumni Association, 11501 Beech Daly, Taylor, MI 48180.

## NEW SCHOLARSHIP CEMENTS LEGACY OF FORMER TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL COACH (SUBMITTED BY COLIN MALONEY)



Photo Courtesy: Caroline Prattis

L- R: Dick Kozik, Mike Baum, Van Kostegian, Roger Bechtol, and Ed Merideth at the surprise breakfast held at the Chopping Block on November 2nd.

**F**or three decades, Downriver had its very own Coach K.

That's how long Van Kostegian marched the sidelines of a trio of Taylor high schools, before retiring 29 years ago.

He started at Taylor Center High School and finished at Truman High School, but spent the bulk of his time as an Eagle. From 1966 to 1982, Kostegian coached varsity basketball at Kennedy High School.

None of the three schools—or their mascots—exists anymore, after Kennedy and Truman merged to form Taylor High School and its mascot, the Griffins, this year.

Still, Kostegian expressed gratification for his time at each during a surprise event Nov. 2nd.

"I'm proud to have been a Ram, an Eagle, and a Cougar," he said, referring to each school's mascot. "I loved my career and have

only good things to say about Taylor kids. My message has always been, you don't have to be a champion to be a winner."

Now, 92 years young, Kostegian has an annual scholarship named after him. The \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior from the Taylor School District for each of the next four years.

The criteria for the candidates marry scholastic and athletic accomplishment. Students planning to major in education at the college level and who played basketball for multiple years in high school are eligible.

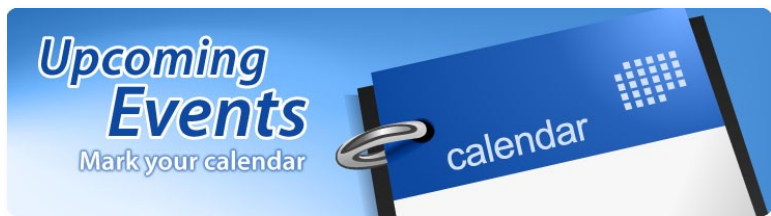
Two former players—both 1976 graduates of Kennedy High—financed the scholarship, donating the \$8,000. Tim Rogers is currently a senior account executive for the New Era Cap Co. and Gordon Krater is an executive with Plante Moran.

The Taylor Public School Foundation for Educational Excellence hosted the scholarship announcement at The Chopping Block, a student-run restaurant that's part of the culinary arts program at the James I. Maley Career and Technical Center in Taylor.



Photo Courtesy: Caroline Prattis

L-R John Pantaline and Coach Van Kostegian



## **Taylor High School Girls Basketball JV**

Junior Varsity (JV) games start at 5:30 pm and Varsity at 7:00 pm

December 4th	Home vs Woodhaven
December 11th	Home vs New Boston - Huron
December 14th	Home vs Edsel Ford Dearborn

## **Taylor High School 9th Grade Girls Basketball**

December 4th	Home vs Woodhaven 4:00 pm
December 11th	Home vs New Boston Huron 4:00 pm
December 14th	Home vs Edsel Ford 4:00 pm

## **Taylor High School Boys Swim Team**

December 13th	Home vs Woodhaven 6:00 pm
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## **West Middle School**

December 11th	Chorus Concert 6:00 pm at Wayne County Community College Auditorium
December 12th	Band Concert 5:30 pm at Wayne County Community College Auditorium

## **Hoover Middle School**

December 1st-14th	Hoover can food drive
December 7th	Hoover Concert Band at Southland Mall 10:00 am
December 12th	Choir and Band Concert 7:00 pm at Hoover
December 13th	Choir and Band Concert 7:00 pm at Hoover

December 25th	The Taylor Alumni Association wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
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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 School**

Jacquelynn Himes Robinson, Class of 1959 (passed August 31, 2018).

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

Patrick Richey, Class of 1970 (passed May 7, 2018).

### **Staff**

Joyce Varga, Retired Secretary, Student Services (passed September 2018).

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