

Alumni Association

Keeping Ties with Our Alumni



TAYLOR
School District



December 2020 Newsletter

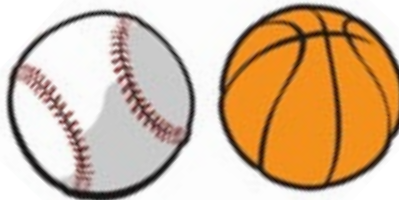
IN THE NEWS

KEEPING UP WITH GRADS!

Ron Vespremi | JFK 1968

I have lived in Taylor my whole life and in 1968 I graduated from John F Kennedy High School. Had great memories of high school with the teachers I had and the friends I met. We had great times with the school dance, the senior variety show and the Varsity Club. Went to Eastern Michigan and graduated in 1973. Worked part time for the Taylor Recreation Department

and later for almost 20 years helped run the adult softball program and elementary school basketball program. During that time, I met a lot of great people who are still friends today. In 1973 I was hired by the school district. During the next 10-12 years there were a lot of budget cuts and for that reason I taught at many different schools. I ended up teaching at Brake,



West, Hoover, Titan, Truman, Taylor Center and Kennedy and when I was laid off, I was a teacher and Athletic Director at Cabrini High School. Moving around a lot was not easy but on the plus side I ended up working with and for a lot of good people who I might not have met if I had stayed at one school. I received my master's degree from Wayne State and in the year 2000 I became the Assistant Principal at

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Taylor Alumni Association
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tayloralumni.org

Truman High School. In 2004 I became the Principal and worked there until I retired in 2007. During my time at Truman I was privileged to work with a great group of people and had a lot of fun working there. During my time in Taylor I also worked as the J.V. softball and baseball coach at Taylor Center and the J.V. softball coach at Kennedy. I also had coached baseball and track at Brake. The sport I enjoyed the most was football. I coached at Brake and was an assistant at Kennedy, Taylor Center and Woodhaven. I was also the head football coach at Taylor Center. During those coaching days I once again met and coached some great kids, many of whom I still see today. I have now been retired for 13 years. I like to travel with my wife of 47 years, Sharon, who is also a Kennedy graduate (Class of 1969). We have traveled to Alaska, Ireland and Hawaii and many places throughout the U.S. Besides the chance to travel, I enjoy

golfing with a lot of the people I've met throughout my career in Taylor. I have 2 children. Stacy, who is the curriculum Director in Woodhaven, and Michael who is the District Director for Olympus Science in this area. Sharon and I also have 2 grandkids, Jack and Sofie. Jack is playing hockey and whenever we get a chance we love going to his games. All and all both the city and school district have been very good to Sharon and me and we are grateful to both.



Ron is just one of a very few graduates of Taylor Schools who returned and became a Principal. He was also inducted into the City of Taylor Sports & Recreation Hall of Fame in 2006. The Taylor Alumni Association thanks Ron Vespremi for his years of dedicated service to the Taylor Public Schools.



HOW ABOUT A LITTLE CHRISTMAS HUMOR?

- ♦ Why is Christmas just like a day at the office? You do all the work and some fat guy in a suit gets all the credit.
- ♦ What do you call an obnoxious reindeer? Rude-olph.
- ♦ What did the stamp say to the Christmas card? Stick with me and we'll go places!
- ♦ "Christmas is the season when you buy this year's gifts with next year's money." –Author Unknown
- ♦ "Three phrases that sum up Christmas are: Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men, and Batteries not Included." –Author Unknown
- ♦ "I left Santa gluten-free cookies and organic soy milk and he put a solar panel in my stocking." – unknown
- ♦ "He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree." –Roy L. Smith



DOWN MEMORY LANE:

BACK TO THE 1980'S JFK

1980 DO YOU REMEMBER

1980 — Drama Club production of "Oklahoma."



Drama Club

The Band participating in the Cherry Festival in Washington D.C.



Band

Girls swim team winning a 2nd straight Tri-River Championship.

Cross Country Team winning the Tri-River Championship.

Girls track team was Tri-River Champs in 1979.

Pom Pon Squad won 2nd place in the 1979 National Championships.



Pom Pon Squad

1981 — Production of "Man of LaMancha".

College night hosted by JFK - for TCH, HST, Southgate and Shafer-40 Colleges.

Varsity Football Team winning the Tri-River Championship.

French Club Trip to Toronto.

Youth in Government traveling to West Virginia and New York.



Youth Government Team

1982— Sadie Hawkins Dance reportedly the largest crowd ever at JFK.

Taylor Jr. Miss Pageant —24 Contestants and Sue Smith was the 1st Runner-up.

Long Jump. Earl Jones of Inkster, MI won Bronze in the 880 Meter Race.



GIRLS' TRACK TEAM: Top row: Coach, Chisholm, P. Bana, S. Sammons, K. Heuble, I. Morrison, S. Spears, S. Regan, L. Mamon, D. Downey, Coach Smith. Middle row: L. Macomber, L. Sharp, L. Tennenwald, T. Beck, S. Smith, C. Morlock, P. Cooke, S. LaPointe. Front row: G. Puck, C. Kirby, G. Wiseman, E. Anello, A. Baskley, N. Thomas, E. Morlock, C. Casani.

Football team again winning the Tri-River Championship

Cheerleading Squad awarded Grand Champions Trophy at summer camp.

The Millage Parade and students marching to pass Millage Bill.



Eagle's Football Team

1983 — Homecoming.

Spring Talent Show.

Powderpuff Football Game won by Seniors 14-0.

International Banquet with German Dancers.

Cheerleaders were Grand Champs at Adrian College Summer Camp.



Cheerleaders

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1984—Homecoming Queen and Court.

Basketball team defeated both TCH and HST to become City Champs.

Girls track team lost only one meet the entire season.

German Club members went to Germany during Spring Break.



Girl's Track Team

Students active in Millage Parade.



Millage Parade

1985 — Spinster King and Court.

Spirit Week and the Tug of War.

Quiz Bowl Team had a winning season.

Homecoming Queen Dance, Senior Class Float won.

Senior Class advisor "The Big D" Mr. Dickleman.



Quiz Bowl Team

1986 — First ever "Air Bank" contest.

Quiz Bowl Team reaches Semi-Finals of State-Wide Competition.

Football Team tied for first in Tri-River League with a 8-1 record.

Eagles Baseball Team claims Tri-River League Championship.

Girls Softball Team won District Championship.



Girl's Softball Team

1987 — Christmas Dance raised money for gifts for the needy.

Retirement of Mr. Bob Sclater.

Eagle Baseball Team Tri-River Champs.

Steve Avery threw a no-hitter at Allen Park 162-63.

Girls Softball Team finished in 2nd place in the Tri-River League.



Mr. Bob Sclater retires

1988 — Horse Drawn Carriage in the Homecoming Parade.

Seniors winning spirit week contests.

Powder Puff game in the snow.

Cheerleaders traveled to Dallas, Texas.



Powder Puff Game

Pom Pom Squad took 1st place at the summer camp and qualified for the national.



Pom Pom Squad

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No-Hit softball game by Laura Passons to break Allen parks 63 straight softball wins.

Eagle Baseball Team winning 4th straight Tri-River League.



Bottom: Coach Erickson, Derek Nelson, Jon Roth, Paul Rowley, Brian Barkley, Chris Borens, Chris Borens, Steve Bell, Lee Brown.
Top: Joe Henderson, Robert Haudry, Mike Glavinich, Joe Zukowski, Steve Avery, Thomas McKinney, Keith Wells, Dan Nelson, Joe Della, Jr. Stone

District champs-Regional champs and 2nd in the entire state.

1989 — Air Bank Show

Girls Tennis Team Tri-River Champs

Girls Volleyball started season with 8 straight wins.

Senior Prom

Hockey Team



Front: Sarah Mason, Karen Gagnon, Michelle Felt, Sami Pagnon.
Back: Jennifer Arty, Sami Lynn Rowe, Jennifer Boudreau, Kelli Jorgensen



December 10th - December 18th



Donations

The Taylor Foundation thanks Bill Riggs TCH 1960 and John Pantalone for donating \$92 to the Northern Michigan University Scholarship Fund.



Please not that upcoming event dates are tentative depending on the COVID-19 situation.

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|------------------------|--|
| December 2, 2020 | TCH Class of 60' luncheon, 12:30 pm at Rose's Restaurant in Canton. Contact Bill Riggs for more info. |
| May 21, 2021 | JFK Florida reunion. More news to follow. |
| May 22nd | Taylor Center High School Reunion of all Football Players. Coach Tom Mall wants to know the number of players that would like to attend. Contact him at Thomas.mall@lpps.info. |

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 we receive deaths from the past that are not listed in our newsletter, they will be posted on the "In Memoriam" section on our website. 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.

John F Kennedy High

Dennis Aune, Class of 1971 (passed November 18, 2020)

Mary Horen Thompson, Class of 1970 (passed November 6, 2020)

Ronald Pruitt, Class of 1986 (passed October 26, 2020)

Taylor Center High

Norman Gall, Class of 1960 (passed November 23, 2020)

Eugene Michaelson, Class of 1960 (passed March 2020)

Henry Zabielski, Class of 1960 (passed July 2019)

David Geerlings, Class of 1961 (passed in 2019)

Gordon Hana, Class of 1964 (passed May 2020)

Ronald Heck, Class of 1969 (passed October 8, 2020)

Truman High School

Jennifer Kendall Ball, Class of 1997 (passed November 16, 2020)

Mark Pillard, Class of 1980 (passed November 13, 2020)

Staff

Jennifer Ball, Academic Interventionist at Kinyon School (passed November 16, 2020))

Elaine Worley, Elementary School Educator (passed October 18, 2020)

Gail Castle, Elementary School Educator (passed November 14, 2020)

Rebecca Lynn Worth, Elementary School Educator (passed November 10, 2020)

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