



Graphic Designer Moves On

Back in 2015 the Alumni Association was struggling to produce a good quality newsletter to keep all of our thousands of graduates informed about each other, the schools, city, parties, reunions, and general info of interest to you. We put out a request for help and almost immediately, Michele Stephens, TC '75 put her hand up. She didn't live in the Taylor area but with technology she knew it would work! We grabbed her quickly and never looked back!

Michele, from the day you took on the role of the newsletter editor, you were a blessing to the Alumni Association! With your professional knowledge and ability, you were able to put together a wonderful newsletter, month after month with all the garbled data we sent your way. Your quiet, easygoing manner and your ability to “regroup” every time we came in with a last- minute change was always appreciated. As you transition to your next chapter in life, we wish you much love and good health. We look forward to seeing you when you are in town! – **Alumni Association Board**

Michele's Farewell Message



As I pass the baton to the next graphic designer of the Alumni Newsletter and transition to caring for a sick loved one, I look back over the past 5 years with fondness. I'm thankful for having had the opportunity to use my design skills to assist with this Newsletter, which brought forth so many wonderful articles. In doing so, I've had the privilege of being introduced to many of our Alumni and catching up with others. I love hearing about what you've been up to over the years. Also, it has allowed me to stay abreast of all the exciting changes going on in the city of Taylor; things I would not have been aware of without the

Newsletter, since I now reside in New Jersey. *(continued on page 2)*

(continued from Page 1) However, what I've especially enjoyed is working with the Alumni team, who every month volunteered their time and talent to produce this Newsletter. I will miss working with you but will continue to keep up with you through future issues, occasional breakfast or lunch dates and attending meetings whenever I'm in town.

To John, Caroline, Sheri and the rest of the team, thank you for making my job so easy. It has been my pleasure to have worked with and gotten to know each of you. –**Michele Milledge Stephens TCH Class of '75**

NEW GRAPHIC DESIGNER IS ON BOARD



I am an alumna of Racho (and Sand Hill 3rd grade) Elementary, Brake Jr High and John F. Kennedy HS. I loved business and technology classes most. My favorite teacher from JFK was Mr. Janiga. His consistent praise and encouragement had a lifelong impact on my self-confidence which empowered me to sustain an amazing military career. I enlisted in the US Air Force in 1979 immediately following graduation and worked in administration, technology and served as a paralegal in my last 3 years of active duty. After 8 ½ years in the USAF I transitioned into the Michigan Air National Guard, where I served until my retirement as a Master Sergeant in March 2001.

I recently moved to Chicago to follow my son, Spencer. I spend my free time exercising, walking Lakeshore Drive, volunteering in the community, and I look forward to enjoying sailing lessons this coming spring! – **Lynn Van Keuren, JFK Class of '79**

Lynn- You stepped right in and produced a super February Edition. The Alumni Board is fortunate to have you as part of our team. – **Alumni Association Board**

If you have not joined the alumni association yet, why not?

It's so easy! Just make out a check for \$25, include the school and year you graduated, and mail it to:

**Taylor Alumni Association
11501 Beech Daly
Taylor, MI 48180**

DOWN MEMORY LANE – THE 80'S IN HST HIGH

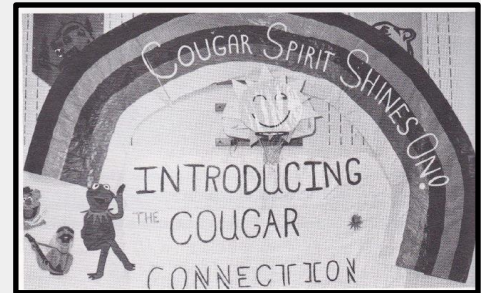
DO YOU REMEMBER — *Your class of 1980 Class Representatives*



- ★ The National Champion Pom Pom Squad
- ★ The Gym walls decorating competition for Spirit Week 1981 p180
- ★ The big struggle to keep the 3 Taylor High Schools open. The Class of 82 did its part to pass Millage Proposals that kept the schools open



- ★ The ten students with the highest cumulative grades while attending HST
- ★ The 60 Taylor students competed in the “Voice of Democracy Contest” and the top three spots were won by Class of 82 students Mark Opra, Jeff Bonner and Frances Hankins



- ★ The Class of 83 winning the Spirit Week Competition
- ★ The movies you saw on weekends



- ★ The basketball team winning the Great Lakes League Championship
- ★ The Class of 84 Float “The Great Caper” W.H.S.T. broadcasting daily news
- ★ 1985 was the year of the new Science Club and their trip to Cranbrook



- ★ The great year for the Girls Basketball Team and 3 members were chosen all League and all Area—Krissy Gdowski, Yolanda Bass and Demetrice Glen. Coach Haney was named “Coach of the Year”



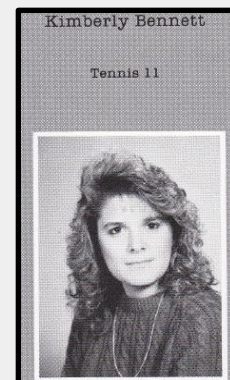
- ★ The 1986 Halloween Dance and the “Foxy Tru-men and Their Bunnies”
- ★ The “Donkey Ball Game”



- ★ The 1986-87 Boys' Basketball team winning the Tri-River League Championship
- ★ Harry's Place school store
- ★ The 1988 Homecoming Court



- ★ The Drama Production “The Butler Did It”



- ★ The end of the 80's and Kimberly Bennett's Memories

THROUGH THE YEARS AND UP TO NOW

*Remember our years between five and ten being
ourselves was so much easier then.*

*Recalling junior high and seeing inside, how much
better it is for our feelings to hide.*

*Well, we've made it so far and its high school now,
our friends were the world, and we all were proud.*

*Tenth grade's here and the dreams arise, we are not,
aware of what life implies.*

*Eleventh grade comes and we realize what's ahead,
and though we're not clear we won't be misled.*

*The last year is now, no time for yesterday, we must
think of tomorrow and live for today.*

*Just recollect the good times and reach for the stars,
we think we can do it; all will go far.*

*The Class of '89 is the future of tomorrow, we are
the best and all will follow.*

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR

Beautiful Heritage Park has a collection of Historical Buildings you must see:

- Greenwald-Herkimer Home – gingerbread decorated home built in early 1900
- Train Station – replica of original was constructed by students from the Taylor Career Center
- Heritage Park Schoolhouse- replica also constructed by Taylor Career Center students
- Water powered mill
- Schoenscheck House
- Township Hall

... and several others

Sad news- The Heritage West Mound Church built in 1882 was heavily damaged in a fire. The church contained beautiful stained-glass windows, and an 1845 Detroit Farand Pipe Organ. It had been used for a variety of concerts. It became a popular wedding destination.

The **Taylor Historical Society** maintains these buildings and furnishes them with collected antiques. You can **become a member** by making a check for \$15 payable to Taylor Historical Society and mailing it to P O Box 1225, Taylor, MI 48180. The society looks forward to seeing you at meetings and sponsored events. You will also receive the PRESSERvations newsletter. **Join to “Preserve the Past for the Future”.**

NEWEST LIFETIME MEMBERS

Lynn Cleary, JFK 1973

Ken Pates, TCH 1970

*Welcome to the fastest growing Alumni Association
in Michigan*

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17 St. Patrick's Day



So how about a little Irish advice: Why should you never iron a 4-leaf clover? You don't want to press your luck.



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 death notices 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 SCHOOL

- ✚ Andrew Chortos, Class of 1973 (passed August 10, 1993)
- ✚ Nancy Sutika, Class of 1976 (passed January 31, 2021)
- ✚ Dustin Arbogast, Class of 2000 (passed February 2, 2021)

TAYLOR CENTER HIGH SCHOOL

- ✚ Helen MacArthur Hall, Class of 1969 (passed November 15, 2008)
- ✚ Richard Reid, Class of 1961 (passed January 18, 2021)
- ✚ Michael Drzewiecki, Taylor Center 1969 (passed February 10, 2021)
- ✚ Gary Flucks, Class of 1961 (passed February 18, 2021)

STAFF

- ✚ Jim Schultz, Retired Teacher, Coach and Principal (passed January 8, 2021)
- ✚ Cliff Rothrock, Retired Assistant Superintendent (passed January 25, 2021)

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