

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

# November 2017 Alumni Newsletter

## *In this issue*

### **In the News**

School Consolidation

### **Taylor School District News**

JFK's Last homecoming Game.

### **Remember JFK's Past**

First Principal

### **Alumni Assoc. News**

Welcome Lifetime Members.

### **Up Coming Events**

November 2017.

### **Obituary**

Our Deepest Sympathy

Taylor Alumni Association

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

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **School Consolidation**



Kennedy and Truman Student Council

Superintendent Ben Williams reported that a decision on whether or not to rename and re-brand what is now Truman High has not yet been made. The district could even decide not to rename the new high school at all. A decision is expected soon.

Kennedy High School will close at the end of this school

year and all high school students will attend what is now Truman High School. All ninth grade students in the district are currently enrolled in Truman High.

Recently Truman and Kennedy Student Council members met to start a yearlong project entitled "Unity in our Community". For the starting day the two groups combined as one team and volunteered at the local Gleaners for a day of working together and getting to know each other. The remainder of the day was spent brainstorming ways to help make the consolidation as smooth as possible.

The Taylor Alumni Association extends congratulations to Student council advisors, Cary Lundgren of Truman and Joe Maudlin of Kennedy for this great idea.

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## THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Kennedy Eagles Football Team

### JFK'S Final Homecoming

Huge crowds of Alumni attended the final Homecoming game of John F Kennedy High School. The parking lot was jammed and overflow parking was provided at the Sportsplex on Telegraph Road with buses providing transportation to the game. Many gathered at the Alumni tent. Earlier in the day an estimated 2 to 3 hundred alumni walked the halls of JFK, where they were greeted by current students and staff. There was already talk of another big Alumni gathering in the spring of 2018, prior to the official closing of JFK. A committee is needed to work on

activities' related to the closing of JFK. Some idea's that have already surfaced; have representation from each class marching with the 2018 Graduates—ask teachers from the previous years to return to the building and be present in their class rooms so alumni can tour JFK and visit with their past instructors—that kind of thing. Great, but we need you to serve on the committee.

What are we looking for—Commitment. We want to make sure this event is well organized, properly thought out, doable and fun. We need no more than 10 people, to make sure we have a enough insight on what people would like to see and do to say goodbye.

You need not be local since today's technology offers us a variety of ways to conduct meetings via Skype, Go to Meetings and video conferencing. If you are interested in this help with event, contact Ken Renner at [KENREN2468@AMERITECH.NET](mailto:KENREN2468@AMERITECH.NET) or Adrienne Trent Johnson at [WHYADRIENNE@AOL.COM](mailto:WHYADRIENNE@AOL.COM).

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**it's not  
whether you  
get knocked  
down;  
it's whether  
you get back  
up.**  
-Vince Lombardi

## Remembering JFK Administrators



JFK Principal Anthony Matulis

Your Alumni Association Board thought you would like to recall the administrators from the start of JFK High School.

In 1963 architectural plans were created for a new high school to be named Charles Brake High. At a board meeting that year, school board member Richard Trolley motioned to name the new high school John F Kennedy High. That motion passed 6-1 and JFK was created. The construction of the building was sufficiently completed in the fall of 1964 to lay plans for the first students and staff to move into the building. Mr. Anthony Matulis, Principal of Taylor Center High School at that time, was asked to be Principal of John F Kennedy and to make plans for the move to take place during the 2nd semester of the 1964-65 school year. Attendance zones were laid out indicating the 10th & 11th graders

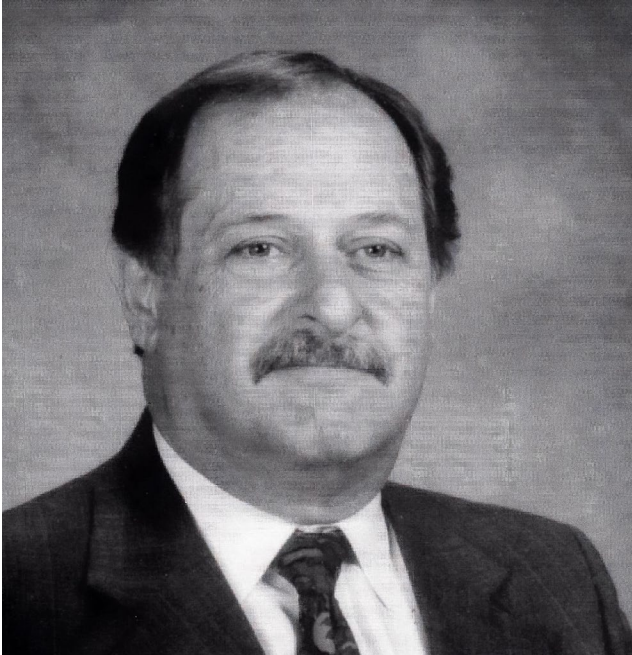
that would be moved to the new JFK. A staff also had to be selected. A very smooth move was made in early 1965 and the building was occupied by 10th & 11th graders. Mr. Matulis was the Principal and James Maley was named the Assistant Principal. The 1965-66 school year started with grades 10, 11 & 12. Mr. James Maley, Principal and Richard Lininger and John Pantalone his Assistants. The Counselors were Carl Bargamian, Leo Goetz, Mrs. LaLonde, Vera Ohanisian, Stan Trierweiler and Anna Weakes.

That portion of the staff remained for the rest of the 1960's with one exception, Mrs. LaLonde retired and was replaced with Frank Troesch. Those no longer with us are: Anthony Matulis, James Maley, Richard Lininger, Irene LaLonde, Stan Trieweiler, Anna Weakes and Frank Troesch. John Pantalone is living in Westland, Michigan and is still involved in the schools through the Taylor Public Schools Foundation and the Taylor Alumni Association. Carl Bargamian retired as Principal of JFK and is living in Port Austin, Michigan. Vera Ohanisian married Tom Manley and is living in Howell, Michigan. Dr. Leo Goetz retired and moved to Sun City, Az.

In the next edition we will catch up with news of the teaching staff from JFK in the 60's.



## A 16 YEAR TENURE



JFK Principal Carl Bargamian

One principal served JFK for 16 years—That is the longest time of any high school principal in Taylor. His name is Carl Bargamian. We received the following letter from Carl...

I joined the faculty at Taylor Center High School in September, 1957 as a member of the business department and was appointed to the guidance department in 1961; I continued as a counselor at JFK through June, 1973. When Truman High School opened in the fall of 1973, I was appointed as Assistant Principal, in 1978 I was appointed to serve as principal of JFK and remained in that position for the next 16 years until I retired in June of 1994.

My wife Zoe and I retired to port Austin, Michigan and celebrated 60 years of marriage in August. we have been blessed with four children, eleven grand children and two great grand children.

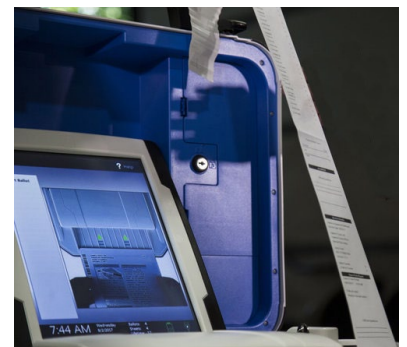
Taylor School District gave me the opportunity to enjoy a wonderful and rewarding career. I would like to thank the community, the central Administration and the parents. Thank you to the facilities and support staff. Great People.

A special thank you to all the students that I had the pleasure to serve during my 37 year career. You have given me hundreds of wonderful memories.

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## A GREAT LESSON IN DEMOCRACY

Taylor City Clerk Cindy Bower visited both Kennedy & Truman in October. Cindy brought the city's new voting



equipment and conducted Homecoming Court Elections. During that time she also held a new voter registration drive. What a great way for the city and the school district to work together.

## ALUMNI NEWS!



### New Members

Welcome to our newest Lifetime members:

Jennie Reilly Barringer JFK 2011

Alan Bates JFK 1995

Ron Collard JFK 1973

Somuah Crowley JFK 2000

Paul Dupon JFK 1978

Theresa Yarbrough Fry JFK 1975

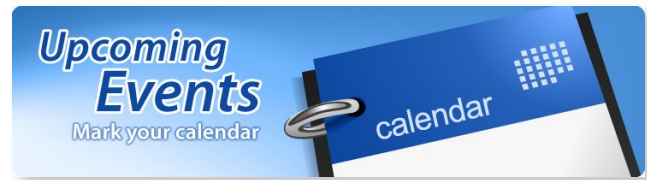
Amy McCalister JFK 1995

Toni Miller JFK 1977

Darlene Slupski JFK 1975

Lynn Webster JFK 1984

How about you—is it time for you to join the fastest growing Alumni Association in the State. It's only \$25 for a lifetime membership and a portion of that goes to scholarships.



The Fall Party with all schools all classes was cancelled due to the tremendous interest in the last Homecoming game for both JFK & HST.

November 9th

Taylor Foundation 8 am  
District Board Office – all  
are welcomed.

November 11th

“Phantom Unmasked- The  
Songs of Broadway” will  
be presented at the Heinz  
C Prechter Performing Arts  
Center of Wayne County  
Community College at  
8pm, featuring one of the  
original Phantoms, Franc  
D’Ambrosio.

November 14th

Taylor Alumni Board  
meets 6:30 pm School  
District Board Office – all  
are welcomed.

November 25th

Taylor Winter Festival  
and Santa’s Magic  
Forest Kickoff, including  
a parade, lighting of the  
City’s official City Holiday  
tree and the opening of  
Santa’s Magic Forest.

## 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.*

### **John F Kennedy High**

Tim Witz, Class of 1971, (passed October 7, 2017)

### **Taylor Center High**

Brenda Boettcher, Class of 1984 (passed October 15, 2017)

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