

Alumni Association

Keeping Ties with Our Alumni



TAYLOR
School District



November 2018 Newsletter



THEATER OUTING

Each year the Taylor Foundation provides funds for students to have the opportunity to attend a professional theater production. Each year, approximately 100 students who are enrolled in vocal music, drama, and instrumental classes have attended productions at the Fisher Theater. For many it was the first time they had seen live theater; for some it was their first trip to Detroit; for all, it has been a great experience. The students are required to

purchase their own discounted tickets which have been \$25 in the past, and the Taylor Foundation funds buses and drivers.

The current outing is scheduled for January 29, 2019. The production is "The Phantom of the Opera" and 140 students have signed up to attend. The discounted student ticket price is now \$35. I would very much like to keep the student cost at that previous \$25 figure. That would mean that, in addition to the cost of 3 buses and drivers (estimated at \$1,800), the additional \$10 per student ticket amounts to another \$1,400. Foundation funds many programs each year and does not have that additional \$1,400 in the budget.

Therefore, I am attempting to raise the \$1,400 to enable these students to participate in this theater experience. Will you please help by donating \$10, \$20 or whatever you feel you can to help the students? Make a check payable to the Taylor Public School Foundation and mail it to me, John Pantalone, at 7558 Melvin Westland, MI 48185.

Thank you in advance for your generous donation. 📝



Taylor Alumni Association
11501 Beech Daly Road,
Taylor MI 48180
tayloralumni.org

GOOD THINGS ARE TAYLOR PUBLIC

FALL SPORTS

➤ For the first time since 1977, Taylor Middle schools offered football. Over 70 students participated in a very successful program.

Taylor High School's first football team ended the season with 2 wins. The Junior Varsity had an outstanding season finishing with a 6 win 3 loss record. The 9th grade team also showed a great deal of promise winning 5 of 9 games.

➤ The Soccer Team had a great year, ending with a 13 win 6 loss and 2 tie record. They advanced to the District final before losing to Bedford 2-0.

➤ Volleyball – Both the girls varsity and junior varsity are having a good season.

➤ Swim team- currently functioning as a co-op team with New Boston. Hopefully, this will turn into a Taylor High team in the near future.

➤ Taylor has not had a wrestling team for many years, but will have one this year starting in January

The Taylor Alumni Association congratulates everyone involved in an outstanding program. A special thanks to our extremely hard-



HAPPENING IN THE SCHOOLS

working Athletic Director, Loren Ristovski and his assistant Marie Marion for all they do to provide our student body the best experiences possible. 📖

ALUMNI NEWS!

Request...

We have a small request regarding article submission. If you submit an article or are asked to write one, please consider also sending a photograph of yourself that we can include along with the article. Thanks

A LITTLE HUMOR



I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped to his/her belt or purse. I can't afford one, so I'm wearing my garage door opener.

THERE IS A LOT HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR

TAYLOR CONSERVATORY FOUNDATION'S NITE AT THE RHYTHM CLUB - Thursday, November 8, 2018

Travel back in time to the 1940s at Taylor Conservatory Foundation's Nite at the Rhythm Club. The world-renowned Henry Ford Community College Big Band Orchestra will be playing favorite tunes from the 1940s and early 50s while some show-stopping swing dancers perform, helping to set the mood. A USO Canteen themed silent auction and raffle will be held to assist with the Taylor Conservatory and Botanical Gardens' mission of creating beautiful public spaces, promoting the arts and sciences, and preserving the natural environment. Gourmet food stations, sweet desserts, and an open premium bar round out the evening's festivities. For tickets call 888-640-5454.



Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

SANTA'S MAGIC FOREST - Opens Saturday, November 24, 2018

Santa's Magic Forest is the Downriver's premiere indoor Christmas display's. The winter wonderland includes hundreds of animated characters, dozens of Christmas scenes and beautiful holiday light displays. The festivities are from 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM in the Heritage Park activity building at 12111 Pardee Road, Taylor, MI 48180. The cost for general admission is \$3 (cash only); those under 3 are admitted free. Pictures with Santa is \$8. For more information call the center at (734) 992-6284. All proceeds from the opening day event, benefit the Downriver Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MICHAEL RUTLEDGE, JFK (1980)

I graduated from Kennedy in 1980 and attended Michigan State for one year, after which I enlisted in the army, in the field artillery. I made my first career in the Army and retired in 2004 as a Master Sergeant after 22 years of service. I served in numerous staff and leadership positions in my Army career and I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve my country, to travel to 38 different nations, and to experience history unfolding in front of me on several occasions. I credit the discipline of my swimming experience at Kennedy, which was instilled in me by Debbie Karabees, with success in the Army, as personal discipline is an important attribute in military service. While serving, I earned my first undergraduate degree in military history from Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma.



Upon retirement, I completed another undergraduate degree from Eastern Michigan in history with a teaching certification and I began my second career in education—teaching high school—first in Taylor and then Traverse City. After earning my first Master's degree from Central Michigan in 2009 I began as an adjunct at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. This degree

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RACING'S UNSUNG HERO/PART 2

PAUL ROSSI, TCH 1960

Part 2. In 1960, Paul's father was employed as a "Roller" in the Ford Motor company steel mill, one of the most dangerous yet highest paying hourly positions at the company, and Paul's uncle was an AFL-CIO union rep. So, the choice was made: graduate and then work at Ford Motor Car Company. At the time, Paul was taking night classes at Henry Ford Community College. Based on his work, and what he was learning in night classes, Paul offered several suggestions that were ignored. Paul made one final suggestion. Ford boilers utilized miles of pipes and fittings and he had just learned of a new technology which would quickly and easily replace them with high-pressure hoses. No more broken pipe, no more leaky fittings and no more pipe fitters. He presented this innovative idea to the plant manager who quickly rejected it. Imagine Paul's surprise two weeks later when men arrived and found that the entire system had been replaced with brand new hose. The manager took credit for the idea and received a healthy bonus. continue on page 5



continue from on page 4 (Michael Rutledge)

in history and humanities is a subject I was introduced to by Dwayne Furbush at JFK. I don't think he ever knew how much of an influence he was on my intellectual growth. In 2014, I began as an Assistant Dean of Students and Coordinator of Student Veteran Services at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, which is where I currently reside. I also earned my second Master's degree in higher education administration from NMU in 2017.



Thank you Michael for updating us on your life since graduation and thank you for your service. We love hearing from our Alumni and the many successful graduates of the Taylor Public Schools. if you would like to share your story please contact us, and don't forget to include a photograph of yourself. 📷

YELLOW PAGES

Need "T" shirts printed?
Check the Yellow Pages
on our web site at
TaylorAlumni.org



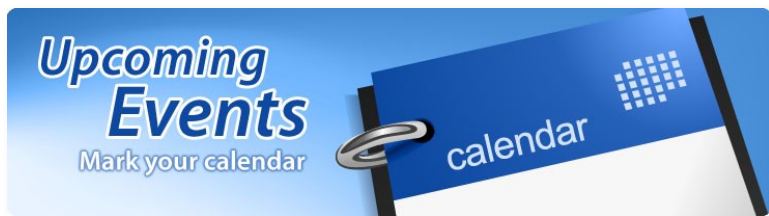
Want to post an ad in the "Yellow Pages? Mail a business card to Taylor Alumni Association, 11501 Beech Daly, Taylor, MI 48180.

continue from on page 4 (Paul Rossi)

During all this time, Paul was involved with his first love-automobiles. A stint at Stacy's Mobil Service while he was still in school resulted in the purchase of a 1931 Plymouth for \$85. At age 15 he volunteered as a crew member on a record setting A/Altered known as Walt's Puffer. He advanced through several cars to a 1960 Corvette with a 283 powered engine. Now a fixture at Detroit Dragway, Paul was becoming quite proficient at modifying fuel injection systems.

In 1963, he met a man who had just purchased a new Super Stock Dodge. The man was familiar with the success of Paul's Corvette and hired him to super tune his racer, resulting in 5 race victories in 6 outings. This success led to a sponsorship from a Chrysler dealer. Armed with new equipment and a big-time sponsorship, Paul set out to do battle with Bob Ford and Royal Pontiac. People soon took notice that Rossi's Max Wedge was consistently quicker than the entire fleet of new factory engineered Hemi cars.

In 1965, Paul was offered a contract with Mercury to represent the Midwest. He was given a Comet, parts, and a great monthly income. The car found a new home with McKesson Brothers in Flat Rock where it went on to fame and fortune and is still recognized on the nostalgia circuit today. Part 3 will conclude in the next issue.



- November 8th Taylor Foundation monthly meeting at the school board office on Northline Road.
- November 13th Alumni Association monthly meeting 6 pm at the school board office on Northline Road.
- November 15th TCH Class of 1960 monthly luncheon. For more information contact Barbara Garner Belcher at (313) 292-6629 all 1960 graduates are encouraged to attend these monthly lunches.

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

William Gayk, Class of 1960 (passed September 24, 2018).

Tom Kurginski, Class of 1963 (passed October 22, 2018). Tom also taught at Taylor Center High.

John F Kennedy High School

Debbie Jean Vogel-Bader, Class of 1972 (passed October 21, 2018).

Truman High School

Tim Herbert, Class of 1980 (passed October 6, 2018).

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

