



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

# September Alumni Newsletter 2015

## *In this issue*

### **In the News**

Mickey Turcheck's outstanding career highlights.

### **Good Things are Happening**

In the public school and the City of Taylor.

### **Up Coming Events**

September - October.

### **Obituaries**

Our deepest sympathy to the families!

---

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

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Another Taylor Success Story**



The Taylor Alumni Association extends congratulations to Mickey Turcheck for his outstanding career in the Taylor School District. Mickey graduated from Taylor Center High School (TCH) in 1960. While a student at TCH he had a great track career capped by his winning the State of Michigan pole vaulting championship with a vault of 12 feet 9.5 inches.

Mickey went on to earn BA from Western Michigan University and a MA from Eastern Michigan University. He then returned to the Taylor School District as an Art instructor and Track Coach. Though he is retired now, Turcheck is still involved in the sport he loves.

Some highlights of his teams accomplishments:

- His teams had a win/loss record in meets of 124 wins versus 34 losses.
- His athletes won 82 conference individual championships and 67 individual regional championships.
- His teams finished in the top 10 in state meets eleven times.

Many of the athletes Mr. Turcheck coached went on to great careers. Here are a few:

- Debby Lansky (LaPlante) was ranked number one hurdler in the world in 1980.
- Shelby Johnson, was a state record holder in the 300 intermediate hurdles, a state champion and at that time, ran the fastest time in the entire United States.
- Earl Jones, when only 18, won a bronze medal in the 800 meters at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

Obviously, Mickey Turcheck has been recognized for his outstanding career:

- He was inducted into the Taylor Sports Hall of Fame in 1998.
- Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame 2003
- Michigan Track & Field Coaches Hall of Fame in 2015

The Taylor Alumni Association is very proud of Mickey Turcheck and his accomplishments.

---

## Good things are happening in the Taylor Public Schools

**Hoover Middle School** has started an “Alumni Hall of Fame”. In another attempt to show students that they can achieve and be successful, eight former students of Hoover have been enshrined. Their eight pictures and success stories are posted in the designated hall. Each of the eight have returned to talk to the Hoover students.



The Hoover Alumni Hall of Fame bears the names of former students at the middle school who've come back to share information about their profession with current students. Photo by Tracy Heiler. Source: thenewsherald.com.

### Currently enshrined are the following:

Hoon-Yung Hopgood, State Senator

Rick Sollars, Taylor Mayor

Michele Paris, Professional Photographer and Power Lifter

Shirley Eldridge Ledford, Registered Nurse

Bobby Masters, Lincoln Park School Administrator & Member of Taylor School District Board of Education

Derrick Jackson, Director of Engagement with Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office.

Ryan Kensinger, U.S. Marine Corps

Chris Hudson, City of Taylor Fire Fighter

**Jenna Valle, NASA Engineer** (will soon be enshrined)

## Other School Happenings...

**Myers Elementary School's** Student Council earned \$700 for the Leukemia Foundation.

**Kinyon Elementary School** students donated over 700 pounds of food to Fish & Loaves charity.

**Kennedy High School's** JROTC program won the Commanders Cup in a multi-school competition.

.....

## Good Things are Happening in the City Of Taylor



**3S International LLC**, an unique e-waste recycling company that specializes in processing mercury-containing electronics and backlit LCD screens is moving to Taylor and will be hiring 25-35 people.

**Watson Engineering** currently employs more than 400 and is increasing the size of their facility another 20,000 square feet

**Elite Diamonds & Gems**, a store that sells custom jewelry and offers jewelry and watch repair has opened near Goddard & Pardee. It is owned by Tammy Hall, a Kennedy High School graduate.

**The Sports Plex** on Telegraph now is home to Belle Tire Youth Hockey and Eastern Michigan's Hockey program. Ex-Detroit Red Wing star Kris Draper states the main arena ice is the best in the Metro Area outside of Joe Louis Arena.

---

## IT'S HARD TO SAY GOODBYE!

Some of your favorite teachers **retired** this year. Here is a list of those who will no longer be teaching in Taylor.

## Retirees

Abraham, Jerome  
Ardisana, Elizabeth  
Burgo, Carole,  
Busatti, Brian  
Camacho, Carol  
Coogan, Robyn  
Cummings, Sandra  
Curtin-Smith, Mary  
Garza, Josephine

Gherardi, Janet  
Glynn, Judith  
Guffey, James  
Hatt, Vickie  
Kenn, Tammy  
Lochinger, James  
Lockhart, Gail  
McDonald, Sandra  
Merwin, Keith

Murray, Valerie  
Rzepecki, Linda  
Scott, Carole  
Shrewsbury, Judith  
Steward, Robert  
Stibal-Wolo, Rosanne  
Theil, Sharon  
Winnie, Dennis  
Wisniewski, Nancy  
Zwolan, Kathy

---

## UP COMING EVENTS

September 12th ... JFK Class of 1970 45th reunion. Direct questions to: Sue Epperson at [eppersonhs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eppersonhs@sbcglobal.net).

September 18th ... Annual all school/all class party. More info to follow.

September 18th ... TCH Class of 1960 three-day (18th - 20th) Reunion.

September 25th... Taylor Comedy Night fundraiser featuring nationally known comedians, **Kevin McPeek** and **Sal Demilio**. Doors open at 6 pm, show time is at 7 pm at the Taylor Knights of Columbus Hall, 24900 Brest Road, Taylor, MI. All proceeds will benefit the Taylor Public School Foundation for Educational Excellence and the Taylor Summer Arts and Prevention Academy.



October 10th ..... Class 1965 50th Reunion.

October 24th ..... JFK Band Reunion for Roger Craig ERA 1966-1971. Taylor Meadows Golf Course. 1 - 5 PM \$35 per person, \$65 per couple. Any questions contact Cindy Gregory at [Cgregory77@comcast.net](mailto:Cgregory77@comcast.net).

## 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**

Patrick Stremecky, Class of 1959, (passed July 26, 2015)

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

Brian Przygocki, Class of 1986, (passed August 10, 2015)