

June 2020 Newsletter

IN THE NEWS

Yearbook Donations =

In last month's newsletter we mentioned that Mrs. Dinco donated over 25 Elementary school yearbooks, however, the article didn't tell the full story behind the gift. We received a generous donation of elementary school yearbooks (about 25 books) from a variety of elementary schools over various years, from Truman '77 alumni, Kim (Kreutzer) Dinco. The book's were Kim's Mothers, Mrs. Ceneth Kreutzer, who taught for three years before taking time to raise a family. Always wanting to help children, she returned as a volunteer within the Taylor Schools to help K-3rd grade classroom teachers at Taylor Center Elementary, Johnson, Blair Moody, Eurekadale, Clarence Randall and Holland. She read to the children and they read back to her. She played learning

games with them also. She also volunteered at the Professional Resource Center where she designed and constructed educational games and also made books, easily read and illustrated. These games were available for use from the PRC. Kim said her Mom told her "there was nothing more rewarding than 'watching the light bulb go on' in a child's head when they got it!" Mrs. Kreutzer received yearbooks from those schools over the 27 years she volunteered. Kim knew of the Alumni Associations goal to have a scanned copy of all Taylor school yearbooks (elementary, junior high and high school) and donated her Mom's collection to us. The Alumni Association very much appreciates this qift! 🐠

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Advisor, William Murrary



President, James Wells



V. President, Rick Cataldo



Secretary, Denise Jodoin



Treasurer, Ann Sharky

Do You Remember

That the 1970 Class advisor was William Murray.

Your class officers were: **President,** James Wells; **Vice president,** Rick Cataldo; **Secretary,** Denise Jodoin; **Treasurer**, Ann Sharky.

The Homecoming Court: Queen, Chris Rapley; Court, Ruth Hughes; Court, Denise Jodoin; Court, Sue Martin; Court Pat Smith. Homecoming theme was "A Time for Us".



Homecoming Queen Chris Rapley

Taylor Center's Marching

Band was directed by Edward Rima and was featured during a Detroit Lions/Los Angeles Rams televised football game played at Tiger Stadium on December 14, 1969. The band played "The Star-Spangled Banner" for guest singer Jim Nabors. AND, the Lions won the game!

Taylor Center's football

team crushed the Kennedy Eagles in their cross-town rival game 28-8.

That game was also important as several records were set.

 \checkmark Most points scored by a Taylor team – 234 points.

√ Most passes completed by a Taylor quarterback – 72 passes.

√ Most touchdowns thrown by a Taylor quarterback – 12 touchdowns.

√ Most accurate passer completed 5 of 8 for total 118 yds. by senior Doug Sikorski.

√ Best rushing average – 101 yds. per carry by senior Bob Wallis.

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 \checkmark Most passes caught – 24 by senior Frank Cooper.

√ Most yards passing –1596 by senior Doug Sikorski.

√ Most yards total for a running back – 1661 by senior Frank Cooper.

This Taylor team became Mid-Wayne League Co-Champions. Wins 7 – Loss 2.



An excerpt from the 1970 Rampage stated, "Taylor's athletes of 1970 have begun the new decade with an outstanding sports record. Yet all these events mean more than just a victory or defeat. With the rapidly changing world there is one ideal which remains constant: that is the eternal spirit of competition and sportsmanship. So many factors are included in the outcome of a competitive event, but the ultimate decision rests heavily on the athlete. He must be sharp and determined. The experience gained from long hours of practice and a winning spirit must be present. In addition, both physical and mental prowess are needed. Still another important factor is support since a team without support cannot possibly be a winning team. However, above and beyond this spirit and determination, there must be something else. There must be the ability of the athlete to accept both victory and defeat in that spirit of sportsmanship which is a victory in itself.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Not everything that's faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed that is not faced.

James Baldwin

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GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Since the Governor's Executive Order No. 2020-70 started, the Taylor Public Schools have been closed since March 13th. While school buildings are closed, the Taylor teachers, staff and administration have been actively making things happen for the students and families in the school district.

▷ Food distribution has been a weekly event with many volunteers bagging breakfast and lunch items for the week to give out to those families who come to Randall Elementary School or West Middle School parking lots to pick them up. With an average of over 20,000 meals packed each week.

▷ On the Technology side, Chromebooks and paper/pencil packets have been distributed to many students to help families who do not have access to a computer or internet throughout the district.

Teachers are actively teaching and connecting with their classrooms through Zoom meetings and Google Classroom. We still have amazing teachers in Taylor! Even gym, music and library have been participating. One of our alumnus Caroline Craddock Patts, Randall's librarian, reads to the kindergarten classes at Randall through a Zoom meeting. It is great to have the students see the familiar faces they miss from school.

▷ The Taylor High School Griffins will be having a parade on June 4th at Heritage Park in Taylor for their farewell graduation event. Signs were delivered to each senior's home by the way of Taylor's bus transportation and staff who placed each sign on their lawn. Other activities are planned to honor the senior class (known as the Quarantine Class) by the administration and school board.

To those who have lost loved ones during this time, our hearts go out to you. To those who are having a hard time with this whole pandemic, please get help. We have always been a caring school family.

As the superintendent started saying in all the robocalls sent out to the school district families... Stay Taylor Strong! *K*

IT'S THE FRIENDS WE MEET ALONG LIFE'S ROAD WHO HELP US APPREICATE THE JOURNEY...



WE HEARD FROM YOU!

Bill Stephens, TCH Class of 61' sent us this information.

I Graduated in 1961 from Taylor Center High School, played Football 4 years, Track 4 years, Basketball 1 year. My favorite Teachers were Denny Alexander, Harold Baut, Reva Barnes.

I graduated from Olivet College in 1965 with a BA in Science, minors in Math and Physical Education. (Note: In 1961 Olivet College recruited in the Downriver area. Forest Bone and I were recruited from Taylor Center, two players from Riverview H.S., one player from Southgate Schafer H.S. and one player from Garden City H.S. which started our college careers together. Bill Teller (T.C.) also went to Olivet one year later.)

I received my master's degree in education from U of M Dearborn. In 1965, I began my teaching career at Taylor Center High School. I taught Physical Science and Biology and coached football and track.

In 1973, I moved to the brand-new Harry S. Truman High School teaching Biology, Microbiology and coached football and became the head track coach. Some unforgettable coaching colleagues I coached with were — Bob Sclater, Al Checkler, Chet Gryzybowski (who just passed away April 16, 2020, his obituary is on our website), Mickey Turcheck (opposing coach from T.C.) and Jim Clawson. One of my coaching highlights was a 3rd Place Finish in 1989 in the MHSSA State Track Finals!

My wife, Mary Ann, was an elementary teacher at Edison, Waering and Clarence Randall. We both retired in 1997 and we moved to our vacation home in Hale, Michigan. We also began traveling to Arizona. We now spend 6 months in Mesa, Arizona and 6 months in Hale, Michigan.

We are avid golfers and play in both places. We also play tennis in a Senior Tennis League in Mesa (because of health issues I stopped playing tennis in 2017). I became interested in woodcarving in 1992. I belong to woodcarving clubs in Hale, Mesa and Tempe, Arizona.

After we retired, we started traveling more. We have been to Alaska, Hawaii, and some of the U.S., through the Panama Canal, Australia and New Zealand, a river cruise from Amsterdam to Vienna and then to Prague, Iceland, Faroe Islands and Norway. My bucket list trip to the Galapagos Islands was the trip of a lifetime! A perfect trip for a biology teacher!

I will never forget my time as both a student and teacher in Taylor. The friends we made and the experience while teaching was wonderful.



Bill Stephens the Taylor Sports Hall of Fame Inductee 2004

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: Some of the deceased listed below are from years past. This information was just given to us. 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

Gale Huntsman Bayus – Class of 66 (passed November 30, 2006) Darrell Warner – Class of 85 (passed June 29, 2015)

Truman High School

Tim McMahon – Class of 91 (passed May 5, 2020) Jeff Kuntz - Class of 75 (passed April 17, 2020) Dee Smith – Class of 75 (passed in April 2020) Spc. Clay Welch – Class of 2017 (passed March 2020)

Taylor Center High

Gerald Waske - Class of 71 (passed October 8, 2019) Howard Huntsman III - Class of 61 (passed February 12, 2019) Lynne Weidenbach McKay – Class of 66 (passed September 18, 2018) Roger Long – Class of 72 (passed December 27, 2007)

Staff

Gordon Wilson – Building Engineer (passed September 15, 2005)

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