

IN THE NEWS



Alumni Newsletter May 2022

George Keeler



George and his older sister, Ellen (1967 J.F.K. graduate), grew up and attended school in Taylor. George attended Fletcher elementary, Brake Jr High, and John F. Kennedy HS (class of 1970). A memorable moment was when Vice-President Hubert Humphrey made an impromptu visit to the school while on his way to the airport as a tribute to John F. Kennedy.

George has extremely fond memories of Taylor schools. He attended his mother's high school graduation from Taylor High School in 1960, Roseann (Jean) in her early thirties, after having two children, decided to complete her high school education via the traditional route. Ironically, Mr. Pantalone was Roseann's counselor.

While attending J.F.K., George was active in the band under the direction of Mr. Roger Craig. George played trombone, and admittedly not all that great. During his senior year George left the band to focus on academics. Some of George's friends included Dan Balogh, Tim Estep, Mike O'Malley, and Ken Homa. Mr. Furbush was his most impactful teacher. George attended Michigan State University where he graduated with honors with his International Relations degree in 1975 and a Master's in English Education with high scholastic honors in 1977. Upon graduation, his adventuresome spirit took him to Cholula, Puebla, Mexico where he taught education and linguistic courses as an assistant professor at the Universidad de las Americas for almost four years.

In the summer of 1984, George and his spouse returned to the USA with the intent of George enrolling in a PHD program at the University of Texas. They were diverted by a career opportunity in Greeley, Colorado to work for a private, start-up English as a Second Language and cross-cultural studies program housed at the University of Northern Colorado. After spending three years in beautiful Colorado, George and his wife moved to Glendale, AZ where he attended the internationally renowned university, The American Graduate School for International Management - 'Thunderbird'. In a little less than a year George received a Master's in International Business.

Three months after graduation, George was employed by Teledyne Analytical Instruments as the director of marketing and moved to southern California beginning his 30-year career in international strategic planning, marketing, and management. For a three-year period, he took a break from corporate America to establish and run his own boutique wine shop in Niwot, CO. ...continued on page 2

In 2001 while attending a management retreat at a castle in Manchester, England he met the love of his life, Teri. They were married in 2004 in Madison, WI where they presently reside on Lake Waubesa. They both officially retired in July 2020, and are proficient sailors who have sailed locally, on the Great Lakes, the Mediterranean, the U.S. Eastern Seaboard, St. Lawrence Seaway and the Caribbean.

In addition to sailing, George and Teri love to travel whenever possible. Some of their adventures have taken them to Easter Island, the Amazon and the Galapagos islands (twice). George and Teri serve on boards for local charities, conservation organizations and their sailing club. Adventure, intrigue, learning, contributing, and family are significant drivers and focal points for George at this stage of his life. George says he will always cherish his educational experiences in Taylor, especially JFK High School.



American Cancer Society Relay for Life

WHERE: Taylor Heritage Park

WHEN: June 4, 2022 @ 10:00 am

The American Cancer Society is excited to CELEBRATE the 20th Anniversary of the Relay For Life of Downriver Area/Taylor in 2022!

Mark your calendars to join us for the 20th annual Relay For Life of Downriver Area/Taylor, which will take place from 10am to 10pm, on Saturday, June 4th at Heritage Park! Come help us celebrate all who have been touched by cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change.

Our event will begin at 10am with our Opening Ceremony and Survivor Celebration! Our cancer survivors and their caregivers will walk the first lap, and then will enjoy a light brunch! Throughout the day, we'll have entertainment, a silent auction, games, and more!

As darkness sets in, at 9pm, we invite the community to come together for our Luminaria Ceremony. A luminaria may seem like a decorated white paper bag, but it really is so much more, it represents each of our loved ones that have ever battled cancer. The Luminaria Ceremony will conclude this year's event!

It's not too late to join us as a team, a survivor*, or a sponsor for this year's event! If you are interested in learning how you can make an impact in the fight against cancer, please contact Kristen Pilon at 734.624.0571 or Kristen.Pilon@cancer.org.

*We are asking survivors to pre-register this year, to ensure they get a shirt. Survivor shirts will be mailed to your homes this year and will not be available at the event. To pre-register visit www.RelayForLife.org/DownriverTaylor or call 1.800.227.2345 and select option #2!

For more information, to register, purchase a luminaria, or donate to this year's event visit www.RelayForLife.org/DownriverTaylor! Be sure to follow us on Facebook to stay in the Relay know-
<https://www.facebook.com/DownriverRelayForLife>

GREAT THINGS HAPPENING IN TAYLOR SCHOOLS

This was sent to Principal Carly Barnard at the Career Center from an alumnus.

Brag moment! [Taylor Deca](#) I just got a wonderful message from Taylor High School alumni Anna, class of 2020! She gave me her permission to share so you can see the long-term effect marketing has. “Hey Mrs. Barnard! I just thought I’d give you an update on what I’m doing right now. About a month ago, I got hired as a Human Resource event assistant for Ilitch Sports & Entertainment! During my interview, I got to talk about how much I enjoyed my marketing class & DECA experience, and how much it helped me get to where I am today. I use so many skills I learned in your class, and I 100% believe the role plays I did in DECA gave me more confidence with speaking. I’m really loving my job, and I’m excited to see where this takes me. You really made an impact on me, if I didn’t take marketing, I can’t imagine what I’d be doing right now.”



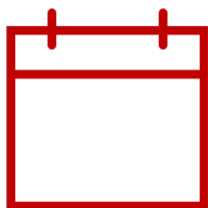
Anna Kinnison

UPCOMING EVENTS



Taylor's 175th Anniversary (March 16, 1847 separation from Ecorse Township) Celebration August 6, 2022 at Heritage Park.

50 YEAR REUNIONS



September 23rd

JFK Class of 1972: For more information contact Debbie Favors Lentz 313-295-2811

Taylor Center Class of 1972: For information for their year-long events contact Becky Kennedy-Noffsinger 734-845-0160

HISTORY OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR

Library History



Since 1922, Taylor has been serving the community with library services. In the beginning, access to books was provided by the Wayne County Bookmobile. It would visit Taylor on a regular basis providing books to the residents. Then in 1929, the Taylor Center branch of the Wayne County library opened. Over 20 years later the Taylor Center branch had outgrown the small building it was housed in and needed to expand. So, in 1953 the library moved to a larger building. *Pictured: Taylor Center Library Branch, Koth's Store 1922*

Once again, the community outgrew the library space, so the need for books and information was met with the opening of Library 1 on Goddard Road followed by Library 2 at Wick and Mortenvue in 1968. In later years the libraries were renamed to Alexander Papp Library and Richard J. Trolley Library to honor the men who were instrumental in their construction. *Pictured: Richard J. Trolley Library Dedication, 1968*



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By 1983, it was evident that the community would be better served by combining the two smaller libraries into one large library. Plans were drafted to meet that need, and in 1985 the new Taylor Community Library was completed. Since that time, the library has continually improved the services it provides to the community and remains one of the top leaders in delivering information access in the downriver community.

In 2015, when the Wayne County Library system permanently closed, Taylor Community Library added Braille and Talking Books services, as an Advisory & Outreach Center of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. In 2017, the library received the Advisory & Outreach Center of the Year Award.

In 2019, the bathrooms were remodeled, and an additional family restroom was added in the Youth Area of the library. Also, in 2020 the Remodeled Community Engagement rooms, sponsored by Wayne County Community College District, were ready to debut, but a worldwide pandemic shuts down library service from mid-March to mid-June, where the library began offering curbside service. Automatic doors were installed before the curbside services resumed. Library events were hosted virtually.

In 2021, the library floors were replaced and limited in-person events resumed until the pandemic began peaking again in late 2021. Early in 2021, the library began loaning technology kits that include a basic computer and internet access. The kits were obtained through an Improving Access to Information Grant.

Article submitted by the Taylor Historical Society

Taylor Career and Technical Center is proud to announce a partnership with EmergeSkilled to make career connections easier for students. EmergeSkilled is designed to connect our students to career opportunities throughout our community and beyond. EmergeSkilled is an online platform designed to connect students who attend CTE high schools, trade schools, community colleges and certificate programs to career opportunities while providing resources to explore career pathways and prepare students for their careers and job search. Taylor students will have access to connect to verified companies that can provide students with opportunities for job shadows, work-based learning, part-time, seasonal, and full-time jobs. We are looking for community businesses and organizations interested in partnering with us. To learn more about this great opportunity and how to partner with Taylor Schools on our initial roll out please use this [link](#) to request a demo from Joe Bamberger, EmergeSkilled representative, who will be guiding us through our initial onboarding.

Thank you so much for your time and I look forward to working with you. Carly Barnard
(carly.barnard@taylorschools.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. Please Note: 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.

TAYLOR CENTER HIGH SCHOOL

- Edwin Reese, Class of 1960 (passed March 23, 2022)
- John A. Barron, Class of 1962 (passed away May 26, 2021)
- Jeff Allan Schleicher, Class 1987 (passed March 24, 2022)
- Dave Shores, Class of 1962 (passed away January 23, 2022)
- William Evans, Class of 1969 (passed away March 27, 2022)
- Loren Hale McGinley, Class of 1976 (passed away March 21, 2022)
- Sandra McElhenie, Class of 1983 (passed away March 17, 2022)
- Lawrence "Larry" Green, Class of 1962 (April 11, 2022)

JOHN F KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

- Michael (Larry) Robinson - Class of 1968 (passed August 13, 1968)
- Ellen Keeler McLaughlin, Class of 1967 (passed July 31, 2020)
- Matthew Torongeau, Class of 1985 (passed away March 26, 2022)
- Candice Jarrell, Class of 2001 (passed away 12-29-2021)
- James R. Wade, Class of 2003 (passed 9-15-2003)

HARRY S TRUMAN HIGH SCHOOL

- John "Wesley" Gaydos, Class of 1987 (March 9, 2022)

STAFF

- Richard Gardner, HST Teacher (passed March 19, 2022)

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