



## TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE EXCELLENT TEACHERS



*By Carole Scott*

As I type this, I am multitasking (distracted by) three of my favorite retirement pursuits: watching backyard birds, enjoying the late summer blooms of my flower garden, and setting up rehearsals and concerts for various musical groups. This time of year used to be devoted to setting up classrooms, organizing music, putting performance dates on the school calendar, fundraising, uniform orders, instrument inventorying and so many other tasks. Life as a music educator was never dull. As the general music teacher at many elementary schools and instrumental music teacher at West middle school, I am pretty sure the number of students that sang and played instruments with me would total in the tens of thousands.

My assignments of 1985-2000 were at Kinyon, Johnson, Meyers, Federal, McDowell and Eureka Heights primarily, but I also made cameo appearances at just about every elementary as a sub (back in the days of 24 elementary schools) or team teaching with other music teachers. Elementary chorus performances were always a highlight with many fun musicals and holiday programs. The “Early Risers Square Dance Club” saw lots of sleepy-headed kids coming before school began to learn how to tell left from right and not be squeamish about holding someone else’s hands. Learning the recorder was a challenge for many with the goal being to master the “Theme from Titanic”. The string orchestra “Kinyon Fiddlers” was an after-school program started with grant monies and supported generously by administrators who shared my vision.

My memory pulls up so many special musical moments: field trips to Detroit Symphony Orchestra; auditioning for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at the Fox Theater (with Donny Osmond); participating with a 100-voice elementary choir singing at Christmas time at Southland; chorus and orchestra performances with Southern Great Lakes Symphony; preparing a Treble Choir (Boy Choir) which sang in Latin for Carl Orff’s “Carmina Burana”; and yearly all-district performances at Heritage Park. Good times...until there was a knock on my classroom door....2000-2015 encapsulated a different musical focus: teaching band and orchestra at West Middle School.

Twenty years after graduating from college, I was finally going to teach in my major area. This was a challenge, but once again, administrators and colleagues paved the way for me, and I gradually found my feet. Middle school students were always hard at work helping me be a better teacher. The

program grew steadily, and the rewards were great. Students will recall trips to Mackinac Island, Chicago, Cedar Point as well as band festivals, concerts, and parades closer to home. I remember especially the leaders and co-workers who helped make working in Taylor Schools exciting and gratifying.

Starting an association with the Taylor school district very early as a student teacher at Truman High School with Ed Rima, I saw good years and sadness as instrumental music programs fought for survival. Each year brought new challenges. It was no different for any of the music department personnel. Among my biggest cheerleaders were Jerry Smith, Brian Theil, Harmon Beekman, Glenda Virden, Dick Kunzi, Barb Erickson, Gail Mitchell, Teresa Winnie, Dave Martin, Norm Malinowski, and Jim Bergler.

Thank you to so many patient co-workers who helped to make music viable and valued in our schools. Thank you to my students, also. You helped make my life-long dream come true. The hugest thank you goes to my husband Doug Scott (Taylor Center '73) who never missed a concert, was a frequent piano accompanist, an expert musical sounding-board, and "workplace complaint diffuser." He is one in a million.

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## IN THE NEWS

From **the Detroit News**

During the 1984 Olympics held in Los Angeles, Earl Jones, Taylor Center High School Class of 1982, stood on the podium happily displaying the bronze medal he won in the 800-meter race at the age of 20. Jones looked into the stands at thousands of faces, all cheering their American medal winner. Jones glanced at his Taylor Center High School coach Mickey Turcheck and his wife Claire who were so instrumental in stabilizing Jones' life. No one doubted Jones would get better and more dominant in the years ahead. But a car crash in 1986 changed all that, ending his track career and sending his life into a tailspin that included bouts with drugs and alcohol. The article goes on to state: Turcheck said- It's all enough to shed tears. All that talent that wasn't totally given an opportunity to flourish. But don't expect Jones to shed any tears this time. "I let all that go," Jones said, "I'm satisfied with my career. It could have been better, a lot more world championships, Olympic medals. Things happened for a reason. I overcame it."

In the entire news article Earl Jones thanked and heaped praise on Mickey Turcheck and Claire Lambert Turcheck (both TCH Grads of 1963) for their support over all these years.

The Taylor Alumni Association has contacted Ted Kulfan, this article's writer and asked for links that you will be able to use to read the entire article. We are extremely proud of Earl, Claire, and Mickey for what they have done and continue to do.

## GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

All of the Taylor School District kindergarteners will visit Taylor's Heritage Park Petting Farm in October thanks to the support of the Taylor Public Schools Foundation.

Taylor School District Selects Care Solace for Mental Health Care Coordination Services with Care Solace, families and staff gain access to a dedicated Care Companion™ to navigate the mental health care system on their behalf, calling providers to find the right fit and availability. They help families with private insurance, Medicaid, and no insurance, and are available 24/7/365 in any language. It is an organization determined to help with mental health care coordination, to expand access to community mental health and substance use treatment providers for students, staff, and their families. Care Solace also equips school systems with a customized online tool that gives members a way to anonymously search for community-based providers matched to their needs. "Being able to offer this tool is something our district is extremely proud of," says Taylor School District Supt. Griff Mills. "It gives our families another level of support to help get them through any challenges they may be facing."



*Submitted by Robert Koybylasz, Public Relations*

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## GOOD THINGS HAPPENING IN THE CITY OF TAYLOR



The Taylor Goodfellows are in the midst of preparing for another busy holiday season and they could use your help. Last year, the group helped 81 families (including 193 children) enjoy a wonderful Christmas season. The Goodfellows motto is "No child without a Christmas ..." and the Taylor organization takes that a few steps further, tailoring gifts to specific children's wishes and including essential items like food, clothing, cold weather gear and hygiene products in addition to toys and crafts – all of which are selected based on the child's own wish list. A huge part of the magic of the holiday season is being able to spend time with your family and friends, and while every child loves a toy, providing needed items allows parents a little relief so they can enjoy that time with their kids instead of worrying

about how they will provide those items. Shopping for and organizing all of the items is a big undertaking and the Goodfellows are always looking for new volunteers who are willing and able to help with those tasks.

## YOUR TAYLOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

- Sharon Campau Barnett, TCH 64
- Glenda Wilson Campbell, JFK 72
- Rick Czepinski, JFK 69
- Joseph Diederichs, JFK 73
- Richard Koths, TCH 72
- Ellen O’Jibway Quinlivan, JFK 69
- James Rendall, TCH 78
- Linda Babcheck Tate, JFK 74
- Dan Tulik, JFK 70
- Donald Welbes, TCH 73
- Thomas Zempel TCH 59

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DONATIONS RECEIVED

The Taylor Alumni Association & the scholarship recipients extend sincere appreciation to the following for their generous donations:

- Rick Czepinski, JFK 1969
- Ellen O’Jibway Quinlivan JFK 69
- Larry Wright, JFK 1966
- JFK Class of 1967 - A decision was made to not have any further re-unions and to donate what money was left in the Treasury, to the Alumni Association

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## ANYONE ELSE HAVE THIS PROBLEM?

*I don’t know how to act my age ‘cuz I’ve never been this old before.*

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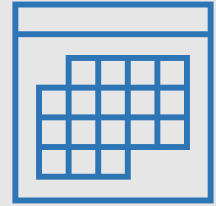
## WE HEARD FROM



Judy White Warner, TCH Class of 1958, attended Northern Michigan University and graduated with a teaching degree. She and her husband Charles live in Marquette and are celebrating their 55th Wedding Anniversary on October 14. She sends her appreciation for the fine work being done by the Taylor Alumni Association and the staff of the monthly Alumni Newsletter.


## UPCOMING EVENTS - FUNDRAISERS

**TAYLOR FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER** - Saturday October 22, 2022, at the Democratic Club of Taylor 7:00 pm. Entertainment by Amando D Amando presenting Traditional Motown music. This group performed last year and was so well received that they are back for a repeat performance. \$25 per ticket includes pizza, soft drinks & beer; wine will be available for purchase. (See attached flyer.)



**TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION** - Monday, November 7, from 3PM-10PM enjoy dinner at the Texas Roadhouse and 10% of your food purchases will be donated to the Foundation. See attached flyer which must be presented to your server upon ordering.






# FUNDRAISING

»» *Support* ««

**TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
3PM-10PM**



## 10%

**DONATION NIGHT**  
for Taylor Public School Education Foundation.

Present this flyer at the Taylor location and Texas Roadhouse will donate **10%** of your total food purchases to **Taylor Public School Education Foundation!**

**734-374-5500**  
**14660 PARDEE ROAD**  
**TAYLOR, MI**

# Taylor Public School Foundation presents: Amando D. Amando

**Traditional  
Motown  
Music**

**Saturday  
October 22,  
2022**



**Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
starts at 7:00 p.m.**

**This Fund Raiser**  
supports the  
enrichment programs, teacher grants,  
and scholarships  
for graduates of our  
Taylor Public School District.



## **Sponsor and reserve a table.**

\$500 Sponsorship - Recognition at the event, signage, and a table of eight tickets.  
\$250 Sponsorship - Recognition at the event, and four tickets.

Make checks payable to: **TPS Foundation for Educational Excellence**

**Contact Linda Newsome (313) 295-7313 or Cindy Whittico (734) 788-4341**

for more information to sponsor a table or purchase tickets.

**Location of event** is at: Democratic Club of Taylor (main hall east side entrance)  
23400 Wick Road Taylor, MI 48180

**Taylor Public School Foundation for Educational Excellence is a registered 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization.**

## **\$25 Tickets**

include pizza  
& a soft drink.  
**18 & up only!**  
Beer & Wine  
available  
for purchase.



## 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.*

### **JOHN F KENNEDY**

- Carol Hallabrin, Class of 1971 (passed September 1, 2022)

### **TAYLOR CENTER HIGH SCHOOL**

- Joyce Rader Beesley, Class of 1965 (passed June 30, 2022)
- Robert “Bob” Wallschlager, Class of 1959 (passed August 14, 2022)
- Daniel Mason, Class of 1967 (passed August 13, 2022)
- Marcus Locklear, Class of 1994 (passed August 29, 2022)

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