# **IN THE NEWS**





Alumni Newsletter November 2023

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Everyone has much to be thankful for- there are always bumps in the road of life but let us not forget all the many blessings we have received.



# **Demolition of JFK is Underway**



From Taylor School District: Demolition at Kennedy High School is officially underway. We are extremely happy to be moving forward with the 2021 Bond Program. We understand the excitement the construction of a new high school brings with it, but please avoid visiting the area as it is an active construction site. We will continue to share progress pictures here as things move forward.

JFK is to be replaced by a new High School with construction scheduled to begin in 2024. Our School Board President stated that this year, we are introducing exciting initiatives aimed at igniting passion, expanding horizons, and cultivating 21stcentury skills. These initiatives include:

- Art classes at both West and Hoover Middle Schools
- Additional sports opportunities at Taylor High, including wrestling, girls golf and cross country.
- Additional sports opportunities at the Middle schools, including cross country and coed soccer.
- New playgrounds at all the elementary schools.

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- Enhanced security throughout all Taylor schools
- Additional social workers

• Continued improvements with new high school athletic fields, building renovations and the completion of the Taylor Schools Alumni Museum

# OUR DISTRICT WELCOMED STUDENTS FROM 30 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

Note: Follow Taylor School District on Facebook to see coverage of demolition progress.

https://www.facebook.com/100063774051141/posts/pfbid02iYCfBHaihzazdu1cdFKBjQHenpDGJUjycX2 NoJVVuAVC8xBJKpNWXY5Kr3ZxuA8vl/?mibextid=95YSWs

# **ANOTHER OUTSTANDING CAREER**

### **VALERIE SITKA RABURN JFK 1970**

Thirty-one years with Allstate insurance company as a Team Leader managing multi-million-dollar IT contracts. After a brief retirement, went to Xerox as Chief Innovation Officer for the Financial Services Division. Now Valerie is a volunteer with the Pinellas County Florida Red Cross. She states, "When a Hurricane comes our way it is all hands-on deck". She has now helped with two Hurricanes.



# A THOUGHT REGARDING HALLOWEEN

A day when we get it right!!

Strangers come to us-beautiful, odd, and scary, and we accept them all without questions, compliment them, treat them kindly, and give them good things. Why don't we live like that?

Contributed by Ken Renner, JFK 1970

## WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE CITY



### Midway Sports & Entertainment continues to entertain Taylor families for over 70 years.

It originally opened as a driving range. In the early 60's Miniature Golf course and Trampolines were added. In the 80's batting cages and a Go Kart track. Soon after a 36-hole miniature golf course complete with five ponds, multiple waterfalls and a pirate ship were added.

Today Trampolines have been replaced with a Bungee Dome and a rock-climbing wall. A new Go Kart track runs over 800 feet has also been added.

The facility now employs 75 individuals.

# **GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN TAYLOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

ANOTHER OF THE MANY SUCCESS STORYS OF TAYLOR GRADUATESL CHRISTA HARDIN, HST, 1997

Christa, a successful author with a new book, ENNEAGRAM AND MARRIAGE, published by Baker and available on Amazon. She also has over one million downloads on her podcast Enneagram and Marriage She was recently featured in the Tampa Bay Magazine as a "Change Maker".



#### **TAYLOR CENTER CLASS OF 1960**

Lunch the 3rd Wednesday of the month 12:30 – Locations change each month- for more information contact Bill Riggs PHONE 734-771-6622 or EMAIL <u>willee6742@gmail.com</u>





# **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**

- Janice Berry, Class of 1957 (passed November 1977)
- Diane Logan Stambugh, Class of 1965 (passed December 12, 1992)
- Brenda Guthrie Lloucks, Class of 1967 (passed September 2, 2023)
- Buford Richardson, Class of 1968 (passed July 2001)
- James Collins, Class of 1968 (passed October 18, 2023)
- Joe E Lolline, Class of 1969 (passed June 12, 1976)
- Gary Lollini, Class of 1975 (passed October 30, 1997)
- Kimberly Potter Natzke, Class of 1978 (passed October 2, 2023)
- Michael D. Johnson, Class of 1983 (passed November 20, 2021)

### JOHN F KENNEDY

- Charlene Roberts Ansel, Class of 1966 (passed October 7, 2023)
- Nicole Fuller Truett, Class of 2001 (passed October 19, 2023)

### <u>STAFF</u>

- Ellie Hill, Bus Driver & Maintenance (passed September 28,2023)
- Ron Toffen, Computer Technician (passed October 1, 2023)
- Eddis Tear, retired Elementary Teacher (passed October 1, 2023)
- Leonard F Peruski, retired Administrator (passed October 6, 2023)