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*Sweet Home  
Alumni Association*



*Distinguished Alumni  
Wall of Fame*

2017

*Induction Ceremonies  
Friday, November 3, 2017*

The Distinguished Wall of Fame exists in some form in other school districts and colleges around the nation. What sets ours apart are the alumni who were selected for this evening's momentous occasion in Sweet Home's history. Whether it is a businessman, entrepreneur, producer, or golf pro, all of tonight's recipients are more than worthy of our honor. Our Alumni Board is proud to state that their beginnings are rooted in our very own Sweet Home High School.



The nomination and selection process was an exciting time. Nomination forms were collected through the beginning of June. Through the assistance of a small committee comprised of veteran and retired teachers, administrators, alumni board members, alumni, and community members, the four inductees were selected.

As Alumni Coordinator, I am proud of those who will be inducted tonight. Thank you to their friends and family members who will witness their special award. I look forward to seeing their plaques adorn our main hall so that all of our past and current students, staff, and community members can recognize their achievements. Congratulations to the Distinguished Alumni Class of 2017!

Lisa LaBrake  
Sweet Home Alumni Coordinator

# PROGRAM



## Sweet Home Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame Induction Ceremonies

*Friday, November 3, 2017*

6:30pm .... Music and Check-In

6:45pm ..... Welcome & Introductions, Don Feldmann

- ◆ Mark Borer, Class of 1972, presents  
*Paul S. Bluestein, D.C., Class of 1972*
- ◆ Brian Koziol, High School math teacher & tennis coach, presents  
*Tim Fries, Class of 1982*
- ◆ Karl Shallowhorn, Class of 1980, presents  
*Paul Wright III, Class of 1983*
- ◆ Nick LoVerde, Class of 1987 presents  
*Lenore Davis Thawley, Class of 1990*

7:45pm ..... Closing Remarks, Lisa LaBrake, Alumni Coordinator  
Cake & Coffee Served

Special thanks to the following people for their tireless efforts in ensuring that tonight was successful:

Roz Annunziato  
Gary Bainbridge  
Dave Barbalato  
Kelli Bogacz  
Debra Coniglio  
Bruce Corris  
Anthony Day  
Don Feldmann  
David Harrison  
Hermann Studios  
High School Custodial Staff  
Gary Klenk  
Lisa LaBrake  
Mike Lopardi  
Scott Martin  
Trey Measer & Bee Group Newspapers  
Pat Mergenhausen  
Mike Morrow  
Dan Murphy  
Heidi Mussachio  
Kristina Pinkowski  
Tom Rackl  
Dave Sherman  
Darcy Spengler  
Roey Tacca  
Steve Weingarten

### Emcees for the evening:

Don Feldmann & Lisa LaBrake

## Lenore Davis Thawley Class of 1990



Lenore Davis Thawley, Class of 1990, was a standout volleyball player for the Panthers. Her excellent play afforded her the opportunity to play at the college level for the University of Georgia. She lettered in volleyball every year for the Bulldogs and it was there where she met her husband, Zen. The two were married in 2009. They live in Beaverton, Oregon and are the proud parents to two sons, River and Ryder.

After graduation from Georgia, Lenore has worked tirelessly to develop and grow two businesses and one very important foundation. Lenore is the lead photographer, proprietor and make-up artist at Zen Todd Photographers, her husband's photography business. It would be fair to say that she spends the most of her time in two other ventures: Lightning Cupcakes and the Healing Hunter Foundation.

Zen and Lenore welcomed their first son, Hunter, in 2007. At about 6 months of age, Hunter was diagnosed with AML Leukemia. Little Hunter fought valiantly for the next two and a half years, but shortly after his cancer returned for a fourth time, passed away at the age of three on March 8, 2010. Almost immediately thereafter, Lenore and Zen sprang into action to carry on Hunter's spirit.

Lenore opened Lightning Cupcakes in 2010 and its sole purpose was to raise money for children fighting cancer. The business was named as it was because of Hunter's love for Lightning McQueen from the Disney Cars movies.

The cupcake business helps to fund the work of the Healing Hunter Foundation Lenore and Zen created in memory of Hunter. Today, the Healing Hunter Foundation raises thousands of dollars to assist youth and their families as they battle various illnesses at Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Annually, the foundation donates several hundred iPads, toys, games and crafts in the hospital's oncology center. Every year, the foundation and area volunteer firemen go to the hospital to decorate the children's oncology wing.

## Paul S. Bluestein, D.C. Class of 1972



In over 35 years of work, Paul S. Bluestein, D.C., Class of 1972, has treated over 150,000 chiropractic patients throughout the Buffalo and Western New York area. Currently, his private practice operates in the Sweet Home Central School District and it is this commitment to community that makes Dr. Bluestein a welcome addition to the Sweet Home Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame.

In addition to directing his own private practice, Paul has also been a clinical instructor of chiropractic medicine, supervisor of chiropractic interns, and served at a number of area hospitals in areas of pain management and alleviation.

Throughout his years of practice, Paul has devoted himself to the improvement of his field through extensive involvement in quality improvement endeavors. He founded Prism Health Networks, which oversaw the chiropractic care of 1,100,000 patients and 1,000 credentialed chiropractors across three states. Today, that work continues as Paul works as president of Patient Advantage, LLC a personal medical research firm that provides timely, thorough, accurate and simplified personal medical information to patients and even acts as an advocate for patients with complex illnesses. Paul founded the company in 2003 and it currently works with patients across seven different states.

It is this work and Paul's relationship with his patients that helped Paul being named as Chiropractor of the Year by the New York State Chiropractic Association, District 17 in 1998. He has also served as the organization's vice president and delegate on multiple occasions.

In addition, Paul has also been published in a number of chiropractic journals, most notably his study on chiropractic access and minority populations that was published in the American Chiropractic Association Journal in 1999.

Paul and his wife, Roberta, live in the Sweet Home Central School District and their children Adina and Isaac currently attend our schools.

## Tim Fries Class of 1982

Tim Fries', Class of 1982, involvement in the game of golf and the people that he has touched the lives of is extremely noteworthy.



Tim is currently the Head Golf Professional at Transit Valley Country Club in East Amherst. He has been a member of the Pro Golf Association (PGA) since 1991, earning a Class A-1 Certification in instruction. He serves on the PGA of America National Board of Directors, the PGA of America National Tournaments Committee and the WNYPGA Board of Directors, where he served a term as president. He was awarded the PGA Assistant Professional Award of the Year in 1998 and 1999, the Player Development Award in 2014 and PGA Merchandiser of the Year in 2012. In addition, Tim was a rules observer for the 41st Ryder Cup in 2016 and has worked as an Official Starter for the last three PGA Championships.

Tim has also accomplished many highlights as a player during his professional career. He recently qualified and played in the 77th Senior PGA Championship in 2016 at Harbor Shores Country Club in Michigan. Tim has won over 45 WNYPGA events which helped him land such awards as 2014 WNYPGA Senior Player of the Year and the 1998 WNYPGA Player of the Year. He still currently holds course records at Beaver Island Golf Club, Orchard Park Country Club and Transit Valley Country Club.

Golf has allowed Tim to be a part of many charitable, community and military events as well. He has worked with WNYPGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) as a Program Instructor since 2013. He was also involved with Folds of Honor Foundation that works with veterans after they return from serving our country. In addition, Tim served as Foundation Chairman of the WNYPGA REACH Program working with area military and youth to support its mission of diversity and inclusion in golf. For his efforts, Tim was awarded the WNYPGA Professional of the Year Award and the WNYPGA Bill Strausbaugh Award in 2016 for his strong promotion of the sport of golf and outstanding involvement in charitable and community activities.

Tim currently resides in Kenmore with his wife Karen and two children.

## Paul Wright III Class of 1983

Paul Wright III, Class of 1983, has always had an incredible ear for music and, over the last 30 years, he has left an indelible mark on the industry.



While at Sweet Home, Paul had the typical music education as his peers, but was always many steps ahead of them. This was due, in large part, to his own self-teaching. Toward the end of high school, Paul composed an award-winning piece for the NAACP Act-So Choir. The selection committee actually created a new award for composition due to Paul's outstanding work.

Paul went on to attend the University at Buffalo and graduated Summa Cum Laude in Music in only three years. Following graduation, Paul embarked on his professional career and quickly collaborated with another Sweet Home grad to write the theme music for the television show "Martin" featuring comedian Martin Lawrence.

Following a move to Los Angeles, Paul composed the musical score for the Eddie Murphy hit movie "Made in America". Paul has produced music for other movies including "Left Behind" and "Union" and the television series "Sister Kate".

Paul eventually left Los Angeles for Nashville, Tennessee where he joined Venesen Music Group and worked to recruit new music talent for the label. He then ventured out on his own to found Harborwood Records and quickly began to cement himself as a leading producer in the gospel music genre, producing series such as "Wow gospel" and "With this Ring".

Paul sold Harborwood Studios and established the faith-based organization 360Musicworx/Zipboxmedia serving as the CEO both there and Capitol Christian Universal Music Group.

A multi Grammy, Dove, and Stellar award winner and nominee, Paul has worked on over 200 records as a writer, producer and composer. He has been fortunate enough to work with the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Donnie McClurkin, Fred Hammond, Gary Chapman, AsOne, Disney, Seal, Kylie Minogue, Geri Halwell and many more. He is also a member of the prestigious Grammy Awards Selection Committee.

Outside of work, Paul is an active member of his church, Joy Church, serving in its music ministry.