

*Sweet Home  
Alumni Association*

*Distinguished Alumni  
Wall of Fame*

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2010-11**

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20  10

*Induction Ceremonies  
Friday, November 5, 2010*

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

Craig Allwes  
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Dave Sherman  
Darcy Spengler  
Roey Tacca  
Steve Weingarten

**Emcee for the evening:**

Melissa Holmes, Channel 4 WIVB-TV

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 be as a researcher, entrepreneur, writer, or community leader, 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. A nomination form was devised and nominations were collected in the spring of 2010. Through the assistance of a small committee comprised of veteran and retired teachers, administrators, alumni board members, alumni, and community members, the first five 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 be accompanying them tonight to see them receive their special award. I look forward to congratulating them and 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.

Lisa LaBrake  
Sweet Home Alumni Coordinator

# PROGRAM



## Sweet Home Distinguished Alumni Wall of Fame Induction Ceremonies

*Friday, November 5, 2010*

6:30pm .... Food & Refreshments Served

7:00pm ..... Welcome & Introductions, Melissa Holmes, Class of 2000

- ◆ Jack Lang, '60 presents  
*Ronald H. Moline, Class of 1960*
- ◆ Roey Tacca, '65 presents  
*Donald P. Panzera, Class of 1965*
- ◆ Lisa LaBrake, Alumni Coordinator, presents  
*Dan Herbeck, Class of 1972*
- ◆ Pat Mergenhagen, former Alumni Coordinator, presents  
*Althea E. Luehrsen, Class of 1974*
- ◆ Paul Strefeler, '90 presents  
*Andrew D. Ray, Phd, PT, Class of 1990*

8:00pm .... Closing Remarks  
Cake & Coffee Served  
Tour of the School

## **Andrew D. Ray, PhD, PT** **Class of 1990**



Andrew D. Ray, PhD, PT, Class of 1990, currently is an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health and Health Professions and a faculty researcher for the Center for Research and Education in Special Environments, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences both at the University of Buffalo.

Andrew has earned bachelors degrees in exercise science and physical therapy, a masters in exercise science and a doctor of philosophy in exercise science.

Ray has taught courses in physiology, biophysics, medical sciences, cardiopulmonary response to exercise, evaluations of the treatment of cardiopulmonary patients and physical therapy foundations. His work has also been published on nine separate occasions in peer-reviewed journals.

Andrew currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Stacey Scott Lung Cancer Registry at Roswell Park Cancer Institute. The registry shares tissue samples from multiple research institutions in the United States, Canada and The United Kingdom. The primary goal of the registry is to establish an early detection test for patients at high risk for lung cancer.

Presenting Andrew this evening for induction will be long-time friend and classmate, Mr. Paul Strefeler.

## Donald P. Panzera Class of 1965



Donald P. Panzera, Class of 1965, served as the Chief of European and Latin American acquisitions at the Library of Congress until his retirement in 2007.

In his 33 years of Library service, Mr. Panzera contributed significantly to the Library of Congress' transition to the digital age. He represented Library Services on the Library-wide e-Deposit for e-journals Working Group, which allowed for a digital repository for electronic journals received through the U.S Copyright Office. Mr. Panzera also worked on the International Electronic Exchange Project (IEX) that helped assure that the Library receive publications from foreign governments as they shifted away from print formats. In addition, he also worked with six German libraries and Stanford University libraries to establish a private network (IEX LOCKSS) for the purpose of archiving selected German government e-journals.

Panzera is a graduate of Georgetown University, attended Johns Hopkins University in Bologna, Italy before receiving a 1980 doctorate in modern European history from Northwestern University in Illinois. Mr. Panzera passed away in March 2010.

Roey Tacca, a classmate of Don's from the Class of 1965, will be presenting him for induction this evening.

## Dan Herbeck Class of 1972



Dan Herbeck, Class of 1972, began his career in journalism during his high school years as a writer for the school newspaper.

While he was a student at St. Bonaventure University, Dan continued his passion for journalism with an internship at the Buffalo News in 1977. Following graduation in 1978, The News hired him as a full-time reporter and he has been a staple in the newsroom ever since.

He spent the first 11 years of his career covering the police beat at Buffalo Police Headquarters. Since 1989 he has been assigned to cover proceeds at Federal Court.

Dan has won more than a dozen national and state awards for investigative reporting including the investigations of telemarketing fraud, organized crime, bankruptcy fraud, overcrowding in the state prisons, corruption in the Buffalo Parks Department and unruly conduct by professional football fans.

In 2001, Dan wrote "American Terrorist" with co-author Lou Michel about terrorist bomber Timothy McVeigh. The book was a New York Times bestseller, ranking #2 in nonfiction bestsellers. In 2002, sniper killer James C. Kopp confessed to Herbeck and Michel to shooting and killing Dr. Barnett Slepian.

Dan and his wife Joyce were two of the volunteers who reopened the Brighton Place Library after Erie County officials closed it in 2006. The Herbecks are members of the volunteer-run library's Board of Directors.

Lisa LaBrake, coordinator of the Sweet Home Alumni Association, will present Dan for induction this evening.

**Althea E. Luehrsen**  
**Class of 1974**



Althea E. Luehrsen, Class of 1974, currently holds the position of Assistant Vice President for Corporate and Foundation Relations for the University at Buffalo.

Ms. Luehrsen holds an extensive background in business and leadership that includes management positions with the University at Buffalo, Abbott Laboratories and Marriott Corporation. Her expertise encompasses sales, marketing, strategic planning and entrepreneurship with the latter being gained through directing UB's Center of Entrepreneurial Leadership and as the co-founder and operator of three Western New York businesses.

Ms. Luehrsen is also the President/Owner of Strategic Solutions Group specializing in strategic plan facilitation and small business consulting.

Althea currently holds several board positions including immediate past president of the Buffalo Niagara Sales and Marketing Executives. She also serves as a mentor in the Allstate Minority and Women Emerging Entrepreneur program.

Luehrsen is a graduate of Empire State College where she received both her BA and MA and was recognized in 2009 with their Distinguished Alumni Award.

Former Alumni Association Coordinator, Pat Mergenhagen, will present Althea for induction this evening.

**Ronald H. Moline**  
**Class of 1960**



Ronald H. Moline, class of 1960, served most recently as the Town of Tonawanda Supervisor until his retirement in 2008.

Following his graduation from Buffalo State College in 1964, Mr. Moline began his teaching career in the Buffalo Public School system. He taught at several Buffalo schools and retired from Bennett High School in 1998 following 25 years in teaching.

Moline's 26-year career as an elected official in the Town of Tonawanda began with his successful campaign for councilman in 1981. He served as supervisor from 1983-1993, and returned to that office in 2000 after retiring from teaching and serving as councilman again. During his tenure as an elected official, Ron always placed high priority on residential and economic development opportunities and in delivering the highest quality of services, programs and facilities at the lowest possible cost.

Mr. Moline has been recognized by several organizations for his contributions to the quality of life in the Town of Tonawanda including being named as the 2007 town of Tonawanda Community service Award Winner.

Ron and his wife Diane have been married for 48 years. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Ron's classmate, Jack Lang, will present him for induction this evening.