



Press Advisory

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Distinguished Alumni events slated for Friday

Longview ISD on Friday will honor three former students during the annual Distinguished Alumni ceremony and luncheon. The ceremony is set to begin at 9:30 a.m. at Foundation Plaza (front of Longview High School). The luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. at First Christian Church.

Honorees are nominated at-large and chosen by a committee of previous honorees, volunteer Distinguished Alumni Committee members and the district's Community Relations office. Distinguished alumni typically have excelled professionally, in addition to serving the communities in which they live. Following are brief biographies of this year's honorees:

Dr. George Whaley Tate, Jr.

After graduating near the top of his Longview High School class of 1959, George Whaley Tate, Jr. completed his education with honors to become an ophthalmologist and a pioneer in the field of Lasik surgery. Dr. Tate credits much of his success to his high school geometry teacher.

Admittedly inattentive, fearful and obstinate, Tate says he planned on skating through high school math to get into college, but was assigned to Mrs. G.B. Wilson – a teacher with a reputation of being super-tough. Shortly after making a 'D' on his first assignment (Mrs. Wilson gave him credit for doing something, although he didn't follow her instructions), his teacher gave him a book called "Mathematics and the Imagination" and encouraged him to try harder. From that moment, his life was changed.

Tate graduated in the top 5 percent from Longview High School and went on to graduate *Cum Laude* from Rice University – with a degree in mathematics. While at U.T. Southwestern Medical School, he helped develop the world's first automatic perimeter, used today as a standard vision testing device. Not only has Dr. Tate been a leader in his field, he has shared his knowledge by contributing to the education of others. His work has been published through numerous books, journal articles and instructional videos. He

also served in the U.S. Army Reserve between 1964 and 1979, where he was a flight surgeon. Tate was decorated with the National Defense Ribbon and the Army Commendation Medal. He retired as a major.

Dr. Tate and his wife Jeannie make their home in Union Mills, N.C., where they are very active in animal welfare causes, including serving as fosters for rescued dogs. Tate has three children, George W. Tate, III, 36; Phillip M. Tate, 35; and stepson Kenneth McDonald.

J. David Harrison

Since graduating from Longview High School in 1973 and the University of Texas in 1979, J. David Harrison has become a world renowned architect.

Harrison, who works with Related Companies in New York City, has developed property in New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Texas and Singapore. Among his more recent designs, the 1 million square-foot, 21-story W South Beach Hotel (Miami Beach, FL) opened in 2009 as the flagship for Starwood Hotels' W brand. InterContinental Boston, another of Harrison's designs, was selected by Forbes in 2007 as one of the 10 best hotels in the world. The American Lodging Association also named the project as its 2007 Development of the Year. Harrison has also helped design numerous commercial, institutional and retail buildings in places such as Times Square (New York City), Dallas and Singapore.

Harrison's civic work also runs the gamut. He is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; the Glass House Foundation; Save the Bay (preservation and restoration of Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island). Harrison formerly held board positions with the Longview Museum of Art and the Charles Moore Foundation in Austin.

While at Longview High School, Harrison was a member of the Interact Club, and was a basketball and football student manager. His post secondary education includes graduate studies at the Architectural Association, London, and Brown University in Rhode Island. He is a licensed architect in New York and Texas.

Harrison is married to Elizabeth Harrison and the couple has a son, Alexander, 22. He is the son of longtime Longview ISD board member John Harrison, and Jean Harrison (deceased).

Kristin L. Chrouser, M.D., MPH

Kristin Chrouser's contribution to society has been a worldwide endeavor since she graduated as Longview High School in 1991.

After Chrouser graduated from Princeton University and medical school at the Mayo Clinic, she dedicated her career to the research and practice of urology. Dr. Chrouser is a staff urologist at Chesapeake Urology Associates (Baltimore, MD); a technical advisor for Jhpiego, an affiliate of Johns Hopkins; and an associate in the Department of International Health at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Her research has been published numerous times during her career, including articles in the American Journal of Surgery, World Journal of Surgery, Journal of Public Health and American College of Surgeons, among others. Dr. Chrouser has also made several presentations about her work to national and international audiences of her medical peers.

In addition to her job in Maryland, Dr. Chrouser is active with International Volunteers in Urology, a group that travels all over the world to treat people who would not otherwise have access to the advantages of Western medicine.

As a Longview High School student, Chrouser served as an officer in several organizations, including National Honor Society and Anchor Club. She also earned All Region and All Area honors as a member of the Lobo Band.

Dr. Chrouser is the daughter of Dan and Barbara Carouser.