



### ***LESSONS LEARNED, IN SILENCE: PUSH PHYSICAL THEATRE***

On Thursday, Feb. 13, members of the award-winning, internationally known PUSH Physical Theatre presented two assemblies for our elementary students. The programs (part of Young Audiences of Rochester) were funded in part through the ER Alumni Foundation.

The four performers used pantomime and acrobatic moves to tell stories and teach life lessons. Students had the opportunity to use their imaginations, and were in awe as they watched the actors' complicated movements. They learned about the value of empathy, and that while each of us is different on

the outside, we need to get to know and appreciate each other on the inside. The children saw actions which demonstrated the need for kindness, respect, and friendship, and the value of solving problems together.

Following the performances the children had the chance to ask questions of the actors. They learned the performers have to practice a lot, take care of themselves, eat a healthy, balanced diet, and understand math and science in order to interact and balance with each other.

The Alumni Foundation was honored to be able to help financially support such a worthwhile program.

*– Anita M. Mance, Grants Chairperson*

### ***~ NEW FUNDRAISING PROGRAM ~***

Last year the East Rochester Alumni Foundation decided to reach out to all alumni, from all classes, and ask for their support.

ERAF will be eight years old this year, and it's been a wonderful eight years. The Foundation has grown every year and has been able to fund more and more grants, made necessary by ongoing pressures on our school districts to cut back on educational enrichment programs.

For seven years, our summer golf tournament, the Sam Urzetta Classic, has been our chief fundraiser. We plan to continue that event, but suspect its potential as our only major source of revenue is becoming somewhat limited. We simply can't fit many more golfers on the course, and we're reluctant to raise the entry fee each year. We need to raise more funds for the future.

Last year, two classes were the first to participate in the Foundation's new fundraising program. ERAF owes special thanks to the class of 1951 (and class agents **Sue and Dick Devereaux**) and the class of '58 (class agents **Mike Quenell and John Quenell**) for raising more than \$2,000 on behalf of the Foundation.

This year, the classes of 1959 (agents **Peter Obourn and Carl Tobin**), '61 (**Sam Morabito**), and '63 (**Marilyn Tuttle and Patty Pullano**) will continue the program.

We'd like to encourage more class leaders to join the program. ERAF will provide to class agents a complete fundraising packet (including suggested letters to classmates, the ERAF brochure, and forms and instructions for raising money for the Foundation) and cover any expenses, such as printing and postage. Additional class agents are being sought for classes in other years.

To allow donations to be made more easily, the Foundation also now accepts contributions by credit card or PayPal, through the ERAF Website – [www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm](http://www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm). In addition, the foundation accepts memorial gifts and bequests.

Anyone interested in serving as a class agent is encouraged to contact me at [pobourn@aol.com](mailto:pobourn@aol.com) or 585-223-0675.

The Foundation is proud of, and thankful for, the alumni and community support which has made such an important and positive impact on the educational program in ER. All the Foundation's good work is funded by friends and alumni of East Rochester Schools; 100 percent of donated funds are used to underwrite Alumni Foundation grants and projects.

*– Peter Obourn, Development Fundraising Program Coordinator*

## ~ ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT ~

### Kevin Connors, ERHS '83

As we began to look at East Rochester alumni to spotlight, we were amazed at the number who have been extremely successful in the field of music, and realized that ER has been home to many of the finest musicians locally, nationally, and internationally. These talented individuals remind us that it's possible to pursue even the greatest of dreams beginning in our own small hometown. With this in mind, we decided to focus on those talented graduates who have gone on to careers in music. Please feel free to write to [eralumnispotlight@gmail.com](mailto:eralumnispotlight@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions of musical alumni we can profile in the future! While we know we'll never be able to highlight all of them, we'd like to feature Kevin Connors in this edition, and continue in the issues to follow.

Kevin Connors, a world-renowned tenor, began to study voice with Thomas Paul at the Eastman School of Music and continued his studies with Karl Christian Kohn at the Salzburg Mozarteum, where he earned a diploma with distinction. His work with Astrid Varnay at the Bavarian Opera's studio in Munich played an equally important role in his musical education. Since 1990, Kevin has been a member of the ensemble of the Bavarian State Opera in Munich.

Kevin has appeared in concert halls and the opera houses in Amsterdam, Basel, Lisbon, Stuttgart, Tokyo, London, Berlin, Paris, Madrid, Rome, Vienna, Florence, Dublin, Oslo, Helsinki, Cairo, Bilbao, Milan, and San Francisco. He has performed with the Israel Philharmonic and the London Symphony, and with a multitude of world-renowned conductors. Kevin's repertoire includes 40 operas sung in six languages.

In 2005, he received the title of Bavarian "Kammersanger," a German title awarded to distinguished singers.

Kevin has returned to the United States and, specifically, his hometown to perform on several occasions – including a very successful fundraiser for the Alumni Foundation in May 2011 – and is a true example of one of the fine musicians whose roots are in East Rochester.



– Helen Urzetta Tortorici

## BACCALAUREATE 2014

All are invited to come and participate in a special, and very beautiful, Baccalaureate program, which includes a candle-lighting ceremony for all ER alumni. It's planned for 7 pm Monday, June 23, in the school auditorium, and the scheduled guest speaker is Jay Reeve, ERHS '81. Baccalaureate is sponsored by the ER class of 2014 and the ER Association of Churches. Please put it on your calendars, and come show your support for the graduating seniors. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony!

## Little Brown Jug Reunion set for Thursday, July 24!

One of the greatest high school football rivalries in western New York is being remembered and celebrated this summer in East Rochester, on the 75th anniversary of the year it began. Fans of, and participants in, the storied Little Brown Jug games, which were played between ER and Fairport high schools every year from 1939 to '87, are invited to a commemorative reunion to be held 'under the big top' at 6:45 pm Thursday, July 24 (opening night of the ER Fire Department's Carnival). All ER and Fairport alumni, along with any interested fans and residents, are welcome to attend! There is no charge, and parking is free. Food and beverages will be available from carnival vendors, and live music by That Party Band will run from 7 to 11 pm. For more information or to participate in planning this nostalgic event, please contact Sam Morgante at [sdm1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:sdm1@rochester.rr.com) or Jean Kelly at [jm751@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jm751@rochester.rr.com).



**ALUMNI MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE!** Show your East Rochester alumni pride with an ERAF mug! Available for \$5, they've been presented to all graduates the past several years. Also available for sale are Sam Urzetta Golf umbrellas (\$20) and ERAF stickers (\$1). Please contact Katie Connors DeVito at [katie\\_devito@er.monroe.edu](mailto:katie_devito@er.monroe.edu) if you'd like to place an order.

more ERAF information on next page....

### *2014 Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic Golf Tournament set for Friday, Aug. 1*

This year's tournament – the eighth annual – is set to take place at Lima Golf & Country Club on Friday, Aug. 1. The event, hosted by the ER Alumni Foundation, is our major source of the revenue we use for Excellence in Education grants, which benefit all ER students. The tournament is designed to appeal to players of all skill levels. Our two main purposes are to raise money for the Alumni Foundation and to bring lots of current and former ER friends together for a fun day of golf and camaraderie. To this end, the tourney uses the 'scramble' format, in which handicaps are not used and each foursome's score is determined by combining the best shots made by all team members on each hole.

Originally known as the East Rochester Open, our tournament was renamed the Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic in 2008. Our intent was to honor our dear friend and a true golfing legend. In addition to his many sporting, social, and charitable contributions, Sam was a founding member of the ERAF Board of Directors and a key member of the ER Open committee.

Registration, a continental breakfast, and a putting contest will begin at 7 am, and the tournament kicks off with a shotgun start at 9 am. Because there will be more than 200 players, the tourney will be played on both the Charleston Pines and Island Oaks courses. The entry fee of \$90 per person includes the continental breakfast, greens fees, a cart, tee prizes, a hot dog and soft drink at the turn, a fabulous buffet lunch, loads of door prizes, and a modest donation to the Alumni Foundation. On the day of the tournament a putting contest, Mulligan purchases, skins games, and a giant raffle are also available for additional charges. In addition, tickets for lunch only are available for \$25. (During lunch we will also be pleased and proud to be honoring this year's Distinguished Alumni Award winner – Tom Conners.)

We will try our best to accommodate foursome preferences with regard to course selection. To avoid course and banquet delays, a maximum of 55 foursomes (220 players) will be allowed. Early registration is encouraged and sincerely appreciated! Early registrants will be given priority when it comes to course selection. In addition, foursomes who have registered and paid by Monday, June 30, will be entered into an 'early bird' drawing, and the winning foursome will receive a full refund of their \$360 registration fee.

Registration forms are available at the ER District Office, the ER Town/Village Office (Commercial Street), and LGCC (7470 Chase Road, Lima), and on ERAF's Website – [www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm](http://www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm). For lunch-only tickets, please contact Carl Tobin at [ctobin@frontiernet.net](mailto:ctobin@frontiernet.net) or 526-6120.

To preserve the nature of this event, at least one member of each foursome must be an ER alumni, a current or former teacher or staff member, a town/village resident, a local business owner/operator, a student, or an Alumni Foundation sponsor.

The Tournament Committee is looking for new members to help plan the event, and/or anyone interested in serving as pre- or post-tournament volunteers. If you'd like to help, have a question, are interested in becoming an event sponsor, or want to discuss making a donation of any size, please contact Carl Tobin at the email address or phone number in the above paragraph.

**Save the date! East Rochester Christmas Festival – Saturday, Dec. 13**

*Much more info to come as the date approaches!*

### **ERAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Board members:** Chris Argento, Hon. Victoria Argento, Denise Ash, John Baynes, Jerry Cilento, Mary Hopkins Cooney, Katie Conners DeVito, Mary Burton Estey, Linda Forbes, John Griffith, Marilyn Tuttle Lopez, Anita Mance, Dina Marcoccia, Sam Morabito, Pam Narsisian, Peter Obourn, Patty Pullano, Tom Quinzi, Carl Tobin, Helen Urzetta Tortorici, and Richard Stutzman, Jr. (ex-officio)

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