



# PLEASANT VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

## NOISIES OFF



April 27-28, 2012 • 7:00 pm  
Pleasant Valley High School Theatre  
Bettendorf, IA

*written by Michael Frayn*

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## Noises Off



**Author  
Michael Frayn**

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### Scenes

Act One:

The living room of the Brents' country home. Wednesday afternoon.  
(Grand Theatre, Weston-Super-Mare, Monday, January 14th)

Act Two:

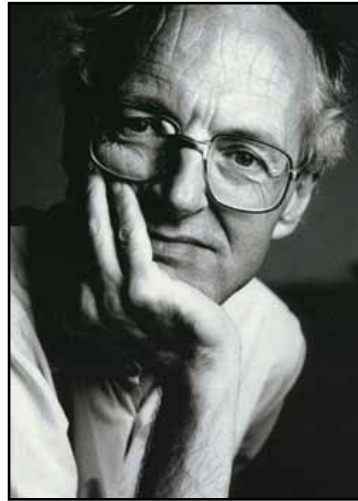
The living room of the Brents' country home. Wednesday afternoon.  
(Theatre Royal, Goole. Wednesday matinee, February 13th)

Act Two, Scene 2:

The living room of the Brents' country home. Wednesday afternoon.  
(Municipal Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, Saturday, April 6th)

## About the Show's Author

MICHAEL FRAYN (Playwright) was born in London on September 8, 1933. After two years of National Service, during which he learned Russian, he read Philosophy at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He then worked as a reporter and columnist for The Guardian and The Observer, publishing several novels.



Michael Frayn is also the recipient of the 2002 Heywood Hill Literary Prize. His plays include Alphabetical Order (1975), Clouds (1976), Donkeys' Years (1977), Make or Break (1980), Noises Off (1982) and Benefactors (1984). Copenhagen (1998), about the 1941 meeting between German physicist Werner Heisenberg and his Danish counterpart Niels Bohr, first staged at the Royal National Theatre in London, won the 1998 Evening Standard Award for Best Play of the Year and the 2000 Tony Award for Best Play (USA).

Recent books are Stage Directions: Writing on Theatre 1970-2008 (2008), and Travels with a Typewriter (2009). A book of memoir, My Father's Fortune: A Life, was published in 2010, was shortlisted for the 2010 Costa Biography Award, and won the 2011 PEN/Ackerley Prize.

He has also translated a number of works from Russian, including plays by Chekhov and Tolstoy.

Michael Frayn is married to the biographer and critic Claire Tomalin.

(source: <http://http://literature.britishcouncil.org/michael-frayn>)

## Synopsis

Noises Off, Michael Frayn's Tony award winning, comic masterpiece is not one play, but two: the hilariously horrible, British farce, "Nothing On," and the comedic nightmare that ensues backstage. Slamming doors, flying props, prat falls, sardines, and two-story revolving sets abound as we see the first act of "Nothing On" presented three times, each with successively less attention to the script.

The under-rehearsed actors and technicians desperately try to perform even as their rapidly deteriorating relationships cause mass hysteria and make for some hysterical comedy both off-stage and on. They all quickly find that as they muddle through, the more they work to take control, the funnier and more chaotic it gets!

Noises Off is written with a wit and heart that allows it to be more than a mere farce or parody of a farce; it speaks to what we love about theatre and makes us laugh at our dramas, both onstage and off.

## Warnings

The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside the theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violations may render the offender liable for monetary damages. Out of courtesy to the performers and everyone in the audience, please refrain from using cellphones and electronic devices inside the theater. Use of such devices is prohibited by law. And if you have candies that need unwrapping, please unwrap them before the show starts.

The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

## Director's Notes:

My introduction to madcap comedy came from watching *Monty Python's Flying Circus* on public television and *The Carol Burnett Show* on CBS. Whether we weren't expecting The Spanish Inquisition or Tim Conway and Harvey Korman cracking each other up, the door-slamming, mistaken identity, tightrope walking elements of farce, became ingrained in me.

Farce is dangerous. It truly is working without a net.

*Noises Off* is, perhaps, the most intricate, dangerous script I know. Not only does it entail a farce, it contains a farce within the farce, although "within" may not be completely the correct adverb.

*Nothing On*, the farce "within" the farce, is a perfectly stereotypical, awful example of the British sex farce. This genre includes such titles as such as *No Sex Please, We're British*; *What the Butler Saw*; *Run for Your Wife*; and the

American entry *Love, Sex, and the IRS* (performed on The Spartan Stage in '04 – '05).

It is all about one door opening as another one closes; two women with the same hairstyle who happen to wear the same dress to a party; etc. *Nothing On*, if it were a real play, would be challenging. *Noises Off* adds another layer as we see a theatre company preparing to open a national tour of *Nothing On*.

Added to the farce of *Nothing On* is a farce about producing a farce. This is insane enough, but the farce bubbles over as *Noises Off* adds yet another nuance. We see the "national tour" approximately a month into its run from backstage. By now relationships have formed between the British actors and we see those relationships influence the production of *Nothing On* as they struggle through a performance.

If that wasn't enough Act Three (Act Two, scene two in our production), shows us a performance near the end of the tour when they just don't care anymore. This show has offered us numerous challenges (and headaches) on stage and back stage. But just like Harvey and Tim, we are having a phenomenal time working without a net.

Although it has been fun, I can't wait to go home and put my feet up with a nice plate of sardines.

William Myatt  
Drama Director, PVHS



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### *Cast and Crew:*

Director .....	William Myatt
Technical Director .....	Valerie Thompson
Assistant Director.....	Addie Espeseth*
Stage Manager.....	Ben Lewis*
Master Carpenter .....	Justin Bader*
Propmaster .....	Samantha Kueter
	Montana Watkins
Costume/Make-Up Designer .....	Kim Leiphon
Lighting Designer .....	Owen Hoke*

*Cast (In Order of Appearance)*

Dotty Otley/Mrs. Clackett.....	Liz Coin
Lloyd Dallas.....	Max Moline*
Garry Lejeune/Roger Tramplemain.....	Owen Hoke*
Brooke Ashton/Vicki.....	Alexandra Olsen*
Poppy Norton-Taylor .....	Sadie Fah*
Frederick Fellowes/Philip Brent .....	Paul Conway
Belinda Blair/Flavia Brent .....	Haley Nellis*
Tim Allgood.....	Casey Graham
Selsdon Mowbray/Burglar .....	Colin Wischler

*Stage Crew:*

Costume Head .....	Laurelin Berkley*
Make-up Head .....	Emma Thompson*
	Jacqueline Colarusso*
Head of Hair .....	Jacqueline Colarusso*
	Rachel Guhin*
Master Electrician .....	Ben Roys*
Light Board Operator .....	Emily Beilke*
Sound Heads .....	Alex Kurth*
	Galayna Wade
PR Heads .....	Sarah McCraw*
	Sadie Fah*
Lighting Crew .....	Mike Gates
Sound Board Operator .....	Galayna Wade

## Set Crew

Justin Bader\*, Emily Beilke\*, Sarah Bubbers, Zachary  
Chaplain, Liz Coin, Paul Conway, Katie Dwyer, Addie  
Espeseth\*, Sadie Fah\*, Casey Graham, Owen Hoke\*,  
Samantha Kueter, Ben Lewis\*, Max Moline\*, Ben Roys\*,  
Claire Swanson, Galayna Wade, Montana Watkins,  
Colin Wischler

*Hair & Make-up Crew*

Gina Mostafa

## Shift Crew

Justin Bader\*,  
Reilly Bierhaus,  
Addie Espeseth\*, Sienna Fah,  
Samantha Kueter, Ben Roys\*,  
Melody Schick,  
Claire Swanson,  
Montana Watkins

\* Indicates membership in **The International Thespian Society**  
**Troupe 856** - A division of The Iowa Educational Theatre Association.



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## ***Cast and Crew Profiles:***

### **JUSTIN BADER**

(Master Carpenter, Set Crew, Shift Crew)

Justin Bader is a junior at Pleasant Valley High School. He has been in numerous shows on the PV stage. He was excited to accept such a challenging role this year. He hopes you enjoy the show!

### **EMILY BEILKE**

(Set Crew, Shift Crew)

Emily Beilke is a junior at Pleasant Valley High School. She participates in orchestra, newspaper, mock trial and choir along with drama. You may have seen her as a Who in Seussical or as Little Red Riding Hood in *Big Bad*.

### **LAURELIN BERKLEY**

(Costume Head)

Laurelin Berkley is a junior at PVHS. Along with drama, Laurelin participates in Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, Marching Band, and Chamber Choir. She hopes you enjoy the show!

### **SARAH BUBBERS**

(Set Crew)

Sarah is in 9th grade. She has been in numerous productions including *Annie* and *All Shook Up* with The Center For Living Arts and *Alice in Wonderland* and *Charlotte's Web* at Davenport Junior Theater. She participates in Drama Club, French Club, and FCCLA.

### **REILLY BIERHAUS**

(Shift Crew)

Reilly is a sophomore at Pleasant Valley High School. He likes drama and is going to playing tennis this spring!

### **ZACHARY CHAPLAIN**

(Set Crew)

Zach Chaplain is a junior at Pleasant Valley High School. He is a recent transfer from Benton High School in southern Illinois. He likes playing tennis and loves to sing and is very involved in drama. He is in concert choir.

### **LIZ COIN**

(Dotty Otley/Mrs. Clackett, Set Crew)

Liz is a freshman this year and is over the moon to be involved in theater! She is the Center for Living Arts' biggest fan and has had the pleasure of being in many productions such as *Godspell*, *Rent*, *Annie*, *All Shook Up*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and more. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does! Dino--this one's for you.

### **JACQUELINE COLARUSSO**

(Head of Hair, Make-up Head)

Jacqueline Colarusso is a sophomore this year at PV. You may have seen her last year in the ensemble of *Sugar* and as Pig Three in *Big Bad* and this year as Grace in *Radium Girls*. Jacqueline has also been in charge of the hair and makeup crew with the fabulous Emma Thompson and Rachel Guhin. She hopes you enjoy the show!



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# Hot Off The Press ...



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - The Pleasant Valley Drama Department is out to please again with one of the most hysterical scripts written.

Noises Off features a spinning set, slippery sardines, silly shenanigans, and Spartan Thespians circulating on stage and back.

In his plot for Noises Off, Frayn plays on the concept of a play within a play, in this case a dreadful English sex farce titled Nothing On.

Each of the three acts of Noises Off contains a performance of the first act of Nothing On. (The PVHS production utilizes Act Three as Act Two, scene two allowing the audience to witness a bit of backstage magic.) Act One is set at the dress rehearsal, the night before opening Nothing On at the Grand Theatre in Weston-super-Mare, with the cast still fumbling with entrances and exits, missed cues, misspoken lines, and bothersome props, most notably several plates of sardines.

Act Two portrays a Wednesday matinee performance one month later. In this act, the play is seen from

backstage, providing a view that reveals the deteriorating personal relationships among the cast that have led to offstage shenanigans and onstage bedlam. In Act Three (PVHS's Act Two, scene two), we see a performance near the end of the ten-week run, when personal friction has continued to increase and everyone is bored and anxious to be done with the play. The actors attempt to cover up a series of mishaps but only compound the problems and draw attention to the bungling performance.

Much of the comedy emerges from the subtle variations in each version as off-stage chaos affects on-stage performance, with a great deal of slapstick. The contrast between players' on-stage and off-stage personalities is also a source of comic dissonance.

The complicated script, with a show within a show, and the even more complicated set and props have presented a worthy challenge to the PVHS Drama Department, but they are fully confident that this could be one of the funniest productions ever staged on the Spartan Stage!

*Casting Call:*

## Now Auditioning for PV Drama Boosters!

Spring is here which means it is time to organize the new group of parents/boosters. We need new faces and new ideas! There is a lot of effort and also a lot of fun in working behind the scenes and supporting our drama kids and program.

We still need someone to head up our Fall Musical Reception and could use another person on the Ads and Patrons committee.

Training provided!

**Meet your 2012/2013 Drama Boosters...**

**President:** Jennifer Colarusso

**Vice Presidents:** Caroline & Mike Bawden

**Treasurer:** Denise Bubbers

**Secretary:** Myra Fah

**Ads and Patrons:** Judi Berkley  
Caroline Bawden

**Concessions:** Ana Olson

**Flowers:** Dale & Renee Hoke

**Green Room:** Lynn Schelly  
Sabrina McCracken

**Photography:** Anne Kurth

**Senior Dessert Theatre:** Caroline Bawden

**Membership/Emails:** Anne Kurth

**Programs:** Mike Bawden

**Break-a-Legs:** Anne Kurth  
**Newsletter:** Renee Hoke

Please join us at our next meeting:  
Monday, May 21, 6:00pm, Room 164, PVHS.

**PAUL CONWAY**

(Frederick Fellowes/Philip Brent, Set Crew)

Paul is a junior a PV. You may have seen him as the old man in *The Boy Who Stole The Stars* or as Roeder in *Radium Girls*. When not on stage, Paul enjoys cross-country and playing his tuba in the hallways and in the Pleasant Valley Band.

**KATIE DWYER**

(Set Crew)

Katie is a freshman this year at PVHS. You may recall seeing her earlier this year on stage as an ensemble member in *Little Shop of Horrors*. She is very excited to be part of the PV Drama Club!

**ADDIE ESPESETH**

(Assistant Director, Set Crew)

Addie Espeseth is a sophomore at Pleasant Valley High School. She has performed in numerous shows on the Spartan Stage including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Invasion Earth*, *Sugar* and *Witness for the Prosecution*. Recently, she was AD/SM for *Radium Girls*. She is very excited to be Assistant Director once again!

**SADIE FAH**

(Poppy Norton-Taylor, Publicist, Set Crew)

Sadie is a junior at PVHS. You may have seen her in shows such as *Anon(ymous)* her freshman year or as Crystal in *Little Shop of Horrors*.

**MIKE GATES**

(Lighting Crew)

**CASEY GRAHAM**

(Tim Allgood, Set Crew)

Casey is a sophomore at Pleasant Valley and is new to drama this year. This is his second play. He plays tuba, bass guitar, is active in Boy Scouts, runs cross-country in the fall and enjoys being a teenager.

**RACHEL GUHIN**

(Head of Hair)

Rachel Guhin is a senior this year at PV and is very excited for her last show behind the PV stage as Head of Hair. She's been heavily involved with drama for the last four years, particularly backstage. Rachel was on hair crew for *Seussical* and *A Christmas Carol* and recently, she's taken over as Head of Hair for *Sugar*, *Big Bad*, *Invasion Earth*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Boy Who Stole the Stars*, *Radium Girls* and finally, *Noises Off*. Rachel has greatly enjoyed her time behind the PV stage and will miss everyone here. Much Love!

**OWEN HOKE**

(Garry Lejeune/Roger Tramplemain, Lighting Designer, Set Crew)

Owen is a junior at PVHS. Owen has been in drama since he was in 7th grade. You may have seen him in the many plays such as *Sugar*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Invasion Earth*. Outside of drama, he enjoys participating in drum line.

**SAMANTHA KUETER**

(Propmaster, Set Crew, Shift Crew)

Sam is a sophomore at PVHS. She likes to read, spend time outdoors and be with family/friends. Sam has been in drama since her freshman year and loves helping backstage.

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## ALEX KURTH

(Sound Head, Shift Crew)

Alex is a senior at PV. When not participating in drama, he enjoys skiing and just hanging out. He has been involved with numerous shows on the Spartan Stage. Enjoy the show.

## KIM LEIPHON

(Costume Designer)

No biographical information provided.

## BEN LEWIS

(Stage Manager, Set Crew)

Benjamin "Benjie" Lewis is a senior at PVHS. He has been very active in drama since Jr. High, and hopes to pursue stage management as a career. You may have seen his lights work in past productions such as *Anything Goes*, as well as his AD/SM work for shows such as *Seussical* and *Sugar*.

## SARAH MCCRAW

(Publicists)

Sarah McCraw is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School. She has enjoyed her four years on the PV stage as well as her tech moments! She is also involved in Davenport Junior Theatre and loves acting and singing!

## MAX MOLINE

(Lloyd Dallas, Set Crew)

Max is a junior at PV and is extremely excited to be a part of *Noises Off*. He has been seen in other roles as Orin Scrivello, D.D.S in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Mr. Myers in *Witness for the Prosecution*. Enjoy the show!

## GINA MOSTAFA

(Set Crew)

Gina Mostafa is currently a freshman at PVHS. She has been in *How to Eat Like a Child*, *Kamp KAOS* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. She loves to play the piano, and has a 2 year old sister named Mimi. She enjoys being in Drama Club and Concert Choir. She hopes you enjoy the show and thanks you for coming!

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Good luck on your 2010-2011 season!

**WILLIAM MYATT**

(Director)

Mr. Myatt began his theatre experience by playing Jonathan in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at Maquoketa High School. Since then, he has acted in and directed numerous productions. Mr. Myatt has served as a leader on both state and national levels and is a member of The Iowa Educational Theatre Association Hall of Fame and the national Educational Theatre Association Hall of Fame. He enjoys a “dramatic” life with son Zach, daughter Anna, and wife Christina.

**HALEY NELLIS**

(Belinda Blair/Flavia Brent, Set Crew)

Haley Nellis is a senior at PV. She loves performing on the Spartan Stage. You may have seen her as Mrs. Mayor in *Suessical* or Sugar in *Sugar*. As well as theatre, she enjoys choir and spending time with friends and family. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**ALEXANDRA OLSEN**

(Brooke Ashton/Vicki, Set Crew)

Alexandra Olsen is a junior at PVHS. Theatre is her favorite thing in the entire world! Most recently you may have seen her as Katharyn in *Radium Girls*. She loves the family that her friends have become, and she loves spending way too much time here! When she is not in the theater she enjoys watching Disney movies, writing for the school newspaper, and reading lots of books.

**BEN ROYS**

(Master Electrician, Set Crew, Shift Crew).

Ben is a junior at Pleasant Valley High School. He likes to build and design things. He has been on the lighting, set, and props crews in theatre at Pleasant Valley High School since his freshman year. Ben also played drum set in the pit orchestra for *Little Shop of Horrors*. In his spare time, Ben enjoys playing percussion in band, playing on the drum line, tinkering with things, and working on cars, tractors, lawnmowers, and engines.

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**CLAIRE SWANSON**

(Set Crew, Shift Crew)

Claire is new to drama this year and this is her first production. She is planning on being more involved in the future. Outside of drama she enjoys cheerleading and choir.

**EMMA THOMPSON**

(Make-up Head)

Emma is a senior at PVHS. You might have seen her in the ensemble in *Anything Goes*, as Omar in *A Salamander's Story*, a tapping gangster in *Sugar*, in the ensemble of *Little Shop*, or as Madame Curie and Mrs. Roeder in *Radium Girls*. Emma has also served as makeup head for *Little Shop*, *The Boy Who Stole the Stars*, and *Radium Girls*. When not performing on the Spartan Stage, Emma enjoys her position as drum major of the Spartan Marching Band and playing the alto saxophone.

**VALERIE THOMPSON**

(Technical Director)

Valerie Thompson is a graduate of University of Iowa where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts. She is very excited to be back at Pleasant Valley to teach the next generation of Thespians. Valerie is also a part of the Spartan Thespian Alumni Association and is excited to keep up the new tradition. She would like to thank her family for their unending support of her decision to follow the arts and Mr. Myatt for allowing her back into the PV theatre. Enjoy the show!!!

**GALAYNA WADE**

(Sound Head, Set Crew)

Galayna Wade is a sophomore at PVHS and is excited to start her first year in drama. This is her third show and her first experience as a sound tech. She loves theater tech and is eager to learn. She hopes you have a super special awesome time watching the show!

**MONTANA WATKINS**

(Propmaster, Set Crew)

Montana Watkins is a sophomore at PVHS. Montana has worked on four other shows which were *Sugar* last year and *Little Shop*, *The Boy Who Stole the Stars* and *Radium Girls*. She really enjoys helping behind the scenes. She enjoys spending time with everybody else in drama.

**COLIN WISCHLER**

(Selsdon Mowbray/Burglar, Set Crew)

Colin is a sophomore at Pleasant Valley. He appeared in *Sugar* as the train conductor and in *Invasion Earth: As seen on TV* as Detective Bill Gannon. He hopes to act in future Spartan stage productions. Colin is a guitar, trumpet, banjo, and harmonica player as well as a singer. Colin is currently in the process of writing his own play.



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## Break-A-Legs

Congratulations **Galayna**  
in your ever-expanding range of theater skills.  
Where would "Noises" be without sound and general ninja skills?

We all love you – Mom, Dad, Alexander and critters.

SEMPER GUMBY!



**Ben,**  
These past four years of your dedication,  
enthusiasm, and passion for all things Theatre have whooshed by!  
Your future looks full of exciting possibilities!

We love you, Mom & Dad



**Max / Lloyd,**  
Break-a-leg directing "Nothing On"!  
Hope you never experience this in your future –  
ANY of it!  
So proud of you!

Love – Mom & Dad



Break a leg, **Sadie!**  
As Poppy, and as usual, you're full of surprises.

We love you!!!  
Mom, Dad & Siena





Actors should not perform naked.  
They need style, whether tongue-tied or lucid.  
While they give their orations  
in your costume creations  
they look splendid, designed and perfected.

Your creativity and talent abound, **Laurelin!**

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Russ



**Alexandra**

We look forward to seeing you in a comedy!  
“Break a leg” but keep your hem length long.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Lucas & Matheus



**Lizzy Love,**  
Sardines, sardines!

Don't forget to take the sardines.  
No - put down the receiver and leave the sardines.  
No - take the sardines and leave the newspaper.  
How you keep it all straight, we shall never know!

Have fun and break a leg!  
Love your #1 Fans – Mom, Dad, Katherine & George



**Owen**, once again we are here to witness what your  
hard work and dedication can create! We are so  
proud of you! Break-a-leg, and by the way...  
**NICE LEGS!!**

Love you, Mom, Dad & Morgan

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**May 19th**  
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## ***Acknowledgements***

We would like to give a special thanks to the following individuals and organizations who helped make this performance possible:

*Mr. Mike Zimmer*

*Mr. Darren Erickson*

*Mr. Mike Peakin*

*Mr. Randy Teymer*

*PVHS Custodial Staff*

*PVHS Drama Boosters*

*PVHS A/V Staff*

*Jeff and Traci Espeseth*

*Mike Jones*

*Dale Hoke*

*Steve and Fancine Thompson*

*... and many other parents who have helped build the set  
and feed the crew throughout this production*

## ***Drama Patrons:***

### **Producer (\$500-\$999)**

Jeff & Lisa McCraw  
Paramount Millwright Service, Inc.  
Argo Moving

### **Director (\$300-\$499)**

Kevin and Anne Kurth

### **Choreographer (\$200-\$299)**

Judi & Tim Berkley  
Robert & Digna Pimentel

### **Designer (\$100-\$199)**

Mike & Caroline Bawden  
Blane & Mary Beilke  
Denise & Bob Bubbers  
Harry & Susan Coin  
Joe & Jennifer Colarusso  
Hy-Vee  
KJWW Engineering Consultants  
Al & Sue Lewis  
Ralph & Clare Martens  
Tim & Tammy Mohs  
Peter & Ana Olsen

### **Lead Player (up to \$99)**

Keri Doyle DDS, MS  
Jeff & Traci Espeseth  
Steven Wade & Karen Judkins  
Dale & Renee Hoke  
Terry & Dennis Murray  
American Legion - Buffalo Bill Post 347  
William, Christina, Zachary and Anna Myatt

*Please Note:*

*If you would like to contribute, please contact Mr. Myatt.*

Donald L. Sierk • DDS, MS  
Alexander J. Sierk • DDS, MS

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# “Do-It-Yourself” on a new level.



May 6th

PVHS Theatre

Show starts at 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm)

Admission: \$7 Adults/\$5 Students and Seniors



Purchase tickets today at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)

For more information, visit our website: [www.pvspartandrama.com](http://www.pvspartandrama.com)