



**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Courage to Come Back Awards Banquet  
Presented by Russell J. Salvatore  
Russell's Steaks Chops & More**



**Help Us Help People Restore Their Lives From Mental Illnesses and Addictions**

Join National Football League Hall of Fame running back Thurman Thomas, his daughter Annika, wife Patti and their family; Super Bowl Champion Keith O'Neil, former University at Buffalo football great, Alex Neutz, his mother, Adrienne and Dan and Stacy Gagliardo, owners of D'Avolio at the third annual ***Courage to Come Back*** Awards Banquet, presented by Russell J. Salvatore and supported by Entercom Radio of Buffalo and WKBW Channel 7 on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at Samuel's Grande Manor.

The Friendship Foundation, Inc. supports and assists the Restoration Society, Inc. (RSI) in providing a wide range of recovery-based services, and to advocate for the rights of individuals with behavioral health and substance use conditions right here in Western New York. ***The Courage to Comeback Award*** honors those who have made substantial progress in recovery from psychiatric conditions and/or dependence on drugs and/or alcohol. ***The Recovery Advocates Award*** is presented to those who have had a significant role in encouraging and facilitating the recovery of these individuals.

The 2018 ***Courage to Come Back Award*** recipients:

- Inspirational **Annika Thomas**, recovering from anxiety and depression;
- Super Bowl champion **Keith O'Neil**, recovering from bipolar disorder and through his 4<sup>th</sup> and Forever Foundation, is an advocate and speaker on mental illness;
- Former UB football phenom **Alex Neutz**, recovering from anxiety, depression and opioid addiction and through his Alex Neutz Foundation is working to catch signs of mental illness and addiction early in children, teens and young adults;
- **Adrienne Neutz**, Alex's mother who is recovering from alcohol addiction.

The 2018 ***Recovery Advocates Award*** recipients:

- Former Buffalo Bill and NFL Hall of Fame Running Back **Thurman Thomas**, his wife **Patti** and their family;
- D'Avolio owners, **Dan and Stacy Gagliardo**.

Information is attached on how you can help and we sincerely appreciate it. Please address any questions to Jack Guastaferrro (716-515-8242 or [JR6126@aol.com](mailto:JR6126@aol.com)). Thank you for supporting this important event to assist RSI, a local agency, established in 1984, which helps those afflicted with mental illnesses and addictions.

Sincerely,

Mike Billoni  
Event Co-Chair

Stan Coleman  
Event Co-Chair

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[www.friendshipfoundationbflo.org](http://www.friendshipfoundationbflo.org)

[www.rsiwny.org](http://www.rsiwny.org)

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