

ENTERTAINMENT

Play features first black doctor in Canada

By LESLIE ENGLAND

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Local resident, Cathy Slaney has been doing some extensive research on her family background, ever since discovering that there was quite an interesting story involved.

Cathy's great-grandfather was Anderson Ruffin Abbott, the first black doctor in Canada.

A graduate of Trinity College at the University of Toronto, Anderson became a doctor in 1861. He joined the Union Army during the American civil war becoming one of only eight black surgeons. He

was eventually responsible for the management of two hospitals and became a family friend of the Lincolns.

Since this revelation, Cathy has contributed a great deal to the Smile Theatre Company who will be putting on a play entitled, Doc Ruffin, on February 2 at the Acton High School. Tickets are \$6 and are available through ASSIC, Halton Regional Police Village Constable Bill Riddle or can be bought at the door.

Smile Theatre is a unique non-profit charitable organization who

has created a substantial body of original Canadian theatre. Each of their plays is based on a Canadian story, whether that is a particular person, place or event.

"It's a great idea," says Slaney. "What a wonderful way to learn! It really brings out Canadian history and makes people proud."

Doc Ruffin, written and directed by Tom Kneebone and music by Dinah Christie, will also be presented more formally at the Jane Mallett Theatre (St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts) at the gala on Saturday, February 19 at 4 p.m.



Men Without Hairs (Edgar Thatcher and Victor Hanson) host The Spectacular New Age Vaudeville Show (Feb. 4-6) in support to the Georgetown unit of the Canadian Cancer Society. Get your tickets at Hailmark Cards, Young's Pharmacy and the Cancer office.

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What could be nicer than a moonlit walk through a shadowy pine forest — walking through glistening snow, breathing in the sweet aroma of pine needles and watching crystals form from your breath.

These winter events are all part of Mountsberg's Owl Prowl on January 28, and 29, 7 to 9 p.m.

Participants will meet some of the resident owls of Mountsberg and learn about their habits as well as how and why they hoot. Enjoy a slide show, hooting lessons, demon-

strations and a nature walk to hoot and listen for wild owls.

Friday, January 28 will be set aside for those with small children who will meet some special puppet visitors.

Admission is by advance payment only. Adults: \$8, Child: \$5. For information on how to register for the Owl Prowl, call (905) 854-2276.

Mountsberg is located five km west of Campbellville, between Guelph Line and Hwy 6, just south of Hwy 401.

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Your Week Ahead Horoscope

ARIES Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Influential person could offer valuable advice. Social life could get a boost as well as your career.

TAURUS Apr. 20-May 20
Guard your privacy. Don't be taken in by someone claiming to be able to help you. Reveal nothing.

GEMINI May 21-June 20
Today, you can talk anyone into anything. Use your personality-plus to make the most of a good deal.

CANCER June 21-July 22
Tempers flare. It is best for you to hold your tongue or you are apt to say something you might regret.

LEO July 23-Aug. 22
Don't overlook quality in searching for a bargain. You get what you pay for.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Family dilemma will not be resolved overnight. Offer your support to those who need it most.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22
A cherished goal may drift out of sight. Try not to be disappointed. Other doors will open, soon.

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Younger person has good suggestion. Use his ideas and give credit where it is due.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Change is sometimes difficult but necessary. Adapt to it or you may be changing more than you expected.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19
Intimidation tactics by member of the opposite sex will not work if you are aware of them. Do your homework.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Your life may be disrupted by a simple phone call. Take care of important matters and allow the little things to slide.

PISCES Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Plan time for yourself. Rekindled romance may die out again. Being alone is not the end of the world.

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