

Disney THE LITTLE MERMAID JR

Director: CRAIG MARSHALL
Music Director: LUMENA DANIEL
Choreographer: JENNIFER MARSHALL
Producer: LEANN PLAYTER

Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater
Book by Doug Wright
Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story
and the Disney film
Music Adapted and Arranged by David Weinstein

 **GLOBE**
PRODUCTIONS

MAY 1 and 8 @ 7:30pm
MAY 2, 3, 9, 10 @ 2:00pm

JOHN ELLIOTT THEATRE / Georgetown

Tickets \$16 / www.globeproductions.ca
Box Office 905 877 3700

DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. / Phone: 212 541 4684, Fax: 212 397 4684 / www.MITShows.com



COMMENT

Turning to Walt for inspiration

By Ted Brown
tedbit@hotmail.com



A Ted Bit

Every once in a while, I have to refresh my outlook on life.

It's quite easy to become jaded and downright cranky about things around us, especially when the weather is challenging. It can become downright depressing to become a prisoner in one's own home, when the weather isn't conducive to getting outside to accomplish something.

However, last week I discovered being cooped up in the house might have an advantage, forcing me to peruse things I wouldn't usually do. One quiet afternoon, I turned on the TV to see if there was anything worth watching. It being the middle of the afternoon, programming at that time of day ain't exactly my thing.

I turned to the shelf where our DVDs are stored. In the pile was the DVD, *Letters from Wingfield Farm*, a masterpiece of short stage acts, based on columns of the same name, penned by Dan Needles years ago, when he was the editor at the *Shelburne Economist and Free Press*.

Needles' columns take the form of a letter to the editor from fictitious Walt Wingfield, a 'Bay Street stockbroker-turned-farmer, who bought the old farm out on the Seventh Concession of Persephone Township.'

Through the letters, Walt shares his challenges as a new (sometimes downright naive) farmer, much to the entertainment of his neighbours.

The stage productions are still making the rounds in many venues across Canada, as a one-man-stage show, with Rod Beattie assuming all the parts of the many characters in the letters.

There's Walt, there's Freddie, his next door neighbour, who is an auctioneer, a cattle, horse, sheep, chicken farmer, who also fixes things (sort of) and keeps tabs on the rest of the Township.

There's The Squire— the wise and sage old

timer in the township, there's Don the dairy farmer, and Maggie (Freddie's sister) as well as a host of other characters.

One thing I've learned watching the *Wingfield* series, out here in the farming community, we've all known a 'Freddie,' a 'Squire,' a 'Maggie,' a 'Don'— all the other characters that Needles created so many years ago. They are universal characters that farming communities everywhere seem to possess.

I inserted the DVD and sat back to watch Walt's escapades.

I've seen them countless times and can almost can recite the script. The *Sidekick* and I have attended Rod Beattie's stage productions in Orangeville Theatre, and the *Rose Theatre* in Brampton.

No matter how many times I watch them, I'm taken back to a quiet, less stressful time in my life, when the farm community was alive and vibrant.

In one episode, Walt and his dog go down to the pond, to ponder the end of a busy day. As I took in the dialogue, I was struck how I yearned to sit in a quiet place on the farm, to while away some time— not be freezing in the frigid cold.

Fond memories, contrasting the cold reality outside, gave me a sense of tranquility and reflection. I thought of things needing attention in the spring, things to complete when the weather became milder. Warm fuzzy thoughts, all spanning from the dialogue and plot of Dan Needles' words went through my head.

It was still cold, but after witnessing Walt's problems and his somewhat misguided philosophy— well I didn't feel so bad about being cooped up in the house.

By the end of the DVD, I was a changed person. I underwent a complete attitude turnaround. It was amazing— and all because Walt Wingfield left stockbroking to become a farmer.

Classic Maids



If time is a problem, we're the solution.

905•873•0777

416•449•9518

Mention this ad and receive a 15% discount

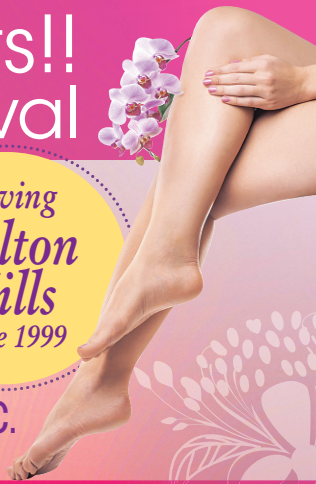
www.classicmaids.ca

Email: classicmaids@bellnet.ca

Permanent Results!! with Laser Hair Removal

- Safe
- Affordable
- Gentle
- Certified technicians
- Comfortable home environment

Serving
Halton
Hills
Since 1999



BARE IMAGE ELECTROLYSIS & LASER INC.

Since 1999

97 King St., Georgetown • 905-873-6388 • www.bareimage.ca

SUCK UP THE SAVINGS!

Limited
Time
Offer

ONLY \$139.99

- 3 year warranty!
- Deep cleaning
- 46ft of extended reach

Cleans BETTER THAN DYSON...
for LESS than 1/2 the Price!!*

HALTON HILLS
SEWING & VACUUM

140 Guelph St.,
Georgetown (across from CTK)
905-873-8196

*Ask for details!

Dynamic Contracting

Commercial • Residential

"For All Your Renovation Needs"

CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTE

905-872-2077

www.dynamiccontracting.org

