WHAT'S ON

DOUG MACDOUGALL COMBINES LOVE OF TEACHING AND THEATRE IN DIRECTORIAL DEBUT

THE RETIRED HALTON EDUCATOR IS BOTH **ARTISTIC AND MUSICAL DIRECTOR** FOR CENTURY **THEATRE GUILD'S** LATEST PANTOMIME. 'ROBIN HOOD'

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In Doug MacDougall's theatre space, there is one cardinal rule: teamwork makes the dream work.

The retired Halton teacher and first-time director for Century Theatre Guild's latpantomime, Robin est Hood, runs his rehearsals as he would his classrooms: with mutual respect and an ongoing opportunity to learn and improve.

MacDougall, a Georgetown resident, worked at Holy Cross in Georgetown, St. Joseph in Oakville and Guardian Angels in Milton during his teaching career, incorporating performance and music into just about any lesson he could.

And although he has acted in and musically directed shows before, he has vet to sit in the director's chair - until now. And not unlike his days as an educator, his new gig consists of building upon and nur-



Century Theatre Guild photo The Robin Hood cast gets into character during rehearsal.

turing the talents of his performers.

"It's community theatre, and there are a whole bunch of abilities and expertise," MacDougall said. "I wanted to make sure that we are all going for the same vision.'

Robin Hood is a tale of heroism and fighting evil, and in keeping with the theme, MacDougall adopted a symbolically relevant learning tool he provides each of his cast members after rehearsal, called a heart and two arrows.

"A heart is something that I really like that they're doing and I want them to keep doing, and the two arrows are two or more areas that they need to improve upon," he said.

In this particular pantomime rendition of the tale (script by Jo Phenix), Mac-Dougall says audiences can expect a vibrant combination of comedy and musical

- and not only comedy stemming from lines in the script, but also from a visual point of view.

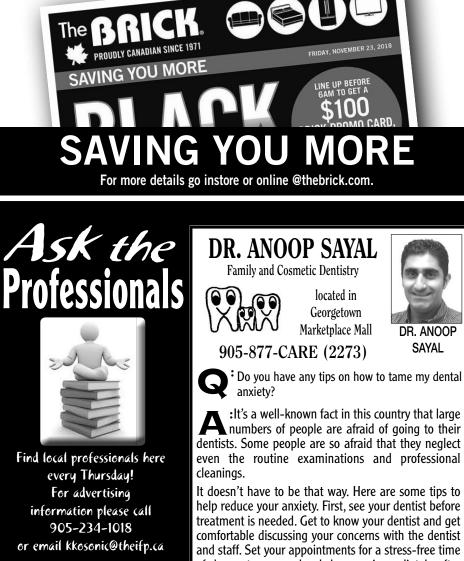
(The show) is really interactive, too," he said. "In traditional pantomime, the audience gets to boo the villains and cheer on the heroes; it's that kind of thing. And we have a singalong portion, as well."

Audiences can also expect a whopping 65 sound cues, including a number of theme songs spectators may recognize from their childhood such as The Friendly Giant intro.

"It's been a labour of love for me," MacDougall said. "I really love how this all came together."

Robin Hood is onstage at the Century Church Theatre (72 Trafalgar Rd. N., Hillsburgh) on Nov. 24 and 25, and Nov. 30 to Dec. 2.

For further information, visit Centurychurchtheatre.com.



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treatment is needed. Get to know your dentist and get comfortable discussing your concerns with the dentist and staff. Set your appointments for a stress-free time of day, not on your lunch hour or immediately after work. Second, have the dentist explain the dental treatment to you. Knowledge of the procedure should let you be more relaxed. Third, let your dentist and hygienist know that you're scared. It's nothing to be ashamed of and you're most certainly not their first patient to feel that way. Fourth, understand that times have changed. There are new methods of controlling and eliminating discomfort that weren't available until recently. Don't let dental fears keep you from having a healthy mouth and teeth.



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