

ENTERTAINMENT

The Amorous Ambassador had plenty of laughs

TED BROWN
Staff Writer

Last fall, patrons of Castaway Comedy Productions enjoyed the antics of Senator Harry Douglas and his romantic escapades as he pursued a presidential campaign.

After his ill-fated expose, the 'retired' senator is back, this time as the newly appointed Ambassador for the U.S. Embassy in England, and his antics were once again in the eye of the audience at John Elliott Theatre as *The Amorous Ambassador* opened Thursday night.

The play centres around Ambassador Douglas and his family on the Fourth of July weekend in their English estate.

Douglas, his wife Lois and his daughter Debbie are all going away for the weekend—all in separate directions.

Debbie is heading off with friends, Lois is away to a retreat and Douglas himself is traveling to Scotland for a weekend of golf—so they say.

Apparently, daughter Debbie has inherited her father's overactive appetite for sexual gratification, and she backtracks to take full advantage of the empty estate—empty, except for Perkins, the very proper butler to the house.

Of course, Harry himself would never miss an opportunity to take full advantage of an empty estate as well, so he arranges a weekend 'sleepover' with the attractive and available next door neighbour Marian Murdoch.

To add more fuel to the fire, the Embassy has a bomb threat, so all the support staff are move to the official residence for the weekend, complete with a ditsy secretary and an over-zealous U.S. Marine colonel, which has a somewhat hampering effect on both Debbie and her dad's plans, opening the door wide open for many mistaken identities, with numerous bodies popping in and out of the closets throughout the play.

Blake Miles returns as the philandering Douglas, and doesn't disappoint. He is the epitome of a leech, and the audience loves him.

Stealing the show is Huw Evans, who is brilliant as the straight-laced Perkins the butler.

Arleigh Curran handles the part of daughter Debbie with ease, and Joe, her boyfriend, is a good match with the casting of Kevin Buchan.

Pat Brown returns as well as Lois Douglas, wife of the ambassador, and gives a solid performance as the wronged wife.

Next door neighbour Marian Murdoch is played by Sarah Hudson, and has great stage presence as the 'other' woman.

Kim Evans is a hoot as the ditsy embassy

secretary Faye Baker, as she is so thick she gets lost in a bathroom.

Equally hilarious is Sean O'Brien, who returns as Col. South, the over-zealous and under-brained marine, in charge of embassy security. Seems he's had a promotion since the senator's days—last play he was a Captain.

The play has an outstanding set, with great attention to detail, and the lighting was quite effective.

The play ran without a hitch and there were plenty of laughs as the players wove (and sometimes tripped over) their little webs of deceit.

As last fall, the play had a short run, only running one week.

But as before, with another production under their belts, theatre-goers in Halton Hills certainly have some choices with the addition of this group—complete with lots of laughs.

(Ted Brown can be reached at tbrown@independentfreepress.com)

Juno brick donation dedicated to Globe for The War Show

MAUREEN WALKER
Georgetown Globe Productions

A brick has been donated to the Juno Beach Memorial in honour of Georgetown Globe Productions and their recent hit show, *You'll Get Used To It! The War Show*.

Juno Beach Memorial marks the site of the Canadian forces landing in Normandy on D-Day in June 1944,

More than 600 people alternately laughed and cried during the show's recent run at St. Paul's Church hall in Norval. *The War Show* touched the cast and crew deeply, in particular the special performance given at the Georgetown legion on February 4.

Al and Lois Fraser, who with their daughter Joanna played important parts in the show, arranged the dedication. The Frasers visited Juno Beach in 2006, and knowing what was on Globe's playbill for the current year, decided it was a fitting tribute from Globe to the brave men portrayed by *The War Show* cast.

The cast and crew were delighted to know that their community theatre group and particularly the show on which they had worked so hard would be part of the lasting memorial to the events of 63 years ago.

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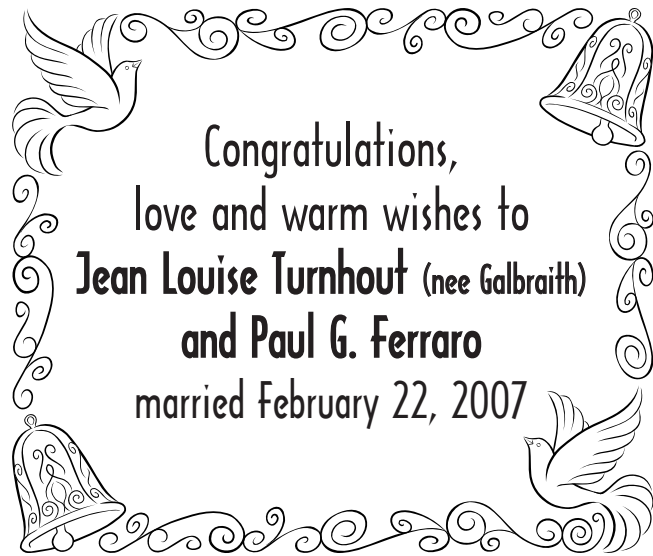
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