

Unique Collaboration Brings Sherlock Holmes to Cambridge

Cambridge, Ohio (November 20, 2009) - St. Benedict School and the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau are teaming up for an extraordinary venture--a fundraiser for the 7th/8th Grade School trip to Washington DC. They are sponsoring a Sherlock Holmes Weekend, *The Case of the Taylor Tontine*, on January 8-10, 2010.

Principal Sr. Theresa Feldkamp agreed quickly to the opportunity to host Sherlock when approached by well-known local newspaper columnist Anne Chlovechok and playwright of the Taylor Tontine who is also an 8th grade parent. "Anne told me that Debbie Robinson, executive director of the VCB, saw potential in a collaboration to bring the mystery weekend to Cambridge by putting the information on their website, VisitGuernseyCounty.com and coordinating with hotels and B&B's " Debbie contacted Jonett Haberfield, co-chair of Dickens Victorian Village, who agreed to develop the overnight packages for purchase. At that point, 'the game was afoot.'



"We are always looking for new fundraising ideas, especially ones that can involve visitors," explain Guy and Carrie Googins who are St. Benedict School parents and local thespians. "We are thrilled to be able to use our theatrical expertise in such an exciting and intriguing event like the Sherlock Weekend."

The cast of the Taylor Tontine not only has parents involved but community theater veterans as well. Sherlock Holmes, played by Mitch Mazaher, has had leading roles such as Scrooge (Christmas Carol), Daddy Warbucks (Annie), King Henry II (Lion in Winter), and Oscar (Odd Couple). Alex Mullen, our Dr. Watson, has played Seymour (Little Shop of Horrors), Felix (Odd Couple), and Dad (A Christmas Story). Other theater veterans with roles in Sherlock include; Gregg

Grimm (Mr. Booth), Guy Googins (Mr. Oliver), Cole Mazaher (Handyman Joe), Jeff Thornton (Officer Beck), and Katrina Mazaher (Miss Shimp), Carrie Googins (Miss Claudine), Craig Ferrari (Mr. Chori).

“Anne has put together an amazing ‘who-dun-it’ mystery using local and historical facts to include the Taylor Victorian Mansion itself,” says MaryAnn Wilson, literature teacher at St. Benedict School. Mrs. Wilson regularly has her

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students study Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s writings of Sherlock Holmes, especially The Hound of the Baskervilles.

Participants in the mystery will gather clues while searching in Victorian homes, the downtown library, and the Dickens mannequins surrounding the courthouse. Using Sherlock’s methods, participants will compete for a chance to solve the mystery and win the grand prize of \$250. All are also encouraged to dress in their ‘Victorian finest’ to win prizes.

An added bonus to the weekend is that local ‘celebrities’ will be part of the production. Cambridge Police Chief Captain Dick Wayt plays the local law enforcement while the Honorable Judge Robert Moorhead will play the Taylor Inn proprietor.

For information on packages including a Holmes at Home package for residents, call the VCB at 740-432-2022, 800-933-5480 or log onto VisitGuernseyCounty.com and click on Sherlock Holmes Weekend.

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