

Questionable Guilt: A Lecture Exonerating the Doctor who Treated President Lincoln's Assassin

On Saturday, May 21, the great-grandson of Dr. Samuel Mudd, the physician who treated John Wilkes Booth shortly after he assassinated Abraham Lincoln, will host a lecture about his great grandfather at the 6th Annual Romeo Victorian Festival. The lecture is free and will be held at Romeo's historic Gray's Opera House, located at 231 North Main Street.

Dr. Samuel Mudd was tried and convicted for his complicity in the assassination, but his descendants insist the conviction was unjust and his story hasn't been told. The campaign to clear Mudd's name began with his grandson, Dr. Richard Mudd, in the 1930's and continued until his death in 2002. Now his son, Thomas Mudd, is continuing his father's mission by hosting talks that use the data and slides Richard had collected over his 70-year campaign.

"This is a great opportunity to explore one of the most pivotal moments in American history," said Victorian Festival Coordinator Barbara Merryfield, "and rethink what we know about Dr. Mudd."

The lecture begins at 3:30 p.m. and is open to festival goers of all ages. It will be followed by a fundraising dinner hosted by the Romeo Masons for the restoration of the Opera House. The roast beef will be catered by Pamela's Catering. Tickets are \$25 at the door and can be purchased in advance for \$20 at Kane's Town Hall Antiques, located at 205 North Main Street in Romeo. (Note: proceeds go towards the restoration of Gray's Opera House)

About the 6th Annual Romeo Victorian Festival

The 6th Annual Romeo Victorian Festival is sponsored by the Romeo Historical Society, a non-profit, 501 c3 organization dedicated to the preservation of Romeo's exceptional heritage. The Romeo Victorian Festival is an annual, family-friendly event that offers visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in this significant time in our history. Events, displays, music, food, refreshments and "Made-in-Michigan" products will fill the streets of Romeo, as we celebrate the Victorian Era.

About the Romeo Historical Society

The Romeo Historical Society is a 501 c3 organization dedicated to the preservation of Romeo's exceptional heritage. The Society is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Historical Society of Michigan and the Macomb County Historical Alliance. RHS supports three museums in downtown Romeo - the Bancroft -Stranahan House at 132 Church Street, the Clyde Craig Blacksmith Museum at 301 N. Bailey and the Romeo Arts and Archives Museum (RAAC) at 290 N. Main Street. On current display at the RAAC is The Secret Railroad, an exhibit that looks into Romeo's role in the Underground Railroad during the 19th century.

Each museum offers a unique experience showcasing Romeo's history. All three locations are within walking distance of historic downtown Romeo, and are open for events and by appointment.

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