Focus on Film

Relax...
Palm Beach County, Florida Has It Covered.

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LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS COMBINE TALENTS AND EXPERTISE TO LAUNCH THE EPIC ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

January 2010

EPIC PRODUCTIONS

The new entertainment marketing company, **Epic Entertainment Group** has opened in **Boca Raton**! The company was created to be the next generation of entertainment marketing companies, agile enough to react to the ever changing marketplace while powerful enough to create, produce or activate any brand engagement platform, television project or feature film. While the three founding members bring a diversity of experience to EPIC, the focus of their separate businesses has always been entertainment marketing. The three founders include: **Scott Woolley**, who was the principal owner of Five Star Entertainment, **Henry Schneidman**, who founded Eclipse Television & Sports Marketing, and **Ralph Stringer**, whose Neostar Sports and Entertainment represents sports superstars Dan Marino and Jason Taylor.

"In addition to developing our own ideas we will consider partnering with outside producers when the project offers us the ability to expand the scope of the project," said President Henry Schneidman. "We already have a number of exciting projects in development that go beyond the current reality series model on network television," added CEO Scott Woolley. "Working with Scott, Henry and the rest of the EPIC crew will provide a valuable resource to create innovative platforms for some of my key clients," said Ralph Stringer. For more information visit epiceg.com

The Edit Bay at EPIC

'MOST WANTED' TARGETS SUSPECT

***America's Most Wanted* (AMW)**, the **FOX** TV show that has helped capture 1,099 fugitives, started the new year by bringing a major suspect to justice! **John Walsh**, host of AMW and his crew came to PBC to do a story about the Thanksgiving shootings in Jupiter, and the coverage proved to be a success! A tipster at a lodge in Monroe County saw the televised preview for AMW and recognized the accused killer Paul Michael Merhige as being one of the guests at the lodge. The authorities were alerted and Merhige was subsequently taken into custody.

AMW works with local production company, **APEX Productions** in **West Palm Beach** every time there is a story in South Florida. "We are the go-to company for AMW. We have worked with them on cases for the past 14 years. We shoot and edit stories, handle all production aspects and coordinate crime re-creations for air," said **APEX Producer Andy Cope**. AMW airs on FOX every Saturday 9/8c. For more information visit amw.com.

APEX Productions

A-LIST CELEBRITY PRESENTS SHOWCASE

Burt Reynolds with the BRIFT Acting Class

Burt Reynolds has enjoyed enormous success as an actor and director in feature films, TV and stage productions. He also devotes a lot of time and energy to teaching aspiring talent about the craft of acting for the camera through his **Burt Reynolds Institute for Film and Theatre (BRIFT)**. Recently, he presented a "Showcase of Filmed Scenes," comprised of 13 filmed and edited scenes from his BRIFT acting class. The students were directed by Reynolds in the capacity of cast and crew for this extraordinary evening, which was held in front of a packed house at the **FAU Lifelong Learning Society** in **Jupiter**.

After the films, Reynolds introduced each actor on stage and handed them a certificate of completion and made personal comments about each one, making it a special moment. For more info call 561.743.9955 or email info@brift.org.

Burt Reynolds Institute for Film & Theatre

ATTENTION! This will be the last printed mailing of the *Focus on Film* Newsletter. This is being done in an effort to be both cost effective and to be more conservation minded in a greener environment. However, if you still desire the printed version, please contact the Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission. Ph: 561.233.1000/800.745.FILM/Email at JMargolius@pbfilm.com. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY ATTRACTS TLC

The **TLC** series ***Invasion of Christmas of Lights 2*** came to **Lake Worth** to film one amazing lighting display on a local home. The show is a one-hour holiday special that travels the U.S. to chronicle families of extreme Christmas lighting enthusiasts while documenting their glorious, outrageous and elaborate displays. "The Doyle Family's one million Christmas light display makes the "spectacular" look "ordinary". In terms of sheer volume, their non-commercial display has the most lights of any I've ever seen. And as producer of a Christmas special, I've seen plenty," said Executive Producer **Jon Hotchkiss** of Hotchkiss Industries.

The crew filmed for three days and was accommodated at the **Holiday Inn** in **Lake Worth**. The episode will air during the holiday season of 2010. For more info visit tlc.discovery.com.

Light Display in Lake Worth

NEW VAMPIRE FLICK SHOT IN PBC

Incubus Poster

Lantana's **Marcie Gorman**, a former Weight Watchers franchisee, is executive producer and co-director of the spooky new flick, ***The Incubus***, a sci-fi film about the undead, that shot in Palm Beach County. **Shayne Leighton** of Boynton Beach, a recent Dreyfoos School of the Arts grad, stars in, wrote and co-directed the film, and sang most of the original songs on the soundtrack. Leighton won an award for filmmaking at last year's Delray Beach Film Festival.

"A few years ago, I was running a Weight Watchers franchise, now I am a producer and co-director a new movie – that's a real leap," said Gorman, who invested her own money in the film. "My goal is to launch my cast onto their life journey, to have a part in helping them achieve their dreams," she said. For more information call Gary Schweikhart at 561.756.4298 or gary@pr-bs.net.

GOLF EVENTS TAKE CENTER STAGE

Donald J. Trump's *Fabulous World of Golf*, a new prime time series to air on the **Golf Channel** was filmed at **Trump International Golf Club** in **West Palm Beach**. Hall of famers **Lawrence Taylor** and **Jerry Rice** as well as **Donald J. Trump** played a match that will air in either May or June 2010. Check your local listings for up-to-date info or visit thegolfchannel.com.

NBC devoted four hours of coverage to the **ADT Golf Skills Challenge**. The event was held at the **Breakers Resort** in Palm Beach."The Breakers was thrilled to be the host venue for this golf event along with our partner, ADT Security. Over one million households tuned in to watch on December 26-27...perfect timing as we head into our winter season. Plans are already in place to make next year's event even bigger and better. Nationwide network coverage of events such as these is literally "priceless", not just for The Breakers, but for all of PBC," said **David Burke**, VP Sales and Marketing at The Breakers. For more info visit thebreakers.com.

ACTRESS BRINGS BUSINESS TO PBC

One of the County's newest residents **Olivia Newton-John** has been bringing production business to town! She is one of the hosts of the PBS Show, ***Healing Quest***, and when she moved to Florida, the show followed. The sixth and seventh seasons were shot entirely in PBC, at the **Jupiter Beach Resort** and a private home in **Jupiter Farms**. The seventh season was produced by local production company, **All Ways Entertainment, Inc.** in **Jupiter**. "The show has so much interesting and important information to help people live a healthier life," said **Olivia Newton-John**. According to **Executive Producer Judy Brooks**, Newton-John has enjoyed shooting in Florida and been very happy with the results.

Olivia Newton-John

Healing Quest airs all over the country on PBS stations for the next 18 months. The show is the only weekly national TV series focused entirely on integrative health and natural approaches to total well-being. For more info visit healingquest.tv or allwaysentertaiment.com.

GOLFERS GET SCHOOLED...PBC STYLE

The Golf Channel aired 9.5 hours of national television coverage over a three day period of the final stage of the **PGA Tour Q School Tournament**. The entire event took place at the **Bear Lakes Country Club** in **West Palm Beach**.

The PGA Tour Qualifying Final allows 168 players from the seasoned PGA veterans to aspiring professionals, a chance to compete for a PGA Tour card and the ability to play in major PGA Tour events. For more info visit pgatour.com or bearlakes.org.

Bear Lakes Country Club

VFX GURU TEACHES AT LOCAL SCHOOL

Dean Lyon

Last month's *Focus on Film* announced that **Splinter Studios**, a new **Dean Lyon** venture was opening at **G-Star Studios** in **Palm Springs**. Now, Lyon will join **Ron Palillo** (***Welcome Back Kotter***) in teaching at the school. Lyon will teach two courses, "Visual Effects 101" and "Film Symposium" starting in February. The courses are geared towards adults, but high school students are welcome. Seats are limited and filling up fast!

"With the incredible line-up of instructors and courses for the new night School at G-Star, it made perfect sense to get involved," said Lyon. For more info call 561.531.0806 or visit gstarschool.org.

15th ANNUAL STUDENT SHOWCASE OF FILMS EXTENDS OUTREACH

The Palm Beach International Film Festival's Student Showcase of Films is proud to collaborate with the **African-American Film Festival** to honor the Grand Prize winner of the 2nd annual Student African-American Film Festival at the 2010 Student Showcase of Films award ceremony. The celebration will take place at **Palm Beach Gardens High School's** new state-of the-art theatre on **Friday, April 23, 2010**.

"The Kravis Center is pleased to work in partnership with the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission in honoring the winner of the Student African-American Film Festival and encouraging and cultivating youth to become excellent film makers," stated **Keena Gumbinner**, **Education Associate for the Kravis Center**.

For the second year in a row, the Student Showcase of Films will partner with Film Florida to award a **$500.00 Sara Fuller Student Scholarship**. This scholarship honors the memory of one of Florida's true pioneers and encourages excellence in the field of motion picture education. Both festivals are still accepting entries. For more information about the African-American Film Festival go to Kravis.org/artsmart. For more information about the upcoming Palm Beach International Film Festival's Student Showcase of Films go to pbfilm.com.

LOCAL COMPANY IS 'MAKING WAVES'

Roam Around Productions, a husband and wife production team based at the **G-Star School of the Arts** in **Palm Springs** has been chosen to produce a Public Service Announcement (PSA) for the Collaborative Summer Library Program. The theme is "Make Waves at Your Library." It is a physical comedy piece about the importance of reading. The PSA is being filmed at **Juno Beach Park & Pier, John Prince Park** and **G-Star**. The PSA will air nationally starting in May and will be distributed to library systems around the U.S., who can personalize it, and give it to their local TV stations.

"We're lucky that we have some of the most beautiful parks and beaches in the world right in our own backyard. We scouted the hottest surfing in the county, and everyone suggested Juno Beach Pier. John Prince Park has also always been a favorite location of ours," said **Producer Riley Roam**. The talent and crew in the PSA all attend local schools. For info call 561.732.5386.

PSA shoot in Juno Beach

FISHING SHOW HOOKS VIEWERS

The television show that has hooked viewers with its exciting way of covering fishing is entering its sixth season this year and filming an episode at the **Juno Beach Pier** in Palm Beach County! "***Shallow Water Angler TV*** showcases the best fishing in the Northeast and Gulf States, and when we chose to do a show on pier fishing, I immediately thought of Juno Pier. It's a great facility, and I've had a lot of good fishing days there myself. The pier offers easy access to great fishing, and with the nearby beaches and good parking facilities, it's a real asset for the area. It's a good spot for kids, for families, and for anglers," said **Producer David Conway**.

The show airs on **SUN Sports** (in Florida) on Fridays at 10:30am, Sundays at 8:30pm, and Tuesdays at 6:00am, as well as on the **Sportsman Channel** (Nationwide) on Wednesdays at 7:30pm, Saturdays at 1:30am & 2:30pm, and Sundays at 1:00am. The episode at the Juno Beach Pier will air in early 2010. Check your local listings. For more info visit shallowwaterangler.tv.

CLASS WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The television production class at the **Dreyfoos School of the Arts** in **West Palm Beach** was recently recognized with a very prestigious award. They received the **Broadcast Pacemaker Award**, the highest honor from by the **National Scholastic Press Association** in Washington, DC.

Four students from the Marquee Yearbook also won honorable mention in the Illustration of the Year category for their design of the 2009 yearbook. In addition to the Pacemaker awards, 16 Dreyfoos students won recognition in the writing contest that had 2,267 entries this year. For more info contact Jane Grandusky at 561.805.6203.

MARATHON ATTRACTS TV COVERAGE

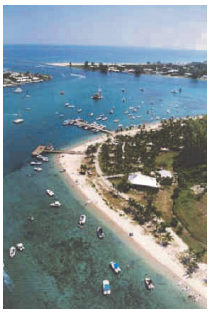
Thousands of runners hit the pavement for the sixth annual **Palm Beach Marathon Festival** in **West Palm Beach**. For the second consecutive year, Ronnie Holassie of Miramar, was the winner of the revamped marathon. The marathon received TV coverage from all the local news stations including WPBF News 25. WPBF did a special four hour live broadcast of the marathon and served as the exclusive television sponsor for the community sporting event.

This year's marathon included the full race, half marathon and kids' race, as well as a new bike tour. For more info visit pbmarathon.com.

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: HMS BOUNTY

HMS Bounty
Photo Credit: Kenneth Morgan

Docked at the **Palm Beach Maritime Museum** on **Peanut Island**, the ***HMS Bounty*** is a film friendly seafaring vessel. Built in 1960 for the movie, *Mutiny on the Bounty*, the ship is now dedicated to teaching the nearly lost art of square rigged sailing and seamanship. The *HMS Bounty* will be in Palm Beach County until April 2010.



Peanut Island

Although the ship was constructed from the original *Bounty*'s drawings, it was built approximately 1/3 oversize to have ample space for film crews. Her overall length is 180' and the length of the deck is 120'. The Upper Deck, or Spar Deck, is open to the air, and is able to accommodate up to 150 people. It is flush, meaning all one level from the forecastle (forward area) to the quarterdeck (aft) where the helm, (ship's wheel) is and navigation takes place.

The Main Deck, or Berth Deck, varies in height from approximately 5' 9" to 7'. Here the officers and men would have lived and eaten. It also has a high ceilinged area (9') where the hatches were to allow loading stores and cargo. It now has skylights. Several small cabins (6' square) are outboard of two narrow passageways (less than 4'). These are where the Warrant Officers (Carpenter, Sailing Master, Surgeon, Botanist, Quartermaster, Gunner), would have lived, and where paying passengers sleep today. The Captain's cabin is the only interior space with windows, having a small bay window on each side. Movement today between the Upper Deck and the Main deck is via two narrow stairwells, one of which is circular.

HMS Bounty
Photo Credit: Kenneth Morgan

Because *Bounty* was originally a merchant ship, she did not have a gun deck, but had four cannons, four-pounders, (so named because of the weight of the cannon ball they fired) on the upper (spar) deck, and ten swivel guns which could have been mounted when needed.

Films that have utilized the *Bounty* include: ***Mutiny on the Bounty***, ***Sponge Bob Square Pants: The Movie*** and ***Pirates of the Caribbean II: Dead Man's Chest***. For more info call 561.233.1000.

HMS Bounty
Photo Credit: Kenneth Morgan

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