



Focus on Film



Relax...

Palm Beach County, Florida Has It Covered.



November 2008

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PBC GRABS EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE DURING ELECTION



Barack Obama at PBCC

Once again the nation's presidential candidates rated Palm Beach County as a priority target, and both tickets held events throughout the Sunshine State, in the hopes of winning Florida and its 27 electoral votes. The County has been a buzz with several visits from the candidates and the media has decisively taken notice.



John McCain in Florida

Photo Courtesy: Mark Udry **Wyatt Cenac**, a correspondent with *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* on **Comedy Central** came to **Delray Beach** twice to film segments with local seniors about the candidates and how they performed during the first presidential debate and **Florida Atlantic University** in **Boca Raton** welcomed over 500 media representatives from around the country during the GOP debate earlier this year.



Sarah Palin at The Boca Resort

Barack Obama spoke to a large crowd at **Palm Beach Community College** in **Lake Worth**, **John McCain** held a private meeting with local business owners in **Riviera Beach**, Democratic VP nominee **Joe Biden** held rallies at the **Convention Center** in **West Palm Beach** and **Roger Dean Stadium** in **Jupiter** and Republican VP nominee **Sarah Palin** hosted a private fundraiser at the **Boca Raton Resort and Club**. Although space has been limited at the large functions, personal recordings of the events have also garnered hundreds of thousands of views on YouTube.



Joe Biden at PBC Convention Center

INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT LAWYER RELOCATES TO PBC



William Whitacre

William L. Whitacre & Associates, P.A. an entertainment law firm which represents **The Pamplin Film Company**, producer of **Hoover**, starring **Ernest Borgnine**, and **Haxan Films**, producer of **The Blair Witch Project**, has relocated to Palm Beach County. Firm President William L. Whitacre specializes in film financing and production and has been quoted in **Forbes**

Magazine's Annual Investment Guide on investing in independent film. He has also represented such international productions as Haxan's **Seventh Moon** starring **Amy Smart** and Gabrielle Savage Dockterman's **Missing in America** starring **Danny Glover**.

Whitacre said, "Digital technology has made it possible for me to become a virtual law office with an international practice. The new opportunities in PBC including the Pamplin Film Company's multi film slate and the incredible amenities and positive business environment were instrumental in my decision to relocate here after having been based at Disney/MGM and Universal Studios in Orlando for 15 years." For more information visit showbizlaw.net.

AD CAMPAIGN SOARS TO NEW HEIGHTS



Carlin Park

Around 200 people stood on the sand at **Carlin Park** in **Jupiter** and spelled out the words "Stop Global Warming" while aerial photography was taken from a plane. The shoot was done as part of Greenpeace's twin-coast Florida effort to bring more attention to creating clean energy.

South Florida Organizer Lauren Thorpe said, "Our aerial art event was the biggest and best event thus far. We had a great turnout and reception and look forward to future events in Palm Beach County."

Special thanks to **Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation**, **Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management**, **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office** and the **Palm Beach International Airport** for making this shoot a success.

PBC is home to 47 miles of beaches complete with palm trees, soft sand and breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean. Countless film, TV and still photography shoots have taken place on the County's beaches. To film on a local beach call 561.233.1000 and for more info about Greenpeace call Lauren Thorpe at 845.729.5750.



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LPGA SWINGS INTO ACTION



NBC and the Golf Channel are airing nine hours of television coverage on this year's **ADT Championship LPGA Playoffs**, being held once again at the prestigious **Trump International Golf Club** in **West Palm Beach** from **November 20-23**. The ADT Championship will host the top 32 women golfers in the world, competing for the season ending championship title and an unprecedented \$1,550,000 purse with a \$1,000,000 first place paycheck.

The **Palm Beach County Sports Commission** is helping to coordinate the event. The Golf Channel will air the telecasts on November 20, 21 and 22 from 2:00pm-4:00pm ET



GOLF CHANNEL

and NBC will cover the event on November 23 from 3:00pm-6:00pm ET.

For info visit lpga.com.



INDIE MAKES INTERNATIONAL DEBUT



The award-winning independent film **Hiding Victoria** made its overseas premiere on **The Hallmark Channel** in Hungary last month. "I am pleased to see our film is getting out there on the world market," said **Director/Producer/Writer Dan Chinander**. "We all knew **Hiding Victoria** would draw a universal audience, and are pleased that it's premiering on the Hallmark Channel!"

Filmed at **G-Star Studios** in **West Palm Beach** and Minnesota in 2006, **Hiding Victoria** moved through the film festival circuit in 2007 winning a Best Feature Film Award and an Audience Choice Award. During the festival run **Hiding Victoria** was picked up by **Worldwide Film Entertainment** for international distribution and **Panorama Entertainment** for domestic distribution. It has sold in many countries including Poland, Romania, Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Greece, Sweden, Norway, Taiwan, Finland and Denmark. The film will make a theatrical release this month in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Producers Dan Chinander and Mike Madden are now in development on their next feature film, **Bluesman**. For more information please visit hidingvictoria.com.

SHARKS GO PRIMETIME IN NEW SERIES



Shark Taggers

The Peacock Network is exploring the open seas with a group of daring marine biologists who have devoted their lives to tracking down the ocean's top predators

and hand-tagging them with cutting edge satellite transmitters in a new television show, **Shark Taggers**. Scientists are traveling to a number of exotic locations including three miles off the **Jupiter** coast, where they shot recently for three nights in a row. The crew found accommodation at the **Holiday Inn Express** in **Juno Beach**. Every year thousands of sharks pass by Palm Beach County as they migrate between the Keys and North Carolina. Look for **Shark Taggers** during NBC's primetime line-up in 2009. For more information please visit nbc.com or call 561.233.1000.

BOCA RATON COMPANY GETS WILD



Allegro Productions of **Boca Raton** is expanding the educational horizons of students in all fifty states and Canada, through its award-winning videotape series, **Science Screen Report** and **Science Screen Report for Kids**. Allegro is going into its 39th year of production on the series and has just acquired the North American rights to a new series called **Wild Events**, a seven part series on wildlife. The series will be released with Science Screen Report over the next few school years. Allegro has also moved to new digs complete with a post-production facility.

Director of Corporate Relations Scott Forman said, "As we enter our 4th decade of production, it is more important than ever to get students interested in pursuing careers in science, or to at least have a better understanding of the impact science has on the way we live, work and play." For more info visit allegrovideo.com.

PBC OFFICE EARNS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



The **Palm Beach County Economic Development Office (EDO)** has been given an honorable mention for its globalization program titled "21st Century Strategic Economic Development Plan: A Global Commerce Initiative" by the **International Economic Development Council (IEDC)**. **IEDC Chair, Robin Roberts Krieger** said, "Economic development efforts have long been a keystone in the quest to bolster the economy and improve quality of life in every locality across the country. With the award, we laud trendsetting organizations like the Palm Beach County Economic Development Office for leading the charge."

The goal of this initiative is to improve the quality of life in PBC through economic growth. In 2005, the Economic Summit in PBC recognized the film and television industry as one of the seven cluster industries that will help the County compete in the global marketplace. Presently, seven PSA's are being rolled out to serve as a recruitment tool to encourage students to seek out educational programs within the seven clusters. The PSA's are airing on Channel 18, 19 and 20, as well as in Middle and High School classrooms throughout the County. For more info visit industriesofthemind.net.

ARTSY PROFESSIONALS RETURN TO PBC



Illustrative and editorial photographer **Greg Ross** and his wife **Pam Ross**, who is a designer, illustrator and painter, have returned to West Palm Beach after living in Napa, California for four years. The year-round warm weather and a variety of business opportunities including doing food photography for Shula's Restaurants brought them back to the Sunshine State.

Pam Ross said, "After 4 years away in Napa, California, an easterly wind is blowing us back to Palm Beach County, where Greg and I once again look forward to resuming our creative photography and design business as well as our keen interest in working to focus community awareness towards the visual arts." For more information visit rossstudio.biz or call 707.224.1117.

FILM EQUIPMENT REELS IN EXCITEMENT AT AREA SCHOOL...



The Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission (FTC) in collaboration with The Education Network Channel 19 (TEN) recently showcased state of the art film equipment inside the TV Studio at Spanish River High School (SRHS) in Boca Raton. SRHS Film and TV Instructor, Randy Weddle said, "The students were full of questions and totally motivated to learn and use the HD camera, lighting, and sound equipment. I'm sure there will be some excellent projects produced in the future...this is a great initiative, and the students are especially fortunate to have this opportunity."

The equipment, housed at TEN facilities in Boynton Beach, is available to loan out for free to Palm Beach County schools that have a structured film and TV program as well as Palm Beach Community College. The FTC and TEN will be showcasing to at least five more schools during the school year. For more information about the loan pool, please e-mail Frank Gorora at gororaf@palmbeach.k12.fl.us or call 561.233.1000.

SPOOKTACULAR EVENT SCARES UP NATIONAL EXPOSURE...



The Travel Channel spent two days shooting the *X-Scream Halloween* haunted house at the G-Star School of the Arts in West Palm Beach for *America's Scariest Halloween Attractions*, a one-hour special that features the most frightening haunted house attractions. G-Star welcomed thousands of patrons to six different haunts which included a real WWII DC-3 airplane in *Flight 666*, a maze of school buses in *Ghoul School*, a walk through nightmare infested woods in *Camp Mayhem*, runaway mine carts in *Deadman's Mine* and sword fights on a pirate ship docked at Skull Island in *Cross Bones*.

Each year a new show is built out by 200 students with over 80 students acting in the haunt. For more information please call 561.386.6275.



ESTATE HAS WALLS THAT TALK



Homes that harbor secrets from the past are the focus of the HGTV television show, *If Walls Could Talk*. The series produced by High Noon Entertainment shares lore and intrigue from homes rich in history and features homeowners who come across artifacts and discover fascinating tales attached to them. Recently, an episode was shot at the former Kennedy estate in Palm Beach County that used to be known as the winter White House when President John F. Kennedy was in office.

The audience was treated to an in-depth tour of the beachfront estate. Included in the tour was the desk that John F. Kennedy wrote his inaugural speech on and the bed he spent his last night in. Check your local listings for air dates and times or visit hgtv.com for more information.

FUTURE STARS SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT



The South Florida Fair is once again searching for the most talented Starz and Battle of the Bands contestants. Auditions will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 10:00am-6:00pm, Sunday, December 7 from 12:00pm-6:00pm, Monday, December 8 from 5:00pm-8:00pm and Tuesday, December 9 from 5:00pm-8:00pm. All contestants will be given an assigned date, time and location for their audition once the entry form has been received. There is no entry fee, but all entry forms must be postmarked, e-mailed or faxed by 5:00pm on Friday, November 28, 2008. To fill out an entry form or for more information visit southfloridafair.com and click on the Starz logo.

The South Florida Fair will be held from January 16-February 1, 2009 at the South Florida Fairgrounds in West Palm Beach.



AND THE NOMINEES ARE...



Mounim and Samuel

Goodbye Mothers, a film that made its one and only U.S. screening at the 2008 Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF), has been selected as Morocco's representative in the Academy Award's® Foreign-Language Film Category. The film screened as part of a special program, "Visions of Morocco," developed by PBIFF to give the community a chance to see cinema and culture through the eyes of these Moroccan filmmakers. Two of the film's stars, Tarik Mounim and Mark Samuel attended the festival to support the film.

PBIFF Chair Yvonne Boice said, "The festival makes it possible to bring films like *Goodbye Mothers* to Palm Beach County giving the community a unique, cultural experience and perspective that would otherwise go unseen." The 14th annual PBIFF will be held April 23-30, 2009. For more info call 561.362.0003 or visit pbiffilmfest.org.

FILMMAKER 'CAN'T WAIT' TO SHOOT NEW FEATURE...



Double Negative

Kevin Can't Wait, the new feature film to be shot by actor and film producer Robert Gordon Spencer (*Cashmere Mafia*, *Law & Order*) will shoot in South Florida. The film, which is a comedy about life and friendships will be produced by Spencer's production company Bat Pig Pictures. Bat Pig is made up of actors, directors, and production teams from West Palm Beach, New York City, Texas and Louisiana and has produced two short films, *Double Negative* and *Expectations*.

Recently joined by Actor/Producer/Director Louis Mandylor (*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*) to direct *Kevin Can't Wait*, Spencer said, "What better place to make a movie than Palm Beach County and South Florida." For more info visit batpigpictures.com.



LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: OLD SCHOOL SQUARE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER



Old School Square

Located in the heart of downtown Delray Beach, **Old School Square Cultural Arts Center** offers a variety of unique locations for productions. Old School Square consists of the restored Delray Elementary and the Delray High School. The restored 1913 Delray Elementary building houses the Cornell Museum of Art & American Culture. On the first floor of the Museum there are three exhibition galleries and the Angeliqeu Tea Room. Another three exhibition rooms and a children's gallery are located on the second floor.



Crest Theatre

The Crest Theatre is located in the restored 1925 Delray High School building and is dedicated as the performing arts center. The 323-seat theatre, including a balcony, is a state-of-the-art facility combining blue, the original high school color, and burgundy with gold accents. The stage is 48' wide x 40'6" deep, with backstage dressing rooms and lounge areas. Surrounding the theatre are nine restored classrooms which now serve as meeting, workshop, reception and art class space. Also, within the Crest Theatre building is the Ocean Breeze Room which can accommodate 100 people. The room is equipped with an overhead video projector and sound system.

Old School Square has also restored the 1925 gymnasium, located next to the Crest Theatre. The gymnasium has high ceilings with rafters, and can be used for wedding receptions, private parties, craft shows or trade shows. There is a 12' x 28' stage, balcony for additional seating, and adjacent food preparation/load-in area.



Entertainment Pavilion

In 2002, Old School Square completed their Entertainment Pavilion located in the center of the grounds, with a state-of-the-art performance stage, two small dressing rooms and a concession building with restrooms and covered walkways. Projects that have filmed at Old School Square include the feature film **A Modern Twain Story: Prince and the Pauper** and a still photography shoot for a **Boeing Corporate Communications Campaign**. For more information call 561.233.1000 or visit oldschool.org.



Gymnasium

Editor: Jill Margolius Contributors: Amy Peterson-Berry, Christine Tieche, Alex Marquez, Andre Gadbois | To be included in the newsletter, call 561.233.1000.

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