FOCUS on FILM

Newsletter of The Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission | **November 2026**

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PALM BEACH COUNTY
FILM AND TELEVISION COMMISSION

THE PALM BEACHES TELEVISION
ThePalmBeaches.TV

MILITARY MAKEOVER RETURNS TO THE PALM BEACHES

Palm Beach County is once again in the national spotlight as **Lifetime's Military Makeover with Montel** returns for its second consecutive season filming in **The Palm Beaches**. Season 46 brings the home renovation series to **Jupiter**, where the production honors **Air Force veteran William "Billy" Weatherholt** and his family. Weatherholt served overseas as a deployment firefighter and EMT and continues his commitment to service as a South Florida firefighter and paramedic. Hosted by Navy veteran and military advocate **Montel Williams**, the **BrandStar**-produced series transforms homes for deserving military families with support from sponsors, volunteers and community partners. With more than 200 episodes, the show celebrates the sacrifices of America's veterans. Last season, the **Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC)** assisted with permits for the renovation of Purple Heart recipient **Army Sergeant Matthew Dawson**'s home in the **Village of Palm Springs**, where more than 100 community members gathered for the emotional reveal. For Season 46, the FTC once again supported the production, coordinating filming permits throughout the Weatherholt family's Jupiter community and helping secure additional crew parking. Expanding the show's reach, **DIRECTV** recently launched a free, 24/7 Military Makeover with Montel channel on MyFree DIRECTV, featuring all 45 previous seasons.

DIRECTV

WOMENS GOLF MAKES HISTORY

WTGL

Palm Beach Gardens is set to make sports history as the inaugural **Women's Team Golf League (WTGL)** tees off Nov. 8 at the **SoFi Center.** The new league brings top women's golf talent to **The Palm Beaches**, reinforcing its reputation as **Florida's Golf Capital.** Five teams will compete in a two-hour team match-play event. The league includes ten regular-season matches followed by semifinals and a best-of-three championship series. **ESPN** and **ION** have secured multiyear U.S. media rights agreements, expanding the national exposure and building on the success of the men's **TGL**. With world-class athletes, innovative competition and national television coverage, **Palm Beach County** takes center stage for a new era in women's professional golf.

FEDERAL FILM TAX BILL INTRODUCED

A bipartisan group of federal lawmakers has introduced the **Motion Picture, Television and Entertainment Revitalization Act**, proposing new tax incentive aimed at bringing more production back to the **United States**. The legislation would establish a 20% transferable federal tax credit for eligible U.S. labor expenses with additional incentives potentially increasing the credit to 30%. To quality, productions must exceed $1 million in costs and complete at least 75% of filming in the US. The proposed credit could also be combined with state incentives and applied to post-production and visual effects. If enacted, this could create new opportunities for **Palm Beach County**'s production industry, while strengthening America's competitiveness as a film destination. Sign the **FilmUSA Incentive Letter for support here**.

KICKING OFF FOOTBALL HONORS

College football's top kickers will take center stage as the **Palm Beach County Sports Commission**'s annual **Lou Groza Awards Banquet** returns Dec. 7 to the **West Palm Beach Marriott.** The event will **honor three finalists for the prestigious Lou Groza Place-Kicker Award** while celebrating outstanding local talent. **Theo Dorsey**, host of **ESPN West Palm**, **The Palm Beaches TV**'s ***Pull Up to The Palm Beaches*** and weekly **PBTV NOW** series, will serve as emcee, bringing his signature energy to the evening. The celebration will also recognize **Palm Beach County**'s High School Place-Kicker, Coach, Player and Team of the Year. The national Lou Groza Award winner will be announced Dec. 10 during ESPN televised **Home Depot College Football Awards**. The annual banquet continues to be a proud tradition of local collegiate talent here in The Palm Beaches.

THE JESUS TAPES HITS THE BIG SCREEN

Los Angeles-based **Atlas Distribution Company** has acquired theatrical rights to ***The Jesus Tapes***, an independent feature produced locally by **Pamplin Film Company.** Written and directed by **Rick Pamplin**, the film was produced by **Maggie Pamplin** and **Scott duPont**, with contributions from local industry professionals including casting director **Ellen Jacoby**, consultant **Louise Levison** and **CBS 12's Brogan Morris.** Blending faith and mystery, the story explores what might happen if Jesus appeared in the modern world. The theatrical rollout also includes **Movies of Delray**, connecting the production with longtime **Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) sponsors Rochelle Walters and Glen Gray.** From local talent to national distribution, The Jesus Tapes highlights **Palm Beach County**'s thriving independent filmmaking community.

ROCKY PACKS A PUNCH ON PALM BEACH

The iconic film ***Rocky*** returns to the big screen for its 50th anniversary as **Glazer Hall** on **Palm Beach** presents **ROCKY LIVE** in Concert on Nov. 19. The cinematic celebration will feature the original film on a 40-foot screen, accompanied by a live orchestra performing **Bill Conti**'s Academy Award-winning score. Starring **Palm Beach County** resident **Sylvester Stallone** as legendary underdog **Rocky Balboa**, the film comes to life through powerful live music, Dolby sound and unforgettable moments from the 1976 classic. Audiences will experience Rocky's inspiring journey from Philadelphia boxer to heavyweight championship contender in an immersive concert setting. The special event adds to Glazer Hall's growing lineup of cultural programming, bringing together film, music and live entertainment while showcasing **The Palm Beaches** as a destination for world-class experiences.

GLAZER HALL
PALM BEACH

SEMINOLE HISTORY REVISITED IN JUPITER

Between Two Homelands: A Seminole Journey is a documentary produced by the **Seminole Nation Historic Preservation Office** and **Seminole Media** that follows a young girl exploring her family's ancestral roots in **Florida**. Earlier this year, members of the **Seminole Nation of Oklahoma** traveled to **Riverbend Park** in **Jupiter** to film at **Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park**, site of an 1838 battle where Seminole warriors defended their homeland and way of life. The production received on-site support from the **Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists**, a Jupiter-based nonprofit dedicated to protecting the area's history. With permit assistance from the **Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission**, the project connects younger generations with their heritage while preserving an important chapter of American history ahead of the nation's 250th anniversary.

DOCK & DINE SERVES UP ANOTHER SEASON OF WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

West Palm Beach-based **KO-MAR Productions** returns with a third installment of its Emmy Award-winning culinary travel series, ***Dock & Dine***, airing on **South Florida PBS** and streaming on **The Palm Beaches TV**. The half-hour program combines boating adventures with waterfront dining, showcasing the flavors and scenic waterways of **The Palm Beaches**. Hosted by chef **Jason Pereira**, a seasoned sailor with Caribbean roots, the series explores local restaurants, talented chefs and signature dishes. The latest installment features **The Hive** on **Lake Osborne**, **Banana Boat** in **Boynton Beach**, and **The Birdie and Seahawk Prime** in **Lake Park**, featuring acclaimed chef David Burke. Viewers will also discover Beer Can Island near Boynton Inlet. Catch up on previous episodes on **The Palm Beaches TV**.

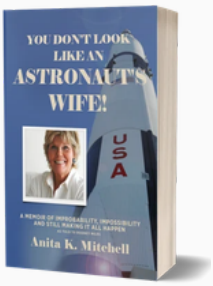
KO-MAR
PRODUCTIONS,INC

TOM BRADY'S NEXT BIG PLAY: WELLNESS

Wellness tourism is taking the spotlight in **The Palm Beaches** as **Eudēmonia Summit** returns to **West Palm Beach** Nov. 5–8, featuring seven-time Super Bowl champion **Tom Brady** and leading experts in health, longevity and performance. *"Eudēmonia has always been about helping people become healthier, more connected and happier,"* said **Sean Hoess**, founder and CEO of Eudēmonia Summit. *"We're excited to return to West Palm Beach again in 2026, to growour partnerships, welcome even more people and continually evolve the summit into the epicenter of exploration when it comes to personal health and well-being."* Stream **ThePalmBeachs.TV** to experience the inspiring personalities immersive experiences and wellness-focused programming captured by locally produced television series like **The Bright Life** and **What's Poppin'**.

ANITA'S OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD STORY

Palm Beach County's **Anita K. Mitchell** is sharing her extraordinary journey in her new memoir; ***You Don't Look Like an Astronaut's Wife!*** The book chronicles Mitchell's life from small-town Ohio to her marriage to **Apollo 14** astronaut **Edgar Mitchell**, the sixth man to walk the moon. Along the way, she offers a behind-the-scenes glimpse into America's space age, sharing personal stories involving astronauts, Hollywood celebrities, scientists and political figures. Adding a touch of Disney magic, Michell teases: *"You'll have to read to find out how Mickey Mouse played an important role in our lives".* Encouraged by former **Palm Beach Post** sports editor **Dan Moffett** to document her experiences, Mitchell brings humor, resilience and a unique perspective of American history. Her memoir is available to order now at **AnitaKMitchell.com**.



ICE ICE EXPERIENCE IN WELLINGTON

The **17th Annual Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Presents Winterfest with Vanilla Ice** returns to the **National Polo Center** in **Wellington** on Friday, Dec. 4, from 6–10 p.m., with a reimagined festival-style celebration. This year's event brings guests closer to the action with live holiday entertainment, festive attractions, food vendors and a performance by **Wellington**'s own **Vanilla Ice**. Special VIP packages include the **Ice Ice VIP Experience**, offering an exclusive meet-and-greet with the entertainer. Recently named a **WFLX FOX 29** Viewer's Choice Hometown Hero, Vanilla Ice also supports **The Palm Beaches Student Showcase of Films (SSOF)** as a music video judge and presenter, with an award named in his honor. With holiday cheer, family fun and a hometown celebrity, Winterfest promises a cool night in **The Palm Beaches**!

NEW AIRSPACE RULES ON THE HORIZON

Filmmakers planning aerial shoots in **The Palm Beaches** should be aware of evolving flight restrictions near **President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago** residence and **President Donald J. Trump International Airport (DJT).** The **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** has proposed a permanent one-nautical mile Special Flight Rules Area, extending up to 2,000 feet above sea level. Additional **Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs)** during presidential visits may further limit drone operations. The **Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC)** assists productions with permitting and coordination when possible. Planning a drone shoot? Contact the FTC early! Check current FAA restrictions, secure required authorization and visit **pbfilm.com/filming-with-a-drone** to help keep your production on track.

AMRIT OCEAN RESORT WELCOMES THE PALM BEACHES TV

The Palm Beaches TV (PBTV) is expanding its reach with a new installation at **Amrit Ocean Resort** on **Singer Island**, bringing more than 180 hours of tourism programming to guests at the 155-room luxury wellness retreat. Amrit is one of five MICHELIN Guide-selected hotels streaming PBTV, inspiring visitors to explore **Palm Beach County**'s wellness, dining and coastal experiences. *"We are delighted to join The Palm Beaches TV and be part of a platform that celebrates the extraordinary experiences and destinations that make Palm Beach County so special. We're passionate about showcasing not only our unique approach to luxury wellness hospitality, but also the beauty, culture, and vibrant experiences that define our destination,"* said **Burak Sezgin**, **General Manager** of **Amrit Ocean Resort & Residences**.

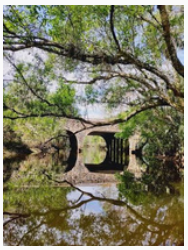
MICHELIN GUIDE

FILM FLASHBACK: BAD BOYS II (2003)

Sometimes the perfect filming location comes down to timing! When **Bad Boys II** needed a mansion to demolish for an explosive action sequence, the production found its match in **Delray Beach**. Property owner **Eric Cherry** contacted the **Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission (FTC)** about an over 30,000 square-foot oceanfront mansion slated for demolition and redevelopment. The mansion became the home of villain **Johnny Tapia** in the 2003 blockbuster starring **Will Smith** and **Martin Lawrence**. After a month of preparation and extensive safety coordination, cameras captured the spectacular explosion that reduced the mansion to rubble. The sequel opened with $46.5 million domestically and grossed approximately $273 million worldwide, leaving its mark on Hollywood history and the Delray Beach coastline!

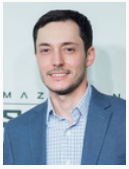
LOCATION SPOTLIGHT
RIVERBEND PARK: JUPITER, FLORIDA

Looking for Old Florida without having to build it from scratch? **Riverbend Park** in **Jupiter** offers a rare combination of natural landscape and period-ready elements that can help productions recreate Florida from the late 1800s into the early 20th century. The park's Pioneer Homestead features a working sawmill, fenced garden, livestock pens, horse corral, smokehouse and sugar cane processing equipment, creating an authentic rural setting with plenty of practical detail for the camera. Surrounding prairie, hammocks, trails and the **Loxahatchee River** expand the possibilities beyond the farmstead, providing natural backdrops with little modern development in frame. For stories reaching furtherback into **Florida** history, the adjacent **Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park** preserves the site of the 1838 battles of the Second Seminole War. The area hosts historical programming and periodic battlefield reenactments, adding another connection to the region's Seminole and pioneer history. Riverbend offers productions the opportunity to find multiple period looks within one location, making it a versatile option for historical features, and documentaries.



For more film friendly locations, visit our website:
pbfilm.com/locations

EDUCATION CORNER
WHERE ARE THEY NOW? SSOF EDITION


Wes Ball

Since placing third in the **2003 Student Showcase of Films (SSOF)** with ***A Work in Progress***, **Wes Ball** has directed the ***Maze Runner*** trilogy and ***Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes***, earning a **2025 Saturn Award nomination**. He is also set to direct the live-action adaptation of ***The Legend of Zelda***. Returning as an SSOF judge in 2025, Ball reflected, *"Competitions like this don't just celebrate creativity, they inspire careers."*

Ben Beeler

Ben Beeler, the **2014 Sara Fuller Scholarship** winner, has worked on major productions including ***Superman***, ***Scream 7*** and ***The Walking Dead***. Now a Production Coordinator with the **Palm Beach County Film & Television Commission**, he helps productions secure locations and permits. His advice: *"Create meaningful and lasting relationships. While your competency may get you through the door, your personality and relationships will keep you there."*

Kelsey Scott

Kelsey Scott, who won **first place** at **SSOF** in **2000** with ***The Buse***, has built an impressive career as an actress, screenwriter and producer. Her credits include ***12 Years a Slave***, ***How to Get Away with Murder***, ***True Detective***, ***NCIS*** and ***Better Call Saul***.

Contributors: Afya Greene, Angie Crocitto, Alberto Jordat, Ben Beeler, Diana Vrolijk, Josh Hyber, Kelly King, and Whitney Woznick

To have your production included in this newsletter, please email marketing@pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000

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