

FOCUS on FILM



The Newsletter of the Palm Beach County Film and Television Commission | OCTOBER 2017

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 POST-IRMA UPDATE
- 2 ON THE TOWN IN BOCA
- 3 MILITARY MAKEOVER
- 4 EVERGLADES ON PBS
- 5 STORM CELL IN PBC
- 6 LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: Resort Locations
- 7 EDUCATION CORNER: Spooky Film Festival



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THE PALM BEACHES TV TO LAUNCH ON 24/7 PLATFORM

Visitors and locals will soon have access to a streaming platform to plan their vacation and experiences in The Palm Beaches. Locally-operated independent media company **Olympusat** is launching the first ever Tourist Development Council (TDC) channel, **The Palm Beaches TV**. The Palm Beaches TV offers exclusive high-quality family content distributing real-life stories, travel attractions and destinations within Palm Beach County. "The Palm Beaches TV is an exciting way to reach visitors and an excellent opportunity to showcase inspiring branded content," said Glenn Jergensen, Executive Director of the TDC.



Delivered to the international marketplace via Internet protocol and streaming apps like **Roku**, The Palm Beaches TV is an incredible marketing asset perfect for the built-in audiences staying in hotels as well as an endless, on-going platform that can reach thousands of travelers by visiting ThePalmBeaches.TV. The channel will help entice new visitors, inspire hotel guests to explore undiscovered areas and educate locals to further discover their surroundings and become brand ambassadors to their friends and family—all while raising awareness for The Palm Beaches.

Testing is currently taking place and soft launches include **The Marriott Singer Island Resort & Spa, The Brazilian Court Hotel, The Best Western on Palm Beach Lakes Blvd and PGA National Resort & Spa**. This is complimentary to what the concierge services currently provide hotel guests. The channel will also be offered to the PBC community and businesses such as restaurants, shops and the County's public destinations, including government libraries, city halls, arts districts and PBIA. See more at Olympusat.com.



CAMERA READY IN THE PALM BEACHES

Helicopters took to the sky on September 15 to get a full view of The Palm Beaches days after **Hurricane Irma** passed through our region, capturing aerial images that assured travelers that PBC is open for business and ready for visitors. A series of videos have since been released through **Discover The Palm Beaches** showing interviews with hoteliers and attractions who encourage visitors to experience *The Best of Everything* without concern over damage to our pristine coastlines, urban centers or rural landscapes. County-wide, our parks and beaches were cleared of debris within days of the storm, quickly making it possible to review requests for production permits.



Aerial Coastline Views



Aerial City Views

For entertainment production industry professionals that suffered losses during Hurricane Irma, view Emergency Preparedness Resources on the Florida Office of Film & Entertainment's website at filminflorida.com.

BOCA BACKDROP ON PBS

South Florida PBS's *On the Town in The Palm Beaches* continues to spotlight more communities in Palm Beach County. Season two kicked off with the premiere episode featuring Boca Raton. The new half-hour show aired on WXEL and WPBT in late September, accompanied by a live viewing event at **The Wick Theatre**.



Boca Mayor Susan Haynie,
PBS' Joyce Belloise, &
Host Frank Licari

South Florida PBS now airs to the drive market as far south as the Keys and up north to the city of Sebastian. The Boca Raton episode features historic **Pearl City, The Boca Raton Resort and Club, FAU, Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, Lynn University** and more. The series will continue with host **Frank Licari** covering new episodes in Boynton Beach, Palm Beach Gardens and more. For more information on this signature series, visit wpbt2.org/onthetown.





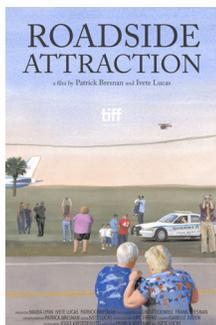
SEE MORE JAZZ IN SEASON 4

Critically acclaimed reality TV show *I Am Jazz* has returned to The Palm Beaches to film a **fourth season** after the airing of a successful third season this summer. Season three premiered on **TLC** to over 1.3 million households. *I Am Jazz* follows transgender teen **Jazz Jennings** as she negotiates life, school, sports and relationships. The 16-year-old star and her family live in **Boca Raton**, the home of popular attractions like **Gumbo Limbo Nature Center**, which will be featured in the upcoming season. Season four will get even more personal as Jazz explores options for bottom surgery and shares more intimate life experiences. "I feel like a lot of people are ignorant to transgender issues, and it's important that we share our stories and allow our voices to be heard in order to change those minds and open people's hearts to the possibilities of who we are," Jazz shared with **People Magazine**. Watch episodes at tlc.com.



ROADSIDE ATTRACTION AT TIFF

Documentary filmmakers **Patrick Bresnan** and **Ivete Lucas** have continued a successful film festival run with their third consecutive short doc filmed in PBC titled **Roadside Attraction**. Premiering at the **Toronto International Film Festival** last month, *Roadside Attraction* turns the lens around as spectators flock to **Palm Beach International Airport** to catch a glimpse of **President Trump's** landing during his travels to nearby Mar-a-Lago. "What I really like about Toronto is it's so international.



There are filmmakers from every corner of the globe, so you see a variety of work and get to know what people are thinking about from Brazil to Bulgaria," said Bresnan. The filmmakers are currently editing a feature-length documentary filmed at Pahokee High School, and just received an Austin Film Society grant to continue their work. See more about their journey at facebook.com/RoadsideAttraction.

MILITARY MAKEOVER IN LAKE WORTH

In the upcoming 11th season of **Lifetime's Military Makeover**, Marine Corps veteran **Sergeant Ed Tague's** family home in **Lake Worth** will be featured in an episode honoring his service. **Military Makeover** is hosted by actor and former Marine Corps Drill Instructor **R. Lee Ermy**, "**The Gunny**", famous for his Golden Globe-nominated performance in *Full Metal Jacket*. Partnering with decorators, landscapers and other renovation specialists, **Military Makeover** aims to show gratitude to veterans by giving their home a dream makeover. The **Lake Worth** community was invited to join the Tague's at their new home on the reveal day, leading to a positive, heart-warming story covered by many local media outlets. See more about the series at militarymakeover.tv.



Local Coverage on CBS12

REAL HOUSEWIVES RETURN TO BOCA

After filming in **Boca Raton** this spring, several stars from **The Real Housewives of New Jersey** will return to The Palm Beaches for an exclusive event at the **Mizner Park Cultural Center**. TV host and blogger **Becky In Boca** will host a special evening with New Jersey housewives **Siggy Flicker** and **Dolores Catania**. A glamorous pre-show reception will allow guests to mingle and network, followed by an intimate question-and-answer session with **Becky In Boca** and the two women from the New Jersey-based show. Topics will include men, dating, love, relationships, plastic surgery, friendship, money, celebrity and more. Nothing is off limits in this conversation that will take place on **October 11 at 6pm**. Get your tickets today at miznerparkculturalcenter.com/events/real-housewives-siggy-flicker-dolores-catania.



Becky in Boca



SWAMP APES VERSUS PYTHONS ON SOUTH FLORIDA PBS

Battleground Everglades is a seven-part docuseries coming to **South Florida PBS** early next year. Host **Charles Kropke** takes viewers deep inside the Everglades to showcase what he believes is "the battle that is about us and our survival" in the world's largest sub-tropical wilderness. The new series, which covers the everyday struggles that threaten the lifeblood of the Everglades, is a follow-up to Kropke's Emmy Award-winning documentary, **The Unseen Everglades**.



Lopez-Cantera with Python

In one of the *Battleground Everglades* episodes, Kropke examines the explosive growth of non-native Burmese pythons and follows a group of US combat veterans seeking to protect the area's delicate ecosystem. The human hunters belong to a group called **Swamp Apes**, a team made up of mainly ex-military personnel specializing in the capturing and killing of the monstrous serpents. The **Swamp Apes** recently took Florida's **Lt. Governor Carlos Lopez-Cantera** hunting, and caught a 15-foot-long python weighing nearly 150 pounds. Catch the entire docuseries soon at wxel.org.





AUTHENTICITY IN FOCUS

Local filmmaker **Michael Stone** of **Stone Cinema LLC** is seeking to raise awareness for the opiate epidemic and its complicated history of treatment in **Not Y.E.T.s**, an independent film that follows characters in a rehabilitation facility that struggle to connect with other addicts in the recovery community. “My personal journey and real-life experience in recovery qualifies me to bring this material to the screen in the form of a realistic styled drama. Typically institutions have guest speakers who are addiction specialists with book knowledge, but no substance or real life knowledge of what happens in the depths of addiction,” Stone shared. *Not Y.E.T.s* promises to deliver an authentic film involving complex issues such as addiction, recovery, self-identity, relapse, spirituality, and codependency, as well as the undeniable benefits of recovery in South FL. See more at Indiegogo.com/projects/not-y-e-t-s-film-drama#.



Michael Stone

BRIGHTLINE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Brightline, the express inter-city train service developed by All Aboard Florida, will connect residents and travelers in Southeast Florida to major urban hubs in record time. With the launch of this new transportation service comes plenty of media coverage and marketing. In anticipation of the opening of the downtown **West Palm Beach** (WPB) station, productions have flocked to The Palm Beaches over the past two months to capture its progress. From commercials to documentaries, local news outlets to Los Angeles-based production companies, the Brightline has garnered much attention as an exceptional form of mass transportation in a state where most residents drive cars on crowded highways and travelers rent vehicles to visit popular tourist destinations. Once completed, the railway will run between Orlando and Miami with a convenient stop in WPB, attracting daytime and long-term visitors alike. Service is projected to begin between WPB and Miami by the end of this year. See more at gobrightline.com.



Downtown WPB Station

G-STAR STUDIOS ACQUIRES AMAZING ASSETS

G-Star Studios, on the campus of **G-Star School of the Arts**, has had its share of historic visits from movie and music stars to politicians. Adding to their list are two new amazing assets of actual historical proportions. Now on the backlot is a **1967 Grumman Mohawk gunship** and the iconic **WWII Douglas C-47 Dakota Skytrain**. The Mohawk served in Vietnam through Afghanistan and was featured on the cover of the **Smithsonian Air & Space Magazine** in 1997. The Skytrain flew over Normandy on D-Day and retired after 29 years of operations over some of the most hotly contested geography on the planet. G-Star students now sit underneath the expansive wings of both planes during lunch, reliving the rich history of these military icons. “These planes have a great deal to do with our history,” said Greg Hauptner, G-Star’s CEO. “They’ll teach our kids history and give them a chance to shoot films around them.” See more at gstarstudios.com.



Dakota Skytrain



Grumman Mohawk

STORM CELL ON THE SILVER SCREEN

As a Category 5 hurricane bears down on a jail facility, eight inmates with different backgrounds are forced to spend a night together stuck inside a holding cell. Starring NFL legend **Lawrence Taylor**, **Avi Hoffman** (*Bloodline*, *Magic City*), **Chalet Lizette Brannan** (*Cyborg X*, *Dystopia*) and **Todd Bruno** (*Bloodline*, *Film Riot*), **Storm Cell** recently filmed at the **Palm Beach County Stockade**, utilizing the entrance gate, intake area and holding cells to capture crucial scenes. “We scouted several potential locations in South Florida, but once we saw the Stockade, we knew it was the perfect setting for our script,” said DP & Co-Director Victor Nappe. *Storm Cell* is currently in post-production with an expected release later this year. Keep up with film updates at ironbarproductions.com.



Lawrence Taylor



Cast & Crew in Table Read

SAVE MONEY ON FLORIDA PRODUCTION

Attention Florida filmmakers! Are you still paying sales tax on your Florida production expenditures? Save up to **7.5%** on your qualified expenditures through the **sales tax exemption** offered by the **Florida Office of Film & Entertainment**. Qualified production companies who are producing feature films, made-for-TV movies, television series, commercial advertising, music videos or sound recording may be eligible for a point-of-sale sales tax exemption on production-related purchases in Florida. The **Florida Department of Revenue** will issue either a 90-Day Certificate of Exemption or a 12-Month Certificate of Exemption. Expenditures may include equipment rental, real estate rental (studio, office, or location fees), set design/construction, props, wardrobe or computers. Apply for a Certificate of Exemption online at filminflorida.com/sales-tax-exemption-program.





LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: POPULAR RESORTS FOR PRODUCTION

The Boca Raton Resort & Club is a Waldorf Astoria property originally designed by Addison Mizner with an elegant entry and porte-cochere that reads luxury! The pink property was most recently a setting for the movie *Baywatch* and continues to offer its many modern as well as Mediterranean angles as a most interesting and beautiful backdrop. With Lake Boca, the surrounding Intracoastal Waterway and oceanfront position, the resort is widely sought after for lifestyle and luxury brands.



The Boca Resort & Club



The Eau Palm Beach Resort

High style and relaxed atmosphere are perfectly paired at the oceanfront property known as the Eau Palm Beach Resort & Spa in Manalapan. The privately-owned property considers film projects on a case by case basis and has been the backdrop for several catalogs and photoshoots.

The entire property was rented for the Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit with President Trump at Mar-a-Lago. An added feature of the Eau Palm Beach Resort is its proximity to a large public parking lot located immediately north of the hotel which can easily accommodate the large production vehicles that go with bigger projects.

The PGA National Resort and Spa enjoys a reputation for more than golf on the sprawling property with five croquet lawns, 19 tennis courts, nine restaurants, a zero entry pool, specialty suites, fitness facilities and a European spa. These myriad features make the PGA National a destination that is pleasing for everyone. For filmmakers and photographers, the PGA National offers the elusive "Anywhere, USA" look with several options for golf and related industry products to be featured without palm trees or homes in the distance. The Golf Channel has returned to this property many times for popular series including *Big Break* and *Ginella's Journeys*. For more information on other resorts in The Palm Beaches, visit pbfilm.com.



PGA National Resort

EDUCATION CORNER: SPOOKY FILM FEST HAUNTS SUGAR SAND PARK

The Sugar Sand Park Community Center continues to scare up some of the best young filmmakers in Palm Beach County with the return of the Kids' Spooky Film Festival. Resurrected for a sixth straight year, the Spooky Film Festival theme will be breaking mirrors and shooing away the black cats with *Superstitions!* The festival coincides with the 13th annual Shriek Week, the Community Center's yearly Halloween event on October 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28.



The deadline for film submissions occurred late September, and the films have now been sacrificed to the panel of industry professionals for judging. At Shriek Week, prizes will be awarded for the best youth

(ages 12-17), family and adult-created film. Many of the film formats will include live (or dead) action, (re) animation, and the increasingly popular digital comic books. The range of results should be frighteningly good. "The Kids' Spooky Film Festival is a great opportunity for amateur filmmakers of all ages to get behind the camera and involve their friends and family. It makes for a great summer project," explained Stefanie Ouellette, Booking Coordinator. "Last year, we had a lot of fantastic submissions, and we can't wait to see what our sixth year brings!"

Fans can watch and vote for their favorite films online for the People's Choice Award during October 1-31. Selected films will be shown in the Willow Theatre during Shriek Week while patrons are waiting in the boneyard for the Haunted House Tours. Awards and prizes will be presented at a November ceremony at Sugar Sand Park Community Center. To dig up more information on these events, call the Community Center at 561.347.3900 or visit sugarsand-park.org/spooky-film-festival.



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