

Focus on Film

NEWS

FROM

THE

PALM

BEACH

COUNTY

FILM &

TELEVISION

COMMISSION

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CBS PILOT COMES RIDING INTO PBC'S WESTERN

COMMUNITIES...Amidst the sugar cane fields and dusty roads



in Pahokee, actors such as Jimmy Smits (NYPD Blue, The West Wing), Hector Elizondo (*Pretty Woman, Runaway Bride*) and Rita Moreno (*Law & Order, Oz*)

filmed the *Untitled Cynthia Cidre Pilot*, a drama about a Latino family working together to operate a rum business. The action took place at US Sugar and on various roads around Pahokee. Locations Manager Maria Chavez said, "You cannot recreate 40 acres of sugarcane anywhere else, so we came to Palm Beach County because this location is an integral part of the story and we wanted everything to look authentic. We had a great time filming in Palm Beach County, and received red carpet treatment from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office and US Sugar." Stay tuned to upcoming newsletters for future updates.

Palm Beach

FESTIVAL ENTHUSIASTS WERE TREATED TO AN IMPRESSIVE Film Festival | LINE-UPATTHIS YEAR'S FILM FESTIVAL... For one week in April,



variety of genres being screened at the 12th Annual Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF). This year's festival kicked off Hollywood-style with the film, *The Golden Door* starring Vincenzo Amato,



who walked the red-carpet at the **Sunrise Cinemas** at **Mizner Park** in **Boca Raton**, followed by a posh after-party at City Limits in Delray Beach. The week then progressed with films including 9:04am, Film Contest? and Hiding Victoria which shot almost entirely in Palm Beach County. The festival also proved once again to be an extraordinary opportunity for the filmmaking talent of tomorrow to further their budding careers, as over \$25,000 in scholarships

and awards were presented this year. The local film industry had its chance to shine, and so did the global film market, with submissions from countries such as Africa and Israel, that introduced audiences to their respective cultures. Honorees at the Grand Gala included some of the great talents in the industry including Malcolm McDowell (Clockwork Orange) who was presented with the Career Achievement Award and Anant Singh (Cry The Beloved Country) who was honored with the World Visionary Award. The



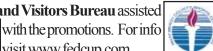
event was hosted by Tristan Rogers (General Hospital) whose new film, *Opportunity Knocks* made its world premiere at the festival. The Delray Beach Marriott, host hotel for the PBIFF, was sold out for several days and many other hotels assisted with the accommodations including the Grand Gala host, the Boca Resort and Club. For more information please visit www.pbifilmfest.org or call 561.362.0003



FED CUP SERVES UP HOURS OF **TELEVISION COVERAGE...**Thousands of

fans from around the globe traveled to Palm Beach KO-MAR Productions recently shot two County to watch the US team duke it out versus Belgium commercials for City Mattress, a company that during the **2007 Fed Cup Quarterfinals** held at the specializes in sweet dreams. City Mattress has **Delray Beach Tennis Stadium.** The match starred local stores in Florida and New York, and **VP of** tennis champions Venus and Serena Williams along Programming and Project Development Jim with Lisa Raymond, Vania King and Zina Garrison. The Gallagher said, "We shot at Lake Side Park in Tennis Channel carried ten hours of live coverage over North Palm Beach where the trees and native a two-day period. The PBC Sports Commission and grasses give you a look that can play in the Convention and Visitors Bureau assisted

visit www.fedcup.com



and warm sunshine made it so that we couldn't help but take beautiful footage every time we turned on the

PRODUCTION CO. DREAMS **UP NEW COMMERCIALS**

both markets." KO-MAR also says goodbye to **Bob Peters** who is retiring. See the June Newsletter for more info.



CRIME SERIES FILMS AT AREA LOCATIONS Go inside puzzling crime cases in history and learn about how they were solved as

Court TV's series Body of Evidence once again paid a visit to Palm Beach County to recreate crime scenes for two upcoming episodes. Washington, DC based Story House Productions produces the series and got the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office in on the action during various segments. Story House Field Producer Owen Palmquist said, "The combination of beautiful locations, helpful people

camera." For more info please visit www.storyhousepro.com or www.courttv.com.

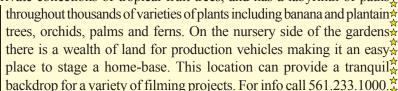
********** ocation Spotlight

Unbelieveable Acres Botanical Gardens

******* Unbelievable Acres Botanical Gardens in West Palm **Beach** is truly unbelievable! It is a museum of plants, and a place to relax, rejuvenate and experience the wonders of nature. Step foot into the gardens and be immediately transported to a Central or South American rain forest Banana Tree



complete with a 100-foot high tree canopy. Unbelievable Acres has one of Florida's largest private collections of tropical fruit trees, and has a labyrinth of paths.





PRIME-TIME NEWS SERIES VISITS COUNTY COURTHOUSE...CBS's 48 Hours Mystery came to Palm Beach County last month to produce a special report about the Ron Samuels Case, which involved a shooting that happened in Boca

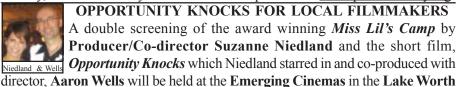
Raton in 1997, and left his ex-wife Heather Grossman paralyzed from the neck down. The crew filmed at the Palm Beach County Courthouse and the episode aired on Saturday, April 14 on News 12. The crew was hosted at the West Palm Beach Marriott. For more info visit www.cbsnews.com and click on 48 Hours.



FILM COMPETITION IS HEARING VOICES

South Florida filmmakers were honored during the fifth annual Voices of **Local Film.** The event achieved another successful year, providing a forum for films to be screened in a competitive atmosphere among peers.

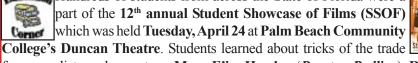
Event Creator Heath McKnight said, "The films get better each year, and our anniversary event proved that we have some of the most talented filmmakers in the Lighthouse and The Burt Reynolds and Friends country, in our own backyard." For more info please visit www.pbfilmsociety.org.



Playhouse on May 16th at 8:00pm. For more information please call 561.586.6410. Hundreds of students from across the State of Florida were a



part of the 12th annual Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) which was held Tuesday, April 24 at Palm Beach Community



from panelists such as actress Mary Elise Hayden (*Popstar*, *Redline*). Rafael Canuto from the G-Star School of the Arts and Ruby Hernandez from Dreyfoos School of the Arts took home the two \$5,000 Burt Reynolds' Scholarships, which will be used to further their education. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity was also awarded to the grand-prize winner **Aaron Brownlee** who will pitch his film to development executives and VP's at Lions Gate Films, Mandalay Integrated Media Entertainment, CBS and more in L.A. The workshop and seminar series was also a success as professionals such as Gary Marsh, President of Breakdown Services, Conrad Bachmann, Former Academy

of Television Arts and Sciences Performers Governor, Ellen Jacoby of Ellen Jacoby Casting International and **Tristan Rogers** led two workshops about casting and acting at the Burt Revnolds and Friends Museum in Jupiter. A full press release about the SSOF can be found at www.pbfilm.com/news.asp.



Ruby Hernandez

RADIO SHOW REELS IN SPECIAL **GUESTS...**The airwaves were buzzing as Tristan Rogers, General Hospital's Robert Scorpio, Adam Massey, director of

A Lobster Tale and Aaron Wells director of Opportunity Knocks made special appearances on "Barry Epstein Live," the radio show that airs Fridays at 10:00am on **1470 AM** or on the Internet at www.wwnnradio.com and click on "listen live." For more information please call 561.852.0000

ARÉA HIGH SCHOOLS CREATE MOVIE MAGIC...Students from the G-Star School of the Arts and the Dreyfoos School

of the Arts joined together to work on The Guardian of Eden, a feature film written by Shayne Leighton, a sophomore at Dreyfoos. The students even reeled in Kurt Donath of Aberdeen Soldier's Productions and Estefania and Valentina Crespo of Deep C Star Productions to produce the film. Eden utilized the G-Star Studios for seven days in April and producers are already in talks with distributors. For more information please call Estefania

Crespo at 305.338.3813. NEW TV SHOW RACES INTO HIGH



GEAR... The new high-octane drama, *Drive*, which premiered last month on Fox, mentioned some well-known Palm Beach County locations such as the Jupiter

Museum during the first episode. The show follows a diverse group of Americans as they partake in a cross-country road race. For info visit www.fox.com.



WELCOME TO AN ARTIST'S PARADISE...South Florida artist Dan Mackin, whose colorful depictions of paradise were featured on the official 2006 SunFest poster, is now ready to have his work

appear in film/TV productions. To view Dan Mackin's artwork or for more info visit www.danmackin.com.



FTC STAFF CHANGE

The Film and Television Commission says goodbye to our Locations Coordinator, Meghan Mayo, who will be going back to teaching and doing some freelance production

and/or location work on the side. Good luck Meghan!



Film Commissioner, Chuck Elderd Director of Ops. and Programs, Michelle Hillery Operations Manager, TBD Production Manager, Michelle Marton Production Coordinator, Jill Margolius

Location Coordinator, Meghan Mayo Administrative Assistant, Christine Tieche Education Consultant, Alex Marquez



PBC Board of County Commissioners Chair, Addie L. Greene, Vice Chair, John F. Koons, Karen T. Marcus, Warren H. Newell, Mary McCarty, Burt Aaronson, Jess R. Santamaria

If you would like to be included in this monthly publication, please contact the FTC at 561.233.1000 or email information to jmargolius@pbfilm.com. Focus on Film Editor: Jill Margolius * Contributor: Meghan Mayo * Masthead Design: Wendy Meyer