Serena Williams, tennis legend and Palm Beach Gardens resident-celebrity, recently showed off her moves on a remote runway ramp of the Palm Beach International Airport (PBIA) for a music video featured on Vogue.com. Dancing along to N.E.R.D.'s popular new single “Lemon” featuring Rihanna, even some of the onsite air traffic controllers got in on the action, grooving along with Serena in front of a private jet and revealing her from inside a luggage cart. The production was made possible through last minute coordination with PBIA Director of Operations Pete Labbe, who helped Vogue secure a safe space within the airport grounds for Serena to strut her stuff with a luxury jet as her prop. A recipient of the 2016 Traveler’s Choice Award from TripAdvisor, PBIA lives up to its reputation not only in travel, but by being one of the state’s most film-friendly airports as well. “We couldn’t have done it without the help from Pete and his team,” said Dayna Carney with Condé Nast. “It was a dream to work with them!”

As Vogue’s February cover star, Serena was also photographed and interviewed at her home in Palm Beach Gardens with her new baby girl, Alexis Olympia Ohanian Jr. Reducing her travel schedule to focus on motherhood, Serena has brought several notable productions to The Palm Beaches in recent months, including Lincoln Navigator and Beats headphones, so that she can stay close to home. The February edition of Vogue is available on newsstands now. Read Vogue’s editorial online at vogue.com/article/serena-williams-vogue-cover-interview-february-2018.

The horses have arrived in Wellington as the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) began last month and is in its fourth historic decade as the pinnacle of equestrian sport during the winter months. Held at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, WEF brings worldwide attention to The Palm Beaches for 12 weeks. Chronicle TV streams daily classes live on their website tv.coth.com, while media outlets from all over the world descend upon the area to capture the galloping horses. “We look forward to delivering another amazing season in 2018, with bigger classes, more prize money, and incredible sponsors, as we host the most talented riders in the world,” said Mark Bellissimo, CEO of Equestrian Sport Productions and managing partner of the Wellington Equestrian Partners. Live music, entertainment, petting zoos, carousel rides and more await families interested in watching Olympians and World Champions compete right in their own backyard. Learn more at pbiec.coth.com.

Justin Thomas, a Jupiter resident and reigning PGA Champion, has committed to play in the 2018 Honda Classic taking place February 19 through 25 at the PGA National Resort & Spa. The 24-year-old phenom is coming off a major year joining Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods and Jordan Spieth as the only players since 1960 to capture five wins in a season - including a major - before the age of 25. Thomas knows he’ll be reminded of last year’s performance and believes, “the hardest part of the season is going to be staying in the moment and recognizing that it’s a new year.” In the meantime, event organizers are hosting a Kick-Off Party at The Gardens Mall Grand Court on February 15, featuring a silent auction, live music, cocktails and hors d’oeuvres. Tickets for the opening celebration cost $50 per person with all proceeds benefiting The Honda Classic Cares charitable initiatives. For a full list of events or to purchase tickets, visit thehondaclassic.com.
**FOCUS ON FILM**

**ISRAELI FILM SERIES RETURNS**

The Palm Beach Israeli Film Series is back up and running for the 2018 season! With showings each Sunday at Temple Beth El in West Palm Beach and each Monday at the Shirley & Barton Weisman Community Center in Delray Beach, audiences have the opportunity to check out the finest quality motion pictures emerging from the dynamic and fast-developing world of Israeli cinema.

The mission of the organization is to re-acquaint moviegoers with some of the classic films about Israel and the Jewish experience, while using the films as a springboard for understanding and discussing contemporary Israeli culture and society. Upcoming screenings include Holy Air in February, Your Honor in March, and An Israeli Love Story in April. Check out the full schedule at pbifs.com.

**PRODUCTION REVIEW SHOW NOW AIRING**

The Palm Beaches’ Production Review Show is now airing on Channel 20, PBC’s educational and information programming station. Featuring recent productions that have filmed in the County, the show covers feature films like Baywatch, starring Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson and Zac Efron, to picturesque equestrian photoshoots with horses on the beach at Juno Beach Park. The program also highlights breathtaking photoshoots, commercials, television shows and a variety of new tourism-based series airing on The Palm Beaches TV channel. See clips of the sinking of the Ana Cecilia ship with ScubaNation, or learn more about the history of Palm Beach County in Travels & Traditions with host Burt Wolf. There is no better way to catch up on all the exciting productions that filmed in The Palm Beaches! Subscribe to Channel 20’s programming guide for airings at discogov.org/publicaffairs/Pages/Channel_20.aspx.

**BATTLEGROUND EVERGLADES GETS NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION**

**Battleground Everglades**, a new and original six-part docuseries from South Florida PBS, is set to begin airing nationally in April. However, PBS viewers in The Palm Beaches can watch the series on WXEL beginning Thursday, February 8 at 8pm. Battleground Everglades highlights the beauty of the Sunshine State’s natural wilderness and explores some of the many challenges Florida faces. The series hosted by Everglades expert and author Charles Kropke, includes episodes that examine problems caused by invasive species such as the Burmese python, and highlights the Swamp Apes organization, which is a team made up of mainly ex-military personnel devoted to eradicating the calamitous constrictors. The new series is a follow-up to Kropke’s Emmy Award-winning documentary, The Unseen Everglades, which was written and produced by Just Peachy Productions in West Palm Beach. Watch the entire series when it comes out on South Florida PBS at wzel.org and wpbt2.org.

**CRUizin’ FOR CRIMESTOPPERS**

The 8th annual Cruizin’ for Crime Stoppers motorcycle ride started in Wellington, went out to the Pahokee Marina for a quick break, and then back east and north to Abacoa in Jupiter.

The money raised during the 85-mile ride goes toward rewards and allows tipsters to remain anonymous and collect up to $3,000 in cash for providing information that leads to an arrest. The Nam Knights were on site throughout the entire ride to help with logistics as well as the arrest. The Nam Knights were on site throughout the entire ride up to $3,000 in cash for providing information that leads to an anonymous and collect

**A ROARING SUCCESS**

More than 100,000 car enthusiasts enjoyed nine days of exotic and luxury cars during the 8th Annual SuperCar Week. Some of the world’s most exquisite automobiles were displayed at events and venues throughout Palm Beach County, including the International Polo Club, Palm Beach International Raceway, as well as sites in Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Palm Beach and West Palm Beach. On display was a rare Bugatti Chiron, valued at nearly $4 million. Neil London, President and Executive Producer of SuperCar Week, called this year’s event a huge success. “We welcomed the largest crowd to date. I’m already gearing up for the 9th annual SuperCar Week, which takes place January 5th through the 13th next year.” All SuperCar events are created as media events by ICTV1. See more details at supercarweek.com

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ESCAPE TO THE PALM BEACHES

A new BBC One series, Get Away for Winter, follows Brits who are destined for sun, sand, and surf. Whether they are retirees, traveling businessmen, or folks who just want to escape a miserable winter, Get Away for Winter will pair up those who hope for a balmier winter season with reputable local property experts.

Friel Kean Films, based in Glasgow, Scotland, captured footage along the Flagler Drive waterfront, Northwood Village, and the West Palm Beach GreenMarket. “We went to the GreenMarket location on the recommendation of our local contributors. There was lots of activity and color; it was an ideal place to see Floridians out and about relaxing and socializing in the sunshine,” said Director Chris Greenwood. Vicky Rouncefield, who is featured in an episode of the show, said that “the filming process was interesting to see just how much work goes into only a few seconds of screen time.” To learn more about the show, please visit frielkeanfilms.com.

G-STAR ALUM’S BIG DREAM

G-Star School of the Arts alum Nohely Rose has been a working actress in New York City for over 10 years, featured in hit television series like The Get Down on Netflix, True Story on the Discovery Channel and The Harry Connick Show. Little did she know that her latest project would bring her home. “They called me for Dream Factory and told me it was shooting in West Palm Beach,” said Nohely Rose, who graduated in 2007 from the G-Star drama department. “I said, ‘Fantastic, I’ll just stay at my parents’ house.’ Then I asked where the shoot was, and they said G-Star Studios.” That’s my high school! I couldn’t believe it.” Rose joins six other talented G-Star alumni working on Dream Factory, while over 50 G-Star high school students contributed to the construction of one of the largest motion picture sets ever built in Palm Beach County for the film. Find out more on IMDb and at gstarstudios.com.

DELRAY BEACH SERVES UP WORLD TOUR

The world’s top-ranked players are set to take the court at The Delray Beach Stadium & Tennis Center from February 16 through 25 to compete in the world’s only 10-day tennis extravaganza. The competition is made up of the ATP Champions Tours and an ATP World Tour event. This year, the Delray Beach Open celebrates its 26th anniversary with various networking events, live music acts and a series of special events including a VIP reception on February 20 featuring fine cuisine, a full open bar and special appearances by ATP pro players. This year’s tournament will feature Milos Roanic, who reached the 2017 final in his first Delray Beach appearance. Other notable players include Juan Martin del Potro, Jack Sock and the Bryan brothers who are four-time Delray Beach Open winners. Event organizers expect to welcome more than 50,000 spectators to this year’s events, which will be televised nationally and internationally throughout 120+ countries. See the event schedule and purchase tickets at yellowtennisball.com.

THINK VISUAL JOINS NEW DOC

South Florida-based and award-winning production company Think Visual Group has joined the veteran filmmaking team behind a new feature-length documentary filming in Palm Beach County. Written and directed by Rick Pamplin, the documentary is based on Louise Levison’s best-selling book Filmmakers & Financing: Business Plans for Independents. Levison wrote the business plan for The Blair Witch Project – the most profitable independent film ever made.

Founded by Jon Zietz and Eddie G. Cabrera, Think Visual Group produces high-end commercials, concerts, music videos and documentaries, winning 10 South Florida Telly Awards and two WEVA International Creative Awards for Excellence. Zietz and Cabrera are associate producers, with Cabrera also serving as director of photography. Producers are Scott duPont, a former Jupiter Island resident who is now a Hollywood-based film producer, Palm Beach artist and production designer Maggie Phipps Pamplin, and the executive producer is P.J. Marks. Follow their journey with production updates on Twitter at #ConfidentialFilmProject.

SAY CHEESE! CHUCK E. CHEESE!

Chuck E. Cheese’s may have over 600 locations throughout the US, but only one is featured in a new nationwide commercial! Where better to capture delight and wonder than in a friendly neighborhood? “Our challenge was finding a community to film in that would allow us to fit everything into two short days of production. WPB provided the perfect backdrop for every one of our vignettes,” said Gloria Colangelo, Executive Producer of Assembly Films. The commercial shows how arcade games and great prizes can turn any frown upside-down. Thinking of bringing your production to The Palm Beaches? “PBC works with production to develop a game plan that ensures a great day of shooting with minimal impact on the community,” said Colangelo. See more at assembl...
LOCATION SPOTLIGHT
FINDING THE RIGHT TRACK IN PBC

Increasingly, Palm Beach County is being tapped as a production destination for advertisements that center around sporting activities. As the sports and entertainment industries set their sights on The Palm Beaches, the locals will recognize a variety of backdrops that are in their backyard.

The Palm Beach International Raceway is an ideal environment for all things automotive. The track provides a controlled space for high-speed driving shots and recently hosted commercials for a local car dealer and Castrol. The on-site Sunoco gas pumps allow for a gas station cheat. The property boasts an IHRA-sanctioned concrete drag strip and a 2.043-mile asphalt road course with 11 turns, as well as a World Karting Association Master Track.

Palm Beach County is home to one of the last tracks for dog racing. Located in West Palm Beach, the Palm Beach Kennel Club (PBKC) hosts a variety of commercial productions. Recently a matte shot for Martin Scorsese’s upcoming feature The Irishman was captured at PBKC. Additionally, the property has several bars and a restaurant for other filmmaking opportunities. With generous parking for equipment, PBKC is ready for background action.

Running tracks typically come in one shape and size, but in The Palm Beaches, they come in several colors. Forest Hill Community High School offers a black track, Jupiter Community High School sports a rustic red and Boca Raton High School is brilliant with a medium blue running track. With bleachers and grandstands, the scene is set, just bring your talent.

For equine workouts, Delray Beach is home to Palm Beach Downs, Sunshine Meadows and the Delray Equestrian Center. Combined they offer 180 acres of dedicated equestrian training facilities and striking scenery waiting for commercial production opportunities. With rows of trees lining the road to stylish tack rooms and fancy horse barns, this location has stories to tell. For more tracks visit pbfilm.com online.

FOCUS ON FILM

EDUCATION CORNER
SSOF IS A GAMER’S DELIGHT

Are you a fan of a plucky little plumber named Mario? Perhaps you enjoy the exotic worlds of Lara Croft and Nathan Drake? Whatever your preference, the 23rd Annual Student Showcase of Films Awards Show will be a gamer’s delight! Video games will be plugged in and played as the theme for the next exciting SSOF Red Carpet Award Show on April 6!

The video game and film industry have long been linked with titles adapted into movies. Street Fighter, Warcraft, Tomb Raider, Assassin’s Creed and Resident Evil were box office bonanzas with their built-in fanbases. According to Student Showcase of Films (SSOF) director and host, Frank Licari, “We will weave the world of video games into our award show to create a hilarious presentation sure to entertain gamers of all ages!”

The SSOF stage will replicate popular platforms such as X-Box and PlayStation, along with oldies but goodies like Pac-Man, Donkey Kong and others. More surprises will magically appear in the lobby for plenty of pre-show fun!

The SSOF is a juried competition recognizing outstanding film students with $12,500 in awards. Entries are judged by a panel of judges from around the world that share a passion for artistic expression and education. The A-list of judges in the film, news and entertainment industry will include YouTube sensations Cody and Marcus Johns, Nikon’s Birding Adventures host James Currie, award-winning Hollywood screenwriter Charles Eglee, foremost Russian Arm operator Michael Jordan, cutting edge filmmakers Billy Corben, Kevin Sharpley and Isaac Florentine, Leslie Gray Streeter of the Palm Beach Post, news anchors Jay Cashmere and Ric Blackwell and many more!

Lynn University

The Red Carpet event is Friday, April 6, at the Keith C. & Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center in Boca Raton. Don’t miss your chance to level up, grab some gold and save the day!

Co-Editors: Phyllis Man & Christy Andreoni, Assistant Editor: Kelly King, Contributors: Chris Cobb, Alberto Jordat, Ian Saylor, Hilary Webber & Lauren Tobin

To be included in this newsletter please email candreoni@pbfilm.com or call 561.233.1000