The coastal town of Riviera Beach is the latest community to be featured on South Florida PBS’ popular lifestyle series On the Town in The Palm Beaches. In the episode airing Saturday, June 29 at 5:30pm on WXEL, host Frank Licari visits Peanut Island Park, Manatee Lagoon, takes a kickboxing lesson and more. The episode airs on WPBT on Sunday, June 30 at 12:30pm. Local residents and members of the public are invited to enjoy a free screening of the episode on June 27 at DAS Craft Beer and Pizza. A reception starts at 5:00pm, followed by the screening at 6:00pm. The evening concludes with a Q&A session with the show’s host (Licari) and South Florida PBS producers.

“We always enjoy hosting viewing parties in the communities where we’ve filmed. The residents get a kick out of being featured on TV and it’s great to be able to spotlight the local businesses and attractions that make Palm Beach County so unique,” says Joyce Belloise, Vice President of Content and Community Partnerships for South Florida PBS. The Riviera Beach episode marks the finale of the third season of the series. The first and second seasons highlighted many of Palm Beach County’s diverse communities, including Boca Raton, Delray Beach, The Glades, Wellington, Jupiter and Palm Beach. The entire catalog of On the Town episodes can be viewed on demand on The Palm Beaches TV. Join in the adventure at thepalmbeaches.tv/town-palm-beaches.

French-Canadian television series Direction La Mer/This Way to the Beach is a travel-documentary style series that introduces the best of the world’s beaches to Canadian citizens. This French-language TV program airing on Évasion (a channel dedicated to travel and tourism) focuses on the beauty and diversity of gorgeous beaches throughout the globe as well as interesting local activities and attractions. In an upcoming episode, Direction La Mer will feature Delray Beach, chosen for its fun and free-spirited nature.

The production team from Serdy Video filmed at Delray Municipal Beach, Anchor Park, the Sandoway House, and the Delray Green Market, with a few locals sharing the best of the city’s hidden gems and highlights. Delray Beach was one of six Florida locations that will be featured in the new season. View clips on the Évasion channel on YouTube.

Spoiler alert, Bachelorette fans! Production crews were spotted in Jupiter filming with Hannah Brown, the current lead in ABC’s The Bachelorette Season 15, on a date with Tyler Cameron, a Jupiter native and contestant on the show. Local media outlets caught wind of their date at the Square Grouper, while filming continued throughout the day along the intracoastal waterway. As one restaurant goer told the Palm Beach Post, “Now everybody’s going to want to come to Jupiter when they see the show.” The crew also filmed b-roll of the area at Jupiter Beach Park, Riverbend Park and Juno Beach Park & Pier. This is the second time the show has visited Jupiter this season, first in April to capture Tyler’s intro segment. The fact that they’ve returned can only mean one thing – love is in the air in Jupiter. See more about the popular series at abc.go.com/shows/the-bachelorette.
LIVE FROM DELRAY BEACH

Eric Roby and Suzanne Boyd are teaming up once again with a new show called Rise + Live with Roby and Suze, launching June 21st! The duo is among the most popular and recognizable TV personalities in South Florida and their new show will focus on the fun side of living in South Florida. Boyd says, “I want people to learn something from each broadcast while telling the stories of people who live in our community.” After the launch, the show will air live on the show’s digital channels every Friday at 9am, in front of a live studio audience from the Rise + Live studio located inside The Heart of Delray Beach Gallery. For more on the new series, visit facebook.com/RiseandLiveShow.

RISE + Live with Roby and Suze

KID STEW GETS SEASON TWO

Season two of Kid Stew is now airing on WXEL! Kid Stew is the show “by kids, about kids and for kids” that makes education fun by encouraging children and pre-teens to learn in dynamic new ways.

Launched in 2018 by South Florida PBS, Kid Stew is the brainchild of author and Palm Beach resident James Patterson. Join the show’s young hosts as they explore life, culture and science through interviews, musical numbers, comedy sketches, hands-on experiences, news, and more. All-new episodes will air over the summer and will feature authors Judy Blume and Ridley Pearson, retired astronaut Thomas Jones, and many more, with an emphasis on Florida residents. At the season two premiere, VP of Content for South Florida PBS Joyce Belloise said “We’re very proud at South Florida PBS to present Kid Stew to the rest of the country. All the kids in the cast are from Florida, and we filmed a lot of scenes locally, which is really unusual for a national television show.” Follow Kid Stew on Instagram at @KidStewTV.

NEW POLO SERIES HIGHLIGHTS WOMEN

While polo season has concluded, polo production continues! A new show titled Women in Polo The Palm Beaches will tell stories of the some of the women who have made a difference in the sport by taking an in-depth look at the fearless female polo players of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Women in Polo The Palm Beaches will include fascinating history, inspiring local player profiles, youth polo programs and even some celebrity appearances set against the backdrop of The Palm Beaches. Produced by West Palm Beach-based companies, Ko-Mar Productions in partnership with US Polo ASSN, the show will hit screens for nearly 60 million viewers on later this year. See more at ko-mar.com.

PAHOKEE COMES HOME

The local premiere of the critically acclaimed documentary Pahokee took place last month at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center. Following four teens from Pahokee High School navigating the rite-of-passage rituals of their senior year, the documentary offers a unique combination of observational footage and the teens’ own self-recorded mobile phone videos. The premiere featured filmmakers Ivete Lucas and Patrick Bresnan, as well several of the stars of the film who traveled from their new college home bases (from University of Florida in Gainesville to FAMU in Tallahasse) to experience the film in person with their fellow Pahokee community members and answer questions about their experience. After a premiere at Sundance in January, the film has since traveled the world to screen at SXSW, Bentonville Film Festival, Montclair Film Festival, Miami Film Festival, San Francisco International Film Festival, and Champs-Élysées Film Festival, with more to come. Explore the doc at pahokeefilm.com.

THE PALM BEACHES TV DELIVERS MORE CONTENT ON MORE PLATFORMS

The Palm Beaches TV continues to deliver high-quality, family-friendly, on demand entertainment highlighting all there is to do, see and taste in The Palm Beaches. Visitors and locals can tune into the channel to find experiences and adventures that match their interests – from sports, to cultural, environmental or historical - the channel shows exactly how to find them. Recently, the channel presented live streaming of special events like the beyond the ropes fan experience at the Honda Classic golf tournament; The 24th Annual Palm Beaches Student Showcase of Films Red Carpet and Award Show, and The Best of SunFest. The channel's content is also accessible on a mobile app, allowing users to find a show while on the go literally at their fingertips! For a sampling of shows and series, visit ThePalmBeaches.TV or download the app from the App Store or Google Play.
Producers Dominic Giannetti and Jeff Howlett along with Director LeVar Leo are the creative forces behind a new pilot for a TV series titled *Cosmic Rush*. After being abducted from Earth by aliens, a racecar driver is forced to travel across space and enter a deadly galactic race circuit to win back his freedom. The pilot was recently filmed in Palm Beach County, with pit stops at the Palm Beach International Raceway and Voltaire nightclub in West Palm Beach. “We worked with over 50 local cast and crew members. We have such an incredible and diverse talent pool who are ready, willing and very eager to work right here in their own backyard,” said Giannetti. Several meetings are lined up with traditional studios and new media networks, and if successful, the team plans to bring *Cosmic Rush* home to PBC to film a full first season in early 2020. See more at imdb.com/title/tt9478754.

The award-winning Pamplin Film Company has announced completion of a film featuring one of Burt Reynolds’ last interviews, a feature length documentary inspired by Palm Beach resident Louise Levison’s best-selling book *Filmmakers & Financing*. “We are finalizing plans for a world premiere event locally,” said producer Maggie Pamplin, “featuring a discussion after the film with associates of Reynolds. All proceeds from ticket sales will be donated in Reynolds’ name for student scholarships,” she added. “It was a lifelong dream to work with Reynolds,” said Writer-Director Rick Pamplin, “and it was well worth the wait. I think our film shows a side of him the public didn’t know and presents him as he really was, not just a wisecracking movie star but a passionate artist, educator and actor.” The movie is a Think Visual Group production filmed entirely on location in Florida and features multiple PBC locations. Check out next month’s *Focus On Film* for information on the premiere screening, and see more at moviemoney.com.
FOCUS ON FILM

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT
CAMERA POSITIONS FOR BOATING

Boating is a major industry in Palm Beach County, and with clear turquoise water combined with public access angles, it’s easy to capture the thrill and excitement of boating. 47 miles of coastline and the intracoastal waterway offer many options for filmmakers.

At Dubois Park, the Jupiter Inlet Jetty offers a solid surface to stand on, making it easy to capture many angles from every direction. The Juno Beach Pier juts out over the ocean to provide a high angle for creative fast moving imagery.

Phil Foster Park is an island under the Blue Heron Bridge in Riviera Beach with seawall on three sides and a fishing platform. To the south, a sand bar forms on the north side of Peanut Island for filming activities and Palm Beach Shores has a sand dredge that juts out at the inlet where a passing boat can be showcased.

West Palm Beach offers three City Docks to capture boating traffic or dockage shots and the Royal Park Bridge has walkways underneath, close to the water’s edge. Further south, the Lake Worth Pier is great for ocean angles with clear sightlines free of buildings.

Ocean Blvd in Boynton Beach has a walkway along the road that looks over Ocean Inlet for overhead angles, and the intracoastal side has day use dockage available. Mangrove Park’s southern walkway provides direct views of the Ocean Avenue Bridge. Along the seawall in Delray Beach, boat dockage is available at Veterans Park just north of Atlantic Avenue with views of the Atlantic Avenue bridge. Boca Raton offers a boat launch at Silver Palms Park just south of Palmetto Park Road while the jetty at South Inlet Park provides a solid surface to position a camera for wonderful watery images. For more information on filming at public locations and obtaining free permits, please visit pbfilm.com.

EDUCATION CORNER
SSOF WINNER HEADED TO FSU

Jonathan Lockhart Jr., the 2016 Burt Reynolds Scholarship recipient at the 21st annual Student Showcase of Films, is headed to Florida State University’s College of Motion Picture Arts. Most recently, Jonathan received an associate’s degree from Palm Beach State College (PBSC) along with a certificate in cinematography. The Palm Beach County native feels that the Burt Reynolds Scholarship changed his life and is now committed to proudly representing Palm Beach County as he continues to follow his dreams of becoming a filmmaker. Jonathan, who was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society at PBSC, says he will follow Burt Reynolds’ vision by “keeping filmmaking in Florida.” In addition to pursuing his dreams of higher education and filmmaking, Jonathan is working full-time in the communications department at the Village of Wellington where he helps create and edit PSAs and other video assets.

THANK YOU, MR. GIGANTE

Ed Gigante, a treasured teacher at Palm Beach Gardens Community High School (PBGHS), is retiring after more than two decades of service. Born in Brooklyn, Ed made Palm Beach County his home when he accepted the position at PBGHS. There was no set program of study for the budding film and television program back then, but Ed quickly helped construct the official curriculum for what is now an award-winning program, preparing students for top post-secondary schools and future careers. In fact, Ed has produced at least five Emmy Award-winning students over his 20+ year teaching career. Ed’s colleagues say he’s the type of teacher who takes pride in his student’s successes and is always there for each and every one of them. Ryan Dockery, a fellow teacher in the film and TV program, shared, “Ed is second to none; everything he does, he does it for his students.” The production space at PBGHS is now called Studio G in Ed’s honor.

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