

MISSOURI NEWS

Welcome to the Weekly Wrap-Up, the weekly e-newsletter produced by the Missouri Film Office. Here you'll get the latest updates on film and video production in Missouri.

Production offices opened Monday in Boonville for the feature film "**Saving Grace B. Jones.**" Actress/singer Connie Stevens will be directing from her own original script. Principal photography is scheduled to begin Sept. 6. Cast has not yet been announced. For more information, contact the production office at 660-882-9594 ... Cindy Sheltmire is handling extras casting for "Grace," and has put out a call for "just about anyone who would like to be in a movie. I need people of all shapes, ages, and sizes; girls aged 7-15 and 11-20; boys aged 7-14. I need crowds of onlookers, a church congregation, prison inmates and men to appear to be sandbagging the river. The movie takes place in the early 1950s, so you may need to bring appropriate attire." For more info, contact Cindy at Cindys@realtor.com

Production notes: A local crew taped a "Totally Trendy" segment for Rachael Ray's talk show this week in Farmington. Beth Pike, Columbia, was coordinator on the project ... Supernanny casting producers joined ABC KMBC-TV Channel 9 to interview moms and dads last month at Crown Center Plaza in Kansas City. If you and your out-of-control kids missed it, don't fret: casting will continue all summer long and families are invited to apply for the show anytime. For more info, go to www.supernanny.com or call 877/NANNY TIME (1-877-626-6984) ... The TV show "Last Comic Standing" was in Pagedale last week, interviewing a school crossing guard. Don't ask ... Besides hosting the feature "Saving Grace B. Jones," Boonville will also attract a film crew for the production of a television commercial at the Isle of Capri Casino the first week of September ... The Discovery Channel will be in Columbia next Sunday and Monday for an undisclosed project.



"Bill," filmed last summer in St. Louis, will debut Sept. 8 at the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival. The feature stars Aaron Eckhart (pictured at left on right with director Bernie Goldmann), Jessica Alba, Timothy Olyphant and Elizabeth Banks ... Also premiering at TIFF is "**The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford,**" starring Springfield native Brad Pitt as Jesse James (pictured right). Although the film was shot in Canada, the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau is petitioning Warner Bros. to hold an advance screening in that northwest Missouri community. "This is where the history behind your movie took place and we feel it is an absolutely appropriate location for a premiere screening," reads the petition. Although the petition is attracting attention, there's been no response yet from Warner Bros.



St. Louis writer **Robert Hazel's** script "Secrets, Favors & Lies" will be featured at this year's IFP Market to be held Sept. 16-20 in New York City. This noir screenplay is Hazel's second to be accepted at the prestigious independent market; in 2004 "Missing Nick" was accepted. Award-winning projects sold or packaged at past IFP Markets include "Half Nelson," "Maria Full of Grace" and "Mad Hot Ballroom."



In July, **Stephens College**, a women's college in Columbia, Mo., hosted 22 aspiring filmmakers from across the nation for the two-week intensive **Summer Film Institute (SFI)**. In Week 1, SFI participants attended various filmmaking workshops led by some of Hollywood's leading professionals including television writer/producer Rosanne Welch (of the Emmy-winning "Picket Fences" and "Touched by an Angel") and Stephens College alumna Jennifer Wynne Farmer, script supervisor on "Beverly Hills 90210" and award-winning independent film producer/director on documentaries, shorts and feature films. During Week 2, the aspiring filmmakers worked alongside Hollywood pros to create the original short film "PIECES PARTS." Learn more about SFI at www.stephens.edu/sfi.

Creative Actors Workshop has openings in its Saint Louis class. Classes are taught by Scott-Arthur & Elizabeth Allen, who have over 55 years of combined experience in the entertainment business as actors, acting coaches, casting directors and talent managers. For information, call 417-725-8267 or 818-298-4697.

The **Moxie Short Film Celebration** has issued a call for entries. Films from one second to 20 minutes in length, with a Springfield connection, are eligible. Entry deadline is Oct. 20. The festival runs Nov. 16-18 at the legendary Moxie Cinema in Springfield. For more info, go to www.moxieshorts.com.

"**Shadowland,**" a psychological suspense movie written and directed by Wyatt Weed (pictured right behind the camera) is filming now in St. Louis with local cast and crew. Caitlin McIntosh, Jason Contini and Carlos Leon star in the movie. Locations include downtown St. Louis, old town St. Charles and Delmar Avenue. The film is scheduled for a spring release.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislative update: A special session of the Missouri Legislature convened this week to consider passage of an economic development bill that includes \$4.5 million in tax credits for film productions. The bill passed the house and should go to the senate next week. Stay tuned ...

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT

Producers asked for pictures of **Ste. Genevieve** and the surrounding area, so Jerry Jones of the Missouri Film Office scouted there earlier this month. Ste. Genevieve sits on the banks of the Mississippi and is the oldest settlement in Missouri, dating to 1735. It has the greatest concentration of French Colonial buildings in North America. Beautiful vineyards cover the rolling hills just west of town, where wineries have found ideal locations to take in the spectacular panoramas. For more information, go to www.ste-genevieve.com.

Do you have production news or photos from set to share? E-mail us at mofilm@missouri.edu

