

# YOUR **LINK**

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## **THE STORY** **Closing**

the 'Parenthood' chapter

Lauren Graham appears in the series finale of "Parenthood" Thursday on NBC.

January 25 - 31, 2015

# It's the end of Editor's choice 'Parenthood' as NBC series concludes

BY JAY BOBBIN

Fans of "Parenthood" are sorry to see the series end, but its creative talents are happy they got one more season to end it properly.

Loosely inspired by the same-named 1989 movie, NBC's saga of the Braverman family concludes its six-season run Thursday, Jan. 29. While showrunner Jason Katims and the cast members understandably have hesitated to detail what happens just before the end credits appear for the last time, it's no secret – thanks especially to their social-media accounts – that filming the finale drew tears from virtually everyone involved.

"Our last days were very emotional," confirms Lauren Graham, alias the show's Sarah Braverman, "plus, without giving too much away, we were in a lot of unfamiliar places. This is a show with a real family feeling, and as we began to wrap, the physical pieces were being pulled away. We were literally losing the sets that have been our homes, so it was very symbolic."

So were the dismissals of other cast members after they did their last scenes ... from Peter Krause (Graham's significant other in real life), Monica Potter and Erika Christensen to Dax Shepard, Sam Jaeger and Mae Whitman, who has played Sarah's daughter Amber.

"A lot of people got 'wrapped' at the same time," Graham reports. "They announce when it's someone's final day, so there were a lot of families there, with people taking pictures. I quickly had to come to New York for work afterward, so it all felt strange."

As for the way "Parenthood" does end, Graham – whose Sarah has been romantically involved with photographer Hank (Ray Romano) – maintains she's "very happy with it. I apologize for weeping through much of the last two episodes, but it felt unavoidable because there were so many things resolved, and so many truly emotional things going on."

"For fans who like a good cry, I don't think they'll be disappointed, but it's earned. You don't want the story to feel manipulative, and to me, it's a very real ending."

A "Parenthood" series was tried by NBC and executive producer Ron Howard before, in 1990, with a cast that included David Arquette and a then-teenage Leonardo DiCaprio. Graham originally wasn't set for the second, ultimately more enduring attempt; Maura Tierney ("The Affair") was to play Sarah, but health matters led to the part being recast.

Graham didn't get the same sense of series finality from "Gilmore Girls" after her seven years on that WB/CW show. "We shot a finale that could have worked as a series finale, but also had some loose ends," she recalls. "I was at a restaurant and the waiter said, 'Your agent's on the phone' ... which tells you how long ago it was, because I hardly carried my cell phone on me."

"I went to the bar and picked up the phone, and my agent was like, 'It's over.' There was some negotiating going on, and conflicting pieces of information, so it was a very different feeling. (With 'Parenthood,') this was definitely satisfying, and it has closure."



**The series finale of "Parenthood" airs Thursday on NBC.**

*Click here for more on this special!*



JAY BOBBINS Q&A

# KATHARINE MCPHEE

of 'Scorpion' on CBS



**You have an active television week, not only with "Scorpion," but also as the co-host of the CBS special "Super Bowl's Greatest Commercials 2015." Are you enjoying your pace these days?**

You have to find time to do things other than work, but I'd rather know what my work schedule is, then plan those things. I like the long hours, I like the early mornings ... I guess I'm programmed to be in this kind of business. It's an up-and-down business, but when you're "up," it's really fun.

**Though you've done other acting, as on "Smash," what's the significance to you of "Scorpion" being a success?**

Before I got "Smash," I was testing for a couple of things and I did a pilot for NBC that didn't get picked up, and I was getting really close to testing for movie roles ... but I didn't have the resume to back it up. It's really hard for directors to take a chance on actors, even if they might know them from something. In some cases, it's almost like your name is bigger than what you stand for. The "(American) Idol" thing obviously played into that, but you keep working and you keep your chops up and you become more and more comfortable. There's a lot to be said for being comfortable in your environment.

**You've been working on another album for a couple of years. What can you say about it?**

It's not to say that acting takes more of a priority than music, but it's just the nature of being on a TV show. I know it's been frustrating for people who follow me musically, because I feel like it's the first time I have a story to tell, as far as being an artist with songs that are really almost like a journal.

Click here for more on this!

GEORGE DICKIES Q&A

# TIM LOVE

 of 'Restaurant Startup' on CNBC

**The tact and restraint you and Joe Bastianich exercise in shooting down some would-be restaurateurs on "Restaurant Startup" is commendable.**

Beating somebody up just to beat them up doesn't make anybody happy on either side, myself included. Really, I feel like I become a coach more than an investor, which is a great thing for the people that come on the show. So even people that I don't invest in, I feel like they walk away with a lot of value and I walk away with some value from them. I mean, this business is all about learning and both parties learn something every time you meet somebody in the business. So to go in there and rip somebody apart is just too easy and that's not really the purpose of the show. The purpose of the show is to figure out a way to find people who are great and see if they're coachable and bring them up and make some money.

**Are there any common mistakes you see, either in the pitch or in the kitchen?**

Of course, we see mistakes. You know, I make mistakes every day so it's easy to pick out mistakes, and I think what it is is when we give these guys 36 hours to build a restaurant, we're not seeing if they can build a restaurant in 36 hours; we're seeing if they can build a process in 36 hours. ...

The pitch is like somebody cooking dinner for us at their house. ... You may have cooked a great roasted chicken here but can you cook 15 of them over different time periods? And that's really the beauty of the show and what separates us from a show like "Shark Tank," because we get to look under the hood of these people and see if they can really do it.

Click here for more!

JAY BOBBIN'S Q&A

# TOBY STEPHENS

of 'Black Sails' on Starz



### How complex is filming "Black Sails" under the circumstances of a project set at sea?

What's amazing about the production is that we do none of it at sea. It's all done on the back lot of a studio, and they use "green screen." It would be impossible to do what we do on the real sea, because it's so unpredictable. The weather changes within minutes, so they built these huge ships on the back lot and we work on those. They create the wind and the smoke and so forth, and we do storm sequences where they just blast us with water. With the CGI, you'd never know that the horizon is fake. Even 10 years ago, it would have been too expensive to make something like this ... whereas now, it's become a reality.

### Have past roles helped you prepare for the physicality of playing Captain Flint?

Yeah, I've done a lot of fights in theater with swords and stuff like that, and it's always been something that's interested me. I've always felt that fights in drama are there for a reason; they need to be good and they need to be exciting, because they have a function for the audience. It's important to be good at that, so we put a lot of work into it, and it's helpful that I have that in my background.

### How is it to be the son of acting legend and "Downton Abbey" star Maggie Smith?

I'm so proud to be associated with her ... purely accidentally, by birth! I think she's just extraordinary, and she gets better and better. And busier and busier. It's great, and it's really lovely for us to both be busy at this stage of our lives.

Click here for more on this! 

GEORGE DICKIE'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER

# DAPHNE BROGDON

'Daphne Dishes' Super Bowl fare on Food Network



If there is a rule for creating a menu for a Super Bowl party, it's finger foods, finger foods, finger foods. Fast and easy.

But Daphne Brogdon, host of Food Network's "Daphne Dishes," puts her own spin on familiar fare for the big game in the episode airing Sunday, Jan. 25. "I basically took things that everybody would expect and I just twisted them a little bit," she explains. "Like, I did a guacamole. But a lot of guacamole, to me, gets ruined because people put too much crud in it, and I really just want the delicious avocado. So the only thing I put in mine is little tomatillos, and they're very mild so that also kids will eat them. ... I just do fresh guacamole, lemon juice and the tomatillos."

But instead of pairing the guacamole with stand-bys such as corn or tortilla chips, Brogdon went the Asian route and did fried wonton chips. "My kids love them," she says. "They're very light, airy and easy. Just take the wonton, cut them into triangles ... and fry up a bunch of those."

Keeping it light is also a priority, especially with a game that can stretch on for four hours or more. So instead of

hamburgers, Brogdon opts to feed her crowd sliders. But the little discs of meat can be easy to overcook, so Brogdon has her own technique for keeping things under control.

"You take a little bit of butter," she says, "freeze it and then put that frozen butter in the middle of the patty. ... It's not going to overcook in the middle and you're going to have a moister burger."

Brogdon pairs her sliders with two sauces, both homemade: a sweet Russian and an arugula pesto. Other items on her game-day menu include a spicy cabbage salad and something called a "kick-a-rita," which is tequila or rum, lime and tangerine juices, bitters, ice and the kicker, a few drops of juice from a scored serrano pepper. But only a few, lest your tear ducts and nasal passages clear involuntarily.

And she advises labeling everything and their ingredients clearly so those with food sensitivities don't get any surprises. "Once the party gets rolling," she says, "I just want to enjoy it. I don't want people coming up to me all the time (asking), 'What's in this? What's in that?'"



### What book are you currently reading?

"I'm reading the one about L. Ron Hubbard. It's called 'Going Clear.' It's the history of Scientology."

### What did you have for dinner last night?

"Mexican food. We were in Tucson (Ariz.), and I had a chimichanga with carne seca ... meat that dried in the Sonoran Desert or something. So it had kind of a saltier, dried meat flavor, which was a little pungent but it was very interesting."

### What is your next project?

"I'm working with my husband on opening up his first-ever fast-food concept, and it's going to open in Grand Central Market in downtown L.A. in February."

Click here for more!



GEORGE DICKIE'S CELEBRITY SCOOP

# TIMOTHY OMUNDSON

Omundson turns song-and-dance man on 'Galavant'

Doing the Sunday ABC musical comedy "Galavant" required Timothy Omundson to flex some muscles he wasn't used to using.

Yes, as King Richard he could ride horseback, talk with an English accent and even wear a crown with no problem. And his limited work with swordplay was a piece of cake. But singing and dancing? That required help.

The singing was the lesser of the challenges. Two years earlier, he had done a musical episode of the USA Network dramedy "Psych," on which he co-starred for eight seasons, and the experience re-awakened his love of musical theater. Still, there was a learning curve.

"I'm not a professional singer even though I'd always sung," says the Missouri-born, Seattle-raised Omundson. "So to have to sing on this level – Alan Menken songs, of all things – really required going back to school, and ABC provided all of us with a wonderful voice coach named Valerie Morehouse, who really, really helped whip me into shape. ... And his musical arranger, Michael Kosarin, was invaluable in helping me, making sure the songs were in the right keys. And I couldn't have done it without him. So there's a pretty incredible support team behind us making sure the songs are at the level they need to be."

And then, of course, he had to dance, an area in which he had little experience, so some smoke and mirrors were employed.

"Ashley, our choreographer, was so wonderful," the 45-year-old actor says, "and really took good care of me, choreographing these dances and these moves where they were simple and I could do them but make them look like they were more complicated, and he really pulls it off. Although after a while, we had to step up our game there. And I kind of think I did."



**Full name:** Timothy Michael Omundson  
**Birth date:** July 29, 1969  
**Birthplace:** St. Joseph, Mo.  
**Education:** Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Southern California  
**Family:** He and wife Allison have two daughters  
**TV credits:** "Seinfeld," "SeaQuest 2032," "Married ... With Children," "Fired Up," "Frasier," "Jack & Jill," "Xena: Warrior

Princess," "NYPD Blue," "Deadwood," "Judging Amy," "Jericho," "The O.C.," "CSI: Miami," "Psych," "Criminal Minds," "24," "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," "Cold Case," "Boston Legal," "Without a Trace," "Warehouse 13," "Supernatural"  
**Movie credits:** "Starship Troopers" (1997), "Swordfish" (2001), "Down With Love" (2003), "Mission: Impossible III" (2006), "Crazy" (2008)

Click here for more on this!



CELEBRITIES PROFILED

# BOB HARPER

Bob Harper is a health and fitness expert, television star, and author.



- He was born August 18, 1965 in Nashville, Tenn.
- Bob was raised on a cattle farm in Nashville, before making his way to Los Angeles in pursuit of his dreams.
- In 1999, he was cast as an extra in Melissa Etheridge's hit video for the song "Angels Would Fall" from her album "Breakdown."
- He appears on the television series "The Biggest Loser," and has been a trainer on the show since 2004.
- In early 2010, Bob launched mytrainerbob.com, a website where subscribers can discuss weight loss and receive coaching.
- The success of his site led to the release of his first workout DVD series, titled "Bob Harper: Inside Out Method."
- Harper also contributes workouts to websites such as Shape magazine.

- He is an avid CrossFit athlete.
- In 2012, his book "The Skinny Rules" was released, which provides 20 simple non-negotiable principles to sustain a consistent and healthy lifestyle.
- In 2013, his book "Jumpstart to Skinny" debuted in the No. 1 spot on the New York Times best-seller list.
- Bob works with Michelle Obama on her Let's Move campaign.
- He has received fitness certifications from the American Fitness Training of Athletics Association, the Aerobic and Fitness Association of America, Kettlebell, Level 1 CrossFit and CrossFit Olympic Lifting.
- As a result of his ever-growing popularity as a trusted lifestyle specialist, Quaker Oats enlisted Harper as its lifestyle coach and advocate for living a healthier everyday life.

## Celebs' favorite shows

### Allison Janney of "Mom" on CBS

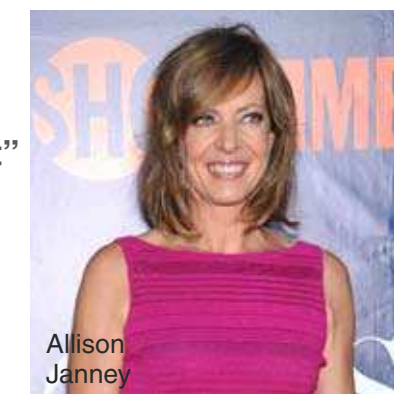
"'Homeland,' I definitely watch, and I do watch 'Scandal' and 'The Big Bang Theory.' And the stuff like 'Game of Thrones' and 'House of Cards.' And – because my niece told me to watch it, and I still can't stop thinking about it – 'Black Mirror' on Netflix. I don't even know what to say. Every episode is a story unto itself, and it is so disturbing, I think I'm going to have to keep watching it."

### Joe Mantegna of "Criminal Minds" on CBS

"You'll basically catch me watching 'Seinfeld' reruns around 10 at night, then when I'm in my trailer at work, I'll be watching Travel Channel and shows like 'Bizarre Foods.' And watching 'Friends' is fun ... and 'House of Cards'; Kevin Spacey is an old pal, so I'll catch some of that just to see how he's doing."

### Mallory Jansen of "Galavant" on ABC

"There's a lot at the moment. I mean, I was always obsessed with 'Game of Thrones,' 'Mad Men.' Those were always my top two. Recently, I've been starting to watch 'The Killing,' which I'm kind of obsessed with. It's hard to watch now, though, because I've been so busy. Like whenever I get a moment to watch an hour show, I'll do it and even if it's just a wind-down at the end of the day. ... But when I want to just relax and not think, I really love 'Bojack Horseman.' (laughs) It's one that I can just sit back and watch and have a cheap laugh."



Allison Janney

# Rob Lowe tackles a 'Twisted' role

BY JAY BOBBIN



Rob Lowe

With his yen for changing up his image, Rob Lowe has become very good friends with Lifetime.

The cable network has cast him in several true-crime films, including dramas about the Drew Peterson and Casey Anthony cases, and they're in business again. Debuting Saturday, Jan. 31, "Beautiful & Twisted" stars Lowe as Ben Novack Jr., the heir to Miami's Fontainebleau hotel fortune ... so privileged that the Batmobile is his own private vehicle.

Under the disapproving eye of his socially connected mother Bernice (Candice Bergen), Ben and his stripper wife Nancy (Paz Vega, "Spanglish") have a codependent, emotionally damaging relationship that ends with his murder. The subsequent police probe uncovers details of the marriage that increasingly make Nancy look like the culprit.

Also an executive producer of "Beautiful & Twisted," Lowe confirms, "This group of movies that I'm getting to make over there is really giving me a chance to do something I'm not getting a chance to do anywhere else, and that is to play really character-driven people.

"You don't get more character-driven than Drew Peterson, and with 'Beautiful & Twisted,' it's the same thing. I couldn't believe that this guy really existed, and that this story really happened. It seemed almost too good to be true."

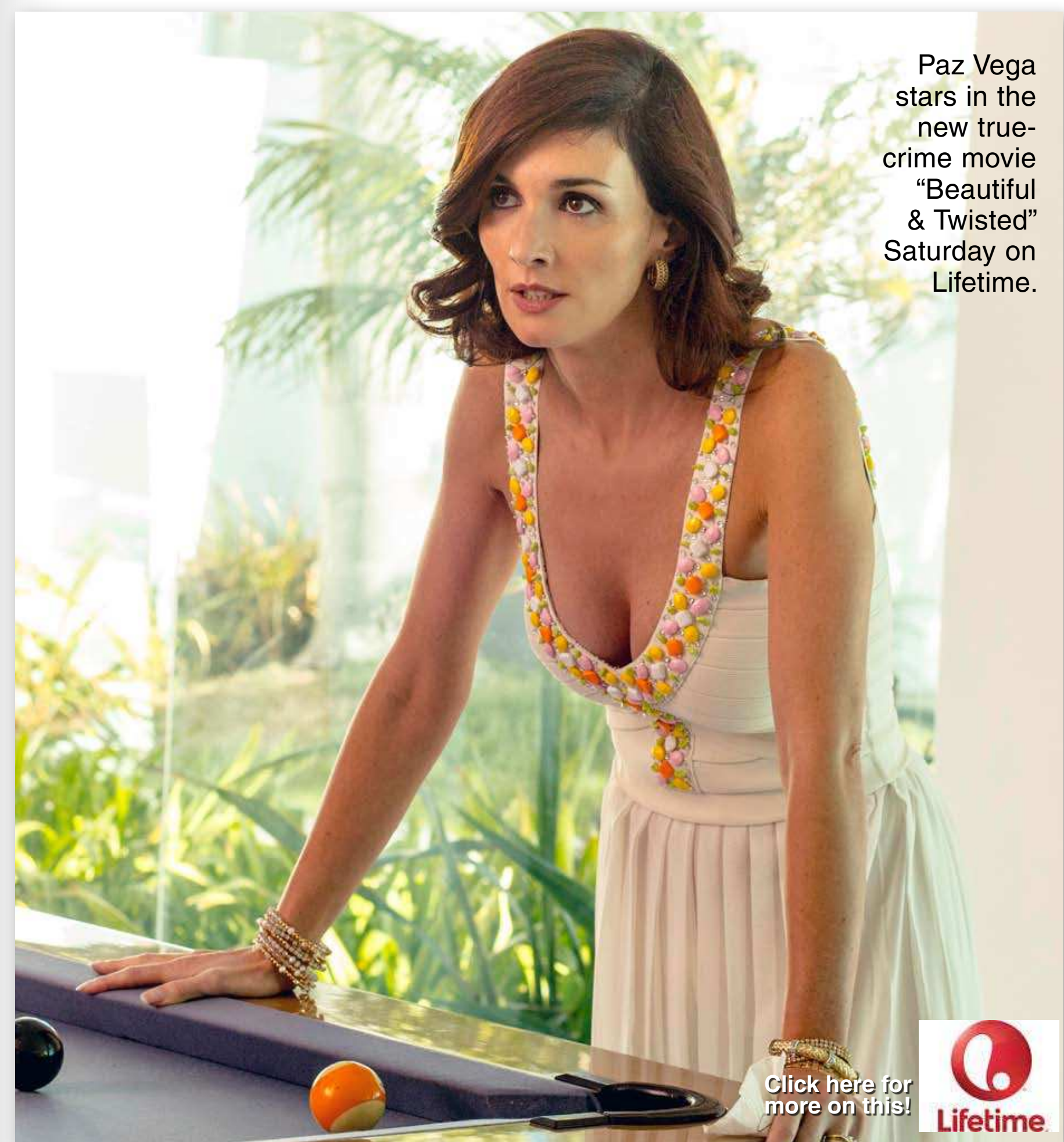
Indeed, Lowe maintains, "If this ended up playing at Sundance, it wouldn't seem odd. It's got themes you don't often see – adult enmeshment with your mother, for example. It also addresses sexual self-loathing and

obsession, and then there's stuff you do see a lot of, such as greed and privilege. Frankly, I was surprised Lifetime let us get away with it. There's nothing about this you'd ever guess would be on Lifetime, and that was our goal."

Crediting his leading ladies, Lowe muses of the film's seductively clad Vega, "I would like to point out that the woman has three children. Let's start there. She is just a force of sexuality on the screen that a lot of people try to be. And Candice is just a dream. Nothing makes me happier than showing up on a set with someone who has forgotten more about show business than I'll ever know, and we have many mutual friends."

Also a home-screen presence lately in a comedic series of ads for DirecTV, Lowe is a driving force behind Comedy Central's upcoming, animated crime-story satire "Moonbeam City." He's also wistful about the imminent end of the NBC sitcom "Parks and Recreation," on which he spent the better part of four seasons. "There will never be another show like that," he reflects, "where each cast member is a powerhouse in their own right."

Overall, Lowe is quite satisfied with the path his career has taken. He says, "If somebody ever asked, 'Who was Rob Lowe? What did he do?,' if you ran (HBO's) 'Behind the Candelabra,' 'Parks and Rec,' JFK (in the National Geographic Channel docudrama 'Killing Kennedy') and 'Drew Peterson: Untouchable' ... I'd say, 'That was about the range the guy was able to do.'"



Paz Vega stars in the new true-crime movie "Beautiful & Twisted" Saturday on Lifetime.

Click here for more on this!



# OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

## STARTED AS 'SONS OF LIBERTY'

BY GEORGE DICKIE

Making American history accessible to a wider audience – in film, it’s been tried with varying degrees of success in everything from Lewis Milestone’s 1930 World War I drama “All Quiet on the Western Front” to Quentin Tarantino’s reimagining of the downfall of the Nazi regime in 1940s Germany in 2009’s “Inglourious Basterds.”

Now, History endeavors to familiarize more – and younger – viewers with the American Revolution with “Sons of Liberty.”

The three-night, six-hour miniseries, which premieres Sunday, Jan. 25, follows a group of young dissidents as they band together in secrecy to create and separate the 13 original colonies from Great Britain. They include Sam Adams (Ben Barnes, “The Chronicles of Narnia”), a charismatic born leader who fans the flames of rebellion; Paul Revere (Michael Raymond-James, “True Blood”), a military veteran who whole-heartedly joins the fight with Adams; John Hancock (Rafe Spall, “Life of Pi”), a wealthy Bostonian with much to lose; Dr. Joseph Warren (Ryan Eggold, “The Blacklist”), a man of integrity; and John Adams (Henry Thomas, “E.T.”), a lawyer and Sam’s smarter, more conservative cousin, who gradually comes over to the rebels’ side.

Naturally in a story such as this, the focus is on rebellion and parents will want to know that there is some profanity. But as executive producer and writer Stephen David explains, the inspiration for the production came from a very unlikely corner.

“I was on the elliptical and listening to Pandora,” he says, “and I heard the song ‘Paint It Black’ by the Rolling Stones. And I was

thinking, ‘I wonder if there was any kind of teen angst involved in this. Like, were the 1760s kind of like the 1960s?’ ”

David and his team did the research and found the story that formed the basis for “Sons of Liberty,” which Thomas, who plays statesman and future president John Adams, was drawn to from the get-go.

“I’m a sucker for historical pieces anyway because I’m sort of an armchair historian ...,” the 43-year-old actor says. “But I also think the American Revolution is a great piece of history and a great theater for drama. And we haven’t really explored that in film as much as we could. So the idea of doing kind of a more youthful-oriented take on the events leading up to the Revolution ... it was interesting to me.”

The story, which covers the years 1765 to 1776 and concludes on the first Independence Day of July 4, 1776, was filmed over the summer in Romania, a country that’s no stranger to rebellion, with the overthrow of the regime of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in its not-too-distant history.

“This, to me, is the story of probably almost anyone’s revolution,” David says. “How these things really start, they don’t start cleanly. It’s not like they start with people in a room peacefully talking. They start this way, which is self-motivated interests and then miscommunications and escalations. So the people in Romania understood the story.”



*Henry Thomas stars in “Sons of Liberty,” premiering Sunday on History.*

Click here for more on this!



**BORN:** Feb. 7, 1990  
**HOMETOWN:** Markham, Ont., Canada  
**HEIGHT/WEIGHT:** 6 feet/190 pounds  
**POSITION:** Center  
**NUMBER:** 91  
**SHOOTS:** Right  
**DRAFTED:** No. 1 pick in the 2008 NHL draft by the Tampa Bay Lightning  
**HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS:** More than 50 goals in a season (2010, 2012); NHL All-Star (2011, 2012); named team captain March 24, 2014; selected to the Canadian Olympic team in 2014 but missed the tournament due to an injury



# Steven Stamkos:

# SCORING MACHINE

BY DAN LADD

Even though he's just 24-years-old, Steven Stamkos has already reached milestones in scoring that many hockey players never reach during their careers. The skills of the captain and center for the Tampa Bay Lightning will be on display Tuesday, Jan. 27, when the Lightning head slightly north to take on the Carolina Hurricanes on NBCSN. With the Hurricanes being one of the NHL's worst teams in goal differential, it could be a big night for Stamkos and company.

Since he came into the NHL with the Lightning as the top draft pick in 2008, Stamkos has been one of the league's top scorers. Twice he's eclipsed the 50 goal mark, including a 60 goal performance during the 2011-12 season. He also scored 45 goals in 2010-11, and 51 during the 2009-10 season. With no work stoppage or Olympic games to interrupt this NHL season, he's got a shot at another 50 goal milestone.

Although Stamkos and the Lightning stumbled slightly in December, they remain one of the top teams in the NHL and eye a return to the Stanley Cup Playoffs, something they've done only twice in Stamkos' seven-year career. They lost to the Boston Bruins in the conference finals in 2009, and last season were swept by the Montreal Canadiens in the quarterfinals. Ironically, it is the Canadiens who are right there with the Lightning atop the Atlantic Division. As long as Stamkos and his team keep up their scoring ways, they should get their chance for redemption in the spring.



REVIEW

# “INTO THE WOODS”

## A movie finally goes ‘Into the Woods’

If you're going to finally make a movie of a stage classic, moreover a musical, you'd better get it right.

“Chicago” is a prime example of a live theater hit that took quite a while to get to the screen, and the movie's Oscar for best picture is a testament to how well that transition went. It's little surprise, then, that the same director – Rob Marshall – was enlisted to put “Into the Woods” on celluloid.

As musicals go, Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's take on various fairy tales is fairly dark stuff. Even with the Disney studio involved, you can't sanitize it too much without removing its essence, and the filmmakers wisely recognized that. Thus, a baker and his wife (James Corden, Emily Blunt) remain on pretty Grimm turf as they do a witch's (Meryl Streep) scavenger-hunt bidding.

The hunt puts the couple in the company of such characters as Cinderella (Anna Kendrick), Little Red Riding Hood (Lilla Crawford) and Jack (of Jack and the Beanstalk fame, played by Daniel Huttleston). Others surrounding them are played by the likes of Tracey Ullman, Chris Pine, Christine Baranski and as the wolf who surely has his eyes on Riding Hood, Johnny Depp.

The result overflows with star power, but it also gives substantial time to the relative unknowns. That said, you don't cast Streep as a witch and not let her chew the screen (a compliment in this case) sufficiently. Neither her fans nor those of the stage show will be disappointed.

In fact, they probably won't be let down by “Into the Woods” as a whole. This is tricky territory, since the fictional figures involved might suggest something sunnier ... and parents should be especially aware of what they're entering if they bring the children, even more so because the Disney name is attached.

The good news for those who come into the movie already being fans of “Into the Woods” in its stage incarnation: It's pretty faithful and pretty enjoyable, thanks to a creative team that truly could see the forest for the trees.



Lilla Crawford

## DVD Top Pick

# “FURY”

Brad Pitt is back in a military milieu in this World War II drama from writer-director David Ayer, typically a maker of gritty police tales (“Training Day,” “End of Watch”). He applies the same style to the story of a Sherman tank's crew, led by Pitt and challenged by bigger, better-armed forces behind enemy lines. Shia LaBeouf (doing some of his best work of recent times here), Logan Lerman, Michael Pena and Jon Bernthal (“The Walking Dead”) also are in the cast. (R: AS, P, GV) (Also on Blu-ray and On Demand)



Brad Pitt

### UPCOMING DVD RELEASES

## Coming Soon on DVD...

“THE BEST OF ME” (Feb. 3): In the Nicholas Sparks story, a former high-school couple (James Marsden, Michelle Monaghan) is reunited years later. (PG-13: AS, P)

“DRACULA UNTOLD” (Feb. 3): The roots of the vampire (Luke Evans) are traced as he tries to protect his family and kingdom. (PG-13: AS, P, V)

“JOHN WICK” (Feb. 3): Keanu Reeves plays a former hired killer who uses the tricks of his trade again on a personal revenge mission. (R: AS, P, GV)

“ALEXANDER AND THE TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY” (Feb. 10): As he turns 12, Alexander (Ed Oxenbould) makes a wish that causes trouble for his whole family; Steve Carell and Jennifer Garner also star. (PG: AS, P)

“NIGHTCRAWLER” (Feb. 10): Jake Gyllenhaal plays a videographer who provides graphic crime footage to an eager TV-news producer (Rene Russo). (R: AS, P, GV)

“DUMB AND DUMBER TO” (Feb. 17): Lloyd and Harry (Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels) reunite to find the daughter Harry didn't know he had. (PG-13: AS, N, P)



James Marsden and Michelle Monaghan



"Scorpion"



"New Girl"



Terrence Howard stars in "Empire"



Natalie Morales co-hosts The 63rd Annual Miss Universe Pageant

and Esiason's other "The NFL Today" sportscasting cohorts make their own picks. **New**

**9 p.m. on CBS**  
**Scorpion**

The members of the team don't like seeing similar skills used for criminal purposes, so they have a strong reaction when one of several escaped cons is a hacker in "Father's Day." The person in question was forced to help the others commit a billion-dollar theft online. Paige (Katharine McPhee) is concerned about Ralph's (Riley B. Smith) feelings when his father suddenly reappears. Guest stars include Keith David ("Enlisted").

**TUESDAY**  
**9 p.m. on FOX**

**New Girl**

In her role as vice principal, Jess isn't happy when Coach's (Damon Wayans Jr.) affair with the school nurse (guest star Erinn Hayes) takes a nasty turn in "Landline." As a result, Jess declares that faculty members can't get personally involved with one another. When a science teacher (guest star Julian Morris) then attracts her, she wishes she hadn't made that decree. Angela Kinsey ("The Office") also guest stars.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**9:01 p.m. on FOX**  
**Empire**

All's fair in love and war, even when the war is between competing music-industry titans. That's how Lucious (Terrence Howard) sees it, anyway, as he tries to lure an artist from rival label Safe House in the new episode "False Imposition." Jamal (Jussie Smollett) tries to make his own kind of music, while Cookie (Taraji P. Henson) tries to reconnect with Hakeem (Bryshere Gray). Naomi Campbell and Gabourey

Sidibe continue their guest roles. **New**

**10 p.m. on FX**

**The Americans**

Season 3 of the espionage drama opens with the new episode "EST Men," which finds Philip and Elizabeth (Matthew Rhys, Keri Russell) at odds over the best way to handle orders from the Centre. After Elizabeth loses some important intel, Philip recruits Annelise (Gillian Alexy) for a mission with an unexpected outcome. Stan (Noah Emmerich) tries a new approach to mending his marriage with Sandra (Susan Misner) amidst learning tough news about Nina (Annet Mahendru). **Season Premiere New**

**THURSDAY**

**8 p.m. on NBC**  
**The Biggest Loser**

The biggest moment of the show's season — declaring "The Biggest Loser" — arrives in this "Live Finale," with all 20 contestants reuniting and showing how much they've lost over the course of the episodes. Those already taken out of the competition still could leave with something, since they're all eligible for an "at home" prize. The biggest reward, of course, will go to one of the three finalists ... who will get \$250,000. Alison Sweeney



Jane Lynch stars in "Glee"



Keri Russell stars in "The Americans"

is the host. **Season Finale New**

**FRIDAY**  
**9 p.m. on FOX**  
**Glee**

Sue (Jane Lynch) takes it upon herself to meddle in relationships, particularly ones that really don't need any help, in the new episode "The Hurt Locker, Part Two." Rachel (Lea Michele) tries to come up with the ideal set of songs that will take her glee club to a win at the invitational. Sam (Chord Overstreet) finds a surprising new member for the club. Chris Colfer, Matthew Morrison and Darren Criss also star. **New**

**SATURDAY**  
**8 p.m. on NBC**

**Saturday Night Live Presents a SNL Sports Spectacular**

Since NBC has the Super Bowl the next day, it's little surprise that one of its staple programs gets in on the action with this Seth Meyers-presented compilation of sports-related skits from throughout the show's history. A number of guest hosts also have had ties to the world of athletics, so excerpts featuring them are likely. So is an appearance by Hans and Franz (Dana Carvey, Kevin Nealon), the personal trainers who were "here to pump ... you up!"

behind the contest. **New**

**8 p.m. on TBS**  
**21st Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards**

Debbie Reynolds receives her union's Life Achievement Award during this year's ceremonies honoring outstanding performances in films and TV. Presented by her daughter, Carrie Fisher, Reynolds' award recognizes her career achievement and humanitarian accomplishments. Among the film categories, the ensembles of "Birdman," "Boyhood," "The Grand Budapest Hotel," "The Imitation Game" and "The Theory of Everything" are up for outstanding

performance by a cast in a motion picture. **New**

**MONDAY**  
**8 p.m. on CBS**  
**Super Bowl's Greatest Commercials 2015**

A different network has the big game this year, but CBS again puts forth its traditional compilation of ads that premiered during the NFL's top event. Boomer Esiason co-hosts the hour with "Scorpion's" Katharine McPhee, and during the show, viewers can choose between a "New School" and "Old School" commercial as their favorite. James Brown, Bill Cowher