



# WIFV NEWS

## January 2018 Members in the News

Edited by Flo Dwek

Featuring Glass River Media, Backfin Media, Lola Lombard, Mikael Manoukian, Kathy Dismukes, Martha Newman, Arlette Thomas-Fletcher, Bridget Bell McMahon, Locavore Screenings, Call for Members in the News Articles, Awards Info, and Support WIFV with Amazon Smile.



It is with much sadness that I share that **Flo Dwek**, long-time editor of the WIFV Members in the News and stalwart contributor to the WIFV Blog page died unexpectedly this morning. Flo was constantly intrigued and impressed with the work of this regional media community. She delighted in interviewing WIFV Members for this publication and eagerly interviewed many filmmakers beyond this community to share in the **WIFV Blog**. One of her recent thrills was interviewing French filmmaker Agnes Varda via phone for an upcoming article. After recently retiring from SAMHSA, Flo was able to expand her work as a voiceover artist. Flo was a joy to be around, always encouraging people to explore their creativity and show her the world through a new lens. She will be missed.

- Melissa Houghton

### Glass River Media: Smokin' Hot Pyro and More...



**Glass River Media** (a new WIFV Corporate Member), is a Northern Virginia production company run by **Jeff Carpenter, Zeke Dowty** and **Kirk Westwood** (l-r in photo). Although they

have been working together for nearly 20 years, they officially joined forces under one banner in 2015. Combining their strong backgrounds in entertainment, corporate and government video contracting, the Glass River Media team has worked with a range of agencies, companies and celebrities, abiding by their favorite mantra, "limited only by your imagination." Last summer, the team completed a music video for a local Northern Virginia artist that required building a set and then "burning it down" while maintaining the safety of five people inside. Kirk Westwood explains, "The set was constructed to look like the basement of a 1970s house, and was plumbed with special piping for propane so we could control the intensity and placement of burns over a 12-hour period. The set caught actual fire on two occasions, but pyrotechnicians and safety personnel were on hand to make quick work of reestablishing a safe working environment." According to the state fire marshal, it was the largest burn on the East coast in 2017, making

### Backfin Media Producing Film about Dementia's Economic Impact



Robert Ferrier, Julie Zissimopoulos PhD, Daphne Glover Ferrier

Husband and wife team **Daphne Glover Ferrier** and **Robert Ferrier** of **Backfin Media** (a new WIFV Corporate Member) have been busy working on their latest production: **SPENT: THE HIDDEN COST**

**OF DEMENTIA.** The film explores the emotional and economic costs of dementia, including its most prevalent form, Alzheimer's. Five years ago, Daphne's mother was diagnosed with vascular dementia. Faced with all the emotional and financial costs of this disease, Daphne and Robert wondered how others were dealing with this situation. A staggering 15 million people in the U.S. are caring for a loved one with dementia right now. And the costs to individuals and society are immense. "We knew that the power of film can be a great dialogue starter," Daphne says. "So we decided to leverage our background in public health filmmaking to create an advocacy platform around this issue." Once they began working on the film in earnest, both of them were overwhelmed by the intense support generated by the need to address this topic. "It's unbelievable, and hard to

Glass River Media one of only three companies to conduct pyrotechnics on that scale without a single incident or injury. To learn more, visit [www.glassrivermedia.com](http://www.glassrivermedia.com) or contact Jeff, Zeke or Kirk at [team@glassrivermedia.com](mailto:team@glassrivermedia.com).

## Lola's Lab Mesmerizes

**Lola Lombard**, based in Arlington, VA, is a multidisciplinary artist, creative director, writer and producer who specializes in developing impactful children's interactive "edutainment" through multiple media platforms. Lola's artistic vision and immersive adventures, particularly through her unique "Lola's Lab" productions, have been mesmerizing kids across the Washington, DC area in after-school programs and camps for many years. "My programs," she explains, "cross-train kids' imaginations. In Lola's Lab the characters actually break the 4th wall and invite kids to help them with creative problem solving." Lola's colorful, eye-opening designs, illustrations, photographs and costumes pull her young audiences down a rabbit hole of education and entertainment. "People say I have a wild and colorful imagination and spot-on insights into kids," she says. "I think that is a byproduct of my experience working with Disney." Lola is currently licensing her theatrical scripts and curriculum from Lola's Lab to other production companies. She is also developing her stories for the screen in an innovative e-learning/entertainment project and currently looking for production partners. For more information, and to view samples of Lola's work, go to [www.lolalombard.com](http://www.lolalombard.com).



## Dismukes Launches KD Consulting

**Kathy Dismukes** recently transitioned from a position as Impact Producer for **Andrea Kalin's Spark Media** to doing consulting full-time under her new business, KD Consulting. "I'm about helping filmmakers work out essential funding concerns", she explains. "Have a film project that's stalled for lack of funding? Need to submit a finished film to a bunch of festivals but don't have time? Want to build an advisory board to lend your project credibility? I can help with that." Kathy is currently helping to raise finishing funds for one of Spark's signature documentaries, SCATTERING CJ. This important film, which explores suicide and its aftermath, aims to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness and empower people to seek support without shame. See the trailer here:



embrace in its totality," Daphne explains, "but there are literally millions of caretakers across America who are in desperate need of help." SPENT will be presented to public television stations nationwide by Maryland Public Television. WIFV serves as fiscal sponsor for the project. To find out more about their film, please visit [www.spentdementia.com](http://www.spentdementia.com) and follow them on Facebook @[SpentDementiaFilm](https://www.facebook.com/SpentDementiaFilm). You can make a tax-deductible donation to their production [here](#).

Dr. Zissimopoulos in photo above is one of the leading experts in the economics of dementia and teaches at the Price School of Public Policy, Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, University of Southern California.

## Manoukian Takes Ear of the Eye Productions to New Vistas



**Mikael Manoukian**, owner of Ear of the Eye Productions, continues to work with an exceptional group of established and new clients, providing PR-focused camera and production services for progressive associations, government, and non-profits. Mikael says he particularly relishes his regular gigs at great performing arts

venues like Wolf Trap, Ford's Theater and The Kennedy Center and is also enjoying a thriving business in live webstreaming activities. "It is very exciting," Mikael says, "to capture and live switch a client's event for a world-wide remote audience." For the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival Office, a long-time client, Mikael provided audio visual services to support the grand re-opening of the Freer-Sackler Gallery in October 2017. "It was a thrilling weekend," he says, "of art-inspired live event work for a record-setting crowd of culture-hungry Washingtonians!" Email Mikael [here](#) and see samples of his work [here](#).

## Newman's Short Film Screened at Festival

Congrats to actor-filmmaker **Martha Newman**, whose short film, COLOR MY WORLD, screened in 2017 at the Film Festival at Little Washington (in Washington, VA), which specializes in films made in, or about, Virginia. Written back in 2012, well before the feature film LOVING (2016), COLOR MY WORLD is about a man who must face his bigoted feelings when he learns about his recently deceased father's past. In addition to its present-day story line, the 10-minute short uses flashbacks to look at racism in the 1960s, highlighting the miscegenation laws in Virginia and in 15 other states that were overturned by the Supreme Court in 1967. Martha was asked to produce this film in 2013. In 2014 she cast it, scouted and secured locations as well as period-piece props, and worked with the film's writer, J. Wergin, to shoot the film. After its completion in 2015, the short won a TVA-DC Peer Award. Martha participated in a Q&A with the festival director following last year's screening at Little Washington. Although she works mainly as an actor, Martha's only role in COLOR MY WORLD was behind the camera.





Toward this end, Kathy is also helping develop an outreach program that will multiply SCATTERING CJ's impact through partnerships with key mental health organizations, universities, and other organizations. Her expertise in fundraising and project management comes from nearly two decades at nonprofits like The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund, Island Press, and Management Sciences for Health. She added production and outreach skills by serving as associate producer on Aviva Kempner's YOO HOO, MRS. GOLDBERG, as development coordinator at Cortina Productions, and doing consulting work previously for filmmakers. *Email Kathy at [kmdismukes@me.com](mailto:kmdismukes@me.com).*

## Trailer Award for LONESOME TRAIL



Kudos to award-winning screenwriter, **Arlette Thomas-Fletcher**, owner of Fruits of the Spirit Production Company, who recently received a Best Screenplay award from The Wild Bunch Film Festival for her western feature, THE LONESOME TRAIL. She is now thrilled, once again, to have received a Best Trailer award for THE LONESOME

TRAIL from The International New York Film Festival.



Arlette's work has been featured in the Christian Film Festival, Inspired Faith Film Festival, Great Lakes Christian Film Festival, Baltimore Women's Film Festival, Attic Film Festival, Torpedo Factory Art Center Female Shorts & Film and Video Showcase, The Phoenix International Christian Film Festival, and World Music Independent. Her screenplay, DADDY WHERE ARE YOU?, a story about fatherhood and family relationships, was selected to be featured in the 2017 Spotlight

She has served as production manager and location manager for a number of short films and enjoys being involved in these projects from beginning to end.

As an actor, in addition to minor roles in film and TV, she works extensively as a role player for several government training contracts, some of which include the US Secret Service, Capitol Police, and Dept. of State. She was recently seen as Professor Crumb in WIFV's 2017 DC 48-Hour Film Project, **THE TENURE GAMES**, and she played the mother of Edward Snowden's girlfriend, Lindsay Mills, in the movie SNOWDEN. In Spielberg's latest release, THE POST, she's driving a mint-condition 1960 Ford Thunderbird, the same one used in COLOR MY WORLD during one of its flashback sequences. *Want to learn more? Email Martha [mnewman61@comcast.net](mailto:mnewman61@comcast.net).*

## MisGuided is a Finalist



One of **Bridget Bell McMahon's** screenplays, *MissGuided*, was recently named a Finalist of the StoryPros International Screenplay Competition. Logline - Hijacking Maryland - An awkwardly genius engineer, framed for a terrorist act, must thwart a plot by a ruthless cult leader to destroy the state government and replace it with her own. Approximately 4% of the total number of entries received advanced to the finals.

The StoryPros International Screenplay Contest is open to entrants worldwide and selects the best 5 entries, promotes them to the entertainment industry, and rewards the winners with cash and prizes to support the writer's development. More info [here](#)

## Call for WIFV Members in the News Articles

What's the best way to brag about your accomplishments? With a Members in the News article, of course. Not only can you include a photo and your website, it is archived at [wifv.org](http://wifv.org) and adds to your SEO. Submit your paragraph, jpg photo, and any links to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org) by the 10th of the month.

## Call for Award Info

If you have won an award, screened at a film festival, or received a major grant, please let me know so we can share your success. Send the info to [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org)

on Screenwriters catalogue. THE KEY, a dramatic script she co-wrote with Charles Germain, was featured in the 2016 Spotlight on Screenwriters catalogue. Arlette is a Silver Telly Award winner and has produced more than 30 short films. To reach out, contact Arlette at [childadvocates37@hotmail.com](mailto:childadvocates37@hotmail.com) or 410-627-6511; or visit [fruitsofthespirit.com](http://fruitsofthespirit.com).

## Locavore Film Series Continues in 2018

The Fall Screenings attracted larger audiences every month. Won't you join us in the New Year? **Make a resolution to support more locally-grown media!** After all, you probably spend more hours daily watching media than eating! Supporting the work of local filmmakers is just as important as supporting local farmers.

The series highlights and supports the incredible work of local filmmakers! See the work on the select Wednesdays of January, March, April, May, June, and July. Tickets are \$10/person and proceeds benefit the filmmakers! Meet your local mediamakers at the following screenings:

Wednesday, **January 17** - Films with a global perspective  
- CHINATOWN by Yi Chen  
- THE GAUCHOS OF ARGENTINA and THE AFGHAN PAINTED TRUCK by Judith Dwan Hallet  
- VOICES/PEACE by Amy DeLouise

[Get your tickets here](#)

-No film in February, have a lovely Valentine's Day!

Wednesday, **March 14** - FROM THE BACK OF THE ROOM by Amy Oden

Wednesday, **April 11** - DOEVILLE by Kathryn Pasternak

Wednesday, **May 9** - LAST NIGHT by Harold Jackson III

Wednesday, **June 13** - ROCK 'N ROLL REVIVAL DOC by Ed Santiago

Wednesday, **July 11** - GEOGRAPHICALLY DESIRABLE by Mike Kravinsky

[Read film descriptions here.](#)

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**THE LOCAVORE FILM SERIES**

Brought to you by Women in Film & Video and Arlington Cinema & Draffthouse

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Just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Women in Film & Video. Don't forget to add [director@wifv.org](mailto:director@wifv.org) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

## About WIFV

WIFV supports women in the industry by promoting equal opportunities, encouraging professional development, serving as an information network, and educating the public about women's creative and technical achievements.

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## Send Stories to

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