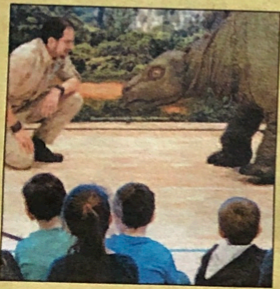


HUNTINGTON WEEKLY

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING IN HUNTINGTON TOWNSHIP

INSIDE



KIDS

**Stegasaurus
Pays A Call At
Huntington Y 12**

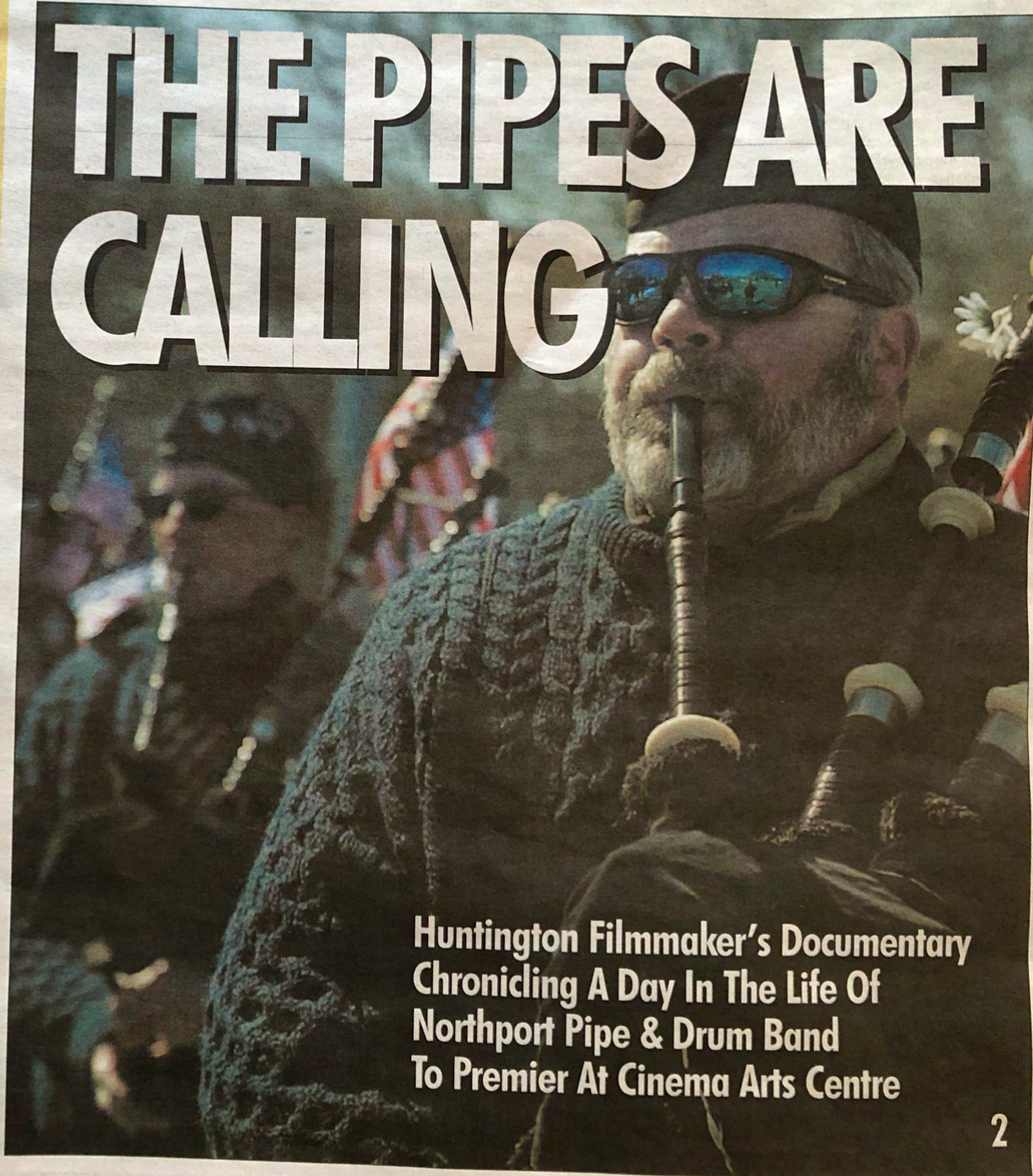


BRUSH !

A Dino Demo

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THE PIPES ARE CALLING



**Huntington Filmmaker's Documentary
Chronicling A Day In The Life Of
Northport Pipe & Drum Band
To Premier At Cinema Arts Centre**

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FILM

Filmmaker Hears The Call Of The Bagpipe

By Peter Sloggatt

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A Huntington filmmaker's documentary chronicling a day in the life of the Northport Pipe and Drum Band will have its premier at Cinema Arts Centre next month.

Andrea Wozny, a Huntington High School grad and documentary filmmaker, directed "Bagpipers Calling," a half-hour long look at the brotherhood (and sisterhood) that binds the Northport Pipe and Drum Band. The film makes its screen debut at Cinema Arts Centre on March 12 at 7 p.m. In addition to the screening, the event will feature live performances by Luke Powers, Tom Falco, Kevin Meehan, and Mike Meehan, musicians featured in the film, and a blast from the Highland pipers of Northport Pipe and Drum. A Q&A with Wozny and the musicians will follow.

Huntington born and raised, Wozny has 15 years in the film and television industry, working for companies like AMC Networks and the Media Education Foundation. Her independent film work has been broadcast on CNN International, the National Geographic Music Channel and United Nations media outlets.

Wozny is also a musician, who joined Northport Pipe and Drum several years ago so she could learn to play the bagpipes.

"I grew up in Huntington and was fortunate we had a great music and art program in school," she said. "My artistic side was always nurtured."

Sometime around third grade she had to choose an instrument and took up clarinet.

"I was a proud member of the Huntington High School Marching Band," she said. She still plays the instrument as a member of the New York City-based United Nations Orchestra.

A few years back, she was looking to take up a new musical challenge.

"I googled the word bagpipes and found Northport Pipe and Drum gives free lessons," she said.

That was enough for Wozny. She was in. She soon found they also supplied everything else – bagpipe, the elaborate costume from the kilt to green Irish knit sweater to the jaunty black cap on her head.

Wozny faithfully attended practices and learned to play bagpipes.

"It's a difficult instrument," she said. "We practice all year."

Of course, the band's busy season is coming up. There are performances at St. Patrick's Day celebrations and events, and parades in Huntington and Bayport-Blue Point.

Wozny's documentary is an inside look at the Bayport-Blue Point parade. Every year, the band – which one member refers to in the film as "a drinking team with a bagpiping problem" – starts the day with breakfast at a community member's house, then sets off to join the parade. After the march, they head to the now-defunct Grey Horse Tavern, a local mecca for Irish music where Falco plays guitar and Powers masterfully plays Uilleann pipes, an ancient and difficult Irish instrument akin to the bagpipes.

Technically a short film, according to Wozny, the documentary captures the musicality and the camaraderie of the band of pipers as well as the community hosting the parade.



Filmmaker Andrea Wozny was looking for a musical challenge and googled the word bagpipes. It led her to join Northport Pipe and Drum Band which she now calls her second family.

"It gives an inside perspective of what it's like to be a part of the band," Wozny said. "It's such a joyful experience, I wanted to share with people what it's like. My goal was to capture the magic of the band and the spirit of our group."

The filmmaker is already deep into her next project, a documentary about a native American musician – half Ojibwe and half Lakota – that took her to Saskatchewan, Canada. She hopes to develop it into a music travel series.

Wozny's "Bagpipers Calling" premieres March 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Cinema Arts Centre. Tickets are \$17, \$12 for members, at cinemaartscentre.org, or call 631-423-7611.

You can also catch Wozny and the band marching in Huntington's St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 8, 2 p.m.