

About Town

RAMBLING REPORTER *By Merle Ginsberg & Gary Baum*



Shaun Licata on *Smash*; inset: her father, Rich.

'Shameless' About *Smash*

"This is yet another 'shameless father' e-mail," NBC and Universal executive vp communications **Rich Licata** wrote to network colleagues and other associates on the eve of daughter **Shaun Licata's** April 13 appearance as a stage manager on an episode of *Smash*. Proud as he was, he wasn't exactly helping his network's ratings-troubled drama — kept on life support by NBC Entertainment chairman **Robert Greenblatt** — with his skim-it viewing advice: "You can catch her in the second half-hour if you fast-forward your DVR."

Zucker's MSNBC Mishap

Sharon Stone and the *Duck Dynasty* dudes made it into

MSNBC's post-White House Correspondents' Association dinner party April 27 at the Italian Embassy. CNN head **Jeff Zucker** didn't. An onlooker notes that the rival news network head arrived with "a huge entourage." Soon after, they were turned away and walked back "visibly upset." A CNN insider denies the boss was peeved, noting that Zucker was on the list (MSNBC confirms) but didn't want to stay when it turned out his friends were not. "He loves [MSNBC chief] **Phil Griffin**, they're good friends, and it was totally fine," the source says. "It was just a mess at the door and one of those crazy 2 a.m. misunderstandings."

Stelter Does the Hustle

New York Times media reporter **Brian Stelter** sent an exclamation-point-laden April 22 e-mail to industry insiders asking them to promote his new morning-show book *Top of the Morning* — some of whom were publicists, execs and other journalists on the beat he covers who winced at the near-begging tone. He eagerly detailed ways recipients could help make it a best-seller, including suggested tweets, Facebook postings and

reviews on Amazon. He closed with this: "Tell everyone you know in real life — at your kids' school, at your local pizza place, at work. Any conversation ... helps!"

Seth MacFarlane: Big-Screen Fiend

Seth MacFarlane likes his home entertainment supersized. Already an adopter of Prima Cinema, the service that pipes in opening-weekend releases for \$500-a-flick (after purchasing a \$35,000 digital box), he's now installing an Imax theater system, said to cost at least \$1 million, at his Beverly Hills bachelor pad. MacFarlane's camp declined comment. **THR**



MacFarlane

Power Lunch



Amy Poehler dined at Tower Bar with **Kristen Wiig**, **Aubrey Plaza**, **Fred Armisen**, **Rashida Jones** and **Maya Rudolph**. In at other times: **Jon Hamm**, **Tom Freston**, **Mario Testino**, WME's **Adam Venit**, **Avi Lerner**, ICM's **Chuck James**, casting director **Leslee Feldman**, **Guy Ritchie**, **Kevin Spacey**, divorce lawyer **Laura Wasser** and Resolution head **Jeff Berg**. ... **Tyra Banks** visited Mercato di Vetro one day, CAA's **Sean Grumman** the next. ... **Garrett Hedlund** met Brillstein's **Cynthia Pett** at Caulfield's. **Jennifer Lawrence** was in on another day. ... **Gus Van Sant** held court at a sidewalk table at Little Dom's in Los Feliz. ... **Jacki Weaver** sipped Bellinis at Marco's in West Hollywood. ... **Neal Moritz** took a seat at Pizzeria Mozza. ... **Ryan Murphy** went to Craft. ... **Paula Abdul** shared a table with **Thom Beers** at Katsuya Hollywood. Later, **Katie Couric** stopped by. ... In the back booths at The Grill: Paramount's **Adam Goodman**, **Terry Semel** and **Lorne Michaels**. ... **Steven Weber** and **Dylan McDermott** met up at FarmShop. ... **Rob Lowe**, WME's **David Wirtschafter** and top attorney **Jake Bloom** each ate at Mr Chow.

HITCHED, HATCHED, HIRED

Inside the industry's celebrations and news



Silberman and Purnell

WEDDINGS

Dan Silberman, senior vp publicity at A&E Network, and **Amy Purnell**, supervising producer for *Entertainment Tonight* and *omg! Insider*, wed April 13 in front of 200 guests at Guastavino's in Manhattan. The couple will honeymoon in Bora Bora.

Melissa Gilbert wed **Timothy Busfield** on April 24 at Santa Barbara's San Ysidro Ranch, with **Drew Barrymore** among the guests.

BIRTHS

Jennifer Verti, director of communications at ABC Family, and her husband, **Matt Verti**, welcomed son **William James** on April 4 at Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena.

CONGRATS

Tim Leiweke was named

head of Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment on April 26.

Sundance Selects and IFC Films promoted **Lauren Schwartz** to head of film publicity, **Shani Ankori** to head of marketing and **Michael Winton** to head of IFC Midnight film publicity and marketing on April 24.

Laura Linney, **Sofia Coppola**, **Hailee Steinfeld**, and cinematographer **Rachel Morrison** will be honored at the Women in Film Crystal + Lucy Awards on June 12 at the Beverly Hilton.

Dennis Quaid and **Michael Chiklis** will host the SAG

Foundation's L.A. Golf Classic June 10 at Burbank's Lakeside Golf Club.

DEATHS

Country music legend **George Jones** died April 26 in Nashville after being hospitalized because of

blood pressure irregularities. He was 81.

Jack Shea, a television director for more than four decades and three-term DGA president, died April 28 in Tarzana, Calif. He was 84.

SOCIAL ACTION

ROGEN'S ALZHEIMER'S FIGHT

SETH ROGEN AND HIS WIFE, **LAUREN MILLER**, helped raise \$475,000 to fight Alzheimer's on April 25 at the second Hilarity for Charity variety show at Avalon Hollywood. The event, featuring Backstreet Boys and **Mindy Kaling**, benefited the Alzheimer's Association. Miller's mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at 55. Said Rogen, "Bringing Alzheimer's into the limelight is what we're trying to do."



Rogen