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What must it be like to be Anna Kendrick right now, with pals like George Clooney and Jason Schwartzman and the world at your door? I mean, you’re on the cover of Glamour, right?

Fresh from reprising her role as spunky Beca in smash-hit Pitch Perfect 2, Kendrick stars in the upcoming comedy Get a Job with Bryan Cranston (Breaking Bad) and Miles Teller (Whiplash, the Divergent series) to be released later this year. The Portland native, who previously broke the box office with 2014’s Into the Woods, now plays Jillian Stewart, a college graduate struggling to hold down a job. Kendrick has also finished filming the drama The Hollars with John Krasinski (The Office) and The Accountant alongside Ben Affleck, both to be released later this year.

In her Washington Post article “Amy Schumer and the Rise of the Woman Crush” Lavanya Ramanathan defines the “woman crush” as follows:

“To crush is to want to borrow Mindy Kaling’s pencil skirts and tell off street harassers with The Daily Show’s Jessica Williams. And yes, that is us all over the Internet posing like actress Anna Kendrick on the Pitch Perfect 2 poster.”

“They’re just like us!” we women whisper to each other. Which is to say that they’re brilliant.”

And listen to Marie Claire: “With her arms crossed and a ‘mess with me and die’ face, Kendrick started an Instagram revolution after seeing photos of girls mimicking the pose. The actress put together two, posted it to Instagram, and the results speak for themselves.

“But that’s not the most amazing thing about this story. Apparently, the studio wasn’t quite on board with the stance. As Kendrick pointed out in her second posting: “‘They were sweating because I wouldn’t strike a sexy pose. Love that you guys embrace Beca the badass!”

TIMOTHY SIMONS
Born in Readfield, Timothy Simons has quickly garnered the attention of the film industry with his role in The Interview and as Jonah Ryan in HBO’s Veep. Simons is set to break into fame this October when he appears in the modern revamp of R.L. Stine’s Goosebumps, featuring Jack Black as the celebrated author himself.

VICTORIA ROWELL
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as Drucilla in The Young and the Restless, Portland native Victoria Rowell has finished filming on Soul Ties, an adaptation of Tee Ashira’s novel by the same name to be released in August 2016. Rowell is opposite Mike & Molly’s Kate Mixon in this story about a young woman on the rebound from heartbreak—not with another relationship, but with a renewed sense of spirituality and redemption.

KURT RUSSELL
Far from his roots in Rangeley, Maine—though not its weather—Kurt Russell completed filming on Quentin Tarantino’s upcoming The Hateful Eight. The film portrays post-Civil War bounty hunters stuck in a blizzard in Wyoming. This is the third project of Tarantino’s that Kurt Russell has starred in, after Death Proof and Grindhouse in 2007. And catch Kurt Russell in theaters now in Furious 7, the latest movie in the Fast and Furious franchise.

PATRICK DEMPSEY
According to Entertainment Weekly, Lewiston-native Patrick Dempsey has been meeting with Hollywood executives in pursuit of his next role. This next project will be an especially important career move, coming after 10 years of playing the iconic “McDreamy” on the Grey’s Anatomy. Dempsey has also been honing his production skills with the TV shows The Limit and Fodors.

TOM SELLECK
Taking a break from the CBS cop-drama series, Blue Bloods, Tom Selleck has been filming the Jesse Stone: Lost in Paradise, the latest installment in a series of Hallmark movies based on a book series of the same name by Robert B. Parker. Consistent with his niche role as mustached crime-solver, in Jesse Stone: Lost in Paradise he portrays a Boston police chief tracking down a serial killer. Selleck takes breaks from playing law enforcement officials when spending time at his home in Jonesboro.
According to fracturedatlas.com, Caitlin Fitzgerald's next project is a film by Sophia Takal. *Always Shine* follows two best friends, Anna and Beth, who take a weekend trip to Big Sur to reestablish a bond that has been broken by years of competition and jealousy. Tensions mount, however, leading to an utterly unexpected yet inevitable confrontation that will change both of their lives forever.

**DAVID E. KELLY**

After a bidding war with Netflix, HBO has purchased David E. Kelly's *Big Little Lies*, a mini-series adaptation of the #1 New York Times bestseller by Liane Moriarty. According to time.com, the murder mystery about three young mothers who live seemingly idyllic lives is set to star Reese Witherspoon and Nicole Kidman. Waterville-born Kelley has written for and produced popular shows such as *Boston Legal*, *The Practice*, and *Ally McBeal*.

**CAITLIN FITZGERALD**

*Always Shine*, the newest film from Camden’s own Caitlin Fitzgerald, is currently in post-production. According to screamingdaily.com, the psychological thriller portrays two actresses who embark on a road trip to repair their friendship. Meanwhile, Fitzgerald continues to star in *Masters of Sex*, an award-winning Showtime drama set in the 1950s about pioneering researchers of human sexuality. See our cover story, “FitzWonderful,” September 2014.

**STEPHEN KING**

A film adaptation of *Cell*, Stephen King’s technophobic take on zombie apocalypse, is set to be released in 2015 from Genre Co., The, Benaroya Pictures, and Cargo Entertainment, according to IMDb. The 2006 novel depicts an enemy who transforms cell phone users into vicious automatons through a global-network signal called “The Pulse.” The novel’s protagonist, Clay, is unaffected by the attack. In order to find his son, he treks from Boston to Maine with a small group of others who have retained their sanity, encountering possessed “phoners” and escalating cyber attacks along the way. King also wrote the script for the movie, but has revealed that the film’s ending will differ from the novel’s conclusion. *Cell* stars Samuel L. Jackson, John Cusack, and Isabelle Fuhrman and is directed by Tod Williams, director of the 2010 horror movie *Paranormal Activity 2*. Viewers may never touch their cell phones again. *Cell's* release date was not set at press time.

**RACHEL NICHOLS**

Capitalizing on her toughness from her roles in *Alias*, *Criminal Minds*, and *GI Joe* as well as her experiences in the far-out future with *Star Trek* and *Syfy's Continuum*, Rachel Nichols is set to play a fearless doctor fighting a viral outbreak in the upcoming *Pandemic*, reports SciFiMovies.com. Far from her hometown of Augusta, Nichols leads a research team against the disease-ravaged city alongside Alfie Allen (*Game of Thrones*), Mehki Phifer (*ER*), and Missy Pyle (*Gone Girl*).

**ANNA BELKNAP**

Long after her days of busting bad guys and upholding the law in *CSI: NY* and *Hawaii Five-0*, Damariscotta native Anna Belknap makes her first film appearance in nearly a decade in *No Way Jose* (IMDb). She stars with Disney prodigy Emily Osment and Community's Gillian Jacobs in a coming-of-age comedy in which star Adam Goldberg (*Saving Private Ryan*) works hard to get the love of his life—for the second time.

**MATTHEW DELAMATER**

It wasn’t long after Matthew Delamater moved to Portland and took a job in banking that he landed a recurring role in NBC’s *American Odyssey*. Delamater also performed alongside Joe Manganiello, Dianna Agron and Jason Sudeikis in *Tumbledown*, which premiered at the 2015 Tribeca Film Festival. Written and directed by Portland duo Desi Van Til and Sean Mewshaw, *Tumbledown* follows Rebecca Hall (*The Prestige*) as an impossibly young widow who confronts the death of her husband with help from a brazen New Yorker, played by Su-deikis. Delamater is currently playing Laertes in the Portland Fenix Theater summer production of *Hamlet* in Deering Oaks Park, as well as producing new episodes for his microbrewery web series featuring local businesses such as the Allagash Brewing Co.

**LINDA LAVIN**

Portland native Linda Lavin has stepped back into film with *The Intern*, starring Robert De Niro as a 70-ish man who takes an internship at a fashion website headed by Anne Hathaway. “I play a woman…who is attracted to him and his older friends in this wonderful script by Nancy Meyers,” says Lavin. “I keep inviting [him] to dinner [but] he’s more interested in a certain younger woman played by Rene Russo…It was just amazing to work with the generous, extraordinary DeNiro. This year I’ve also worked on an independent film with Adrien Brody [*Manhattan Nocturne*], a film noir. I’ve guest-starred on *The Good Wife* and *The Good Wife.*" But she still finds time to visit Maine. “It’s amazing how much Portland has changed since I grew up there!”

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OLIVER PLATT

Following his appearance in HBO’s acclaimed biopic Bessie, Oliver Platt finished filming an as-yet unreleased Warren Beatty film about business tycoon Howard Hughes. Beatty stars as Hughes opposite love interest Lily Collins (The Mortal Instruments); other co-stars include Matthew Broderick, Martin Sheen, Alec Baldwin, Candice Bergen, Chace Crawford (Gossip Girl), and Taissa Farmiga (American Horror Story).

LIV TYLER

Liv Tyler starred in the eerie 2014 HBO series The Leftovers, set in a near-future after 140 million people across the world have inexplicably and simultaneously vanished. Catch Tyler now streaming on Amazon and on DVD in a dark sci-fi comedy, Space Station 76, as a galactic first mate in a 1970s-era space station first released at the 2014 SXSW Festival in Austin; and starring in Jamie Marks Is Dead, a 2014 Sundance premier, in which Tyler plays the single mother of a teenaged track star who is haunted by the ghost of a dead classmate. (Sources: IMDb, Variety.com, Deadline.com)

JUDD NELSON

Maine’s classic bad boy Judd Nelson shows a softer side in The Bandit Hound. He’s joined by The Incredible Hulk’s Lou Ferrigno in the upcoming Christmas release, per IMDb. Michelle Danner directs this comedy in which a stray mutt tries to help his new impoverished family by dogging cash from the neighborhood, only to unleash trouble.

KELLY PRESTON

Soon-to-be-released Gummy Bear the Movie stars Kelly Preston and husband John Travolta as the voices of the two main characters, Cupcake and Gummy Bear. The film is based on the internationally popular virtual character and band “Gummibär.” Preston and Travolta have owned a home in Islesboro for decades, as covered in Portland Magazine’s November 1995 issue.

JOHN TRAVOLTA

John Travolta has finished filming on his latest movie, Life on the Line, directed by David Hackl. According to deadline.com, Travolta co-stars with Kate Bosworth in the indie-drama about an electrical grid repair crew hit by a storm. He may have drawn upon rural Maine for his character, having been seen sporting a rugged beard for the role.

ABBY AND CHRIS ELLIOTT

Abby Elliott and father Chris Elliott star in the upcoming film Stereotypically You, as, appropriately, father and daughter. Produced by Red Square Pictures and Beachfront Films, Stereotypically You is a NYC-based romantic comedy featuring a young man who begins to experience hallucinations after breaking up with his girlfriend. Comedy runs in the family for Abby, of Saturday Night Live fame, and Chris, Late Night with David Letterman, who summer in Harpswell, near Chris’s father, the legendary comedian Bob Elliott.

–Additional research by Allison Conley
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