

# THE LOCAL OBSERVER

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## Documentary To Include Rainbow Family Week Events

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Correspondent

Cameras were rolling last week in the area as film crew and company worked on a unique documentary on the new family life of Americans. The film crew of director Jean-Baptiste Erreca, author/journalist David DiBilio, director of photography Peter Sensor and local resident and sound mixer Jean-Yves Munch, are creating the documentary "We Are Family "The (new) American family". The crew filmed Rainbow Family Week events in Saugatuck and Douglas.

The concept of the One Planet 90 minute documentary, written by David DiBilio and Jean-Baptiste Erreca, is based on a fake American TV series that is interrupted regularly by fake commercials and will be filmed in various locations in the United States.

"This documentary offers an immersion into the reality of the new American family, for everything moves and evolves. We no longer talk about family, but rather about new families: single-parent families, gay-parent families, reconstituted families, families made up of siblings, tribes. . . In a non-judgmental way the families are depicted in their everyday reality," noted Erreca.

The format of the documentary allowed for both editorial

content and humor as they filmed Rainbow Families in the Saugatuck-Douglas area, which included six days of activities including days at the beach, country-style BBQ, crafts, pool parties and parents night out for (LGBT) lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families.

The film crew will be filming for forty days utilizing the format to complete the piece.

"It is a piece that is about American Society. The filming has been going pretty good - we got some good stuff. Everybody was friendly and supportive in Saugatuck. We were very surprised with results in business," noted Munch.



The Cowboys (the film crew) for the "We are Family" documentary are (l - r) Jean-Baptiste Erreca, David DiBilio, Peter Sensor and Jean-Yves Munch

"Canal +, a major French TV broadcast channel in Europe asked us to make a documentary about American families. The "new" American families," added DiBilio.

He also said that through these different families the documentary is like a photograph of what America is today.

"We will also be doing families in the large sense. For example, the Cowboy family, the Native American family and LGBT families also," stated Erreca.

In search of the new American family the film crew will be traveling to Chicago, Denver, San Francisco and New York to portray

the re-invention of the concept of family. Erreca said that usually what you see in the United States is what will be happening all over the world. So they chose to focus on new experiences and new ideas in the documentary.

Many of ideas of the (new) families that will be featured in the documentary started much earlier in the United States compared to Europe like the Rainbow Family celebration, which has taken place for ten years and that is why it is documented in the film, said Munch.

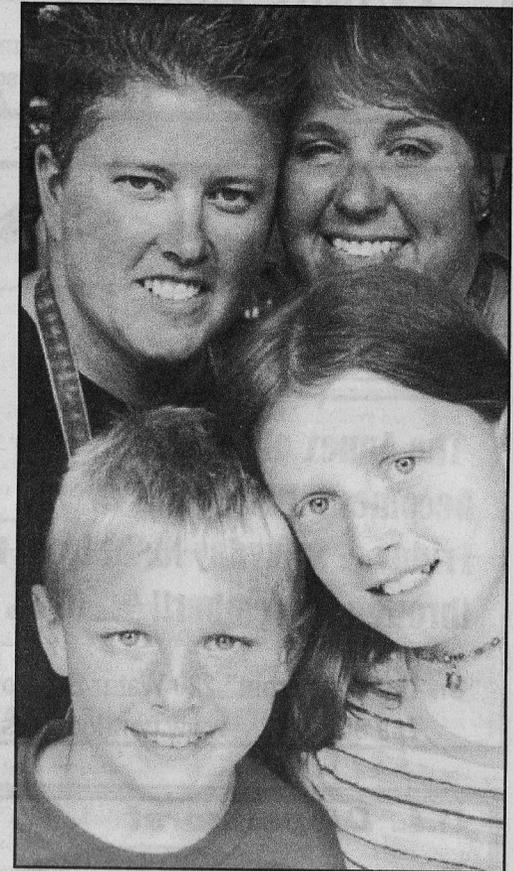
"Overall it was a good experience in Saugatuck-Douglas. We had a lot of families helping us pro bono. Their help made our job much easier," said Erreca about the filming.

The documentary will be shown in November to coincide with the elections due to the interest in Europe.

Munch concluded that a lot of people will be looking very closely at what is happening in the United States with family and that the film

will show Europe the open minded side of American people, dispelling cliché.

The film crew hopes to bring the documentary to next year's Waterfront Film Festival.



(l - r) Becky and Judy Carten-Crandall (bottom l-r) Aaron and Leah