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POMPTON LAKES - Downtown makes great movie set

(by Leslie Scott - Staff Writer - April 08, 2009)

WANAQUE - This past weekend, Pompton Lakes became the backdrop for a low budget film. On the evening of April 4, a small film crew was out shooting the final scene for a movie called "Fight the Panda Syndicate."

This film is being made by executive director Jason Dale of Wanaque.

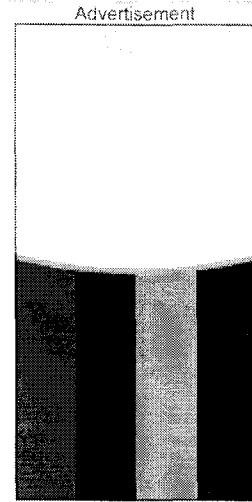
"It's a dark comic adventure. It's about a group of people in the wrong place at the wrong time and they have to save the world. There is also a political subtext because the governor gets wind of everything that is going on and he gets sucked into this whole adventure," said Dale.

Dale and his production company, Crazy Elk Production Studios, have been working on this film for the past two years. It costs the crew about \$65,000 to make this movie.

"It's been very complicated (to make) because there is a lot of unique costumes in it, there have been over 400 people involved in the process from eight different states, and we have over a dozen of musical artists," he said.

Dale said they chose to shoot this final scene in Pompton Lakes because it is a good location to film.

"The downtown is extremely well lit and we have a camera with great low light capability, but the better the light, the better the scene is going to be. The buildings in Pompton Lakes have a nice historic feel, and we think it really says this is New Jersey and we are very proud of it," he said.



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