



From the miscellaneous drawer

by Anne Swenson

Elyites have a number of connections to the West Coast film industry. And families are rightfully proud of the relatives behind those connections.

I enjoy watching movies though I no longer find the time for the weekend movie marathons which I used to love. And I prefer watching on television the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) or annual Spirit Awards which are held in Santa Monica, CA to watching the Oscars.

One of my nieces, Lise Swenson, is part of the independent film industry,

working out of San Francisco where she lives. As producer for the film "Strange Culture" she worked with one of my favorite actors, Peter Coyote.

Now she is at work as writer, producer and director of a new film: Saltwater, The Movie. And like so many independent film makers, raising money is part of her duties. Currently the film has an April 1 deadline for its next funding match.

Thus far actress Diane Baker has been signed for the production which is set at the Salton Sea in California, 234 feet below sea

level. The area was once a popular playground for the wealthy as California's largest lake.

Up until the mid-1980s, the Salton Sea State Park hosted more visitors annually than Yosemite. Salton City was a planned community with elegant resorts until flooding, algae blooms and increasing salinity made the sea a less desirable vacation and retirement location.

Take a look at the web site for the movie (<http://www.saltwaterthemovie.com>) or look up Salton Sea. You'll probably find it interesting.

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