

# DAYBREAK



< Pesci to be Davidson's grandfather  
 "Retired" actor Joe Pesci will make a rare appearance in the upcoming Peacock series "Bupkis" about Pete Davidson's life.

Michael Mann's screen-to-page sequel **Page F2**



## What's that sound?

Exploring the aura of Dirt Floor Recording & Production

By RICK KOSTER and PETER HUOPPI  
 Day Staff Writers

FROM THE BACK PORCH of the two-story log cabin on a warm August day, a meadow runs down to a tree line beyond which, partially visible through the gently moving leaves, lazes the Connecticut River. The two dogs, Henley and Oliver, lope happily but with that genetic canine obligation to head off any bears or deer.

Certain that the perimeter is safe, the panting hounds trot back up the steps, through the open door and into a large, high-ceilinged room with a stone fireplace, plank floors and a comfy, low-slung couch facing a world class recording console. Playback speakers are optimally mounted at strategic points. Henley jumps up on the couch and starts licking its human occupant, a brawny, pony-tailed New Jersey roots songwriter named Matt Williams, known professionally as the Williamsboy, who places one arm around the animal fondly and, with his free hand, sips from a can of Miller Lite.



Producer Eric Michael Lichter, above, listens at the mixing board as Matt Williams, who performs as The Williamsboy, top, records a vocal track at Dirt Floor Recording and Production in Haddam.

PHOTOS BY PETER HUOPPI/THE DAY

Standing and facing the mixing board, oblivious to the Gibson Firebird guitar around his neck, is a slight man with a friendly smile and intense eyes. His name Eric Michael Lichter and, with the comfort and confident focus of a ship captain pleased by fair winds and following seas, he hits a playback button and suddenly the room is suffused in top-volume song.

It's a playback of a Williamsboy tune called "Coming Home." This morning, the pair are working on lead vocals for the song after spending the previous day layering backing tracks, instrument by instrument — organ, piano, acoustic and electric guitars, bass and drums. It's a powerful, gospel-by-way-of-a-tarpaper-roadhouse tune, one that should easily appeal to fans of Justin Townes Earle, Bob Seger, Joe Cocker or Shooter Jennings.

The song sounds powerful and magnificent blasting through the house. Lichter, barefoot, with rolled  
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## The September challenge in birding

September is a challenging time to go birding. The woods are filled with juveniles, and there are those warblers difficult to identify. In the sky, the identification game is not much easier, as seemingly indistinguishable hawks dot the horizon. It is also a time of transition, and for long last looks at those once vocal neo-tropical summer migrants, whose absence of song contributes to the challenge and demands keener observation from us.

Silent September really began on the second week of August when the summer chorus of bird song ran out of breath and mornings broke eerie quiet. Though quiet, the songbirds had not departed. In fact, they are still with us now. Secretive and unobtrusive, they remain hidden, feeding, and gaining strength for the journey south.

Along the shorelines, whether inland or on the tidal coast, the shorebirds begin to settle in during late summer. Birders turn their attention



**BIRD'S EYE VIEW**  
 Robert Tougas

to them and follow the flow of the ever-changing seasonal cycle. While shorebirds continue to move across the region, wood warblers are accumulating, and although less conspicuous than they were in the spring, they are nevertheless a significant factor during any September birding excursion.

Notorious for the challenge they pose, wood warblers are really a conquerable quest. A test of skill, the difficulty in identification is thought to be a result of molting. However, this is really somewhat of a myth, as warblers actually begin molting immediately after breeding. Instead, it is

actually the juveniles that create the fall warbler problem.

In fact, most of the adults have already passed through our region. Specifically, those juvenile warblers that create the most confusion are probably the pine, blackpoll, black and white, bay-breasted, yellow-rumped, and magnolia warblers. Pine warblers are often confused with the blackpoll and the bay-breasted. Female pines have a more uniform color and have gray wings with wing bars. The bay-breasted has dark legs and feet, while the blackpoll has lighter toes.

Blackpoll and black and white warblers are also easy to confuse. The black and white warbler has two streaks or stripes, one above the eye and one below it. The blackpoll has an empty white area below the eye, but it can be greenish-yellow during the molt. To further distinguish these little birds, watch their behavior. The black and white warbler creeps on the tree

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## What's coming for fall television

By NINA METZ  
 Chicago Tribune

The fall TV season is upon us, and if that doesn't have the same frisson of excitement as it once did — back when the summer was a wasteland of reruns rather than proliferating with new streaming series each week, well ... who's complaining? One small trend to emerge: After a dearth of legal dramas, suddenly they are back. Long live the legal drama!

Here's a look at what's on tap, in chronological order: **"The Good Fight" (Now on Paramount+):** The legal drama starring Christine Baranski and Audra McDonald is back for its sixth and final season of witty chaos, fiery office politics and eccentric courtroom wrangling. Andre Braugher and John Slattery join the cast this time out.

**"Last Light" (Now on Peacock):** Matthew Fox ("Lost") comes out of retirement to star in this doomsday action thriller adapted from



John Slattery, left, as Dr. Lyle Bettencourt and Christine Baranski as Diane Lockhart in "The Good Fight."

ELIZABETH FISHER, PARAMOUNT+/TNS

the 2007 novel of the same name by Alex Scarrow about a world suddenly deprived of oil — and daily life as we know begins to collapse. It also stars "Downton Abbey" alum Joanne Froggatt. Executive producer Dennie Gordon says she was inspired by Alfonso Cuarón's 2006 film "Children of Men," and its depiction of a future "we can envision around the corner. And like that film, we hope to give our audience a shred of hope at the end; what is

possible if we all come together and affect change?" **"American Gigolo" (Today on Showtime):** Inspired by the 1980 Richard Gere movie of the same name, the series stars Jon Bernthal as a man recently released from prison looking to get his bearings again. The setting is modern-day Los Angeles and the sex industry. Showrunner David Hollander was fired from the reboot following an inves-  
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