Psychological thriller brings big names to Northern Michigan

130719

Marcy Misner/Amy

**Bestseller movie—wrap—**

(length

Marcy Misner reports.

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Headed toward down a one-lane gravel road in a driving rainstorm Friday, I felt like a character in the psychological thriller that’s being filmed at a cabin here on the shore of Lake Huron.

Filming is taking place in DeTour and Petoskey this month for the book titled Bestseller by Michigan author Christopher Knight. Knight is well known by another pseudonym – Johnathan Rand. He’s been scaring kids since 2000 with his Michigan Chiller series and now he’s tempting an adult audience. Knight tapped Petoskey filmmakers Scott Castelein (cast eh LINE)and Christina Rohn (rone) for this, their first full-length feature film, set to be released later this year. Knight’s book, first published in 2002, will be re-released ahead of the movie. Among the stars in the movie are Melissa Anschutz (ann SHOOTS) and Rob Zabrecky.

Rohn, associate producer, said filmmakers don’t know yet how great the state is and she hopes to showcase the area and the love she and the cast and crew have for Northern Michigan.

**That’s what we’re hoping to kind of, you know give that back to Michigan, same thing with Petoskey, really give that back. Where people will be excited to come up and visit because that was a place where a film was shot, that was a successful film. At least that’s what we’re hoping for. (:16)**

According to Michigan Film Office spokeswoman Michelle Begnoche (be-NAWSH short O), Bestseller was awarded over $42,000 on a projected budget of $145,000. All of that money will be spent in-state. The project is expected to hire 34 Michigan workers.

Rohn said the cast and crew are spending money on things like restaurants, props, and printing services, to name a few.

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**Bestseller movie—1—**

(length :15)

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Anschutz, a Saugatuck native, chose this script over others she was considering.

**Because we certainly appreciate all the hospitality that we’ve been given thus far. In Petoskey, it was wonderful: opening up homes and hearts and well-wishes. It was just tremendous. (:15)**

Set in the Upper Peninsula, this thriller provides a story within a story. The main character, Anne Harper, is a literary agent who goes to the cabin to catch up on some work and unwind. One morning, she finds a manuscript on her porch and as she begins to review the work, she discovers she is living out the nightmare within it.

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**Bestseller movie—2—**

(length :54)

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Though word hadn’t leaked out yet about the film crew’s arrival, at least one DeTour resident had heard about their plans. This is Village Treasurer Sharon Hamel.

**Well, I think it’s wonderful. We need stuff like this around. We really do. We need people to know we’re here. Most people don’t know us. Because we’re a little town. And the thing I like about it – you might say neighbors are nosy, but they take care of you. Everybody takes care of everybody else, and that’s the wonderful thing about it. Everybody knows where Drummond Island is. They pass through us to get there, but they don’t know us. We’ve got so much to offer, if you look. You have to look. It’s just the beauty of being here and living this life. Laidback, yeah. But we enjoy it, and we’d just like everybody to enjoy it, too. (:54)**