

A shot at the small screen

Ashland native Naomi Judd stars in movie airing Sunday on Lifetime

By ANGELA HENDERSON-BENTLEY
For The Herald-Dispatch

Not everyone would be excited to dig into the mind of a serial killer, but when Ashland native Naomi Judd was given the opportunity to be a part of a television movie focusing on a serial killer, she jumped at the chance.

"I'm fascinated by the brain. Always have been," Judd said. "So when they called and asked if I would be interested in doing a movie about serial killers, I said, 'Absolutely, when can I start?'"

"Iris Johansen's *The Killing Game*" premieres at 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, on Lifetime Movie Network. Based on Johansen's best-selling novel, the movie follows forensic sculptor Eve Duncan (Laura Prepon) as she becomes involved with a killer who claims to know where her daughter, who was murdered 10 years earlier, is buried. Judd plays Eve's mother, Sandra.



Bob Akester/2011Lifetime Entertainment Services

Laura Prepon, left, (Eve Duncan) and Naomi Judd (Sandra Duncan) star in the new Lifetime Original Movie "Iris Johansen's *The Killing Game*," which premieres at 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, on Lifetime Movie Network.

"This is a really complex story," Judd said. "I love the plotline. I think people are going to be really sort of hypnotized by the whole thing."

Judd said her fascination

with the brain began at a very early age, but it was increased after she was diagnosed with Hepatitis C in 1990. "When I was diagnosed with Hepatitis C, and told I only had a cou-

ple of years to live because of it, I had to go exploring," she said. "I had to figure out how to save my life. But I found out in so doing that the mind, the brain, really controls the

body. So I already had some discernment from being a registered nurse, and for the last 20 years I have been

Please see **NAOMI/7C**

Naomi

■ Continued from 6C

studying neuroscience."

Judd is hoping to use the knowledge she has amassed about the brain to help others. "I would love to be part of creating an awareness in America about mental health and about how the brain really controls our life—every aspect of our life," she said. "What that looks like I'm not ready to talk about now. But I feel like whatever visibility, whatever platform publicly that music—meaning the fans has given me ... well, I guess you could say I've been blessed to be a blessing," she said.

One thing Judd doesn't plan to do a lot more of is acting. "Lord, no," Judd said. "There's only one actress in our family and her name is

Ashley." She also isn't interested in doing another reality television show, although she is happy with the results of "The Judds," which aired earlier this year on the Oprah Winfrey Network.

"Wynonna and I had a great resolution at the end of that," she said. "It was very humbling. We were so vulnerable. We learned a great deal. We want to leave things as they ended because I think for the first time in both our lives we saw each other as women," Judd said.

As for what else she might have in store, Judd said she really doesn't know, but the opportunities keep coming. "It's crazy. I mean, little old Diana Ellen Judd from 2237 Montgomery Avenue in Ashland, Kentucky," she said. "These wild roller coaster adventures keep popping up. So who knows?"