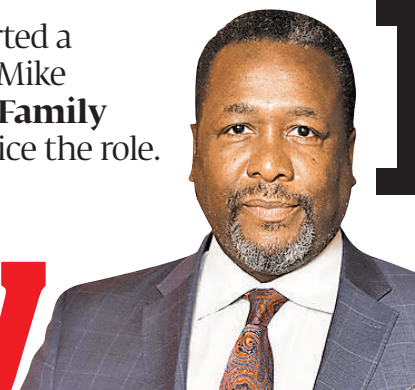




Chef Jamie Oliver's (left) British cooking show, **"Jamie: Keep Cooking and Carry On,"** will stream on Hulu starting July 27.

Veteran actor Wendell Pierce (right) has started a public campaign via social media to replace Mike Henry as the voice of Cleveland Brown on **"Family Guy."** Henry, who's white, will no longer voice the role.



# TV Tuesday



Peter Mygind and Laura Drasbaeck as Dan and Marianne. Below: Flemming Torp (Andre Babikian).

The secrets and 'Murders' lurking behind the sunny exterior of Danish seaside town

## HIDE AND SEEK

By MICHAEL STARR

**T**HE archetypal Danish murder mystery series — bleak, with a side order of gloom — is turned upside-down in **"The Sommerdahl Murders."**

Set in the sunny, picturesque seaside town of Elsinore, the eight-episode drama is based on Danish author Anna Grue's bestselling crime series and streams on Acorn TV (in Danish, with English subtitles). It stars Peter Mygind and Laura Drasbaeck as conflicted husband-and-wife cops Dan and Marianne Sommerdahl and offers up a tasty menu of red herrings, intriguing, twisty plots and even a love triangle. Each self-contained mystery unfolds over two episodes — so the whodunit formula never grows stale and allows the lead characters to evolve as their personal interactions in-

tensify while the series plows forward.

In the opener we meet Dan and Marianne, both of whom work for the Elsinore police department (he's a detective, she's in forensics). They're parents to 19-year-old daughter Laura and are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. But underneath their smiles and mutual devotion lurks an ongoing issue: Dan's workaholic nature has taken its toll on Marianne, who resents his devotion to the job and its constant intrusions into their personal lives. When Dan announces at a big party that he's taking Marianne to Bali for their silver anniversary, she smiles wanly, knowing his annual promise to her will be broken once work inevitably gets in the way.

The first two-episode "Sommerdahl Murders" mystery sets the template for what's to follow, with a labyrinthian arc involving the murder of a young Russian illegal immigrant whose lifeless body is found washed up on the beach.

There's little to go on, though an autopsy shows that she recently gave birth — and, with no baby in sight, Dan and his best friend/partner, DS Flemming Torp (Andre Babikian), kick into high gear searching for the infant with the clock ticking on its survival. Their investigation, aided by Marianne, leads them to, among other plot points, a sketchy murder suspect, a shady Elsinore cleaning service and a doctor who helps illegal female immigrants integrate into the local populace.

Meanwhile, Dan and Marianne's marriage is tested to the max and we learn, slyly, that Torp is hiding some dishy secrets of his own, which are bound to affect his working relationship with Dan. All is not what it seems and that, in essence, is the overriding arc of "The Sommerdahl Murders," but this isn't your run-of-the-mill "gotcha!" series — since its multi-dimensional characters, clever writing and, yes, even the town of Elsinore itself will pull you along in the wake of its many surprises.

*All eight episodes of "The Sommerdahl Murders" are available on Acorn TV.*



## 'SOMETHING' IS OFF

ABC has scrapped its planned reboot of '80s drama **"Thirtysomething"** (above) amidst the industrywide pandemic shutdown. It also will not go ahead with Greg Berlanti's **"The Brides"** and sitcom **"Valley Trash"** starring Jason Lee.

**Former Ch. 9 reporter Matthew Schwartz's new book, "CONFESSIONS OF AN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER," is available on Amazon. He recently retired after 44 years in the news business, most recently at KVOA-TV in Tucson.**



## BIG WINS

CBS accrued a combined **19 Daytime Emmy Awards** — the most of any company this year. Its victories included **"The Young and the Restless," "The Bold and the Beautiful," "The Price is Right"** and **"Jeopardy!"** (from CBS Television Distribution).