

Knickerbocker Ledger

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Top Story > Coalition Forms For County Legislature Candidate



Noelle Kinsch secures Independence Party endorsement, broadening her coalition, to unseat Brian Scavo

BY LEDGER STAFF

With petitioning in full swing in Albany County, endorsements will be in a number of races the edge needed for a November victory.

Noelle Kinsch, the Democratic candidate for the newly redrawn sixth legislative district, announced Thursday she has received the endorsement of the Independence Party in her bid to unseat first-term legislator Brian Scavo. "I am very grateful that the Independence Party has put their faith and confidence in my campaign to bring much needed change to the sixth district. Serious times require serious representation, and serious representation is about unity, responsible leadership and the hard work to find real solutions to the problems we face," Kinsch stated.

Kinsch's statements come nearly a week after fellow Democrat Maureen O'Brien withdrew from the race. Scavo, 57, has been plagued with multiple allegations of harassment and stalking since being in office.

"I particularly want to thank is Maureen O'Brien. After a disappointing redistricting process that took away her opportunity to run and succeed the venerable and respected Hon. George Infante, she has wholeheartedly committed to changing the leadership in the 6th District by supporting and petitioning for our campaign. I cannot thank her enough for her efforts, her friendship and her continued strong voice in our political process," Kinsch continued.

Kinsch's prowess as an effective fundraiser made headlines earlier in the year from an event her campaign held at the Midtown Tap and Tea Room, where she raised about \$10,000 from factions aligned both with Albany Mayor Gerald D. Jennings and Treasurer Katherine M. Sheehan.

Scavo, a Vietnam-era veteran, defeated Green Party nominee David Lussier in 2007 in a close race. Since then, Scavo has run a number of blog-based websites for his campaign – a number of them that haven't been updated in years. KL

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Your Choice 2011 > Sexting in Government

Sexting in Saratoga Springs: City Police Chief admits sending messages



BY LEDGER STAFF

Sexting isn't just something done by members of Congress, but right here among public officials in the Capital Region.

In a late Thursday afternoon press statement through attorney Chris Watt, Saratoga Springs Chief of Police Christopher Cole, 45, admitted to sending sexually explicit messages, some during work hours, with Laurie Masi, 39, on his mobile phone.

"The relationship I had with Ms. Masi was between two consenting adults, and sometimes involved conversations and texting of a sexual nature, and on a few occasions, involved each of us texting sexually explicit photos to each other. These photos were always sent and received on my personal cell phone, however, on one occasion, while on my lunch break and not in the course of my duties as chief of police, I texted a photo from my personal cell phone from behind closed doors while in my office at City Hall," said Cole.

Cole became chief of the Spa City's force in December 2009. Cole informed Richard Wirth, the commissioner of public safety, of his actions before the statement. KL

MOP•CO

Your Choice 2011 > State Department Hillary Clinton reportedly seeking World Bank post

BY LEDGER STAFF

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is reportedly seeking the presidency of the World Bank, news aggregate agency Reuters is reporting according to sources close to Clinton.

Clinton, 63, has declared in previous statements that she was unsure to continue as the U.S. chief diplomat into a potential second term for President Obama. In the past few days, attention has diverted from the Secretary to her aide, Huma Abedin, the wife of embattled U.S. Representative Anthony D. Weiner.



The World Bank is a monetary organization that offers loans and aid to developing countries. Former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz and U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara have held the post.

Phillippe Reines, a spokesperson for Secretary Clinton, denied talks have taken place or even if Clinton wants the job. KL

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Arts and Entertainment > Television

You Don't Know Jack About What's Appropriate



BY ROBIN ZLOTNICK
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It's not often that I immediately step back after something I do and exclaim to myself, in a moment of self-reflection, "Well, I'm going to hell." Also, that is a lie. The politically incorrect cloud I float through life on is really a result of my perhaps foolishly whole-hearted belief in the magical powers of laughter, the idea that comedy can solve literally anything. But it's true...I think. I survive the silliness of the world by laughing at it. My only strong conviction that I would like to push on other people is that I think we should all laugh at everything. That and I also believe we should stop pushing our convictions on other people.

I had one of those "I'm a terrible person for wanting to laugh" moments a few days ago, when I learned then that Dr. Jack Kevorkian died. "Dr. Death," the man who caused such controversy after assisting the suicides of more than 130 people, had, himself, died.

First, I felt my heart skip a beat (and then return to normal...I wasn't going to die over this, although, if I did, I'd definitely just have to shake my head and laugh about it, you know, when I'm a ghost, because I like to think those exist, but that's another article), and then I opened Twitter and racked my brain for jokes I could make. Phrases like "ultimate irony" and "assist THIS" ran through my head, but none seemed to quite capture the supremely subtle and elegant humor of the situation. So I looked to accounts like Michael Ian Black's, Patton Oswalt's, and Albert Brooks's, all the comedians I follow who tear apart practically every piece of news. I was certain that there, I would find the somehow respectful yet bitingly funny remarks that I was looking for. But there weren't many at all. In fact, Oswalt was practically the only one to tweet a joke about it.

This is the moment I returned to Earth, and remembered that this was a sad occurrence. That's when I said, "Well, Hell it is, I suppose." A real man with a real family had died, a family who was, to be sure, very saddened about the passing of their loved one. But that hadn't stopped tweeters, and certainly never comedians, before. When I searched for his name, most people who tweeted about Dr. Kevorkian's death mentioned him and his work only as a source of controversy. Few took sides; fewer took a humorous approach. I became curious as to why this was.

Perhaps it was the nature of the controversy that prevented the funny from coming through. Death is not only our biggest fear, we also, historically, find it pretty difficult to laugh at. Maybe it was the fact of the controversy itself that led to a muted comedic Twittering of the event. No one wanted to reopen the no doubt emotionally and intellectually exhausting discussion of the complex issue of assisted suicide. More concretely, perhaps it was the word suicide, a subject about which very few comedies have been made, that prevented people from cracking jokes*.

Or maybe people just have a better grasp than I do of what's appropriate and what's not in times of death. I just wanted to laugh at this instance of death because I want to laugh at everything that scares me. If I didn't laugh, I'd have to cry. And laughing is way more fun.

Read more from Robin at KnickLedger.com. KL

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Lifestyle > Beyu Lesson #5

Everything Happens For A Reason



BY KATRINA "KITTY" CHEUNG
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My whole life I've been hearing, "Be patient and things will work out." I was told to have patience because I always felt the need to do things right away. When things didn't happen RIGHT when I expected them to, I would get frustrated and have nervous breakdowns. My mom, being the woman and mother that she was, would quickly assure me that having a breakdown wouldn't help and my dad, being the man and father that he was, would explain that if I was frustrated to express in a better manner.

As I got older, I didn't gain more patience, but I learned to express it differently. It wasn't in the best manner, but I didn't have a breakdown, so I figured it would be okay. Looking back, I see that not having patience gave me a lot of unnecessary headaches. I was always quick to debate or argue with someone if they didn't have the same views as me. I never assessed if it was worth it before I made my points, or how I could say it to better get my point across. I was always in a rush to define everything from friendships to relationships, and in the process of quick declaration, I never took the time to see if I was compatible with these people in the first place.

As I got older, I only got more frustrated because I could not understand the concept that nothing ever really happens on my time - things happens on its own time. Recently, I have begun to grasp this concept and I must say that life has been much less frustrating. I still have a lot of work to do, but I now know and remind myself when I get frustrated that if I do my part the best that I can, then I have done more than enough.

You and I cannot control time, people, events, and things. The quote, "Things always happen for a reason," is so true. There is always a lesson behind what happens to us in life. The only thing we have to do is choose to learn from those things no matter good, bad, or in between. It's only when we do this that all the pieces fall into place to complete the lesson and allow us to advance to the next level, therefore creating "right" timing for things to happen or to not happen.

Beyu Lessons are written exclusively for the Knickerbocker Ledger by Katrina Cheung and Zuberi Morrison from Beyu Apparel LLC. KL

Arts & Entertainment > Movietimes

June 10 – June 17 for Albany Theaters

M – Madison Theater; R – Regal Crossgates; S – Spectrum
Parentheses = Matinee. Madison & Spectrum Open Past 6 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

Thor (PG13) M – 415 700 R – (1230) 610 Fast Five (PG13) M – 130 930 X-Men First Class (PG13) M – 135 405 705 935 R – (1250 140 240) 310 400 450 540 620 710 800 850 930 1100 1150 The Lincoln Lawyer (R) M – 135 405 705 935 Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG13) M – 1200 215 430 705 920 R – (1210 150 220) 420 500 640 710 900 1120 Water for Elephants (PG13) S – 1240 930 Win Win (R) S – 1245 655 The Conspirator (PG13) S – 340 925 Super 8 (PG-13) R – (1150 1220 200 230) 300 330 440 520 550 730 810 840 910 1020 1100 1030 1200 M – 1205 220 435 705 925	Jumping the Broom (PG13) M – 1205 220 435 700 930 The First Grader (PG13) S – 355 700 Incendies (R) S – 1235 330 630 925 The Hangover Part 2 (R) S – (115 345) 640 940 R – (1240 210) 320 450 600 740 830 920 1030 1100 1210 There Be Dragons (PG13) S – 12:25, 6:45 Everything Must Go (R) S – 400 920 Bridesmaids (R) S – 1230 335 635 940 R – (100) 350 650 950 Midnight in Paris (PG-13) S – 1255 350 645 925 R – 130 430 720 1000 Meek's Cutoff (PG) S – 1250 405 650 935 Pirates of the Caribbean on Stranger Tides (PG13) M – 130 400 700 935 R – (110) 510 820 1140
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Opinion > Cavalcade

Education is a Dirty Word in Policy



BY JOE BONILLA
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Education is key to any society. Whether its learning to read or obtaining the knowledge to lead, education plays a role at all levels, all ages, and all demographics.

A Japanese friend of mine asked me recently how a state such as New York differs so greatly from the state of Oregon in terms of funding education. Even though this is a larger issue, I brought up the argument that New York State, after years of having a larger population, several issues due to the size and scope of the state, and the fact that state leaders have placed a great emphasis on the quality of learning, would naturally have a higher level of funding than Oregon.

My friend also asked me another question relating with education, but this time on a worldwide basis. I'm somewhat paraphrasing this, but the question was about how you solve the world's current and future crisis situations and conflicts. Their reasoning was education. My response: education is in the eye of the beholder. What can be construed as education in one society can be considered brainwashing in another. There is no level standard, no set guidelines in several scenarios. What's being taught in Thailand's classrooms is certainly not the same as that in Pleasantville in Westchester County.

All across the country, the level and quality of education varies greatly, as the example of the New York State-Oregon question brought up. Education is a game affected greatly by politics. In certain parts of this country, you may have more conservative politicians pushing forward an agenda of teaching a creationist-based curriculum or on the other side, you could have neoliberals pushing forward an agenda of complete and utter tolerance for everybody and everything without taking into account individual beliefs of what they want to believe, whether each group likes it or not.

A number of people, taxpayers, interest groups, and elected officials in this state made an issue of K-12 education in New York State. Whether it's the cost or the quality, always somebody has a problem with it. According to the Public Policy Institute of NYS, in the 2005-2006 school year, New York State ranked number one in cost per pupil for K-12, spending \$14,884 in total as well as ranked number one in salary and wages as well as employee benefits. Problems arise due to the complexity of conditions and factors within the state - federal, state, and local aid per district varies to such a degree and without truly taking into account standard needs per pupil. A child from the South Bronx will not receive the same education as one in Spencerport outside of Rochester nor the same as one from Fire Island.

The only equalization of education, that you could make it even on some sort of playing ground with all people and all walks of life without disavowing their own personal beliefs on certain issues, is some sort of basic list of truths. Facts - fair, clear, and with no alternative interpretation of what it is, is the basis of this. You may have your own idea of how to construe it, but the fact (no pun intended) remains - it is what it is.

Cavalcade is written exclusively for the Knickerbocker Ledger by Joe Bonilla. KL