

Knickerbocker Ledger

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Top Story > Marriage Equality Hangs in State Senate's Fate



One Vote Away, Marriage Equality in New York State awaits its fate with undecided Senate Republicans

BY LEDGER STAFF

With Sen. Roy McDonald (R-Rensselaer County) now in support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Marriage Equality Act, one vote is needed to pass this piece of legislation that has seen heartbreaking failure under both the Spitzer and Paterson administrations.

McDonald's swing now puts pressure on a number of potential Republicans include Sens. Greg Ball (R-Putnam County) and Betty Little (R-Glens Falls) to make the switch. Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos (R-Rockville Centre) has allowed his caucus to "vote with their conscience," which has been seen as the Republican majority conceding the issue in order to focus on other economic priorities, such as rent control and the property tax cap.

"Governor Cuomo and Senator Alesi have indicated that there are several Republican Senators ready to vote for marriage equality. My gut tells me that Senators Saland and Grisanti will be the next to come out in support. I wouldn't be surprised if you see Betty Little voting for it, as well," said Judd Krasher, 23, the Vice President of Membership for the Albany County Young Democrats in response to who the thirty-second vote would be.

In response to whether Albany and the greater Capital Region is ready for marriage equality...

Krasher responded, "This past Sunday's Pride Celebration in Albany was the biggest ever. We saw the Mayors of Albany, a Democrat, and Troy, a Republican, express their support for the LGBT Community. The Albany County Legislature is circulating a proclamation in support of marriage equality. And the Albany City Council has been crystal clear in their support of justice and fairness. I know that the Capital Region is ready for marriage equality because we have been a leader in fighting for it."

"I'm happy to hear that New York looks likely pass the Marriage Equality Act. It is an inherent right that those who love the same sex be allowed to marry. Should it pass, the Legislature should be applauded for its bipartisanship and Governor Cuomo applauded for his largely pushing the bill," said Michael Ventre, 20, the Chairman of the New York State College Republican Committee.

"I can't emphasize enough the importance of marriage equality passing New York State. This, of course, is critical for gays and lesbians that live in New York. Nationally, it is a turning point in the gay rights movement. Why? It will be the first time a Republican-led legislative body approves marriage equality in the United States. It will signal to other Republicans that the issue has transcended politics; marriage equality is now a matter of societal progress," Krasher continued. • KL

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Starting Wednesday, June 22, the Knickerbocker Ledger will shift from publishing on Fridays to a new Wednesday schedule in order for you to plan your weekend better. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Your Choice 2011 > Sexting in Government Woman in Saratoga Springs Sexting Scandal Considers Lawsuit Against City, Cole



BY LEDGER STAFF

The woman involving in the "sexting" scandal that has led to the temporary leave of absence of Saratoga Springs Police Chief Christopher Cole is considering a lawsuit against the city, the police department, and Cole himself.

Laurie Masi, 39, has retained counsel in Schenectady attorney Paul DeLorenzo. Masi is claiming that when Cole, 45, revealed she was the recipient of sexually explicit messages Cole sent her since July of 2010. "It's about making him accountable. I would like to see what Mr. Cole offers this young woman. He put her name in the press release and that really hurt her," said DeLorenzo.

Cole repeatedly sent Masi a number of photographs and messages and continued after being asked to stop. Masi then made a complaint to the police department – in which Cole found out and attempted to frame the situation at first by releasing last week's statement.

Cole, whose been on the force since 1990 and sworn in as chief in December of 2009, has been put on paid leave by Public Safety Commissioner Richard Wirth. Captain Michael Chowske has taken over as interim chief while Wirth investigates the Cole situation. • KL

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Capital Region > Openings & Closings Houlihan's to be replaced by Jacob & Anthony's

BY LEDGER STAFF

A longtime Crossgates Mall restaurant will be shutting its doors to reopen as a prep kitchen concept restaurant.

Houlihan's, which has been at its location at the Pyramid-owned Crossgates Mall since the mall's second expansion in 1998, was a local franchise run by the Marrello Management Group, who also owns Bellini's and another Jacob and Anthony's establishment.

Jacob and Anthony's Prep Kitchen, according to Marrello's announcement, will be "preppie." • KL

National Affairs > Fore-ign Affairs Obama & Boehner to play golf at Andrews

BY LEDGER STAFF

They may not agree on national debt, entitlement programs, taxes, or the direction of the country, but golf appears to be the compromise candidate for President Barack Obama and Speaker John Boehner.

Obama and Boehner (one of Capital Hill's best golfers) will be joined by Vice President Joe Biden and Ohio Governor John Kasich (R-Oh.) for a round of golf at the Courses at Andrews located at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland on Saturday.

Both representatives for the President and the Speaker are stating that the golf outing is a social event and to not expect any sort of landmark or deal to be made on by the eighteenth hole. • KL

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Arts and Entertainment > Music

(sort of) Album Review: Revelator – Tedeschi Trucks Band



BY ROBIN ZLOTNICK
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I came here to endeavor to write a review of the new album, *Revelator*, by the Tedeschi Trucks Band, the first formal joint venture of husband and wife blues-rock greats Susan Tedeschi and Derek Trucks. But then I realized several things: I have never written a music review before. I don't know anything, *really*, about music, other than what I like, which brings me to my next point: I was only going to write a review of *Revelator* because I like it. I like it a lot. Enough to write about it, even.

If I was a real music reviewer, I'd have to critique all kinds of albums, regardless of my personal taste, discuss them in context with past albums by those artists, other albums in the genre, and the music scene in general. Since I'm impatient and ignorant of the whole music business thing, I'm going to talk anyway. I'll start with the fact that I am a big fan of the Derek Trucks Band (Derek Trucks the guy, really. There are so many super talented people in the band, so I made a point to say "Derek Trucks Band" to sound professional, even though I really meant Derek Trucks the guy, but then I just told you that I did that, which makes me not professional, but I can tell you these things and you won't hate me, right? Things like while I should be giving credit to a very very great band, I just look at Derek Trucks' head of angelic blond hair and hear his guitar the whole time and don't really know anything about the rest of them, even though *obviously* they're contributing to the success of the music. But, you do that too, right? You think only of the guy in charge, right? No? Just me? This is why I'm not a music reviewer.) Anyway...

I have his albums. I listen to them. I didn't know how much I liked him until I saw him live at Lincoln Center last summer, for free. I don't like him because he gave a free concert. The freeness of the concert was just a bonus. It was a really great bonus. Like, really great. ANYWAY. Derek Trucks is magically fantastic at the guitar. It seems like he barely touches it, but the music that emanates from that thing is phenomenal. He creates such feeling in his playing without showing any. Without moving his body, practically. His stoic presence on stage has the opposite effect that you might think, though. For me, the fact that he can keep so stony and at the same time create the utmost lyricism an instrument can create is so bewildering that I find his performance style completely captivating. For Trucks, it's simply all about the music, about the notes and the grit and feeling of the tones themselves, so he just doesn't need anything else.

On the other side of things, I know almost nothing about Susan Tedeschi except that she's married to Derek Trucks, has a cool voice, has a blues career of her own, and wears glasses sometimes. Should we all say it together? This is why I'm not a music reviewer. Upon a teensy bit of research, I learned that she has been nominated for several Grammys and has opened for insane people like B.B. King, Buddy Guy, and Bob Dylan. I also learned that she was born in Boston, that her grandparents are in fact of the well-known Tedeschi supermarket chain in Massachusetts, and that though she was raised Catholic, she wasn't quite happy in the church choir, so she "began attending predominantly African American Baptist churches, feeling the music was 'less repressed and more like a celebration of God.'" Good ol' Wikipedia.

But the album, *Revelator*, which I came here to talk about, is so clearly the collaboration of two people (there are many more extremely talented people involved, I know!) who know each other so well and find such a sense of ease and soul in each other's instrument. It's a comfy album, but I don't find anything wrong with that. Some of the reviews I read criticized it for not being dangerous, for not taking chances. First, for Derek Trucks, it's like he's gotten to the pinnacle of musical rightness, so the only place to go would be somewhere so different that it would be disappointing. Second, Trucks and Tedeschi each have a quality of effortlessness about their performing (which no doubt took oodles of effort to perfect). And on *Revelator*, the smoothness that both of them have join together wholly and precisely – their musical marriage is as stable and true and complementary as I hope and imagine their real marriage is.

In conclusion, I hope Susan Tedeschi and Derek Trucks continue to make sweet, sweet musical babies together. And that sentence is why, once and for all, I am not a music reviewer. • KL

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Lifestyle > Beyu Lesson #6 Love Matters



BY KATRINA "KITTY" CHEUNG
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In light of Father's Day on the 19th, I feel it is only right to pass on some wisdom that my Dad has shared with me because goodness knows there's been so much! In my short 22 years of life he has instilled so many important values and morals to both my sister and I. One of the hardest ones to truly understand is that there's more to life than materialistic things and that love matters. This is especially hard in our generation when economic circumstances are getting increasingly difficult for a lot of people. Yet so many of our judgments are still made based on materialistic possessions.

I know this because it happens to each of us every day. And although I see this, I chose to continue to be a strong believer in compassion and in love. There was a time when I believed that love did not matter or exist in my life whatsoever. I quickly realized how selfish I was to actually believe that when I had so much love around me. This is no way to live life and certainly not what my dad had shown by example.

My dad is the type of guy that you can't help but get along with because he really is easy going and the most understanding human being I know. He has patience and most importantly, compassion for humanity. He loves living and life. He is a shining example of Abraham Lincoln's quote, "It's not the years in your life that counts, it's the life in your years." Not only does he love his life, but believes everyone should have the opportunity to feel that way about their own lives. He gives us time, effort, and even money if needed to help others simply because he cares. He never expects anything back and most of the time has never gotten anything back from those people. And when my sister and I get frustrated for him and ask him about it, he simply responds by saying, "They obviously needed it more than I did and I know I'm going to be fine because I have what I need."

What does he mean "... I have what I need?!" I never quite understood until recently what he was saying. It took 22 years to understand and appreciate that statement, but I finally think I know what he means. What we need is love. What we want is materialistic things. My dad has love; he embodies love and lives in love. The first step is seeing it because love matters at the beginning and end of the day, it may be all that matters.

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



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Arts & Entertainment > Movietimes

June 17 – June 23 for Albany Theaters

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

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
Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG13)
M - 1200 215 430 705 920
R - (1210 150 220) 420 500
640 710 900 1120
Pirates of the Caribbean on Stranger Tides (PG13)
M - 130 400 700 935
R - (110) 510 820 1140
Water for Elephants (PG13)
S - 1240 930
Win Win (R)
S - 1245 655
The Conspirator (PG13)
S - 340 925
Green Lantern (PG13)
M - 1205 220 435 700 930
R - 1220 150 320 440 610
730 900 1020 1140
The Art of Getting By (PG13)
S - 340 925

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
Super 8 (PG-13)
R - (1150 1220 200 230) 300
330 440 520 550 730 810 840
910 1020 1100 1030 1200

Opinion > Cavalcade

Crisis Management Skills – the Do's and Don'ts



BY JOE BONILLA
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A little over a couple of months ago, I wrote a column entitled "Campaign Communications 101." In light of Anthony Weiner's "situation," I figured I'd breakdown the tenets of proper crisis management. Crisis communication management is more vital than ever in a world where every word is watched, listened, and analyzed for any sort of impropriety. It doesn't matter if you're a member of Congress or a police chief in an Upstate New York city, if you do the crime – the public will know one way or the other. As Andy Warhol once said, "everyone will be world-famous for fifteen minutes," and if you are a party to information that could be damning to a public figure, it's incredibly enticing to disclose for whatever masochistic reason to a news, media, or information outlet.

Although not a complete list, here's a smattering of what to do and what not to do if you find yourself in a crisis.

If caught and verifiable, admit fault in full. Do not lie. The biggest mistake in a crisis is to lie. People can accept a tax cheat, a sexual deviant, a narcissistic individual, or even a policy flip-flopper, but no one ever likes a liar. By lying, not only does it come back to bite you with a vengeance, but those that supported you and went public attesting to your credibility are affected negatively. Former N.Y. Governor Eliot L. Spitzer admitted to "personal failings" relating to him being exposed to have had sexual relations with prostitutes. Spitzer did not appear on any television network or interview to disavow the truth, in which led to his very public recovery – which was only made possible because he didn't lie. U.S. Representative Anthony D. Weiner, however, appeared on television a reported twenty-seven times – lying each time and saying that he had been hacked, a practical joke, a personal message gone wrong – until an actual press conference in which he admitted to sending photos over Twitter. Weiner's initial responses and the support he received from fellow members of the House and Senate, attesting to his credibility. When it was later revealed he had lied to everyone, including President Obama – all possible recovery good will points are lost, potentially permanently.

The more "virtuous" you claim to be, the larger the fall will be. Don't be a know-at-all. A large portion of pre-crisis setup is molding your official or public figure. Unless you're directly a member of the clergy, even if you are God-fearing, don't absolutely push forward family values or religious ideals if you have a potentially damning story in the background. The public loves a story where you become a hypocrite – not necessarily the crime or incident, but the talk one way, walk another mentality.

Never let your story fester. It never ends pretty. The press loves nothing more than an ongoing and building story of juicy details, big players, and cringe. The longer you are present in the cycle, the worst your outcome personally gets. Just like a bad relationship, the quicker you deal with an issue – the faster either a recovery or cut off can happen.

If it's bad, wait until Friday. If it's career-ending, ease it into Saturday morning. The worst thing one can do to themselves if they are about to admit transgressions or scandalous information is to release it at the beginning of a week. This ties in with the previous statement of "Never Let Your Story Fester" – by making a statement on Monday, you allow five full days of a story to build, plateau, and fall by Friday. The later in the week – the less there is to talk about it.

If you're going to resign or quit, just do it. No need to prolong the inevitable. Ensure that all your chips are in a row (legally, personally) before doing so. Sometimes, it's best to go if the going gets too rough. Political reasons sometimes may be a reason, but only if it's an absolute good reason to stay if your party is in danger of the seat and you have an issue at your level in government that needs the vote.

Tell your staff first. Nothing bothers communication or media relation professionals more than when their public figure doesn't tell them details. These people are here to help you guide through the muckery known as public life and by not disclosing details effectively hurts their potential to recover your mistakes. Tell them first – gauge their response – and then you'll know if you'll see the light of day. • KL

