

Knickerbocker Ledger

KnickLedger.com

Albany's Fastest Growing FREE News Source – Vol. 1, Issue 8

July 13 – July 20, 2011

Top Story > Former UAlbany Student Association President Runs for Queens Assembly Seat



Despite long odds, UAlbany alumnus Justin Wax Jacobs makes run for the State Assembly seat in Special Election

BY LEDGER STAFF – ALBANY/CAPITOL BUREAU
info@knickledger.com

Representing over 13,000 undergraduate Albany students to potentially representing nearly 128,000 Queens residents is only the tip of the iceberg of the political education of Justin Wax Jacobs, the former UAlbany Student Association president now seeking to become the next Assembly Member from Queens this September.

"I believe it is time for a new kind of leader, a leader that is part of the generation that the current set of policy makers always refer to when they claim it is in our benefit. We need a kind of leader that is responsive to their constituency and is always looking for innovative solutions on our most difficult problems," says Wax Jacobs, 22, the Briarwood resident now looking to parlay his Albany experience back home as an independent Democratic challenger.

Wax Jacobs, who graduated Magna Cum Laude as a triple major (political science, history, and East Asian Studies) from the University at Albany this past May, has been campaigning in Queens with friends and supporters in order to solidify his candidacy to succeed Nettie Mayersohn, who retired this past April after 28 years in office.

Mayersohn's chief of staff for the past 15 years, Michael Simanowitz, is seen as the frontrunner in the race. Simanowitz, along with fellow Assembly candidate Phil Goldfeder, held a rally Monday afternoon outside of Queens Borough Hall to tout their candidacy.

Independent candidates have until today to file at least 1,500 signatures to be on the ballot. Each of the six established parties do not have to go through the petitioning process.

Simanowitz, however, has made some good government groups roll their eyes in the past. In an August 2008 interview with the New York Times regarding Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's push for extending the limit of terms, Simanowitz – when running for a city council seat for the 2009 campaign in which he ultimately lost – was quoted saying, "I think term limits are a terrible thing, an undemocratic thing."

Although Wax Jacobs may not be able to list he worked with Mayersohn directly, his previous work with U.S. Representative Gregory Meeks (D-N.Y.) and State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer (D-Westchester Co.) lends some potential weight to the prospect of a 22 year old representing the broad interests of heavily Jewish district. Wax Jacobs – in a statement – argues that the voters of the district should ultimately decide and not the district leaders.

"Government will function much better when the needs of the people who put the officials there are taken into account first, not the people with the largest bank account. That is also why we need a leader that shows progress and can be held directly accountable," Wax Jacobs said.

The special election is for Tuesday, September 13. • KL

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Libations – Brown's River Street Taproom
LedgerLife – Movie Schedule + Event Listings
The Hollywood Review – The Zookeeper
Robin Zlotnick – 10 Reasons Why I Should Meet Bill Murray
Beyu Lessons – Let Go To Love Unconditionally

Capital Region > Albany Was She Forced Out? Retirement of City Gardener Poses Questions



BY LEDGER STAFF – CITY BEAT
ledgerstaff@knickledger.com

With summer in full swing, the retirement of long-time Albany city gardener Judy Stacey seems off putting by some. Why, during July, would Stacey, a popular civic partner with a number of city residents and neighborhood associations, retire now? Some are now asking the question: was she forced out?

Stacey, who worked with the City of Albany since 1981 (first with the Albany Community Development Agency), had reportedly been part of an effort to unionize supervisor positions for the city's Departments of General Services, Recreation, and Water. Two of those departments (DGS and Recreation) are run by Nicholas and John D'Antonio, respectively (John D'Antonio is currently being reviewed by the U.S. Special Counsel regarding a potential Hatch Act violation for a run for County Executive candidate Daniel P. McCoy's legislature seat).

Stacey's position as city gardener (which pays approximately \$41,000 annually), which she has held since 1998, made her a public face to beautification efforts in the city – most notably during May's Tulip Festival. However, in light of the city's expected budget deficit of nearly \$15 million dollars for fiscal 2012, DGS reportedly had urged Stacey to plant more perennials in order to reduce maintenance costs.

According to a source, Stacey had been at odds with D'Antonio regarding the direction of city beautification efforts. • KL

RENT RETURNS AUGUST 12-14 & 19-21

Schenectady Light Opera Company (SLOC) Presents "RENT" – SLOCtheater.org – 427 Franklin Street

Lifestyle > Beyu Lessons

Let Go To Love Unconditionally



BY KATRINA "KITTY" CHEUNG – ATLANTIC CITY
info@knickledger.com

My mom use to tell me to let go of things and people because everything that is meant to be yours will always be yours no matter what happens. And of course, I didn't listen because I did not understand and I really did not want to hear it. And of course, I eventually learned the hard way and found out that my mother was right all along. Ever since I was a little girl, I felt this need to control things. I can't quite pinpoint why I felt this need or still feel this need, but as I grew older, I knew that this was unhealthy. I used to stress myself out so much that I would literally feel sick to my stomach.

My control issues made me over stress about situations that I could not control and people that I knew I could never change. Once I figured those two things out, I learned that all I could do was control me, myself, and I; this didn't relieve my stress at all. Instead, it made me think and analyze everything I did way more than needed.

Being aware of all these things, I began to think about the root of the problem. Why did I do this all the time? The answer was simple – for stability and security for me. It was all about protecting my feelings. I thought that control over me meant that I couldn't feel any negative emotions that we all try to avoid. I have recently begun to learn that having control means being aware of all the emotions that I feel and choosing how I want to deal with these feelings. I recently read that loving unconditionally means you have care less sometimes. Now you might be thinking and rereading that statement a couple times like I did at first, but in due time, you will see that it holds so much truth. • KL

Read more from Beyu Apparel LLC at KnickLedger.com

DELANOBAINES
Handmade. www.etsy.com/shop/delanobaines

The fastest way to get news in Albany KnickLedger.com

OVER THE EDGE

DON'T LOOK DOWN!
9.16.11

CROWNE PLAZA ALBANY - CITY CENTER
Special Olympics New York

Lifestyle > Libations

Brown's River Street Taproom



BY JOE BONILLA - ALBANY
jbonilla@knickledger.com

After a Sunday exploring the ports of Albany and Rensselaer and venturing throughout the bucolic campus of RPI, there was no better way to conclude a day of going through the annals of industrial history in the Capital Region than a trip to Brown's River Street Taproom (417 River Street) in Troy.

Brown's - which was formed in 1993 by Garry and Kelly Brown - has become, along with C.H. Evans (the Albany Pump Station), one of the prime microbrewers in the Capital Region. Their location on River Street no doubt helps fellow establishments such as Ryan's Wake, Jose Malone's and Dinosaur Bar-B-Que (soon to be joined by Bombers).

The Taproom is a sizeable locale - a good amount of indoor seating as soon as you come in, followed by their bar and performance space, and ends with their good-sized patio (you know how I love an outdoor patio if you've been reading the past two 'Libations') overlooking the Green Island Bridge and the Hudson River. Brown's offers at least seven different beers on tap at present - ranging from their signature Oatmeal Stout, Pale Ale, Whisky Porter, Cherry Raspberry Ale, Brown Ale, Tomhannock Pilsner, and Hefe-Weizen.

Now, I'm no beer snob by any stretch (one guy a while back at Biergarten tried to explain the differences of a mug and a mosque, in which I replied, "I'm going to continue to call it a mug. Leave me be."), but they offer an excellent array for a variety of tastes. While I sat on their patio, I enjoyed having a pint of the Cherry Raspberry Ale, overlooking the beautiful sunset of a day of venturing through desolate ports. If there's any place in Troy to close your day out, it's Brown's.

Brown's River Street Taproom

Rating: Four 3/4 out of Five Pints
417 River Street, Troy (phone: 518-273-BEER)
Facebook: Brown's Brewing Company
• KL

Ledger Life > Featured Events in Albany

Thursday, July 14, 2011

Carbon Leaf and Enter the Haggis

Alive at Five - Corning Preserve - 5:00PM
Free

Friday, July 15, 2011

Engloria, Tweed McGee, The Shoutout, Olivia Quillio, Carl Daniels (Friday Night Live)

Red Square - Broadway - 7:30PM
\$8 / advance; \$10 / door

Saturday, July 16, 2011

Pinot w/s/g MIRK, Biscuits & Gravy

Red Square - Broadway - 9:00PM
Free

Sunday, July 17, 2011

ACT Playwright Showcase

Albany Civic Theater - Second Avenue - 3:00PM
Donate What You Can

Knickerbocker Ledger

A Weekly BAS News Publication

Jacquelyn M. Cohen

Senior Vice President for News & Digital Content
Managing Editor, Knickerbocker Ledger

MAIL: P.O. Box 3083, Albany, NY 12203

E-MAIL: info@knickledger.com

TIPS: tips@knickledger.com

ADVERTISE: Advertise with the Knickerbocker Ledger, either in print or online. Call (518) 227-0404 for details or e-mail Jaqi at jcohen@knickledger.com.

A BASKNICKERBOCKER INC. COMPANY. WWW.BASKNICK.COM

Arts & Entertainment > Robin Zlotnick

10 Reasons Why I Should Meet Bill Murray



BY ROBIN ZLOTNICK - LOS ANGELES
rztolnick@knickledger.com

The impetus for making this list: One month ago, I moved to LA, Los Angeles, City of Angels, City of Movie Making, and City of Celebrities (such as, oh, I don't know, Bill Murray). Around the same time, my baseball-playing brother started to play in a college summer league in Newport, Rhode Island, City of Lobster, City of Preppy People and City of USUALLY NOT BILL MURRAY. So which one of us was the first to meet Bill Murray? You might be surprised at the answer, since apparently, logic and sense are now things of the past. It wasn't me, the devoted comedy student who worships Bill Murray and everything he does and *actually lives in LA*. No. It was a Marist College lefty pitcher, on a baseball diamond, in the tiniest state ever. Bill just happened to be in the area and decided to come to the game. He was there shooting *Moonrise Kingdom*, the new Wes Anderson film, which probably means Wes and Frances McDormand and Ed Norton and Bruce Willis and Owen Wilson were hanging out there too. But then again, "making sense" is clearly something that doesn't happen in the world anymore, so who knows?

It's probably clear by now that I feel totally wronged here. Wronged by the world. When my *darling* little brother called me to let me in on the joyous news that Bill had watched his game and then stopped by to say, "Hi!" to the team afterwards, my body and mind and soul were seething. The only things I could think of were the deep and multitudinous reasons why I should have been the one to meet Bill Murray.

It's not that I'm not excited for my brother, who is also a great fan of Bill Murray and comedy and blah blah blah, but, at the risk of sounding more juvenile than I already do, I have to say, it's just not fair.

So here is a list of ten reasons why I should meet Bill Murray. They are not the top ten. They are the first ten that popped into my mind, which is so overwhelmed with a fiery passion that it is difficult for me to even gather my thoughts here. The ensuing list will, no doubt, be an insufficient representation of my indescribable, profound, and entirely fabricated comedic, emotional, philosophical, and psychological connection with Bill Murray.

1 - There is a site of probably mostly false stories in which Bill Murray comes across someone, does something crazy, then looks that person in the eye and says, "No one will ever believe you." I don't know if any of them are true, but I have heard second-hand stories in which Bill Murray has done similarly strange things in front of friends of friends. I've seen pictures of him hanging out at a college party. I want to meet Bill Murray, and I want him to do something that no one will ever believe.

2 - As demonstrated by reason number 1, Bill Murray has an amazing and admirable...zest for life (for lack of a less terrible phrase). I like to think he shows up at college parties not because he is sad and lonely, but because he is incredibly curious and interested in the conventions of human interaction, and he chooses to manipulate and comment upon the whole notion of social behavior in an ingeniously comedic way. His life is a well-crafted joke. I understand him. He is a genius. He's seen as sort of an "eccentric," but he's not removed from reality by a thick layer of straight up crazy, like some (I'm looking at you, Bjork). On the contrary, he is so attuned to what makes people tick and what makes those ticking people laugh. The intricacies of life are fun and funny, and he spends his life, in and out of movies and TV, showing us how funny it all is. It's the most noble thing, and it's what I strive to do with my life. Mostly, I assume all this from that twinkle in his eye. Which brings me to... • KL

To read the rest of Robin's countdown, visit KnickLedger.com

Ledger Life > Movie Schedule

July 15 - July 21 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 - 705 935
R - (1110)
Harry Potter 7 (PG13)
R - (930 950 1210 1240 100
320 350 410 700 720 940
1010 1030

Larry Crowne (PG-13)

R - (1120 1220 150 240) 520
650 750 1020

Monte Carlo (PG)

R - (110 350) 710 950
M - 1200 215 430 710 915

Transformers 3 (PG-13)

R - (1230 130 330 400 500)
700 730 830 1100 1200

Cars 2 (G)

R - (1130 1200 120 210 340)
510 600 640 710 810 850 930
1140 1210

M - 1200 215 430 700 915

Pirates / Caribbean 4 (PG13)

M - 130 400 700 935
R - 1010

Cave / Forgot Dreams (PG13)

S - 1230 400 645 925

Win Win (R)

S - 1245 655

Green Lantern (PG13)

M - 1205 220 435 700 930
R - (140 440) 740 1030

The First Grader (PG13)

S - 355 920

Incendies (R)

S - 330 935

The Hangover Part 2 (R)

S - (115 345) 640 940
R - 1050

Bridesmaids (R)

S - 1235 335 635 940
R - (100) 350 650 950

Midnight in Paris (PG-13)

S - 1225 350 650 925
R - (1140 230) 610 840 1110

Meek's Cutoff (PG)

S - 1250 405 650 935

Super 8 (PG-13)

R - (1210 310) 620 910 1150
M - 1205 220 435 705 925

Mr. Popper's Penguins (PG)

R - (1150 220 450) 720 940
1200

Conan O'Brien Can't Stop (R)

S - 105 400 705 945

The Tree of Life (PG-13)

R - 1200 140 325 440 625
745 930

Bad Teacher (R)

M - 1210 220 430 710 935
The Art of Getting By (PG13)
S - 110 710

Lifestyle > The Hollywood Review

The Zookeeper



BY CRITIC AT LARGE - GUILDERLAND
info@knickledger.com

When Griffin Keyes (Kevin James) proposes to the girl of his dreams, Stephanie (Leslie Bibb), she turns him down because he is only a zookeeper. Five years later she comes back into his life at an engagement party for his brother at the zoo. Griffin spots her and turns into a bumbling idiot. He's still in love but how will he ever get her back? Leave the zoo and find a better job? Work with his brother at the car dealership?

He doesn't know the animals are listening... and understanding. They call a meeting to plan how to get Griffin to stay. They have to help him get the girl! And keep the secret that they can talk.

Of course secrets in movies are seldom kept and once a cat lets it out of the bag. The animals teach Griffin how to date in the Wild Kingdom with hilarious results. You even learn what to do with a scorpion bite.

You will never look at a trip to the zoo the same way again. Or T.G.I. Friday's for that matter.

A visit to The Zookeeper is time well spent and fun for all. Rating: PG • KL



presents Jason Marks and Jason Jacoby in...

THE PRODUCERS

July 19 through August 14

For Ticket Information, visit www.parkplayhouse.com



Talent Management and Relations. 866-979-AVID