

Knickerbocker Ledger

KnickLedger.com

Albany's Fastest Growing **FREE** News Source – Vol. 1, Issue 9

July 20 – July 27, 2011

Top Story > Albany Voters Approve Revised Library Budget



Albany Voters Change Their Minds, Hit the Polls In Order to Approve Newly Revised Library Budget Proposal

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

Albany voters approved a revised library budget of \$8.8 million on Tuesday, nearly two months after a narrow rejection by voters who felt the increase had been too much, too soon.

The Albany Public Library, similarly to the Albany City School District, had undergone a large-scale capital improvement plan at an original cost of \$29.1 million. The plan included renovated branches in Pine Hills and the South End, with new branches on New Scotland Avenue, Henry Johnson Boulevard, and Delaware Avenue.

However, the expansion came with increased operational cost and the unforeseen impact of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's tax cap plan which applies to libraries across the state.

"I feel cautiously optimistic about today's prospects. Hopefully, the reduced budget will be more palatable to the voters. Also the last the vote was impacted by external forces such as the negative campaign funded by Charter Schools which seem to generate a significant numbers of voters to come to the polls to vote no," said Brian Levine, a former Albany Public Library Trustee, when asked on Tuesday about the vote's prospects before its result.

The budget is nearly \$700,000 less than the budget proposed in May that voters rejected by a margin of 139 votes. The new budget takes into account a reduction of seven hours at the main Washington Avenue branch to 62 operational hours, whereas each of the six other branches would remain the same.

"I have also been a proponent of more library hours not less so any reduction in hours saddens me. That said I believe the hours cuts at Main are modest and are being done at time when usage is lowest. I strongly opposed and successfully prevented any cut to evening hours. I think overall the cuts – while more than I would have personally liked – struck the appropriate balance," Levine continued.

There was a concern that due to a July vote, turnout may not be what officials or library supporters would like, but ultimately the voters decided the amount was a fair compromise.

According to New York State Education law, each library must stay open at least 55 hours. In the event that the library vote failed, the library would still remain operational, but various services such as readership programs, computer literacy education, partnership with public schools, and book clubs would have been at risk of dissolution. • KL

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Libations – Albany Pump Station
LedgerLife – Movie Schedule + Event Listings
The Hollywood Review – Harry Potter 7: Part 2
Media Culture – Rupert in Twilight
Beyu Lessons – Give Yourself A Break

Capital Region > Albany Jennings to Perform Albany's First Same-Sex Marriage Sunday



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

Albany Mayor Gerald D. Jennings (D-Albany) has announced Tuesday that Albany's City Hall will be open this Sunday at 12:01 a.m. for perform the city's first same-sex marriage.

Jennings will be joined by State Supreme Court Justice Joseph Teresi, who will be reviewing applications for applicants seeking waivers to the 24-hour waiting period. Teresi will be on hand to perform an additional number of marriages.

The mayor in the days after the New York State Senate approved same-sex marriage has pushed Albany to be one of the first in the state to perform ceremonies, which will be on July 24. The clerks across the state have been changing forms to be consistent with state law.

Albany's marriage licenses will be amid debate over who will be the next City Clerk. John C. Marsolais, who had been City Clerk for a number of years, retired this month. According to city sources, there are at least ten candidates • KL

RENT RETURNS AUGUST 12-14 & 19-21

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

Lifestyle > Beyu Lessons

Give Yourself A Break



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

As someone who is a proclaimed perfectionist, I have a tendency to be way too hard on myself. I am truly uncomfortable with not doing something. I always feel as though if I am not doing something to better myself personally and business wise, someone else is. It always feels like I am going to miss out on ALL the opportunities in this world if I give myself a break to just breathe easy. There is also the flip side of things where I feel as though I am working super hard and nothing is happening on my time. So what are you suppose to do when you feel like that? Better yet, what is the true problem?

The problem is that I am way too hard on myself and never give myself time to see the progression that I have made. The other problem is that I have to just accept the fact that things never happen on my time. I have to trust that in order to be great, I have to accept all the learning lessons that the Universe has in store for me so that I can always be on the journey of becoming a person that I am proud of. I need to give myself a break, and in order to do that, I need to take that "me" time that I so desperately need, so that I can see things for what they truly are.

As I observe more of the world and the people in it, it is clear that the older we get, the more we are afraid of change. Though this is not true for everyone, it is true for most people, including myself. Each day and moment brings different feelings, emotions, thoughts, ideas, circumstances, and people; we must give ourselves time to see things for what they are RIGHT now in order to ensure that we are doing everything in our power to make the day worthwhile despite the ever changing things that occur. • KL

Capital Region > Business Failures

Borders To Close All Stores By Fall

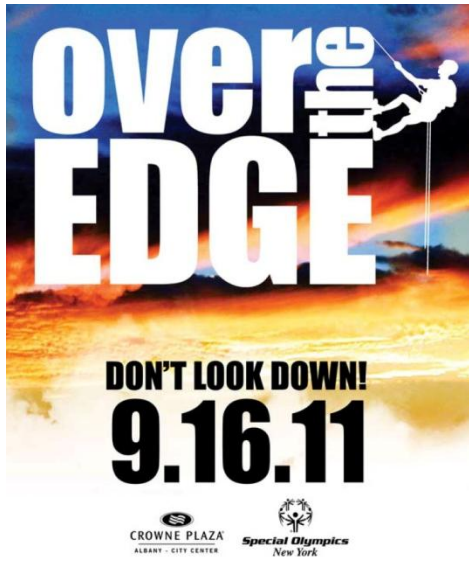
BY LEDGER STAFF – ALBANY/CAPITOL BUREAU
info@knickledger.com

Borders Group announces Tuesday that it will close all 399 of its remaining stores by September, which includes Crossgates Mall.

The Guilderland, N.Y. location, opened roughly five years ago, will begin liquidation this weekend of all merchandise. • KL

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

The fastest way to get news in Albany KnickLedger.com



Lifestyle > Libations
Albany Pump Station



BY **JOE BONILLA** - ALBANY
 jbonilla@knickledger.com

I hadn't gone to the driving range in a while, so I figured "It's so ungodly hot out, a good swing of the club would be different." With a couple of friends, drove up to Clifton Park and hit a few scores of golf balls into a man-made hill - followed by a 'questionable' game of miniature golf (the lips on the each hole had to have been designed by carnival clowns).

That being said, we figured - post-golf - we would venture to one of Albany's favorite ale houses, the Albany Pump Station (19 Quackenbush Square, Albany) for a pint or two.

The Pump Station - the venerable tap room and restaurant for the C.H. Evans Brewing Company - is a massive space. Two floors - complete with an open kitchen, centralized bar downstairs, a fireplace-dotted dining room, with a reception area upstairs. Let's just say this - the place could host a fundraiser on the mezzanine level, each table and booth downstairs full, the bar at capacity, and still one would have plenty of room to venture throughout. That's not only impressive, but really the standard at any brewery restaurant.

Now to the beer itself. Evans has eight brews on tap currently - Scottish Light, Quackenbush Blonde, Belgian-Style Strong Ale, Kick-Ass Brown, Pump Station Pale, Evans Wit, Beverwyck Black, and Doc's Pear Cider. I fancied myself with a Pump Station Pale - your typical American blend. One of the nice things about the Pump Station is one can procure a "beer flight" - all eight in 4 oz. glasses - for a not so princely sum. Each of them distinct in taste, but not jarring to the limited drinker as some microbrews can be. As someone who prefers Brooklyn Lager and Sam Adams Summer Ale, the Pale does the job. The Quackenbush Blonde is a nice alternative as well.

With the new whiskey distillery opening next door along with the rise of the North Albany scene (Wolff's Biergarten, Graney's Stout, and the Barrel Saloon), the Pump Station is your gateway to Albany's growing brew culture.

Albany Pump Station
 Rating: Four 1/4 out of Five Pints
 19 Quackenbush Square, Albany (ph: 518-447-9000)
 Facebook: C.H. Evans Brewery • **KL**

Ledger Life > Featured Events in Albany

Friday, July 22, 2011
MIRK
 Elda's on Lark - Lark Street - 10:30PM
 \$7 / door

Saturday, July 23, 2011
The City Never Sleeps w/s/g MIRK
 Putnam Den - Saratoga Springs - 9:00PM
 \$3 / door

Saturday, July 23, 2011
The Red Eyes
 The Barrel Saloon - North Albany - 10:00PM
 Free

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

Media Culture > Phone Hacking Scandal
Rupert in Twilight: Murdoch Fights for Legacy



BY **LEDGER STAFF** - BUSINESS
info@knickledger.com

At the age of 21, Rupert Murdoch - the scion of News Limited's Keith Murdoch - returned home to Adelaide, Australia from Oxford to take charge of his dying father's business interests. The young Murdoch took charge of the *Adelaide News* and the rest, as they say, is history.

Now, nearly 50 years starting the rise of News Limited to become News Corporation, Rupert is now in the fight for his ultimate legacy - a legacy of going against the grain and being the ultimate "outsider" in a media world controlled by the few or a history of sensationalism and sleaze that would make Charles Foster Kane blush?

On Tuesday, Murdoch - along with heir apparent James and the former CEO of News International Rebekkah Brooks - appeared before the House of Commons Culture, Media, and Sport Committee to discuss their role in the *News of the World* phone hacking scandal that has made worldwide headlines. The hearing was cut short due to a foam pie being thrown at Murdoch.

Brooks, along with *Wall Street Journal* publisher Les Hinton, resigned from their respective posts in the last week in an attempt by News Corporation to stifle the growth of the scandal that has now reached the top.

The hearing will come a day after Sean Hoare, the first named whistleblower in the scandal, was found dead Monday morning in his Watford home. Hoare had been the first to out Andy Coulson, the former editor of *News of the World* and former Conservative Party spokesperson, as being a proponent of telephone interception of phone calls of celebrities.

The impact of the scandal is no doubt brought on by the allure of bringing Murdoch down. Carl Bernstein for *Newsweek* wrote, "Between the *Post*, Fox News, and the *Journal*, it's hard to think of any other individual who has had a greater impact on American political and media culture in the past half century." The same can be said for the British scene - where Murdoch's endorsement was coveted by each Prime Minister since Harold Wilson in the early 1970s.

The question many will ask after Tuesday will not be whether Rupert Murdoch & Co. can survive, but the larger impact of media consolidation across the world be scrutinized in a similar way to oil and telecommunications of yesteryear? • **KL**

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE AREA BAR, RESTAURANT, COFFEE HOUSE, AND MORE AND ENTER TO WIN! KNICKLEDGER.COM*

Enter to Win a \$50 Gift Card!

KL
2011 Readers Poll

*Through July 31, 2011

Ledger Life > Movie Schedule

July 22 - July 28 for Albany Theaters

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| Captain America (PG13)
M - (135 405) 705 935
R - (1020 1050 1120 1220 1250 120 150 220) 320 350
450 520 620 650 720 750 820
950 1050 1120 1210 | The First Grader (PG13)
S - 355 920
Incendies (R)
S - 330 935
Bridesmaids (R)
S - 1235 335 635 940
Midnight in Paris (PG-13)
S - 1225 350 650 925
Winnie the Pooh (G)
R - (1140 210) 450 710
M - (1215 215 415) 715
Horrible Bosses (R)
R - (1150) 310 540 810 1040
M - 1205 215 425 700 930
Friends with Benefits (R)
R - (1040 1240 140) 340 440
640 740 940 1020 1220
Conan O'Brien Can't Stop (R)
S - 105 400 705 945
The Tree of Life (PG-13)
S - 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 |
| Harry Potter 7 (PG13)
R - (1015 1030 1110 1130 1200 1230 100 130 200 230 300) 330 400 430 500 530
600 630 700 730 800 830 900
930 1000 1015 1100 1130 1200 | |
| Monte Carlo (PG)
M - 915 | |
| Transformers 3 (PG-13)
R - (140) 410 510 840 1010
M - (100 400) 700 945 | |
| Cars 2 (G)
R - (1020 110) 420 715
M - (1200 215 430) 700 915 | |
| Cave / Forgot Dreams (PG13)
S - 1230 400 645 925 | |
| Win Win (R)
S - 1245 655 | |
| Zookeeper (PG)
M - (1205 220 435) 710 925
R - (1210 250) 610 850 1140 | |

Lifestyle > The Hollywood Review

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2



BY **CRITIC AT LARGE** - GUILDERLAND
info@knickledger.com

It's the end of the world as we know it. The final installment in the saga of Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe), Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) and Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) has arrived. Final battles are fought. Final questions are answered. Is the wand mightier than the sword? What is the real connection between Harry Potter and he who must not be named (Voldemort)? Will dark magic finally defeat all else? Is there a future?

Those who have read the book may think they know all the answers. Those who have only seen the movies (especially Part 1) will find that Part 2 builds to bring the ultimate battle between good and evil to an epic conclusion with many revelations along the way. For those who have never seen a Potter movie before I suggest getting hold of a copy of Part 1 and watch it so that you will better understand Part 2. (Yes, I am talking to the three of you who have not seen Part 1).

What began 14 years ago with the publication of the story of an orphan boy who one day finds out he is a wizard, then grew into a worldwide cultural phenomenon evolving into eight feature films, now takes its exit bow in a grand manner. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 is a must see for all Potter fans, wizard or Muggle.

As for the final scenes... What will be next for J. K. Rowling? Harry Potter's Legacy, The Next Generation of Wizardry? Why not? After all, Gene Roddenberry went to do Star Trek: The Next Generation and more. • **KL**



presents **Jason Marks and Jason Jacoby** in...



Now through August 14

For Ticket Information, visit www.parkplayhouse.com



Talent Management and Relations. 866-979-AVID