

# Knickerbocker Ledger

KnickLedger.com Albany's Fastest Growing FREE News Source - Vol. 1, Issue 14 Aug. 24 - Aug. 30, 2011

## Top Story > N.Y. Republicans Look To Join Presidential Contender Field



### N.Y. Gov. Pataki, N.Y.C. Mayor Giuliani look to join a growing GOP presidential field that isn't keen on moderates

BY LEDGER STAFF - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY info@knickledger.com

Former N.Y. Governor George E. Pataki and former New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani are looking at entering the GOP presidential primary race as some potential candidates such as Rep. Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) have declined speculation.

Pataki, 66, and Giuliani, 67, are seen to the left of a Republican Party that has moved toward the right more so in the past two years from factions such as the Tea Party, Sarah Palin, and Eric Cantor.

Pataki - who served as Governor of New York from 1995 to 2007 - currently heads a political action committee entitled "No American Debt" and had been in charge of Revere America. Pataki was seen as potential vice presidential candidate in 2000 and as a possible replacement for Dick Cheney in 2004.

"The governor is seriously considering getting into the race," said David Catalfamo, a spokesperson for Pataki.

However, even New York Republicans aren't thrilled with the prospect of Pataki in the White House.

"Pataki the first two years was great, then we went on a spending binge," Assemblymember Thomas Kirwan, a Republican, told the N.Y. Daily News, referring to the former governor's four terms in office. "The federal debt run-up was rivaled only by what we did in New York under George Pataki," Kirwan continued.

Giuliani has been reportedly speaking with campaign operatives in New Hampshire for a second run for the nomination. In 2008, Giuliani skipped primaries and banked on a Florida win to bolster his candidacy, yet fell to third place in Florida due to the rise of Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Sen. John McCain, the eventual nominee. Giuliani, who's currently managing security firm Giuliani Partners, had been mayor from 1994 to 2001 and presided over emergency efforts over September 11th.

A late development on Monday - Rep. Paul Ryan has said he is not interested in seeking the Republican nomination. The Wisconsin Republican and House Budget chairman will remain committed to his House duties and his constituents in Wisconsin. • KL

#### FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

- Cheer Up Albany - Hating on Albany Nothing New
- LedgerLife - Event Listings
- The Hollywood Review - Fright Night
- Your Choice - Vigil for the Middle Class
- Exclusive - SMALLBANY

#### Exclusive > SMALLBANY



By Dana S. Owens

For more SMALLBANY cartoons from Dana Owens, visit KnickLedger.com for exclusive, digital content.

## HUDSON RIVER COFFEE HOUSE

LIVE MUSIC, GREAT COFFEE, GOOD TIMES. 227 QUAIL STREET. HUDSONRIVERCOFFEE.COM

### Your Choice > Albany County Lebron out of Albany County Executive race, leaves Benzie Johnson as sole opponent to McCoy in November

BY LEDGER STAFF - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY info@knickledger.com

Republican Nathan Lebron has officially bowed out of the race to challenge Democrat Daniel P. McCoy in the general election for Albany County Executive, leaving write-in candidate Benzie Johnson as McCoy's only opposition.

Lebron, 40, had no support from the Albany County Republican Committee when he previously sought the GOP line to challenge McCoy.

In the past few weeks, Lebron and supporters had been collecting signatures to challenge McCoy, 41 on an independent ballot line. As of Sunday, however, Lebron indicated on Facebook that he would fall short of the Tuesday deadline.



Lebron's primary goal in running against McCoy was to provide Albany County voters with a real choice. McCoy had been nominated without opposition by the Albany County Democratic Committee.

"It's a civic expression of accountability, and a way to let the eventual winner know that people are watching," said Lebron.

"I look forward to an open and productive dialogue with all concerned citizens of Albany County, and welcome everyone's input about the critical issues that we face," said McCoy in a statement.

This now leaves candidate Benzie Johnson as the only opposition to McCoy, although he won't appear on an actual ballot line but will be a write-in candidate.

The general election is Tuesday, November 8, 2011. • KL

#### We Want To Know...

As the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks is coming up next month, the Knickerbocker Ledger wants to know your story - where were you on that fateful day in 2001?

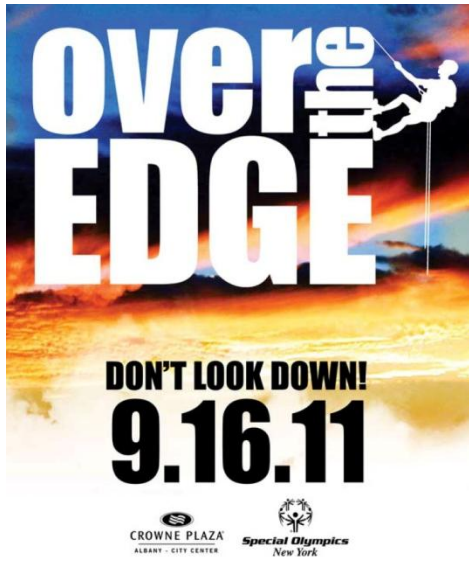
How did you find out? Where were you? What was the impact of the event on your life then and over the past ten years? We want to know.

Send us your story to info@knickledger.com to be part of a commemorative September 11th special edition to come out with our September 7-13 issue. • KL



SCREENPRINTING AND EMBROIDERY - PRINTZANDPATTERNZ.COM

# KnickLedger.com



## Opinion > Cheer Up Albany Hating on Albany Nothing New



BY **JUDD KRASHER** - ALBANY  
info@knickledger.com

People love hating on Albany. Wherever I go in the state, as soon as I mention I'm from Albany, people typically have the same set of responses. First, there's a grimace. Then, there's the standard list of Albany criticisms: "Albany's boring." "Albany High! Yikes!" "Albany's dirty." "Albany's not safe." And, my personal favorite summation: "Dude, Albany sucks."

Vilifying Albany has been going on for a very long time, a comically long time. The famed Albany author William Kennedy said in his 1983 book *O Albany!*:

"Maligning Albany is a very old game. The early Dutchmen were targets of derision by visitors who found their city dismal, dingy, and dirty (*the Three D's!*). The English didn't do much better with it. About 1870, the famed architect H.H. Richardson had this to say: 'Misery, wretchedness, ennui and the devil...Of all the miserable, wretched, second-class, one-horse towns, this is the most miserable.'"

That's right. If Albany was personified, it would be a demonic accountant. Doesn't get much worse than that, folks!

So, fellow Albanians, are we just a pack of fools for continuing to live here? Are we a bunch of self-loathers? Shouldn't we get the heck out of this place!? Hardly...

Instead of the original "Three D's," I've got my own. Albany is dynamic, diverse, and DUH-Awesome! (Okay, I may have cheated on the last one.)

We have a lot to be proud of and treasure. It's time to end the "old game" of picking on this beautiful city. The aim of this blog is simple: highlight all that is awesome about Albany, the places and the people.

Cheer up, Albany, we are lucky to live here. • **KL**

## Arts & Entertainment > Film Knickerbocker Film Festival to kick off at LarkFEST this September

BY **LEDGER STAFF** - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY  
info@knickledger.com

Three years and counting, the Knickerbocker Film Festival is set to officially kick off at this year's LarkFEST on Saturday, Sept. 17.

The film festival, which has run at the Madison Theater for the past two years and made its Spectrum debut this past March, is set to continue to be Albany's city-wide film festival in the Spring of 2012.

"LarkFEST has been our signature kick off point for our events and brands and with the film festival going into its third year, there's no better place than Albany's largest outdoor street festival," said Joe Bonilla, chief executive officer of BASKnickerbocker Inc.

The film festival got its start as an idea from BAS co-founder Joseph Alindato, who served as the first chair of the film festival. Between Alindato and Bonilla, the first year in 2010 was fairly successful effort. The 2011 festival was plagued with uncertainty shortly before reaching an agreement with both the Madison and Spectrum theaters.

Submission information can be found at knickfilmfest.com. Deadline is January 2, 2012. • **KL**

## Knickerbocker Ledger

**Jacquelyn M. Cohen**  
Senior Vice President for News & Digital Content

MAIL: P.O. Box 3083, Albany, NY 12203  
E-MAIL: [info@knickledger.com](mailto:info@knickledger.com)  
TIPS: [tips@knickledger.com](mailto:tips@knickledger.com)

ADVERTISE: Advertise with the Knickerbocker Ledger, either in print or online. Call (518) 227-0404 for details or e-mail Rich at [r.fazio@basknick.com](mailto:r.fazio@basknick.com).

A BASKNICKERBOCKER INC. COMPANY. [WWW.BASKNICK.COM](http://WWW.BASKNICK.COM)

## Your Choice > Rallies Tonko, Breslin, Sheehan to speak at "Middle Class" Vigil in Albany



BY **LEDGER STAFF** - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY  
info@knickledger.com

U.S. Representative Paul D. Tonko (D-N.Y.), State Sen. Neil D. Breslin (D-Albany County), and Albany City Treasurer Katherine M. Sheehan are slated to speak, among others, at the "Vigil for the Middle Class" this Sunday at 6 p.m. in West Capitol Park in Albany.

The rally, organized by Next Generation United and supported by local unions, the RFK Democratic Club, Citizen Action of New York, and the Capital District Area Labor Federation, aims to congregate like-minded individuals for progressive causes such as strengthening the middle class.

"As the economic downturn continues, middle class Americans are the ones bearing the brunt of the fallout. Corporations, Republicans, and the Tea Party have set their sights on union workers and vital social programs, while protecting and promoting corporate greed and tax cuts for the rich. The time for unity is now, help us steer the country into helping the middle class instead of scapegoating it," said the group in a statement.

Additional speakers include Mary Sullivan, president of the Capital District Area Labor Federation, Len Welcome executive vice president for CWA 1118, Albany County Legislator Bryan Clenahan, Troy Mayoral Candidate Lou Rosamilia, Saratoga Springs County Supervisor Joanne Yepsen, Albany Common Council President Pro Tempore Richard Conti, Ivette Alfonso from Citizen Action of New York, and more to be announced later on. • **KL**

## Business > Odd Thinking PETA-boy: Animal rights group to launch porn site for awareness



BY **LEDGER STAFF** - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY  
info@knickledger.com

Animal rights awareness goes wild!

Or so is the plan by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). PETA announced Monday that it will develop and launch a pornographic website with the extension .xxx.

"We are preparing to launch our own peta.xxx site, but instead of just showing people our iconic ads, we then show them how animals suffer for entertainment," said PETA spokesperson Ashley Bryne.

PETA has been criticized in the past for objectifying women for its ads, which advocates for the ethical treatment of animals in business, research, and other animal-based activities. PETA is known for also going viral by throwing red paint (the allusion of blood) on various public figures who wear fur as well as rallying outside research facilities that may conduct experiments on animals.

From a banned SuperBowl ad to criticism over its "Lose the Blubber. Save The Whales" campaign, PETA has taken a unique approach for awareness.

"We live in a 24 hour news cycle world, and we learn the racy things we do are sometimes the most effective way that we can reach particular individuals," said fellow PETA spokesperson Lindsay Rajt to the Huffington Post. • **KL**

Natural Disasters > East Coast

## Earthquake! Magnitude 5.8 quake hits eastern seaboard

BY **LEDGER STAFF** - ALBANY BUREAU - ALBANY  
info@knickledger.com



An earthquake hit the East Coast Tuesday afternoon around 1:55 p.m., being felt as far south as South Carolina and as north as the U.S.-Canada border.

The Pentagon and the U.S. Capitol were evacuated as the earthquake, reportedly centered near Richmond, Va., was being felt. Earlier on Tuesday, the Capital Region incurred a much smaller earthquake between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m., with an epicenter located near Altamont, N.Y. with a magnitude of 2.2.

President Obama, on vacation in Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts, was starting a round of golf when the effects of the quake were being felt by the White House press corps.

"We started seeing emails from our colleagues in D.C. that they were feeling a quake. Seconds...I mean seconds later...the meeting room we are in starts to roll and sway- comparable to being on a boat. No shaking. But it's an earthquake. And it lasted for a good 15 seconds or more," said Stephanie Smith and David Kerley from ABC News.

The effects of the quake took a toll on the 555-foot Washington Monument, which the U.S. Park Service closed in order to inspect for cracks. Engineers found cracks in the marble-structure near the top and will be looking at ways to remedy the situation first before reopening the tallest structure in the District of Columbia. • **KL**

Lifestyle > The Hollywood Review

## Fright Night



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

Rated PG-13

In this remake of the classic comedic horror film the setting is moved to a town outside Las Vegas. Charley Brewster (Anton Yelchin) is a high school student whose friend Ed (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) suspects Charley's new neighbor, Jerry Dandrige (Colin Farrell), of being a vampire. Right, like Jerry isn't possibly the worst name for a vampire. Perfect though for avoiding suspicion, especially if it's a villainous vampire with a personality mildly reminiscent of Norman Bates in *Psycho*.

When Ed disappears, Charley starts to investigate. He eventually seeks help from Peter Vincent (David Tennet) who has a Las Vegas stage show "Fright Night" in which he slays vampires. Vincent, considered an authority on the subject, turns out to be afraid. Some of the most terrifying action happens when the battle for survival leads Charley, his mom Jane (Toni Collette), and his girlfriend Amy (Imogen Poots) to drive through the desert to Las Vegas. Century 21 to the rescue! (Don't worry it will make sense after you see the movie.

Full of suspense and vampire nastiness this is a must see for real vampire horror fans. Just remember to be careful who you invite to go with you, especially if it is a sunny day for a matinee. • **KL**

Ledger Life > Featured Events in Albany

Saturday, August 27, 2011

### Restoration Festival

St. Joseph Church - Ten Broeck Street - 12:00 p.m.  
Free

Tuesday, August 30, 2011

### RFK Democratic Club Monthly Meeting

McGeary's - Clinton Square - 7:00 p.m.  
Free