

Health & Fitness Quarterly ▶ 11-23
Hyde prez ▶ 3 • She's aiming for Everest ▶ 18

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**Next week:
Spring Home**

Their sizzling nightspots in Troy

By Mark Frost Chronicle Editor
A Queensbury High School grad, Class of 1996, and her husband from Brooklyn — who fell in love working for a minor-league baseball team — are succeeding hugely in downtown Troy, turning vintage Victorian-era buildings into a unique wine bar, a grocery and now a restaurant drawing crowds, raves and publicity far and wide.
When *The New York Times* depicted Troy in a March 26 travel feature as a town “reinventing itself,” its recommended stops started with Lucas Confectionery: “This elegant two-year-old hideaway, the creation of the husband-and-wife team of Vic Christopher and Heather LaVine,

Queensbury native Heather LaVine & her Brooklyn-born husband Vic Christopher leading wave with atmospheric bar & now restaurant; New York Times notices



Peck's Arcade restaurant is situated at left storefront in this building on Broadway in Troy that was so structurally unsound that the couple bought it last year for just \$80,000. Visible in background at left is the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall.
Chronicle photos/Mark Frost



pairs French pinot noirs with inventive dishes like six-minute eggs with confit mushrooms and shallots...”
The couple's newest venture, Peck's Arcade — its first full-scale restaurant — opened just three months ago and was packed two Saturday nights ago when *The Chronicle* visited.
Their and the city's rise seem simultaneous. “The momentum right now is really incredible,” says Heather. “There's this com-
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Benedict Arnold or Horatio Gates

By David Cederstrom
Chronicle Staff Writer
Who was the real hero of the crucial American victory in the 1777 Battles of Saratoga — Gen. Benedict Arnold (before he turned traitor and went over to the British) or Gen. Horatio Gates?
On Saturday, April 11, at 2 p.m. at the New York State Military Museum at 61 Lake Ave. in Saratoga Springs, Park Rangers Joe Craig and Eric Schnitzer from

Which was the hero of Battles of Saratoga?

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The leg Benedict Arnold injured in the Battle of Saratoga is honored with a monument at the Saratoga National Historical Park in Stillwater. *Chronicle photo/Mark Frost*



Belly dancers vs. cancer, April 25 at the Wood Theater ▶ 21

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