

## COMEDY

# Larry The Cable Guy Brings Blue Collar Comedy

By Iris Wiener

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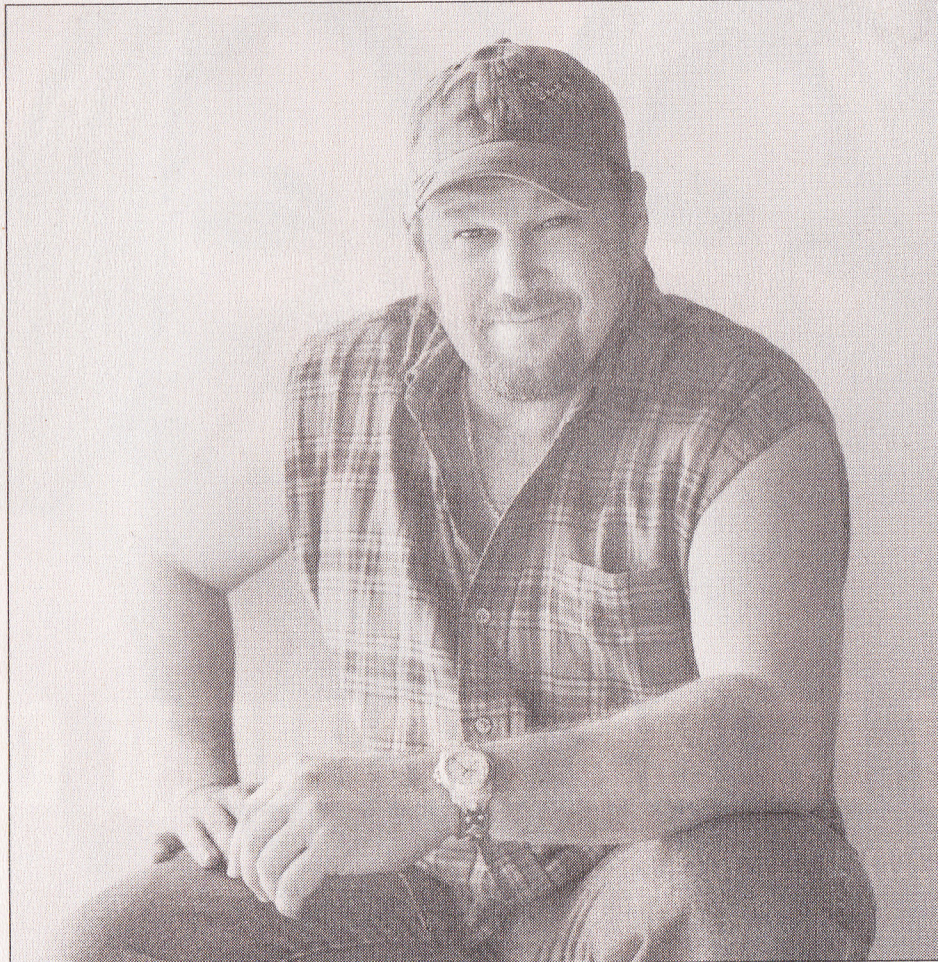
Larry the Cable Guy makes every effort to come off as a self-critical, potty-mouthed redneck, and consistently does a good job of it. As one of the four members of Comedy Central's Blue Collar Comedy troop (which also includes Jeff Foxworthy, Ron White, and Bill Engvall) and a newfound actor (*Delta Farce*, *Cars*), he consistently brings laughs to people with penchants for hick jokes and a love for a good time.

However, an interview with Larry as he gears up for a concert at Nassau Coliseum on May 2 brought out his softer side.

"My wife's out shopping, and I'm baby-sitting. He's sleeping now, so excuse me if I have to jump up for him," said Larry proudly of his 11-month-old during the phone interview. The father of two points out that at his son's age he had no idea that he would be the infamous 'Cable Guy.' The name actually has nothing to do with him being a cable guy.

"I got it when I started doing radio commentaries. I used to do a cable installer in my act for about three minutes. When radio stations asked for my name I just used my middle name and told them I was the cable guy," he said.

The simplicity with which he got his misnomer basically sums up his career. "Well, I couldn't really do nuttin' else!" he said in his thick southern drawl when recalling why he got into the business of comedy. "If I had to I woulda beat myself! I was always a fan of Steve Martin. I used to love Milton Berle, Henny Youngman,



Larry the Cable Guy will bring his Git-R-Done humor to Long Island on May 2.

Don Rickles, Phyllis Diller, Jonathan Winters...I was also a huge fan of Monty Python's flying circus and Benny Hill. I've always had that kind of goofy sense of hu-

mor. I never really thought I wanted to do it until some friends of mine said, 'Hey you're funny, you ought to go do it on stage somewhere.' And then I actually

thought, You know what, maybe I will. It would be kinda fun"

This cable guy never finds himself without a stage on which to perform. Larry describes his well-known comedy as Jeff Foxworthy if he did one-liners.

"My comedy is just like Jeff's, only my material is Jeff's crowd before they got married and had kids," he laughed. "Jeff's PG, I'm like PG-15. But my stand-up's really nonsensical. But first and foremost I'm like a one-liner comedian." Fans of the Cable Guy tend to be of the 'love him or hate him' variety, and Larry says there's a simple explanation for it.

"Comedy is so subjective. I know people that cannot stand *Seinfeld*. And I cannot understand why, because to me it's the funniest show of all time," Larry said. "But they just don't like it! So there's just a different sense of humor."

One might think that Larry gets different responses from blue states and red states, but the fact of the matter is, every state has its fair share of Cable Guy fans. Southern or northern, his jabs are ones to which everyone can relate.

"People like to laugh, and even at any major city people are the same. The red state vs. blue state, all that stuff is such a fallacy. If you're fun and you're nice and you treat your crowds good, you do well anywhere," he said.

Larry is currently looking forward to some alone time with Long Islanders. "I spoonfeed ya the jokes, I guarantee you will laugh from the beginning of the show till the end of the show," Larry said of his live act. "It's a fun show and they'll definitely laugh at it. Git-R-Done!"