

# THREE PARKS INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

Cathedral Station ♦ P.O. Box 1316 ♦ New York, N.Y. 10025 ♦ (212) 539-7602

Website: ThreeParksDems.org ♦ Email: ThreeParksDems@aol.com

## **President**

Elizabeth Kellner

## **Editors**

Judy Wood [judyw123@verizon.net](mailto:judyw123@verizon.net)  
Gerald Schultz [gischultz@msn.com](mailto:gischultz@msn.com)

## **District Leaders**

Bob Boffeld  
Cynthia Doty

## **State Committee**

Lynn Thomas  
Daniel Marks Cohen

## NOVEMBER MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 2014

FEATURED **NYC Councilmember Mark Levine**, UWS's 7<sup>th</sup> Council District

### TOPICS

#### **PS 163 Parents Association**

& Protecting the children of PS 163 from the proposed  
JHL construction on 97<sup>th</sup> street

### SPEAKERS

#### **November 4 General Election Results**

DATE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014

TIME: 8:00 PM

PLACE: The Youth Hostel, 891 Amsterdam Avenue at 103rd Street

ROOM: Chapel/Ballroom

### AGENDA

**8:00 pm - Call to Order**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Mark Levine, 7th City Council District**

Chair Parks Committee, Member Education,  
Finance, Housing, Rules and Elections Committees  
- the 7th District is also home to NYC's first Ebola  
patient.

#### **PS 163 Parents Association**

How to help protect the children and school from  
Jewish Home Lifecare construction on 97th St.

#### **Discussion of General Election Results**

#### **Adjourn**

### CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

Election Day – Federal and State Offices

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

TPID Membership Meeting - 8 pm Hostel Ballroom

Wednesday, November 19

TPID Board Meeting - Hostel Soho Room  
8 pm

Sunday, December 7, 5pm-8pm

**Three Parks 2014 Holiday Party**  
American Youth Hostel Ballroom

No Membership or Board Meetings in December

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

by Elizabeth Kellner

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Although the next club meeting is not until November 12, this newsletter is out a week early so you have it before Election Day. Whatever the day brings, many of us are looking forward to an end to the constant barrage of fundraising emails from all over the country. I received a personal phone call from the heroine of the fight for mandated contraception coverage under the Affordable Care Act and target of Rush Limbaugh insults Sandra Fluke who is running for the State Senate in southern California, as well as someone in Texas with Women for Life who asked to speak with "the lady of the house" (I kid you not!).

The club has endorsed Democratic Party candidates in all races except Governor and Lt. Governor. There are also three propositions on the ballot -- changes to legislative redistricting, a bond issue for funding education technology, and a measure permitting the electronic (rather than hardcopy) delivery of bills to legislators prior to a vote. A list of our endorsed candidates appears in this newsletter.

There is literature urging you to vote Cuomo/Hochul on the newly formed Women's Equality Party line. The need for and purpose of this party, created by Cuomo just recently, is the subject of criticism. Working Families Party literature, featuring De Blasio, also urges a vote for Cuomo/Hochul on their line. But don't worry, we still have THE Democratic Party in New York State, and Cuomo/Hochul (if you are so inclined), as well as all our endorsed candidates, will appear there.

At our October meeting, Susan Lerner of Common Cause and Dick Dadey of Citizens Union squared off on opposite sides of whether to support the legislative

redistricting constitutional amendment. The "No" activists, spearheaded by the "No Fake Reform" campaign, have been very active. The club's October newsletter has a brief discussion of this and the other two ballot measures. In an October 29 editorial, the New York Times, quoting Sen. Liz Krueger, urges a no vote.

In October State Senator Espaillat spoke about the most important housing issue facing the legislature -- the June 2015 expiration of rent regulation and the need for NYC to have home rule on this and many other issues. He urged club members to help in any way they can with three upstate State Senate races critical to Democratic control of that house - Justin Wagner, Terry Gilpin and Cecilia Tkaczuk. We also have an unexpected but most welcome guest in the person of City Council Member Helen Rosenthal. She gave a wide ranging report on housing, traffic safety, parks, participatory budgeting, followed by a lively Q & A which kept the discussion going until 10 pm when we had to adjourn the meeting. We are looking forward to a similar session with Council Member Mark Levine in November.

There will be much to discuss, and probably worry about, when we meet on November 12 and consider the impact of Congressional and New York State races, so follow the post-election coverage from your trusted news sources, and be sure to vote on November 4.

## **DISTRICT LEADER REPORT**

By Bob Botfeld

### **Vote for Cuomo ---Oh No**

#### **Oy Yes**

On Election Day the Democratic candidates on the ballot in our district including Governor Cuomo are likely to win by double digit margins. You may share my disapproval of Cuomo's policies,

ethics and politics and because you may dislike Cuomo you may be planning to not vote for him on the Democratic line on November 4.

Governor Cuomo has continually disappointed us since his inauguration. He has forced the co-location of charter schools on the New York City school system; wavered on gas fracking despite the evidence that it is nearly impossible to protect our water supply from contamination during drilling; and reduced state revenue with tax cuts likely chosen more for their national voter appeal than the fiscal health of New York State. His ethics were exemplified by dismantling the Moreland Commission. His less than progressive politics include ambivalent support of a Democratic state senate and finally the last arrow at progressive politics – the fictional Women's Equality Party. These appear to be good reasons to not vote for Cuomo but unfortunately the alternative is far worse.

### **A poor way to protest Cuomo's policies, ethics, and politics.**

The Republican candidate, Rob Astorino, opposes progressive values. He is anti-choice, strongly for gas fracking on "day one", and favors a more regressive tax policy including repealing the state top bracket income tax surcharge.

So the Democratic candidate for governor needs to win and more importantly, we as progressive Democrats need to vote for Governor on the Democratic line.

Why? Due to a relatively obscure combination of election law and state party rules our neighborhood and the progressive policies that the Upper West

Side supports are undermined when we abstain for voting for the Democratic candidate for Governor on the Democratic line. The influence of the progressive Democratic Party officials in the 69<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (AD) is based upon a "weighted" vote determined by the number of voters that voted on the Democratic line for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election. (See insert below for the text of the state party rules.) In state conventions where state wide candidates are selected, state policies are voted upon, and even at judicial delegate conventions each delegate's vote this impact is not trivial. Today, due to the strong Democratic vote in the 69<sup>th</sup> AD, our state committee delegates' votes count twice as much as many other AD delegates.

So on November 4 make your vote count for progressive politics. It's not a protest vote – it does matter. See you on Election Day.

#### **New York State Democratic Party Rules**

##### **Article II:Section 2:State Committee:**

The vote of each member elected under the foregoing provisions of this Section 1 shall be that portion of the two votes to which the Assembly District is entitled which is represented by a fraction, to the nearest tenth, of which the numerator is the total vote cast for the Democratic candidate for Governor at the last election for that office in that portion of the Assembly District from which the member was elected and the denominator of which shall be the total vote cast at such election for the office of Governor in the entire Assembly District. If a portion of an Assembly District from which the member was elected is represented by two members, then each member shall be entitled to cast one-half of the vote to which such portion of the Assembly District is entitled.

##### **Article II:Section 5: Judicial Delegates.**

Delegates and Alternate Delegates to a State Convention and to the Judicial District Convention for the nomination of Party Candidates for the office of Justice of the State Supreme Court shall be chosen by the election of such Delegates and Alternate Delegates from each Assembly District in the State as follows: One Delegate and one Alternate Delegate from each Assembly District in the State, and one additional Delegate and one additional Alternate Delegate from each Assembly District in the State for each two thousand five hundred votes or fraction of two thousand five hundred votes cast on the Democratic line in such Assembly District for the Party candidate for Governor at the last preceding general State Election.

## **ELECTION DAY THOUGHTS!**

by Judy Wood

Participation in elections is our most honored and enviable privileges as citizens of this city, state, and country. When I stand out on the street campaigning and people walk by ignoring us or saying, 'oh i don't vote' its very upsetting. Millions around the globe have fought, some died, waiting on long lines for this right. If you don't vote, don't complain. But I know my fellow club members are regular, serious voters. And so to them I will take this opportunity to share a few thoughts on what will be on the reverse side of our ballots

### **Three Ballot Propositions:**

Proposition 1 concerns independent redistricting' which is quite far from independent. I am voting NO, and I urge all of you to do the same. The New York Times, with whom we don't always agree, now agrees with us and endorses a NO vote.

Propositions 2 and 3 concern funding and a bond issue for education. After speaking to a few UFT representatives last week at an

event, I am recommending a YES vote on 2 and 3 based on their thoughts.! Concern is that people will not remember to turn their ballots over - so remind your friends and family to look at the reverse side of the ballot.!

On to victory for our endorsed candidates, and the propositions we want.....and don't want.!

## **LABOR CHORUS CONCERT**

**SATURDAY NOV. 15, 7:30PM**

**ETHICAL CULTURE  
TICKETS \$25.00**

**CONTACT JUDY WOOD  
judyw123@verizon.net**

## **NO FAKE REFORM VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 1**

By Lynn Max

I agree with Common Cause, the New York City Council Progressive Caucus, Citizen Action, Liz Krueger, the New York Times, Newsday, DC 37, SEIU and many other organizations, unions and individuals in urging people to vote No on Proposition 1. This referendum on redistricting is not impartial as it enshrines partisan control into the State Constitution and it is not independent. We have until the next redistricting in 2022 to get this right. Vote No on Fake Reform. Vote No on Propositions 1.

**GENERAL ELECTION  
NOVEMBER 4, 2014**

**THREE PARKS  
INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS  
ENDORSEMENTS**

Governor  
NO ENDORSEMENT

Lieutenant Governor  
NO VOTE TAKEN

Attorney General  
- ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN

Comptroller  
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

30th State Senate  
BILL PERKINS

31st State Senate  
ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

69th State Assembly  
- DANIEL J. O'DONNELL

10th Congressional  
- JERROLD L. NADLER

13th Congressional  
- CHARLES RANGEL

State Supreme Court  
1<sup>ST</sup> Judicial District  
MILTON A. TINGLING  
KATHRYN E. FREED

New York County Civil Court  
ARLENE BLUTH  
LOUIS L. NOCK

State Ballot Propositions  
- NO VOTE TAKEN

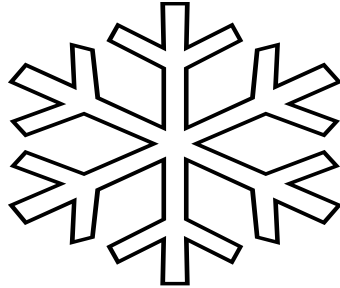
**OCTOBER 25<sup>th</sup> RENTERS'  
RALLY AND MARCH**

Congratulations to Three Parkers David Lazarus, Steve and Lynn Max and Elizabeth Kellner who marched up Broadway from 135th St. to Academy St. in far northern Manhattan to draw attention to the critical issue of the June 2015 expiration of already weakened rent regulation and tenant protection legislation. The march, organized by Sen. Espaillat with the help of other elected officials and housing activists, started with a rousing rally and great salsa music. Although not all participants made it the full distance (the hills of Washington Heights and Inwood were a challenge), the march succeeded in raising awareness as the crowd along the busy Saturday sidewalks cheered us on. The route of the march took us through neighborhoods (West Harlem, Hamilton Heights, Washington Heights, Inwood) where many thousands of affordable apartments have already been lost and more are threatened by development and gentrification.<sup>4</sup>

**CONDOLENCES**

The members of Three Parks Independent Democrats wish to express our sincerest condolences to Rachel Smit on the passing of her father, Paul Margulies on October 7, 2014.

# Three Parks Independent Democrats



## Annual Holiday Party

Sunday, December 7, 2014

5-8 p.m.

Youth Hostel

891 Amsterdam Ave. @ 103rd Street  
Ballroom

Admission is free. Enjoy the fun, festivities and food with other Club Members and their families.

Please bring a dish (should be enough for at least 6) – meat, vegetable, salad, potato/pasta/rice, or dessert – for the buffet. Three Parks also will collect cash or checks made out to West Side Campaign Against Hunger.

Call Ernestine Gallagher at 212-489-3595 or contact Lorraine Zamora at 212-749-2882 or [lzamora245@gmail.com](mailto:lzamora245@gmail.com) to let them know what you will bring.

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## 2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category -- Check One

Individual (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_

Family -- two adults in the same household (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_

Low Income (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_

Low Income Family (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Patron (\$100) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check here \_\_\_\_\_ if you prefer to receive the newsletter **solely** by email.

Please pay your dues with a check, money order or via PayPal. Money order and cash are more difficult to process. Please make out all checks to

**Three Parks Independent Democrats - Dues 2015.**

Mail to:

Three Parks Independent Democrats

Cathedral Station, P.O. Box 1316

New York, NY 10025

Attn: Treasurer

*Three Parks Independent Democrats*  
Cathedral Station P.O. Box 1316  
New York, N.Y. 10025

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, November 12, 2014**

- **NYC Councilmember Mark Levine:**
  - **PS 163 Parents Association**  
How to help protect the children and school from  
Jewish Home Lifecare construction on 97th St
  - **November 4 Election Results**