

## ***THREE PARKS INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS***

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***District Leaders***

Bob Botfeld  
Cynthia Doty

***State Committee***

Lynn Thomas

# October 2009

**OCTOBER MEETING: Wednesday, October 14, 2009**

**FEATURED TOPICS &  
SPEAKERS**

**BUILDING A PROGRESSIVE AGENDA IN THE  
NEW YORK STATE SENATE:** State Senator Eric  
Schneiderman

**DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY WINNERS:** Council  
Members John Liu, Melissa Mark-Viverito and Inez  
Dickens (all others invited)

**STATE COMMITTEE CONVENTION REPORT:**  
Lynn Thomas and Larry Hirsch

**TIME:** 8:00 PM

**PLACE:** American Youth Hostels  
891 Amsterdam Avenue at 103<sup>rd</sup> Street

**ROOM:** Chapel

**AGENDA**

1. President's Report & Announcements
2. District Leaders' Reports
3. Primary Winners
4. Building a Progressive Agenda in the  
NYS Senate
5. State Committee Convention Report
6. Judicial Convention Report
7. Indian Point Update
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

**CALENDAR**

**Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2009**  
**Three Parks Board Meeting, 8 PM**  
Place: Youth Hostel, 891 Amsterdam Ave. (103<sup>rd</sup>. St)

**Tuesday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 Election Day**

**Wednesday, November 11, 2009**  
**Three Parks Meeting, 8 PM**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2009**  
**Three Parks Board Meeting, 8 PM**

**SUNDAY, December 6, 2009**  
**Three Parks Holiday Party, 5-8 PM**

## President's Column By Daniele Gerard

At long last, the primary season is over—and the Club's endorsed candidate for Comptroller, Council Member John Liu, won the runoff on September 29th! Three Parks Council Members Melissa Mark-Viverito and Inez Dickens also beat their primary opponents. Although not all the Club's endorsed candidates were successful, we extend our heartiest congratulations to all the winners—Comptroller Bill Thompson, Council Member Liu, Council Member Bill de Blasio, Cy Vance, and Council Members Mark-Viverito and Dickens. Best of all for Three Parks, Cynthia Doty won her race for District Leader with over two-thirds of votes cast. You can read more information about all the races elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks so much to Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell and *Daily News* political reporter Liz Benjamin for their informative perspectives on recent events in Albany, state government, and current politics at the Three Parks September meeting. We look forward to hearing from them again in 2010.

The Club's October meeting has a packed agenda, featuring State Senator Eric Schneiderman, who will discuss building a progressive agenda in the New York State Senate. Several of the winners of this month's primary races will drop by during the evening. State Committee Members Lynn Thomas and Larry Hirsch will update the membership on the recent State Committee Convention.

The General Election is on Tuesday, November 3rd; Three Parks will be pulling out all the stops for Comptroller Thompson at many subways and tables in the coming weeks. Be sure to volunteer at the October meeting for slots on the sign-up sheets for subways and tables. Three Parks has a dedicated, hard-working membership that can help make the difference in Comptroller Thompson's race against Mayor Bloomberg. We're looking forward to working together to take back the City for all New Yorkers!

**Health Care for All.** Visit the Three Parks Website to get more information and help push for a meaningful public health care plan.

## District Leader Report By Cynthia Doty

Many, many heartfelt thanks to everyone for your support in my campaign for Female District Leader of the 69th AD, Part A! Together we achieved a resounding victory not only for Three Parks Independent Democrats, but also for all the grass roots community organizing that we have undertaken over the years.

Ours was truly a community effort with so many folks participating from gathering petition signatures to working on publicity and lit, to leafletting at subways, tables, and poll sites, to writing Dear Neighbor letters, to phone banking, to stuffing buildings, to donating financially, to leading 'walkabouts' to greet voters, or to spreading the word through emails and other networks. I am deeply grateful and humbled by the willingness of so many of you to be involved.

This campaign has given me the opportunity to meet more of our neighbors and hear their concerns about community needs and political issues. Even though some sections of the district have very specific concerns, I was impressed with how often the same issues surfaced whether talking to folks at 112<sup>th</sup> Street and Frederick Douglass Boulevard or 96<sup>th</sup> Street and West End Avenue. As District Leader, I plan to bring these issues to our elected officials and representatives and work as a liaison for developing some constructive solutions. Additionally Three Parks will continue our outreach to encourage more neighbors to join our grass roots efforts.

Together we will continue our grass roots activism and mobilize the community to strengthen the Democratic Party, foster our progressive values, and improve our community and our government.

Thanks again for all your invaluable support!

## District Leader Report: Primary Day September 2009 By Bob Botfeld

Cynthia Doty and Three Parks Independent Democrats scored a resounding victory on September 15, 2009. Cynthia won by a 2-1 margin, 2359 to 1265. According to the Board of Elections, Cynthia amassed the highest total of any district leader in the city.

Cynthia and Three Parks members campaigned daily during the final three weeks, greeting voters at the subways, staffing the Three Parks tables on Broadway, making hundreds of phone calls, and slipping thousands of building letters under their neighbors' doors. Campaigning, at times, was a rewarding experience. On the street, many members of the community expressed their appreciation for the work that Cynthia and Three Parks have done for the neighborhood over the past few years.

On primary night, thanks to the efficient Three Parks core of poll watchers and poll closers, by 10 PM, we had complete numbers for every ED for the District Leader race and were able to celebrate Cynthia's victory at 107 West Restaurant.

Overall the turnout in the city was light, 11%, but as usual, the voter participation in the Three Parks part of the 69<sup>th</sup> was far higher than the rest of the city. Over 26% of the registered voters in our part of the 69<sup>th</sup> AD voted in the District Leader race alone. The highest turnout was recorded in the area west of Broadway. The 46<sup>th</sup> ED (102-103 between WEA and RSD) had the highest number of votes, followed by the 49<sup>th</sup> ED (103-104 & WEA-RSD), and the 56<sup>th</sup> ED (102-103 & WEA-RSD).

In other races, our endorsed candidates Melissa Mark-Viverito (8<sup>th</sup> CC) and Inez Dickens (9<sup>th</sup> CC) easily retained their city council seats. Mark-Viverito had the closest race. She won 45% of the vote in a five-candidate race. Mark-Viverito was strongly aided by garnering 54% of the vote in the Upper West Side portion of her district.

In two other races of strong interest to Three Parks members, the Public Advocate and Manhattan District Attorney contests, our endorsed candidates lost but aided by our club's support (and the support of our neighboring clubs) they did far better locally than in Manhattan overall. In a four-way contest, Norman Siegel garnered 23% of the 69<sup>th</sup> AD vote compared to 19% of the overall Manhattan vote. In the three way, Manhattan DA contest, Richard Aborn received 36% of the 69<sup>th</sup> AD vote while only getting 26% of the county-wide vote.

In the table below, you can see how the candidates fared in our 69<sup>th</sup> Assembly District compared to the Manhattan county vote. Our

endorsed candidates are listed in italics.

**SEPT. 15, 2009 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY RESULTS**

**FEMALE DISTRICT LEADER - 69<sup>th</sup> AD – Part A**

*Cynthia Doty*                    **2358**  
Carmen Quinones            1265

<b>Public Advocate</b>	<b>69<sup>th</sup> AD</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>
de Blasio	4,426	35,013
Goia	1,785	17,309
Green	3,433	34,601
<i>Siegel</i>	<b>2,856</b>	<b>20,245</b>
<b>Comptroller</b>	<b>69<sup>th</sup> AD</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>
Katz	3,152	21,143
<i>Liu</i>	<b>4,145</b>	<b>36,625</b>
Weprin	9,20	9,203
Yassky	5,472	44,272
<b>Manhattan DA</b>	<b>69<sup>th</sup> AD</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>
<i>Aborn</i>	<b>4,339</b>	<b>27,710</b>
Snyder	3,070	32,259
Vance	5,139	47,650
<b>Mayor</b>	<b>69<sup>th</sup> AD</b>	<b>Manhattan</b>
<i>Avella</i>	<b>2,064</b>	<b>18,213</b>
Thompson	8,415	70,881
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Council Dist.</b>	<b>69<sup>th</sup> Ad</b>	<b>Entire 8<sup>th</sup> Dist.</b>
Goodwin	607	1220
<i>Mark-Viverito</i>	<b>2,305</b>	<b>4,649</b>
Rodriguez	839	2,496
Santiago	139	419
Solomon	314	1,108

**2009 Petition Drive  
by Bob Botfeld**

With all the news about the city primary elections, Cynthia's district leader race and the Jewish Home Lifecare (formerly the Jewish Home and Hospital) land swap update, in the September newsletter we omitted listing and thanking all our industrious petitioners whose hard work enabled our candidates to get on the ballot and thus participate in the primary.

Club members staffed the petition drive tables on Broadway in June and July collecting signatures for our endorsed candidates while also recruiting support for universal health care and registering new voters. We helped our candidates for Mayor, Comptroller, Public Advocate, City Council, District Leader and County Committee in the critical task of qualifying for the September primary ballot.

Over fifty-five members and friends of Three Parks participated this year, collecting over 2000 signatures. Two phenomenal petition gatherers were board member Mary Ann Marks (190 signatures) and our club president Daniele Gerard (149). New club member, Earl Kimmich (80) was next. Earl also helps set up the sound system for each club meeting. Former club District Leader, Milivoy Samurovich (60), our state committeewoman Lynn Thomas (55), board member, teacher and opera singer Deborah Thomas (53), long time club member and activist Mildred Speiser (52), the artist sculptor, Estelle Levy (50), and professor and singer Jock Davenport (50) all contributed 50 or more.

These stalwarts collected forty or more signatures: Carol Reisner, Joan Ogden, Gloria Swanson, Robert Bardin, Elizabeth Kellner, Bob Boffeld, Marnie Hall, Cynthia Doty and Steve Max.

Submitting petitions with thirty or more signatures were David Kaplan, Alex Medwedew, Marty Morand, Dorothy Mehler, Ernest Mehler, Lynn Max, Tim Walsh, Haydee Rosario, Jeri Wellman, Nicholas Bryan, Gerald Schultz, Jevon Williams, and Bruce Markens.

Adding to the totals were these Three Parkers with over twenty signatures each: Corine Pettey, Lauren Williams, Helen Karlan, George Voorhis, Susan Andrews, Audrey Manday, Ken Tulloch, Judith Ackerman, Wendy Dannett, Wilhelmina Perry, Vicki Slate, Bill Reilly and Ellen Flax.

Rounding out the qualifying petitioners were these spirited contributors: Judy Wood, Andy Manshel, Janet Harvilchuck, Yvonne Vuilliemoz, Josh Pepper, Louisa Gilbert, Joan Levinson, Doug Kellner, Linda Evans, Theresa Canter, Marie Lunn Gloria Weiss and Jorge Fanjuel.

A great job and congratulations to all!

## **Mike Bloomberg For Mayor?** By Judy Wood

Again? Oh no. Hasn't he done enough for us yet? Let me count the ways. The latest numbers find the city schools more crowded than ever. The classes are over capacity in many schools. He has fought attempts to reduce class size, which educators support as a way to insure better learning and better outcomes. But the test scores

are up, we are told. Well, it appears that "teaching to the test" is taking the place of education these days. The principals' union gave up tenure for a contract and a raise in negotiations with the Mayor's team, so they are effectively made ineffective and do as they are told. Teachers are not consulted.

How about housing? It is great if you're looking for a high-rise luxury condo. But if that can't work on your income, sorry. When the Mayor's pals bought Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper, he never spoke out against 15,000 affordable apartments' going under the gun. He works hand-in-glove with the developers and real estate moguls of New York – and has tried to give them everything they ask for. Now he claims to be a friend of affordable housing. I guess he was too busy in the past eight years to take time to work on that. Or maybe "affordable" has a different meaning for him than for the rest of us working stiffs.

But the grand finale was his hypocritical, arrogant overturning of term limits. This cynical misuse of power left many breathless as they watched the billion-dollar steamroller flatten the opposition. And now he has bought the Republican line for his race. Quite a fellow, our Mayor. He's been a member of three parties in the space of about 10 years, skipping only the Liberal party, which is actually neither liberal or a party. Would you buy a used car from this guy?

## **Election Day is November 3rd Support Bill Thompson for Mayor**

Volunteer to help elect Bill Thompson our next Mayor of NYC. Join us for visibility shifts at the subways and tables. Sign up at the meeting on Oct 14th. Check the website for campaign activities. [Threeparksdems.org](http://Threeparksdems.org)

## **Poll Workers and Election Inspectors Needed for Nov. 3rd**

\$200 per day to work on Election Day.

Election inspectors are needed in our district for November's general election. The pay is \$200/day plus \$25 for attending a training session. If you work both election and primary day, you receive a \$35 bonus. Experienced

election inspectors who become coordinators are paid \$300/day. If you or your friends are interested in working the polls this November, call our District Leader's Bob Botfeld at 212-865-1450 or Cynthia Doty 212-749-4085. They can appoint you to work in our neighborhood. Walk to work on election day.

## **Manhattan Judicial Convention and Other Judicial News**

**By Elizabeth Kellner**

On November 3 I'll be voting for Bill Thompson, the Democratic party candidate for mayor. I urge you to campaign for him since he doesn't have \$100 million to spend. We can be his millions. And then vote Democratic on Election Day '09.

The Manhattan Democrats held their Judicial Nominating Convention on Thursday night, September 24. The venue could not have been more convenient - the Anshe Chesed Synagogue auditorium at 100th and West End. All TPID delegates, two alternates, and our District Leaders attended. However, the occasion was without suspense even though there was but a single Supreme Court vacancy and six candidates. Acting Supreme Court Justice Lucy Billings received the nomination by acclamation with much good feeling and celebration in evidence after the other five candidates graciously withdrew.

Manhattan's smooth and genial convention was downright dull compared to the shouting match and physical confrontation between the still warring factions that took place at the Bronx convention that same week. The other five candidates seeking the nomination were Deborah Kaplan, Matthew Cooper and Ellen Gesmer (all of whom came out of the Supreme Court screening panel for the first time this year) and Cynthia Kern and Saliann Scarpulla who, along with Lucy Billings, had previously been reported out by the panel. All candidates had their names placed in nomination and seconded with brief speeches of praise and admiration by their supporters. In their withdrawal remarks, the five unsuccessful candidates all promised to return next year, hopefully "with a different speech."

In other judicial news, Governor Paterson announced his nomination of two sitting Bronx jurists to two new seats on the busy Appellate

Division First Department. Both Sallie Manzanet-Daniels and Nelson S. Roman's professional backgrounds include extensive work in the criminal justice system (on different sides of the aisle) in addition to their years of experience in the court system. The announcement of these nominations by the Governor was timed to coincide with a reception honoring the most famous Bronx jurist of them all, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

## **Time Is Running Out on Indian Point**

**By Daniele Gerard**

Next year, 2010, is the year of decision on Indian Point. Will the Nuclear Energy Commission grant the license extensions sought by the plant's owner, Entergy? Or will our elected officials step up to the plate and tell the NRC we do not want an aging, badly managed, dangerous nuclear power plant located just 35 miles north of Times Square?

What more do our elected representatives need to know about Indian Point? Attorney General Andrew Cuomo and the Department of Environmental Conservation have intervened to challenge Entergy's relicensing application, the first time state agencies have ever taken such a step. But we need all of our elected officials to join the Attorney General and speak out against Indian Point.

Here are the facts:

1. There is no viable evacuation plan for Indian Point. On the Upper West Side, we can barely get out of town at rush hour, never mind in the event of an emergency.
2. There is no place to store the radioactive waste generated each day by the reactors—more than 1,500 tons to date, with another 1,000 tons estimated if the plant's licenses are renewed. It all remains on site above and below ground.
3. In August 2009, *The Daily News* reported that the plant "is sitting on enough contaminated soil, by federal estimates, to fill Yankee Stadium with radioactive sludge a foot deep."
4. A 2008 study showed an increased likelihood of an earthquake near Indian Point due to the presence of a hitherto undiscovered fault line less than a mile away.

5. On August 28th, Indian Point experienced its fifth shutdown this year (and its fourth since May); one of these shutdowns was due to a lightning strike near the plant.
6. There are 20 million people living within the 50-mile "peak injury" zone of Indian Point who would be at serious risk in the event of a large radioactive release.

The federal government has only a small window of opportunity to close the plant in an orderly fashion at the end of its current licenses in 2013 and 2015; if license extensions are granted, they will be in effect for 20 years, putting another generation at risk. New York State should not wait to see what the NRC decides, but should take action immediately to (1) oppose relicensing and (2) implement, over the next three to five years, a statewide energy replacement strategy that would improve conservation and energy efficiency, upgrade the transmission infrastructure for southeast New York, and increase generation capacity to replace some of Indian Point's 2,000 megawatts. Yes, there will be hard choices to make, but that's what we need leadership for—to explain the alternatives and advocate for the option that best protects New Yorkers and our communities.

What can you do? Before the October 19th deadline, please send a comment on the State's draft energy plan stating that you oppose license extensions for Indian Point—just follow the instructions at the end of this article. Call or write to Senator Gillibrand, Senator Schumer and Governor Paterson and tell them you want Indian Point closed at the end of its current license period. Tell them you want New York to go full speed ahead to develop replacement power, conservation methods, and green alternative energy sources. Tell them you are even willing to spend a few dollars more per month on your electric bills to guarantee your safety and that of your children. Tell them you want them to come out forcefully against relicensing. In short, tell them Indian Point is simply the wrong choice: not this plant, not this place, not this time.

To take action to help close Indian Point, go to [ThreeparksDems.org](http://ThreeparksDems.org) where you can send emails to the Governor and Senators and comment on the draft New York State Energy Plan to advocate for replacement power now—the deadline for comments is October 19th. Make your voice heard!

Three Parks Members Deborah Thomas, Soprano, and Robert Leuze, Baritone, will sing in a concert of opera arias, duets and scenes

on:

Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009, at

Bruno Walter Auditorium,

(in the Lincoln Center Library)

111 Amsterdam Ave. at 65<sup>th</sup> St.

Admission is Free.

For more Information, call (212) 870-1630.

### Remembering Clifton H. W. Maloney

Three Parks Independent Democrats extends our sincere condolences to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and her family on the sudden and untimely death of her husband, Clifton Maloney.

The Funeral Service for Mr. Maloney will be held at Brick Presbyterian Church, Friday, October 9, 2009 at 11:00 am, 62 East 92nd Street, between Park and Madison. Entrance to Church: Park Avenue between 91st and 92nd Streets - west side (wheelchair entrance on 91st Street, between Park and Madison at rear of Church).

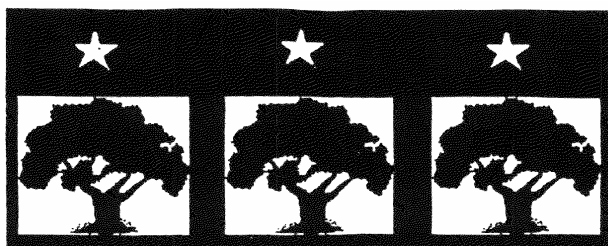
For anyone who would like to make a contribution in Clif's name, the family is requesting that donations be sent to:

Trustees of Princeton University, for the Clifton H.W. Maloney Scholarship Fund, Alumni and Donor Records, P.O. Box 5357, Princeton, NJ 08540, 609-258-8283, [www.princeton.edu](http://www.princeton.edu); or

The Explorers Club, in memory of Clifton H.W. Maloney, 45 East 70<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10021, 212-628-8383, [www.explorers.org](http://www.explorers.org); or

The American Alpine Club, in memory of Clifton H.W. Maloney, 710 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100, Golden, CO 8040, 303-384-0110, [www.AmericanAlpineClub.org](http://www.AmericanAlpineClub.org)

The deadline for submissions for the November newsletter is October 28, 2009



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Please pay your 2009 dues by filling out the form below and bringing it to the next meeting  
or by mailing it with your check to:

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

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## **2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

***New Member***\_\_\_\_\_

***Renewal***\_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category -- Check One

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

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

Student/Senior Citizen/Low Income (\$10)\_\_\_\_\_

Low Income Family (18) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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*Three Parks Independent Democrats*  
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New York, NY 10025

## **NEXT MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009**  
**Building a Progressive Agenda in the NYS Senate**  
**Democratic Primary Winners**  
**State Committee Convention Report**