

THREE PARKS INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

Cathedral Station ♦ P.O. Box 1316 ♦ New York, NY 10025 ♦ (212) 866-6378

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

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Cynthia Doty

State Committee

Lynn Thomas

February 2006 Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, February 8, 2006

TIME: 8:00PM

PLACE: Hostelling International New York (HINY)
891 Amsterdam Avenue at 103rd Street

ROOM: Chapel Room

AGENDA

7:45PM Sign-in
8PM Call to Order

1. President's Report
2. District Leaders' Reports
3. Election of 2006 Officers and Board of Directors (ballot box open 8:15 – 9:45)
4. Speakers
Inez Dickens, Council Member - 9th District
Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Member - 8th District
Eric Schneiderman, State Senator and Deputy Minority Leader (Invited)
Donna Lieberman, NYCLU Executive Director
Steven Greenfield, Candidate for US Senate
Jonathan Tasini, Candidate for US Senate
5. New business
6. Adjournment

CALENDAR

Wed, Feb 8 at 8:00PM Three Parks Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St., Chapel Room
Wed, Feb 22 at 8:00-9:00PM Three Parks Board Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St.
Wed, Mar 8 at 8:00PM Three Parks Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St., Chapel Room
NY State Attorney General Candidate Forum
Wed, Mar 22 at 8:00-9:00PM Three Parks Board Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St.
Wed, Apr 19 at 8:00PM Three Parks Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St., Chapel Room
Wed, Apr 26 at 8:00-9:00PM Three Parks Board Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St.
Wed, May 10 at 8:00PM Three Parks Meeting
PLACE: HINY 891 Amsterdam Ave at 103rd St., Chapel Room

**PLEASE PAY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP DUES for 2006**

Your dues must be current in order to vote

President's Column

Theresa Canter

Despite the inclement weather, we had a strong turnout for our January meeting. Many thanks to Alex Matthiessen, Hudson Riverkeeper & President, and Lisa Rainwater van Suntum, Indian Point Campaign Director for addressing the membership about issues of concern with the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant and the ways we can work to help the Democratic Party propound an environmentally sound energy policy. At the meeting, the membership passed a resolution opposing the relicensing of Indian Point (see last month's newsletter for the full text). In addition, we were privileged to hear from Ed Ott, Public Policy Director of the NYC Central Labor Council and the Hon. Herman "Denny" Farrell, Assembly Member and NY State Democratic Committee Chair. They shared with us their thoughts on the upcoming elections, both state and congressional. It was all very informative, but a lot to squeeze in for one night!

In February for our keynote speaker, we are pleased to have Donna Lieberman, the Executive Director of the NYCLU, to speak to us on the curtailment and erosion and of our civil liberties, thanks to the Bush agenda. Our own State Senator, and Deputy Minority Leader, Eric Schneiderman has been invited to update us on what is going on in Albany and in the state races. In addition, we will have presentations and Q&A from both Jonathan Tasini and Steven Greenfield, candidates for US Senate from New York. An invitation will also be extended to the incumbent, Senator Hillary Clinton for a later date. In March we have invited all the candidates for New York State Attorney General to speak. Our goal is to hear from all the candidates running for public office who represent our district before we make our endorsements in May.

Three Parks will also be having its annual membership meeting in February. At that time, all officers and members of the Board of Directors for 2006 will be elected. In order to vote you must be a member in good standing (see the eligibility rules and the bios elsewhere in the newsletter). You need to be current in your dues, so, if you haven't paid your Three Parks dues for 2006, now is the time to do it! You may either send in

the form on the back page with your check, or pay at the meeting itself. Speaking of dues... your annual dues hardly cover the cost of our monthly newsletter. Our goal is to reach out and energize as many of our fellow Democrats as possible... and the last thing we want to do is limit the distribution of our newsletter. I send the newsletter out electronically to several hundred people a month (at no cost to the club). If you would be interested in receiving the email version only, please let us know at the below email address.

Thanks to those who responded to my last column and sent in their thoughts on issues they would like to see addressed in the coming months. Please continue to email me at ThreeParksDems@aol.com, or tesscanter@aol.com.

Is There a Crisis in Black Male Employment?

By David F. Weiman

In the mayoral campaign Freddy Ferrer criticized the Mayor for ignoring the economic problems in African-American and Hispanic communities. In focusing on the "crisis of black male employment," Ferrer unfortunately misrepresented the results of a study by Mark Levitan of the Community Service Society (see www.cssny.org/pubs/research/poverty.html) and got himself embroiled in a technical debate over economic terminology. What was lost in this scuffle, of course, was the real issue, the dim labor market conditions for working age black men in New York City.

Levitan's study showed that just over 61% of working age black men were employed in 2004 as compared to 77% of white and 68% of Hispanic men. Of the remaining 40%, some were unemployed, but the vast majority were "out of the labor market" for whatever reason-in school, disabled, retired.... This group also includes "discouraged" workers and prisoners. The former are not actively looking for work because of their fruitless job searches, and many of the latter turned to crime because of the greater monetary rewards from "illegal" rather than legal work.

These groups reflect the deeper roots of the unemployment problem in disadvantaged communities that

elude the conventional unemployment measure. So, instead of focusing solely on the unemployment rate, we should also track changes in the numbers who are reentering the formal labor market in search of legal employment, for this be a sure sign of improving employment conditions in the black community.

Three Parks Takes the Fight to Brooklyn

By Steve Max

The Three Parks Take Back Congress Campaign moved into Brooklyn in January after two Saturdays of Broadway tables. Setting up in front of the huge Bay Ridge Century 21 store, we informed hundreds of voters that Vito Fossella, their Republican Congressman, had supported budget cuts that will keep their kids from going to college. Our leaflet also detailed the impact of additional cuts to Medicaid and other programs upon which so many New Yorkers rely. Brooklynites readily signed petitions asking Fossella to change his vote when the Bush budget comes up again in February.

There is not yet a candidate running against Fossella, although several people are considering it. Our hope is to encourage someone to make the fight by showing that Fossella's support for the Bush Program cuts into his popularity.

Three Parks members Dan Berger, Bob Botfeld, Lynn and Steve Max and Milivoy Samurovich were joined by Bay Ridge District Leaders Joanne Seminara and Ralph Perfetto along with local club members. Janele Hyer-Spencer, a Staten Island/Brooklyn Assembly candidate and her husband Douglas Spencer came over to help. Jock Davenport, Batya Miller, Phil Henshaw and Ernestine Gallagher will join the Three Parks team going to Brooklyn on January 28th.

We will be making regular Saturday trips in February, as well as looking at races in Westchester County and the Senate Race in Pennsylvania. Volunteers for Brooklyn Saturdays (12:00 to 2:00 PM plus travel), should call Lynn Max at 212 666-3129. Drivers with cars particularly are needed.

Manhattan Judicial Vacancies in 2006

By Alan Flacks

This year there are no "open" judicial seats for the State Supreme Court (the State trial bench) or for a County-wide Civil Court seat although there are incumbent judges whose terms expire at the end of this year and are running for re-election. All the "action" will be in district Civil Court "open" seats, but none is in the Three Parks club's area.

For Supreme Court, incumbents Angela Mazzerelli and Joan Lobis said that they shall stand for re-election and seek re-designation at this year's judicial nominating convention for the 14-year term. And Civil Court Judge Jane Solomon (who is a former Three Parks member) is running Countywide for re-election to a ten-year term. There is expected to be no opposition to their candidacies.

Elsewhere in the County, some district Civil Court seats are up for grabs and there are also some incumbents seeking re-election. In the First Civil Court District (south of 14th St., West side to the Battery), Paul Feinman seeks re-election. In the Second District (Lower East Side), there is an "open" seat created by the elevation of Martin Shulman to State Supreme Court last year. In the Fourth District (14th St. to 59th St. east of Lexington Ave.), both Michael Stallman and Eileen Rakower will seek re-election. In the Seventh District (Upper West Side north of 110th St. and to Inwood), there is a vacancy caused by Judge Stephen Gottlieb reaching the State constitutional mandatory retirement age of 70. And in the Ninth District (14th St. to 96th St., Seventh Ave. to Lexington Ave.), Arthur Birnbaum is up for re-election, while Robert Lippman creates an "open" seat as he retires because of the mandatory age limit.

The Party's county judiciary committee on Feb. 2nd will set up a screening panel comprised of non-politically involved lawyers and lay people designated by the heads of various bar, legal, and community groups to interview the incumbent, County-wide candidates to ascertain if they merit re-designation. Hopefully, the district leaders in the local Civil Court dis-

tricts will also set up comparable screening panels or perhaps employ the County screening panel.

Judicial Convention Ruled Unconstitutional

By Alan Flacks

A Federal lawsuit brought two years ago by then Brooklyn Civil Court judge Margarita Lopez-Torres and others to declare the N.Y. State party judicial nominating conventions unconstitutional on the grounds that the judicial conventions were unconstitutional, undemocratic, and controlled by party leaders and that the voters had no say was just decided Jan. 27th in the plaintiffs' favor. U.S. District Court (E.D.N.Y.) Judge John Gleeson issued a preliminary injunction barring the nomination of State trial judges by judicial conventions. Instead, such candidates must petition to get on the ballot and run in a party's Primary election open to all party voters just as Civil Court judges do now unless and until the State legislature adopts a different system. An appeal is expected.

Three Parks Elections Meeting February 8, 2006

ARTICLE SEVEN: ELECTIONS

1. The association shall have an annual membership meeting each February at which all officers and members of the Board of Directors shall be elected. Eligibility to vote at the annual membership meeting shall be the same as the requirements to vote on endorsements.

2. Candidates for election shall be nominated at least twenty-one days in advance of the annual membership meeting. Candidates may be nominated either by a report of a nominating committee duly constituted by the membership or by the Board of Directors or by a nomination, duly seconded, at the meeting next preceding the annual membership meeting.

3. The notice of the annual meeting shall include the names of all candidates for office.

4. If there are no candidates for a particular office,

nominations may be received at the annual meeting.

5. Voting shall be by secret ballot. Where no candidate for a position as an officer receives a majority of the votes cast on the first ballot, there shall be a runoff between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

6. The Board of Directors may fill vacancies in any office or in the Board of Directors until the next meeting of the membership. The membership may fill vacancies until the next annual meeting by nomination from the floor without the notice required above.

Eligibility Rules for Voting

In order to be eligible to vote a member new to the association during the calendar year must have attended at least one other meeting of the association within the previous six months. Members during the prior calendar year must have attended at least one meeting of the association within the previous six months and have their dues current by the day of the vote.

2006 Nominated Club Officers & Board of Directors Biographies

Theresa Canter – President With your support, I would be honored to continue to serve the membership as President. I have no doubt that this year will be as challenging as the last two years! Let's all stand together to ensure Democratic victory on all fronts, and work to make the club a more visible presence in the community and in NYC politics.

Ray Schwartz – First VP I have been a member of the club for more than 15 years and served as membership sec. for 5 years. The need for a progressive and loud voice is vital to all of us and Three Parks gives us the opportunity to make our voices heard.

Lynn Max – Second VP Organized Registration and Get Out the Vote operation and co-managed the Three Parks/Broadway Democrats Campaign Storefront in 2004. Co-Chair of the Three Parks Social Security Committee. Active in the West Side Stadium fight and in Cynthia Doty's 2005 Council Campaign. Currently co-organizing Three Parks' Committee to Take Back Congress in 2006. Member of the Board of W. 104 St. Block Association.

Ellen Flax – Treasurer, is a consultant to a family foundation, and serves part-time as the rabbi of small congregation in Westchester. She was active in the storefront during the 2004 election and would be delighted to serve a fifth term on the Board.

Josh Pepper – Membership Secretary, has been on the Three Parks Board for three years, the last as Membership Director. A longtime political activist, Josh would be pleased and proud to serve another term.

Jock Davenport – Recording Secretary For a good chunk of my adult life I have taught history at the College of Staten Island. For a much smaller chunk I have been active in grass-roots politics. My political philosophy is best summed up in my old mentor William Sloane Coffin's dictum: Comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable.

Judy Wood – Corresponding Secretary I am a candidate for Corresponding Secretary, a position I now hold. This means getting the newsletter out monthly in

a timely way. I have been an active member of Three Parks for many years and former District Leader and intend to continue my political activity no matter what position I hold.

Dan (pr: D-ah-n) Berger was born in Israel in 1981. He moved to the U.S. at a young age and has been living on the Upper West Side since 1999. He works for Congressman Charles Rangel (D-NY) as his Special Assistant -- a position with many tasks, including serving as his UWS liaison. Dan runs a frequently updated political blog at danjberger.com.

Daniel Marks Cohen is a native Upper West Sider, Dan (pronounced the American way) is rejoining the Board after a short sabbatical from club activities. In addition to being a 15-year member of Three Parks, Dan has previously served as club President for five terms. Dan currently works as a Vice President of ING Clarion Partners, a private equity firm in midtown Manhattan, and he is on a constant search for superior barbecue.

Ernestine Gallagher, a longtime member of Three Parks and member of the board. Ernestine has worked on many campaigns over the years and in organizing the annual holiday party every year. She was also active in Frederick Douglas Houses.

Arlene Geiger is an Economist teaching at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and has been a political activist since she moved to this neighborhood in 1970 on issues ranging from anti-war to rent regulation. Most recently, she has been hosting house parties for Democracy for America, Dean for America and Moveon.org.

Daniele Gerard is a lifelong New Yorker. She worked on the staff of NYC Council President Carol Bellamy, attended Columbia Law School and practiced at Cravath and NC Prisoner Legal Services. She has been a member of Three Parks since 2004 and would be honored to serve on the Board.

David Kogelman is an arbitrator and general practice attorney, and father of a 14-year-old son. Since joining Three Parks last spring, he has been a very active member - assisting at meetings, petitioning, registering voters, volunteering at our storefront and organizing our

Pennsylvania bus trips. He welcomes this opportunity to continue serving our Club and our community.

Barbara Lee would be honored to serve a 2nd term on the board.

Marie Lunn is a retired registered nurse. Since joining Three Parks several years ago she has worked on campaigns and participated in petitioning. She is an election poll worker and a member of the New York Dem. County Committee.

Maryann Marks My name is Maryann Marks. I am the proud mother of three adult college students and have five wonderful grandchildren. I have a fantastic career doing what I love, working in the healthcare field, assisting the elderly. In the past I have worked as a teacher's assistant for the Board of Education.

Corine Pettey Former District Leader, Riverside Dems. Principal for 24 years in elementary school District 3. I oppose the Bush administration policies of reversing the gains we have made in voting rights, women's rights and civil liberties. I oppose his budget policy of tax cuts for the rich and lack of a comprehensive health care policy.

Milivoy Samurovich Founding member of Three Parks, served for five years a District Leader that led to recognition of the club as an official Democratic organization. Also, served on Community Board 7, co-chaired the Urban Renewal sub-committee, on the committee that opposed the Westway Highway. He served on CB 1, chair of Battery Park Committee during planning phase. Led Tenants Committee of my apartment building and organized rent strikes. Served on its Co-op Negotiating Committee, and has since rotated as Treasurer and President of the Co-op Board.

Eric Santiago is the Director of the IT business systems at Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT), a nonprofit organization that addresses the dramatic under-representation of minorities in leadership positions in corporations, entrepreneurial ventures and nonprofit organizations. He has a B.S. in business, with a concentration in management information systems. He also is a graduate of Columbia University's

Executive IT Management program. He enjoys travel and has visited 15 countries in 5 continents over the past 10 years.

Ken Tulloch Born in Titusville, PA. educated at Allegheny College and Drew School of Theology, active UM pastor from 1968-2004, married with two daughters, retired to NYC in 2004, worked in store front campaign for Kerry, have done leafleting and tabling on several issues, am on democratic county committee. Look forward to serving on TPID board.

Yvonne Vuillemoz born and educated in Switzerland worked as a biologist at Columbia University. Nowadays volunteers at the Natural Resources Defense Council, a non-for-profit legal environmental organization. Was active in the Three Park storefront during the 2004 Presidential Campaign. I am looking forward to participating in the Club activities.

David Weiman Last year, I served on the Board for the first time and actively participated in Cynthia Doty's and Bill Perkins's campaigns. I also contributed frequently to Club discussions and the newsletter on economic policy issues. I am particularly interested in and would like to see the club devote its efforts to two policies: the reform of our drug laws that have resulted in the dramatic increase in incarceration rates and the adoption of a living wage policy for all New York City (and state) workers.

THREE PARKS CLUB MEMBERS News and Announcements

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to our club president, Theresa Canter, on the loss of her mother.

JUST A REMINDER

Many of us are still not shopping at
Garden of Eden
As the union is still asking us to boycott.

List of Eligible Voters

Anna Avila	Pilar Gomez	John Newell	Mildred Speiser
Catherine Beason	Rachel Hadas	Iretta Owens	Michael Stearns
Dan Berger	Phil Henshaw	Joshua Pepper	Roschel Holland Stearns
Joan Bondell	Jan Caryl Kaufman	Corine Pettey	Steve Strauss
Teresa Canter	David Kogelman	Geraldine Phillips	Deborah Thomas
Rosalyn Cherry	Barbara Lee	Lisa Prochazka	Ken Tulloch
Barbara Cutney	Maryann Marks	Marjorie Roesch	Cathy Unsino
Cynthia Doty	Melissa Mark-Viverito	Christine Samurovich	George Voorhis
Kathy Egmont	Stephen Max	Milivoy Samurovich	Yvonne Vulliemoz
Ellen Flax	Lynn Bender Max	Eugene Sarver	David Walker
Elizabeth Forel	George McGuinness	Ernest Scher	David Weiman
Arlene Geiger	Minda Meister	Doris Schreiber	Judy Wood
Daniele Gerard	Renee Mittler	Ahmad Shirazi	
Joseph Gianono	Charles Morgan	Ann Shirazi	
Robert Ginsberg	Brenda Morgan	Gladys Smith	

List of Ineligible Voters

In order to vote your dues must be current

Cy Adler	Olga Gueft	Linda Montemaggi	Linda Schoener
Ralph Andrew	Janet Guss	Cornelia Muamba	Ray Schwartz
Robert Bardin	Janet Harvilchuck	Bruce Nelligan	Abbey Shepard
Soren Bergeson	Ray Hoobler	Jeffrey Norman Nichols	Rachel Simms-Thompkins
Bob Botfeld	Jacqueline Huey	Arlene Katz Nichols	Connie Sommer
Chaim Bronstein	Evelyn Johnson	Joan Ogden	Anna Lee Spiro
Jacqueline Carhart	Rita Kardemon	Patrick O'Shaughnessey	David Sternoff
Kate Chamberlain	Estelle Kattelson	Joan Paylo	Doris Stevenson
Wendy Dannett	Michael Katz	Hank Perlin	Donna Tapper
Ann Darby	Elizabeth Krob Kellner	Jim Picinich	Clara Taylor
John Davenport	Douglas Kellner	Penelope Pi-Sunyer	Stephanie Tegnazian
Amy Davidow	Kenneth Laufer	Rose Podrasky	Lynn Thomas
Lucille Donte	Lois Lazarus	Fred Reichman	Jane Thompson
Renna Draynel	David Lazarus	Ann Roos	Don Traunstein
Scotty Embree	Gail Leinwall	Linda Rousseau	Yara Trokel
Miki Feigel	Estelle Levy	Beverly Rubin	Reuben Vargas
Alan Flacks	Marie Lunn	Jonathan Rubin	Mary Vaughn
Eva Foreman	Kathleen Martin	Suzanne Samelson	Tim Walsh
Ernestine Gallagher	Danny Max	Liz Samurovich	Pamela Wax
Elena Gardner	Judith Medina	Elizabeth Sanders	Lauren A. Williams
Hulda Garner	Alex Medwedew	Eric Santiago	Judith E. Williams
Alexandra Grannis	Joann Mercedes	Carl Joseph Scalise	
Susannah Gross	Gail Meyers	James Scheuer	

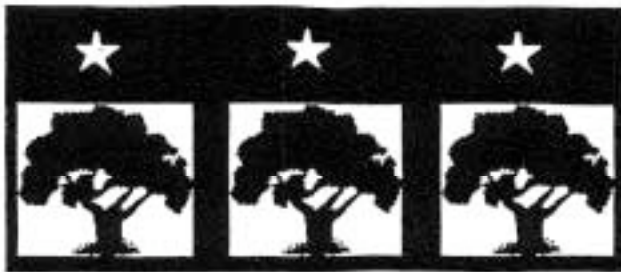


Three Parks Independent Democrats
Cathedral Station P.O. Box 1316
New York, NY 10025

Next Meeting
February 8, 2006

Three Parks Elections Meeting

Reminder! 2006 dues now due!



THREE PARKS INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS
Cathedral Station P.O. Box 1316 • New York, NY 10025 (212) 866-6378

Please pay your 2006 dues by filling out the form below and bringing it to the next meeting or by mailing it with your check to:

Ellen Flax
Treasurer
Cathedral Station P.O. Box 1316
New York, N.Y. 10025

2006 MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member ___ ***Renewal*** ___

Membership Category -- Check One

Individual (\$15) _____

Family -- two adults in the same household (\$20) _____

Student/Senior Citizen/Low Income (\$8) _____

Sponsor (\$30) _____ **Patron (\$100)** _____

Name _____ **Date** _____

Address _____ **Apt. #** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (H) _____ **(W)** _____

Email _____

Check here if you prefer to receive the newsletter via email.

Please make out all checks to "Three Parks Independent Democrats - Dues 2006"