

Why Democrats should vote for Democrats

by George Morin

On that hot August day in 2004, Mayor Bloomberg stood in the spotlight at the Republican National Convention and declared, "The president deserves our support ... and I am here to support him."

A major DeLay contributor

And while Karl Rove and the Republicans went on to attack Democrats with everything from Swift Boats to phony terror scares, Bloomberg continued his financial largesse to Republican candidates of every stripe, never using the influence he claimed to have in the Republican party to stop the lies.

His crowning contribution – a cool quarter of a million dollars – went to Tom DeLay's effort to bring more Republicans to power.

Demonstrators = terrorists

During that convention Bloomberg compared anti-Bush demonstrators with the terrorists of 9/11. And taking a page from the Bush play-book, the mayor oversaw more than 1,800 unjust "preemptive" arrests. Hundreds were locked up without arraignment past the 24-hour limit – many for over three days in crowded chain link cells in an abandoned bus depot.

Now, a year later, as the Bush administration crumbles from within, the same Mayor Bloomberg reaches out to New York City Democrats and says, look, I oppose Judge Roberts, look, I oppose what's happening to those victims of Katrina and Rita – vote for me, vote for me.

Stop Bush now

But Democrats who do look, see the support Bloomberg bestowed on Bush and his Republican minions and know that now is the time and New York is the place to stop Bush and the destruction he is sowing in our country.

A vote for Bloomberg is a vote for Bush – and the lies, the war and the Far Right agenda.

With Iraq a quagmire and our country teetering on the brink of economic and social disaster, how can we survive three more years of Bush without having more Democrats in power at every level of government to fight the beast?

Big bucks flood the airwaves

Bloomberg's billions give him the power to flood our airwaves with warm pictures and crafted claims that sound like he made this city into some kind of paradise.

And even as he argues that he needs the Campaign for Fiscal Equity funds to rebuild our schools, he has contributed to members of the Republican majority in the State Senate who are blocking those very funds.

He was elected in the aftermath of 9/11 by promising that his business know-how would pull us through that devastation and heal our terrible wound.

Ignoring communities' wishes

Yet, instead of fighting to restore downtown Manhattan, he squandered his time and "business know-how" fighting for an unwanted football stadium on the West Side, completely ignoring the wishes of the people who live there.

Forced by the state to produce a plan to dispose of the city's garbage, he also ignored community wishes and produced a patchwork quilt of bad ideas, topped off by the Asphalt Green Marine Transfer Station. That assault on sanity will surely take its place in infamy with the Fresh Kills Landfill, the Brooklyn Incinerator and the Barge to Nowhere.

Opposing Democratic initiatives

Other signs of Bloomberg's Bush-ward leanings include his opposition to efforts by the city comptroller to push socially conscious shareholder resolutions and his vetoes of progressive City Council bills such as one giving domestic partners the same benefits as spouses and another to reduce school bullying.

He also vetoed a bill giving people on welfare a better chance to earn General Educational Development diplomas and to take classes to learn English, and another one allowing tenants in some affordable housing programs an opportunity to buy their buildings.

And when his vetoes were overridden he went to court in an attempt to overturn the laws.

Even though his glossy mailers claim that he supports affordable housing, he is not supporting home rule for rent regulations, preferring that upstate Republicans continue to control them.

Democrats comin' home

Small wonder Bloomberg ducked out of the first mayoral debate at the Apollo.

And no wonder that Democrats who once considered voting for Bloomberg are now coming home to support a true, blue Democrat – Freddie Ferrer. **LDC**

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**WE CAN
MAKE IT
HAPPEN**

Fightin' Dan, your Council man

by Brice Peyre

Coming off his resounding primary win in which he received almost 60% of the vote, Dan Garodnick is pressing ahead on the road to City Hall.

Taking nothing for granted

Despite an impressive string of post-primary endorsements from Senator Hillary Clinton, Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, Assemblyman Steve Sanders, the Working Families Party, and the League of Conservation Voters, Dan is taking nothing for granted and continues to campaign non-stop in City Council District 4's always-competitive general election.



Big Thanks, Lex Club

Dan performed especially well in the primary in that part of the Council district that lies in the 73rd Assembly District, and expressed his thanks to the Lexington Democratic Club.

A battleground district

"I am profoundly grateful to Lexington Democratic Club members for all their hard work.

"The 73rd A.D. will be a critical battleground against the Republican candidate in November, and I would like to encourage Lex Clubbers to continue mounting the same kind of sustained and dedicated effort in the weeks ahead," said Dan.

Call to action

Volunteers are encouraged to contact Dan's campaign at 212 260-0126 or to join Lex Club campaigners supporting Dan throughout the 73rd Assembly District. **LDC**

From Scott: "Thanks a lot."

First, I want to thank the membership of the Lexington Democratic Club for your help and support throughout the campaign. Without all of you, this victory would not have been possible.

Grassroots, all the way

Our campaign was a great grassroots effort, with more than 100 house parties across the Borough, "Dear Neighbor" letters distributed to more than 30,000 Manhattan voters, and hundreds of thousands of pieces of literature handed out at subway stations, supermarkets and in front of big buildings.



Owe it all to volunteers

It is both gratifying and humbling that my campaign benefited from so much effort from so many volunteers.

I was thrilled that we were able to run a campaign of real ideas about transforming the Borough Presidency. I cannot wait to begin the hard work to protect our neighborhoods and communities that we talked so much about during the campaign.

Still work to be done

Though we've won the primary, there is still a lot of work to be done before the November 8th general election, particularly in the East Side City Council races as well as in the Mayoral race.

Keep working for Dan and Jessica

Please continue to volunteer your time and effort for our superb Democratic City Council nominees Dan Garodnick and Jessica Lappin and the entire Democratic Party slate. And, of course, please remember to get out and vote on November 8th.

— Scott Stringer

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Why I'm against Mayor Bloomberg by Billy Sternberg

Something I just saw reminded me why we Democrats must take back City Hall: another Starbucks Grand Opening – this one on the corner of Delancey and Allen. From Ratner's to Starbucks – Oy!

Too many for rent signs

This turning of our town's neighborhood businesses into Corporate-Franchise City hit me hard. Soon every mom and pop store will be turned into a Border's, CVS or Petco. I see too many for rent signs up and too many old friends gone: Kevin and Bill of Superior Copy; Bobby the homemade pasta guy; The Cheese Store, with the best stuffed artichokes; and the Great Jones Diner on Lafayette Street. I don't get the same feeling at Kinko's that I did from friends at the copy store who were seriously interested in everyone's projects.

Small businesses hit by 9/11

The reason why all the moms and pops are going out of business is because the city and state didn't respond compassionately to their needs after the terror attacks on 9/11.

And small businesses aren't the only ones who finances have been hit since 9/11. My rent is up 20%, my transit fare is up 20%, and my health insurance is up 23%. Property taxes are also up 18% (with a small rebate) while breakfast at McDonald's is up 25%. Even the bar steak at Raoul's is up 15%.

Of course, the price of a city parking ticket is being discounted – but only if you plead guilty.

Promises, promises

At his inauguration the new mayor said, "We will bring new life to our waterfront and stimulate new investment in housing, schools, and when we can afford them, the world's best cultural and athletic facilities."

Yet only sports stadiums will be the legacy of this administration – for the Mets, Yankees and Nets. He negotiated ferociously for the Jets' West Side stadium and dreamed mightily for the Olympics – all for nothing. Meanwhile the teachers waited years and years for him to negotiate a contract.

Make housing affordable

And what about the waterfront and other housing investments? The Meier Towers doesn't have any low-income residents nor will the high rises ready to sprout in Williamsburg.

What percent of the Avalon/Chrystie project will house working-class people? Why hasn't the acreage on Delancey Street or Sherman's Creek been developed responsibly?

It's not that housing isn't being invested in. It's that the new housing can only be afforded by out-of-town MBA's who come to "make it here." What about the children of our teachers, our MTA workers, our cab drivers?

New York is not better off than it was four years ago. In fact, it's disappearing.

That's why I'm voting Democratic all the way down the line to Judge. **LDC**

NOV. FORUM

2005 BALLOT QUESTIONS

Four vital questions involving Budgets, Transportation and Ethics with City Council Speaker

Gifford Miller

and Assemblymembers

Jonathan Bing and Pete Grannis

Thursday, November 3,

7 to 9 p.m.

**Place to be announced
visit www.lexclub.net**

Dear Lex Club members:

I'm writing to express my sincere appreciation for the support of the Lexington Democratic Club in the Democratic Primary Election.

On September 13th, I received over 7,200 votes from Democratic voters in the 5th Council District. I could not have achieved this victory without the help and support of the Lex Club and its members.



Tough opponent

I'm also writing to update you on our current race. I am now facing a tough Republican opponent, Joel Zinberg, in the General Election on Tuesday, November 8th. Zinberg is a surgeon on the East Side and has the support of the Republican establishment, including Mayor Bloomberg, who is actively campaigning with Zinberg on the East Side.

Republicans out to win

The Republicans have targeted this race as a competitive one. Recent local elections on the East Side have shown us that the Republicans can still put up a fight, and I expect one in this race.

Fight Bloomberg money

The money that will be spent by Mayor Bloomberg to turn out his Republican base on the East Side will almost certainly help downticket Republicans like Joel Zinberg.

I am extraordinarily grateful for the support that many of you have already given to my campaign.

I am asking for your help one more time as we work together to defeat the Republicans on the East Side and turn out the Democratic vote on Election Day.

Together, we will achieve victory on November 8th!

Best,
Jessica Lappin

Forum on Judge Roberts



Club member George Spitz leads the questioning of Professor Michael Dorf (top) and Tony Simone of People For the American Way.

Questions & Answers

The club's forum on September 15, "The Truth About Judge Roberts," featured Columbia Law School professor Michael Dorf and the New York representative of People For the American Way, Tony Simone.

Professor Dorf, a specialist in constitutional law, expressed high praise for Judge Robert's professional qualifications. But having read archives of Roberts writings of 20 years ago, he has no doubt that Roberts was a conservative.

"But after watching the Senate testimony, I believe there is a 5 to 10% chance that he could pleasantly surprise us," the professor said.

Tony Simone pointed out that just because you're brilliant and highly qualified, with a nice family, doesn't mean you should be approved for a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court.

"We feel he's been evasive and misleading. He's done everything his whole career to make sure it would be difficult to pin him down.

"From studying his background we feel he's as far to the right as Rehnquist and Thomas."

Arthur Schiff, one of the leaders of the 73rd District, introduced the speakers and managed the event. **LDC**

VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Campaigns

Freddie Ferrer (212) 684-2005
www.ferrer2005.com

Dan Garodnick (212) 260-0126
www.garodnick.com

Jessica Lappin (212) 988-2270
www.jessicalappin.com

Scott Stringer (646) 403-9916
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Betsy Gotbaum (212) 571-5167
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Campaign Committee

Lillie Balinova (212) 404-5574
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Larry Goodman (917) 972-2964
email: lbgesq@aol.com

Heather Leifer (646) 643-8109
email: hleifer@nyc.rr.com

NEXT FORUM

The World Wide Flu
Pandemic:
How can we protect
ourselves?

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Peter Palese, Ph.D.
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine

Dr. David Kalfee, M.D.
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine

Dr. Elsie Lee, M.D. M.P.H.
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine

Wednesday, October 26
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Brown Gardens
225 East 93rd St
(btwn 2nd and 3rd Aves.)
Manhattan

See all newsletters
and event updates at
www.lexclub.net

by Fernando Ferrer

“WHERE I STAND”

ABOVE THE FOLD:

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

• A new feature:

• UPCOMING FORUMS

Lappin and Stringer

Garodnick,

OUR CANDIDATES:

• THE LATEST FROM

BLOOMBERG

• THE CASE AGAINST

INSIDE:



1202 Lexington Avenue, Suite 337, New York, NY 10028



WHERE I STAND

Fairness, opportunity and hope for all the people

by Fernando Ferrer

This is New York. We were represented by Bobby Kennedy, John Lindsay, and now Speaker Gifford Miller and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney – and so many other Democrats who share our ideals and our goals.

Growing up in the Bronx, I remember learning what Democratic values meant to New Yorkers.



The Democrats fought for good schools, affordable housing, and green spaces for families to take their kids to, for jobs that paid a decent wage.

My own first job was shining shoes; my mother and grandmother, who raised me, worked hard. I had great teachers, great after school programs and I got the opportunity to go to college – all because of the things the Democratic Party fought for.

I know what it’s like to work hard, and to

try to build a better life for your family here in this great city. But Mike Bloomberg doesn’t get it.

For nearly four years, he obsessed about helping a professional sports team build a new stadium with taxpayer money, and he insists on standing shoulder to shoulder with George Bush and Republicans like Tom DeLay – giving \$250,000 to DeLay’s scheme to put more Republicans in office.

But what has he done to help average folks who can’t afford a multi-million dollar condo?

Why didn’t Mike Bloomberg go to Albany and fight for the \$23 billion they owe our schools? Why did he raise our taxes after promising us he wouldn’t? And it goes without saying we still don’t have a Second Avenue subway—though the Mayor’s appointees to the board have allowed two major fare hikes to go through.

I do understand the lives most New Yorkers live, and I’m running for mayor because I want to build a city based on our Democratic values of fairness, of opportunity and hope – a city that gives all our people the

opportunity to build a better life.

We’ve got to acknowledge the challenges New Yorkers face, and instead of making promises, put out real plans to fix them.

We have a crisis in our public schools when one of every two kids drop out. That’s why I put forward a bold plan to give our 1.1 million school kids everything the suburban systems give their kids.

We have a crisis of affordability in housing, with too many New Yorkers squeezed out of the neighborhoods they love, or unable to find a decent place to live at a price they can afford. That’s why I put forward a bold and comprehensive plan to build and preserve 167,000 units of housing families can afford.

A mayor has to make the kinds of decisions that give us hope for better schools, affordable homes, good jobs, and bigger dreams – and the confidence that New York City is the place where we can make those dreams come true.

I love this city with all my heart. It’s the greatest city on earth – and I know that together, we can make it greater still. **LDC**