

## Scott and Jessica report back

by Robin Marsico

After six months of serving the constituents whose votes they worked so hard to win, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and City Council Member Jessica Lappin reported to the Club members who had helped them through the gruelling primary and hard-fought general elections.

### Genuine thanks

Both officials expressed deep, genuine thanks to Club members for the endless hours of petitioning, flyering and phone banking on their behalf.

### Scott Stringer's Report

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer reported on major changes in the borough president's office, transforming the office to make it more relevant to the community.

### Community Board Reform

One of his first acts was to de-politicize the boards and fill every vacancy. Scott set up an independent screening panel made up of groups like the Citizens' Union, NYPIRG, Hispanic Federation and the N.A.A.C.P. And, for the first time, every applicant was interviewed.

Scott, his staff and city council members also reviewed current board members' attendance records before making final appointments based on the screening panel's recommendations.

"Change is in the air as people demanded a role in planning their neighborhoods," Scott said.

### Mayor pulls back in East Harlem

At Scott's first town hall meeting in East Harlem, some 300 people came to learn more about the "Uptown New York" development.

An earlier presentation told the community, "this is what you're getting," without revealing the impact of a diesel bus depot.

But Scott's new land use unit, the community board and a council member convinced the mayor to pull the project back and start over.

Likewise, on the West Side between 96th and 110th streets, the community objected to additional ultra-high-rise buildings and now "down zoning" will prevent them. Labor donated

### Scott's "Peace Corps"

Mr. Stringer fulfilled another campaign pledge to engage the next generation by the establishing the Urban Planning Fellowship. The Fellowship, like the Peace Corps, will send young urban planners from colleges and universities into communities to help the residents plan their own neighborhoods.

### Transportation

Believing the City is "one step away from gridlock," Scott's office is working on a transportation policy for the future.

To that end he will hold a transportation conference with panel discussions that include transportation experts from London and other major cities. The goal is to help Manhattan develop a transportation policy for the next century.

Of more immediate concern is the rebuilding at Ground Zero and the many thousands of truck loads dirt and cement that will be required. It's a major logistic problem given that a cement truck must pour its load no longer than 45 minutes after receiving it.

### Affordable Housing

Scott also noted that there is little vacant land and few deserted buildings remaining in Manhattan. So he plans send a hundred people throughout Manhattan to count vacant lots and empty buildings and begin a road map of affordable housing opportunities.

"When young kids from the Midwest can't come here because the entry fee is a \$2 million condo, then New York will no longer be the center of the universe," Scott said.

"Tourists come here by the millions not just to see our buildings, they come to see us - we are different."

### Jessica Lappin's Report

Council Member Jessica Lappin described her first six months in office as "rewarding, challenging, incredible, intense."

Her first committee meeting as a council member was of the General Welfare Committee in the wake of the Nixzmary Brown tragedy. There was a real sense that the city had failed Nixzmary and by extension all children.

(Continued inside)

### Officers and Elected Officials

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Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer at Members Forum on July 14th.

# Lou Dobbs: Hats off to Carolyn...

On CNN's "Lou Dobbs Tonight", Tuesday, July 16, Carolyn Maloney was praised by both Dobbs and co-anchor Kitty Pilgrim. The reason was Maloney's effort to have the Treasury Department's Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (C.F.I.U.S.) "pre-review" the use of Smartmatic electronic voting machines produced by a Venezuelan-owned company in American elections.

The committee's decision to revisit the use of Smartmatic machines came after vigorous advocacy by Congresswoman Maloney, who also is introducing legislation to tighten up the C.F.I.U.S. review process.

*Lou Dobbs:* I think we have to give just extraordinary credit to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney. She focused on this issue, she brought it to the attention of the public, and our hats are off to her. She's just doing a wonderful job here

*Kitty Pilgrim:* She's been very vigilant, and until this came to light publicly, there was really no – absolutely no – acknowledgment that there was a problem with this.

*Lou Dobbs:* It is nice to see our elected officials ... doing their job, and again, our compliments and commendation to Congresswoman Maloney.

– reported by Brice Peyre

# Charlie King joins Andrew Cuomo

Adapted from the Andrew Cuomo website

On September 6, Charlie King announced his support for Andrew Cuomo in the Democratic Primary on September 12. In announcing his decision, King referred to conversations with civil rights leader Reverend Jesse Jackson and Congressman Charles Rangel, both of whom encouraged him to end his campaign and support Cuomo to unify New Yorkers around a common theme of justice for New Yorkers, particularly with regard to education and healthcare.

Both Jackson and Rangel had also encouraged the move at this crucial time in an effort to halt the increasingly negative campaign tactics of attorney general candidate Mark Green.

"I endorse Andrew Cuomo today because he is now the clear choice for our Party in this race. Andrew understands that the next attorney general must focus on ensuring that all New Yorkers are guaranteed social, economic and racial justice," said King.

"It is time for Democrats to come together in support of Andrew Cuomo," said Rangel.

"The recent attacks by Mark Green only serve to divide our City and State at a time when we must come together to defeat the Bush/Pirro Republican ticket. We have learned from the 2001 election and we won't let it happen again

in 2006," he added.

Standing with Rangel, King and a host of prominent African American leaders from across the city who had previously endorsed King, including State Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson, State Senator Larry Seabrook, Mount Vernon Mayor Ernie Davis, New York City Councilmembers Leroy Comrie and Tom White.

Cuomo praised King for his role in raising the issues of healthcare and education throughout the course of the campaign. "I am humbled to have my friend and colleague supporting me today," said Cuomo. "Charlie King has been a worthy adversary, and a voice of conscience throughout this race. I look forward to joining together in a unified ticket for justice for all New Yorkers," Cuomo added.

Rangel, Cuomo and King said the "United for Justice" effort would seek to unify African Americans, Latinos, labor unions and progressives to ensure a November victory.

King and Cuomo plan to campaign together at an Upper West Side subway station during the evening rush hour and plan numerous joint appearances throughout the state in the coming days. **LDC**



## DEAR LEX CLUB MEMBERS:

With the end of petitioning we are now in the home-stretch for the primary election on September 12th. Almost 3,700 signatures were submitted to the Board of

Elections on Lex Club petitions.

That is a number we can all be proud of.

The Club on its own qualified Carolyn Maloney and Liz Krueger in addition our 73rd Assembly District candidates: Jonathan Bing, state committee members and judicial delegates.

This was an impressive showing to which thanks must be given first and foremost to our club membership. The campaign committee, especially Heather Leifer, was crucial to organizing this core effort by the Club.

Special thanks to the Maloney, Bing, Krueger and Lori Sattler campaigns for their assistance in carrying our petitions and at the binding.

I look forward to joining you all on the streets campaigning in the weeks leading up to the primary campaign and afterwards during the general election campaign.

This is an important year for the Democratic Party in both the state and nationwide. We have the opportunity to elect Democrats to every statewide position and a chance to take control of the state senate.

The House of Representatives is also ripe for a turnover after 12 years of Republican rule. I for one would like to be able to greet Congresswoman Maloney as Chairwoman Maloney come January and the latest polls indicate that this is a good possibility.

The U.S. Senate is also on the brink of change. The Club hopes to be active in races outside of our district which will help our party both statewide and around the nations.

This can be done through phone banking and possibly trips.

There is so much to do but, with your help, it can be done.

All the best,

Alex Tisch,  
President, Lexington Democratic Club

## GENERAL ELECTION

**NOVEMBER 7**  
**REMEMBER TO VOTE**  
**FOR THESE CANDIDATES**

United States Congress  
Carolyn Maloney

State Senator  
Liz Krueger

State Assembly  
Jonathan Bing

State Comptroller  
Alan Hevesi

## Volunteer for Victory

Contact Heather Leifer  
at  
hleifer@nyc.rr.com

## Jessica Lappin's Report *(continued from page one)*

Each agency testified about its role in the process, revealing miscommunication and a lack of cooperation and coordination among the agencies. But instead of pointing fingers, Jessica reported that the Council did a good job of tackling issues in a positive way, with concrete discussions of how the agencies should address similar situations in future.

### Roosevelt Island Tram

Ms. Lappin then discussed the breakdown of the Roosevelt Island tram. After the rescues, Jessica's concerns were that the State be held accountable and that the malfunction not become an excuse to permanently shut down the tram.

Governor Pataki had often said that the tram outlived its usefulness, and the mayor echoed something similar after the breakdown.

However, for those living on the island, the tram is no mere tourist attraction, but a vital transportation link and an icon of the island and the city.

### Convincing support

She called for Transportation Committee hearings within the week. Former Mayor David

Dinkins testified in support of the tram as did the last two people rescued from the tram car as it dangled over the East River. They proclaimed they would be on the tram the day it reopens, setting the tone for fixing the tram and preventing future failures.

Not only did the mayor back off his statements, the governor pledged \$15 million to restore the tram. "The good news, is the tram is coming back," she said.

### The Fieldston landmark

The first issue to come before Jessica's Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Siting & Maritime Uses was the hotly contested landmarking of Fieldston. She toured Fieldston with the council's Landmarks Preservations' staff.

The over 250 homes in the area were almost evenly split between opponents and supporters, so the landmarking question was not political one but one that rested completely on the merits. The council was nearly unanimous in favor of landmarking.

### 91st Street Marine Transfer Station

Finally, the council member spoke about the

controversial Solid Waste Management Plan on which the council was planning to vote the next day. (Subsequently, the council approved the plan.)

Jessica had been extremely active in opposing the plan's 91st Street Marine Transfer Station, maintaining that the it was inappropriate for the area and that the overall Manhattan plan was unrealistic.

Jessica believes that in a year none of the Manhattan facilities will be on line, and the council will be back at the table deal with the real issues. She said they will continue to fight the same battle of "Manhattan versus the other boroughs" with the mayor unwilling to look at the other alternatives that are in Manhattan. **LDC**



City Council Member Jessica Lappin at Members Forum on July 14th

## OFFICIALS' ROUNDUP

### Recent news and views from Club's elected officials

#### Liz Krueger reports that Manhattan and Brooklyn V.A. hospitals are saved.

The Department of Veteran's Affairs announced that both the Manhattan and Brooklyn V.A. hospitals would remain open. Senator Krueger proclaimed that widespread community support throughout New York City had been responsible for reversing the earlier decision to close the hospitals. "Who could imagine closing high-demand V.A. hospitals during a time of war?" the senator asked.

#### "Morning After" move a "Half Victory"

Senator Krueger called upon the State Senate to pass bill S.6686 and extend the recent F.D.A. ruling for over-the-counter availability of emergency contraception for women 18 and up to women of all ages. The bill had passed the Assembly but has been held up in the Senate.

Because of the burdensome prescription requirement for women under 18, Senator Krueger said that the government "appears to be making a moral judgment which is not the role of the F.D.A."

#### Newest affordable housing opportunities

Applications for 44 studio and one-bedroom apartments on the Upper East Side for low- and

moderate-income individuals and families are now being accepted by 1115 First Avenue Associates L.L.C. Rents are \$618 to \$688 a month depending on income and unit size. Incomes must be between \$26,480 and \$33,984.

Applicants will be selected by lottery with preference to NYC residents. Those residing in Community Board 8 will receive priority for 50% of the units.

Other priorities and restrictions apply. For an application contact 1115 First Avenue Associates L.L.C., 331 W. 57th St., Box 373, New York, NY 10019. Include an S.A.S.E. Applications must be postmarked no later than 9/23/06 and sent by regular mail to the P.O. box on the application.

#### Jonathan Bing supports wide range of reforms and improvements as session ends

The final weeks of the 2006 Legislative Session capped off a productive year for the Legislature. Among the bills passed by both houses and supported by Assembly Member Bing are:

- An outreach program to inform public of the dangers of "sleep deprived" driving.
- An enhanced "Megan's Law" to better protect against high-risk sex offenders.

- More stringent gun control penalties for having of a loaded gun outside the home or business.
- Eliminate the statute of limitations on rape.
- Expand New York State criminal D.N.A. database to include all felons and those convicted of 18 key misdemeanors.

#### Mammogram Van on East Side.

On August 30, Bing sponsored the American-Italian Cancer Foundation's Mammogram Van at the Stanley Isaac's Neighborhood Center on East 93rd Street to provide more than 40 East Side women with free mammograms.

An advocate for women's health and a member of the Assembly Health Committee, Bing has sponsored these screenings each year since he was elected in 2002.

#### Beekman Place Blood Drive

On August 29, the Assembly Member donated blood at a Beekman Place blood drive. This important community event was sponsored by the New York Blood Center, the Beekman Place Association, and Assembly Member Bing. Each day, the New York Blood Center attempts to collect 2,000 units of blood to satisfy the needs of patients at hospitals throughout New York City. To donate blood, please call 1-800-933-BLOOD or visit [www.nybloodcenter.org](http://www.nybloodcenter.org). **LDC**

*INSIDE: Report on Club forum with Scott Stringer and Jessica Lappin and the latest news from the Cuomo campaign.  
 ABOVE THE FOLD: The D.C.C.C. plan to take back the congress.*

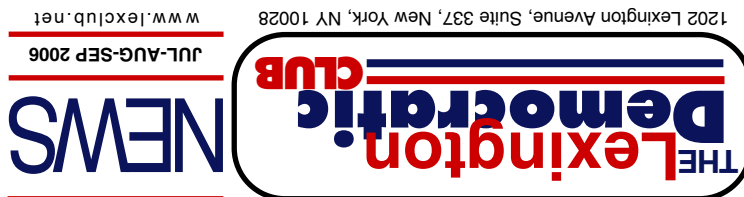
Democratic Primary  
 September 12  
 Recommended Ballot

Governor  
 Eliot Spitzer

Attorney General  
 Andrew Cuomo

United States Senator  
 Hillary Clinton

Endorsed by  
 Congress Member Carolyn Maloney,  
 Assembly Member Jonathan Bing,  
 Council Member Dan Garodnick,  
 Council Member Jessica Lappin,  
 and The Lexington Democratic  
 Club, Alexander Tisch, President.



## Grassroots Victory Strategy for 2006 Congressional Elections

by George Morin, excerpted from the D.C.C.C. 2006 Campaign Plan

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has set high goals for the coming election and is determined to regain control of the House that had been lost in 1994.

The D.C.C.C. is focussing on re-electing Democratic incumbents facing tough battles, fielding top quality candidates for open seats, and taking on Republican incumbents who are vulnerable and/or ethically challenged.

### Candidates to speak the truth

In recruiting high quality Democratic candidates, the Committee looked for those who were not afraid to speak the truth about what the Republicans and the Radical Right are doing to our country.

Among the candidates are seven veterans of the war in Iraq.

### Outstanding staffs

Of course, even the best possible candidates need a strong and dedicated field staff.

To that end the Committee has trained fundraisers, managers and grassroots operatives to ensure that each campaign has the team to win.

The effort will culminate with the strongest Get-Out-the-Vote effort ever seen.

### The Democratic message

Perhaps, the most important element will be to clearly communicate the Democratic message:

- Be forthcoming about the war in Iraq
- Be clear about our exit strategy
- Make sure our nation is secure and our people are safe
- Pass federal health care legislation that controls cost and covers all Americans
- Stop the flow of American jobs overseas
- Pay down the record deficit the created by Bush and his congressional supporters
- Attack corporate and special-interest corruption
- Fully fund safe and accountable schools with skilled and well-paid teachers
- Make energy independence a national priority
- End the billions of dollars in giveaways to Big Oil
- Protect our air, water, wildlife and wild-lands

- Honor our historic commitment to Social Security so seniors can retire with dignity
- Stand up for individual liberties
- Protect the right to privacy by keeping the government out of our personal lives.

### For the people

Americans of every age, race, gender, occupation and faith are looking for a better vision for America. They believe the power of the government should benefit every American, not just the powerful, the influential and the wealthy. **LDC**

**SAVE DAFUR  
 NOW**

**Stop Genocide Rally**  
 Central Park East Meadow  
 5th Ave and 97th St  
 Sunday, Sept. 17, 2006  
 2 p.m.