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# THE BROADWAY DEMOCRATS

♦ District Leaders: Curtis Arluck, Paula Diamond Román ♦ President: Joe Nunley ♦

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**Broadway Democrats Joins Three Parks Democrats  
To Celebrate and Move Forward!**

## **Election Analysis and Outlook for the Next 2 Months and the Next 4 Years**

**Speakers! Celebration!**

**Reunion of Obama Campaign Storefront Volunteers!**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14th**

**Please note *day* and  
*location* of this meeting.**

**8:00 PM**

**YOUTH HOSTEL**

**Amsterdam Avenue (between 102<sup>nd</sup> and 103<sup>rd</sup> Streets)**

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## District Leader's Report

Curtis Arluck

### A GREAT VICTORY AND THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

President Obama won because he and his fellow Democrats saved the country from the ruinous policies of his predecessor, had better ideas for building on the successes of his first term, and captured the hearts and minds of the young people who will build tomorrow's America while honoring the work of those who came before them. And he did this all with strength, humility, intelligence, and far greater management skills than the so-called business leader who was trying to replace him. On Wednesday, November 14 we will gather with the Three Parks Democrats and as many of the hundreds of our campaign storefront volunteers who can make it to celebrate our success and look forward to the challenges ahead. For now, a few thoughts.

If 2008 was the year of the African American as we elected our first black President, 2012 was the year of the Latino. I have never seen the enthusiasm for a candidate that I saw among Latinos for President Obama at our PS 165 and Cathedral Parkway Towers polling places on Election Day. And this was repeated all over the country, as Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, Mexicans and other Latinos voted for the President in record numbers. Most amazingly, he carried the Cuban vote in Florida, winning a higher percentage of the votes of Cubans born in the U.S. than he did in nearly every state. It may be that, finally, our country is ready to cast its prejudices aside, and allow a path to citizenship for immigrants who came here to build a better life and share in the American Dream. The immigration reform legislation that will probably pass won't come close to being what it should be, but it will make a big difference in the lives of several million people, mostly Latino, who have fought for the right to be what most of us are automatically: citizens of the United States of America.

President Obama did not do well among older white working class Americans. I am sad about this, especially as regards people in places like

Pennsylvania and West Virginia who voted Democratic until recently, supporting Dukakis, Gore and Kerry as well as Clinton. While I know that these voters are acting on misinformation and in many cases prejudice, we can't just write them off. More than most people, their economic interests are served by the Democrats, and shattered by the Republicans. We must figure out ways to appeal to them and bring them back into the fold.

Elections are hard work. Bob, Cynthia, Steve and Lynn worked at the storefront full time, twelve hours a day, for nearly two months. Each task: phone banking, bus trips, volunteer coordinating, button sales—required immense amounts of time and effort, especially on those Saturdays when they were all happening at the same time. My main task was making sure that the people in our district were able to vote. Getting the Hall Cards up in each building, managing our poll sites on Election Day, was another full time job. Over a hundred people from the club and the storefront chipped in to help with this. They all did a great job, but we could have used even more. While we are not in a swing state, our people's votes are important to them! When they couldn't vote, there were tears of sorrow. When they did vote, especially for the first time, there were tears of joy.

As there were tears from our President, as he spoke to his volunteers in Chicago in that now-famous video. Let us come together, this Wednesday and in the days ahead, to honor our President, the work that he did, the work that we and so many others did. We are not where we need to be; we know that in this life we never will be. But we are moving forward.



## President's Corner

Joe Nunley

### A NEW FOREIGN POLICY

American Foreign Policy is capitalism running wild or more specifically, "global capitalism running wild". The fact that this is the *only issue* in which there are *no* distinctive differences between the two

parties should indicate how bad our policies really are. When are the republicans right about anything?

They say that truth is the first casualty of war. Apparently, it's the first casualty of politics as well. Mitt Romney told, by my count, at least one hundred lies during his campaign. Barack Obama told a few, but one was unconscionable.

I get concerned when lies come out of the mouth of the President of the United States regarding "our next war". I think that the insiders have known for quite a few years that "Iran is our next war." People say, "follow the money", which is true but I say, "follow the propaganda". And when the propaganda comes from the mouth of a sitting US president, the dial has already been set.

President Obama said, "Ahmadinejad has threatened to wipe Israel off the map". How many times have we heard this spoken on every cable station from Fox to MSNBC, and by nearly every politician? The fact that it was not said, does not matter. Ahmadinejad referred to the regime of Israel one day being in the dustbin of history. It was a misinterpretation. A president lying to the American people regarding war has become routine. Who is going to call him on it? Alternative candidates (Green and Peace and Justice) were not allowed any media exposure or debate participation. Ron Paul was able to address the "wiping Israel off the map" lie in the republican debates, but was denied a speaking spot at their convention.

This misinterpretation is going to be our template for war. From it we will muster the necessary emotion and fear to bring everyone on board for a war the neocons have wanted to fight for years. And American foreign policy *is run* by the neocons.

So, every war must have a template, an hypothesis. Iraq's was "they are acquiring weapons of mass destruction". That statement was considered a fact, not a theory. And once again, both political parties agreed. I remember watching all of the scores of people from Henry Kissinger to Madeleine Albright being on television and discussing with absolute certainty that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and would use them.

And I thought, "Well, all these experts must be right." That's the same mistake we always make, isn't it?

Well, after hundreds of thousands of deaths (murders), millions of refugees, the destruction of a nation, over 200 dying per week even today from violence, we know that it was a *vicious, vicious, vicious lie accepted as fact*.

We know now that the sanctions imposed on Iraq killed thousands, mostly children. Now we have a replication of the same nonsense.

The idea of Iran having a nuclear weapon as being the nation's number one security threat, as Romney stated in the last debate, is hyperbolic nonsense. Would Romney say that we should attack North Korea because they have a bomb? Or Pakistan? Or China? Or Russia?

Iran has never threatened to attack Israel. Never. But apparently it's perfectly ok for Israel to threaten to attack Iran or for the US for that matter to say, "Everything's on the table." No country should ever threaten to attack another country. It's deliberate provocation and a violation of the UN Charter.

The majority of Congress is taking instructions from the Tea Party of Israel, the Likud government. Thankfully, Israel's other leaders have stood up to Netanyahu. Israel television reported last week that two years ago Netanyahu told his generals to prepare for an attack on Iran. They refused. Neither Israel's military nor their intelligence community believes that Iran is anywhere close to a nuclear weapon. (Netanyahu, twenty years ago, was screaming that Iran was just years away from a nuclear weapon.) A foreign policy which repeats the lies of certain special interest groups does not bode well for a foreign policy the American people can trust.

Hundreds of thousands of Iranian people stood in a candlelight vigil in sympathy for the victims of the 9/11 attacks on the United States. These are the people the sanctions are crippling.

It is time for the people of both nations to express their solidarity with one another and our distain, our disgust, with those leaders who are engaging in this conduct, one that is ultimately going to lead to utter tragedy for the people of Iran and for the people of Israel.



## Membership

In order to vote in club elections (endorsements, elections of officers, judicial convention, amendments), you must be an eligible, voting member of the Broadway Democrats. You must have attended at least one of the previous nine monthly public meetings and you must pay your dues. Dues partially defray the costs of presenting forums and putting out this newsletter. Dues are \$20; senior dues are \$5.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

The Broadway Democrats  
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FIRST  
CLASS

Assemblymember: Daniel O'Donnell  
District Leaders: Curtis Arluck,  
Paula Diamond Román  
President: Joe Nunley  
Newsletter Editor: Gretchen Borges

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## **ELECTION ANALYSIS AND OUTLOOK**

**Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00-9:30 p.m.**

**Youth Hostel (Amsterdam Avenue between 102<sup>nd</sup> and 103<sup>rd</sup> Streets)**

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