
THE BROADWAY DEMOCRATS

◆ District Leaders: Curtis Arluck, Paula Diamond Román ◆ President: Gretchen Borges ◆

The Quality of Life Around 125th Street

A Town Hall Meeting For Residents of Grant Houses, Manhattanville & Morningside Heights

Invited:

- State Senator Bill Perkins* (30th District)
- State Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell* (69th District)
 - Borough President Gale Brewer
 - Councilman Mark Levine* (7th District)
 - Police Department*
 - Sanitation Department*
 - New York City Housing Authority

*Confirmed

Speakers will make brief presentations, followed by an in-depth question and answer session.

Thursday, September 18th

7:45 p.m. Sign in & Refreshments

Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. sharp!

Manhattan Pentecostal Church

541 West 125th Street

(between Broadway & Amsterdam)

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Volume 39, Issue 6

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District Leader's Report

Curtis Arluck

Election Bulletin: Teachout, Wu and Jackson all Sweep Our Area En Route to Surprisingly Strong Showings

Here are the votes from our PS 165 and 390 and 410 Riverside polling places:

Teachout 1032 (64%)
Cuomo 551 (34%)
Credico 30 (2%)

Wu 1109 (71%)
Hochul 455 (29%)

Jackson 716 (65%)
Espaillat 328 (30%)
Tejada 56 (5%)

While Cuomo, Hochul, and Espaillat all won, each got far less of the vote than was expected, and Espaillat actually trailed until the final Washington Heights results came in. It was clear in conversations with voters that the huge Teachout and Hochul victories here weren't just the result of their liberal positions vs. Cuomo's move to the right; a lot of moderate voters were also turned off by his personality and his various ethical shenanigans, especially with the corrupt Republicans who run the State Senate. In fact, the EDs in our area where Teachout and Wu did best were also the ones where Dan Squadron (running against Tish James) and Michael Bloomberg did best. Cuomo was saved by his big victories in minority communities; if Teachout and Wu had had the resources to compete there, they could have pulled off the upset of the century. And Espaillat's near loss to Jackson seriously undermines his next Congressional candidacy two years from now.

Thanks for your help. Another great showing by the Broadway Democrats.



President's Corner

Gretchen Borges

A Song of War

Fall. When serious life begins again. But this year, even if out of consideration range of vacationers, worrisome events kept occurring all summer long.

The outrage that was the Ferguson police department, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Israel/Gaza conflict, the horrors perpetrated by ISIS; it was not a peaceable summer.

Our President seems weary. Understandable. Unremitting domestic opposition in the face of international turmoil must be tiring. But we need to have an engaged mind considering our foreign policy.

Clearly President Obama is not by nature an interventionist. (Though Yemen, Pakistan and Somalia might disagree.) Neither with Ukraine or Israel/Gaza, are we positioned to intervene in an overt military fashion. Fortunately. But once again, the morass of the Middle East is beckoning. The President's candid acknowledgement that we did not yet have a strategy of how to deal with ISIS was a political and strategic gaff. The no-new-ideas Republicans responded by chanting their taunts, then, led by a single-minded Dick Cheney, and accompanied by the ever present warmongering chorus of McCain/Graham, familiar verses encouraging engagement gained in volume.

The President's Wednesday night speech signaled a move into the Interventionists' column. Increasing the number of Americans in Iraq while firmly saying no boots on the ground is fooling no one. We have all seen this movie before. Too many times. The vocabulary has changed, with "homeland" standing in for America and "boots on the ground" for troops, but no one who lived through any of our previous military incursions in Asia can have any doubt of the inevitable bloody outcome of engagement.



State Committee Report

Daniel Marks Cohen

[Note from editor: This column was submitted in a timely fashion and thus was written before the Primary held Tuesday September 9th.]

Welcome back! Looking forward to getting into Primary season this fall - the so-called "Independent Democratic Caucus" appears to have fractured due to pressure from progressives, and while some challengers have withdrawn two still remain – State Senator Jeff Klein in the Bronx, the leader of the IDC, is getting a strong challenge from former City Councilman Oliver Koppell. And former City Comptroller John Liu is putting up an even stronger challenge to State Senator Tony Avella in Queens. Clubs have already been sending volunteers north and east to help out the challengers, and with the exception of the spirited race between State Senate between incumbent Adriano Espaillat and former City Councilman Robert Jackson, the rest of our elected officials are otherwise running unopposed (although there is a Gubernatorial primary, see below), so I encourage you to get involved where there is some political action and the need for volunteers is great. Now, this is the city's SECOND primary day on September 9th, after the federal primary in June – the fact that we now have two primary days is absurd, and it is another sign of the intransigence in Albany that we cannot come to some sort of agreement of a unified primary date.

I cannot say I was surprised by the Times decision this week not to support anyone for Governor in the Primary – Cuomo's anticorruption Moreland Commission had real promise when he announced it over a year ago, but when it was unceremoniously decommissioned he caught the attention of the US Attorney Preet Bharara, and that brought former Dean Presidential campaign staffer Zephyr Teachout into the primary race. She is underfunded and totally unknown, and has little chance of scoring an upset.

But there is something interesting brewing in the Lieutenant Governor primary. The LG position is a stand-alone race (after the primary the winning Governor and LG candidates run as team in the general election), with Cuomo pick former Congresswoman Kathy Hochul being denied the Times' endorsement over Columbia Law professor Tim Wu.

The thing about the LG race is that even if Cuomo wins his primary, Wu could win the LG race and then it could be the final nail in the coffin for the noxious Independence Party (the IP, which like its similar predecessor, is neither Independent or a party), which endorsed the Cuomo/Hochul ticket but now would be faced with a dilemma – the IP cannot remove Hochul from their ballot line, and votes for Cuomo on the IP line in November would not count towards the Cuomo/Wu ticket on the Democratic line, and if the IP ballot line does not receive 50,000 votes it would cease to exist.

If Hochul wins the Democratic primary for LG, then the Cuomo campaign could direct supporters to vote for the ticket on either the Democratic ballot line or the IP ballot line, since they would both count towards the same ticket. But if they have different tickets on the two ballot lines – Cuomo/Wu on the Democratic ticket and Cuomo/Hochul on the IP, then they are viewed in NYS election law as two totally different tickets, and the Cuomo campaign would be adverse to any votes going towards the IP line since it could damage his chances of getting reelected (say in a hypothetical November election Cuomo/Wu gets 45% of the vote on the Democratic line, and Cuomo/Hochul gets 6% of the vote on the IP line, and Astorino/Moss gets 49% of the vote on the Republican line – who becomes Governor? Answer: Astorino). Progressives have been talking – quietly – about whether to publicly support Wu as a way of punishing Cuomo for continuing to support the corrupt Independence Party, and as a way of making a progressive statement without preventing Cuomo from being re-elected. As of this writing the Primary is only 10 days away. Gonna be a nailbiter! See you at the September club meeting.



From the Steering Committee Pat Almonrode

Join the People's Climate March – Sunday Sept. 21

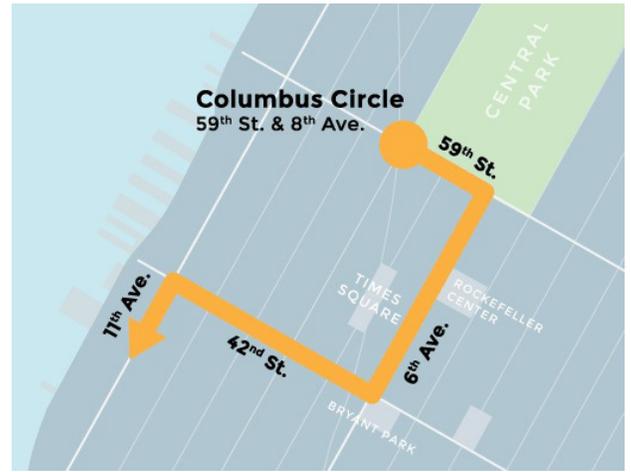
On Sunday, September 21, thousands (possibly hundreds of thousands) of people will take to the streets of Manhattan for The People's Climate March, demanding strong action to confront the impending climate crisis. The March is timed to catch the attention of world leaders, who'll be in town for the UN General Assembly and for the special UN Climate Summit, called by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon for the 23rd. We'll march to show them that there *is* popular will for a binding
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global climate treaty to sharply reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

We'll also be marching for *climate justice*, demanding solutions that prioritize communities and peoples that are already feeling the effects of climate change – primarily marginalized, low-income, communities of color, here in the US and throughout the world. The people already most affected by climate change, and those most likely to continue to be affected as the climate spirals into chaos, are those who have contributed the *least* to the problem. So we'll be marching to demand the world we *know* is actually within our reach: a world with an economy that works for people and the planet; a world safe from the ravages of climate change; a world with good jobs, clean air and water, and healthy communities for all.

The March has been planned and organized by a large and diverse coalition of groups – labor, faith, social-justice, and environmental. This is not just about saving the polar bears – the environment is where we *all* live, work, play, learn, and love. And the March will be much more than just the usual bunch of liberal white tree-huggers – the March will be led by members of these frontline communities, and by indigenous groups from around the world, including some from small-island nations whose very existence is threatened by the sea-level rise associated with climate change. Also, hundreds of major labor groups have signed on to march, in recognition that the “climate-vs-jobs” formulation of the fossil-fuel industry is a false dichotomy, and that we're *all* in this together.

As those of us organizing the March like to say, “to change everything, we need everyone” – and that includes *you*. Come help us
The March will start at Columbus Circle; go east on 59th Street to 6th Avenue; south on 6th Avenue to 42nd Street; and west on 42nd Street to 11th Avenue; ending on 11th make history! **Here's what you need to know to participate:** Avenue between 38th and 34th Streets:



- The March is organized by contingents or affinity groups. There will be contingents for labor, faith, the arts, the Bronx, anti-fracking, LGBTQ, parents and children, elected officials – you name it, *somebody* has organized a group to participate in the March. Of course, all are welcome to march simply as individuals, but you might want to find a contingent to march with. The best way to do that is to go to the March website, and find a group. You can do that at <http://peoplesclimate.org/organizing/>. **The Broadway Dems might consider marching as a group within one of these larger contingents.**
- **Don't go to Columbus Circle to join the March!** The different contingents will each have a pre-March assembly area; most of these will be along Central Park West, north of Columbus Circle. The assembly areas will be posted on the website (<http://peoplesclimate.org/march/>) once they're determined. Unaffiliated folks will probably be directed to file in behind the last organized contingent – so if you're unaffiliated, you might not start marching until 1:00, 1:30 or even later.

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- It will probably take about two hours to walk the whole route. **There will be accommodations for those who don't want to (or can't) walk the whole distance.** Again, watch the website <http://peoplesclimate.org//march/>.

- There is no kickoff rally planned; however, all are welcome to the multi-faith prayer service of the Interfaith Contingent. That service will start at 11:00 at the Interfaith Contingent's assembly area – 58th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues (note: this contingent will *not* assemble on Central Park West because it's likely to be too large).

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- There are no plans for a rally/concert/speeches at the end of the March, but there *will* be some inspirational, educational, and fun events to mark the finish. For more information, watch the website – <http://peoplesclimate.org//march/>. There will also be a closing multi-faith service at 6:00 pm at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, with more world-class musicians, powerful speakers, and numerous dignitaries in attendance. Because of the expected crowds and heightened security, you should plan to get there early. Passes are not required but *are* strongly suggested; go to <http://religionsfortheearth.splashthat.com> to request a pass.

- Finally, one reason this March will be so big is that thousands of people are coming from all over the country to join us. Many of them will need a place to stay for a night or two. **If you have a spare bedroom, a couch, or even space on your floor for a sleeping bag, please host a visiting marcher or two. Go to www.humanhotel.com to register as a host.**

Please join us on Sunday, September 21 as we make history! If you have any questions, please

feel free to email me (Pat Almonrode) at palmonrode@gmail.com.

See you in the streets on the 21st!



IS THIS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER?

It costs more than \$20 per year for Broadway Democrats to mail out newsletters to each person on our mailing list. We can no longer afford to mail newsletters to people who aren't dues-paying members.

There are two ways to keep your newsletters coming:

- 1) Mail in your dues to Broadway Democrats, PO Box 1099, Cathedral Station, New York NY 10025. Dues are \$25, \$10 for seniors, students, and those with limited incomes.
- 2) Request, by e-mailing gborges370@gmail.com, that your newsletters be e-mailed rather than snail-mailed to you. We would love it if you also paid your dues—which you must do in order to vote at club meetings—but we will e-mail newsletters to anyone who requests them.
- 3) Of course, we would also prefer that everyone, dues-paying or not, receive their newsletter by e-mail, so please contact the above e-mail address to request this. If you have already paid your dues, thank you! Your newsletters, by e- or snail- mail, will keep on coming.

CHANGE IN DUES PASSED

At its April 22 meeting, the Steering Committee voted to recommend a change in the club's dues structure.

Currently, dues are \$5 for seniors and \$20 for all others. The Steering Committee proposed dues of \$10 for seniors, students, and those with limited incomes, and \$25 for all others, to take effect on July 1. It is the hope of the Steering Committee that changes will put the club on a more solid financial footing, while also encouraging more students and those with limited incomes to join.

A vote on this proposal was taken at the Membership Meeting on May 8 and passed.

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 \$25; for seniors, students, and those with limited incomes, dues are \$10.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Special Interests: _____

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FIRST
CLASS

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Thursday, September 18th Sign-in & Refreshments 7:45pm - Meeting Starts 8:00pm
Manhattan Pentecostal Church 541 West 125th Street (between Broadway & Amsterdam)