

**DON'T LET
THIS HAPPEN**

THIS BUILDING TO BE
DEMOLISHED
AND MODERN STRUCTURE
TO BE BUILT ON THIS SITE

TAKE THE BULLDOZER BY THE HORNS!

Elect

JIM

LANIGAN

DISTRICT LEADER MALE

CAROL

GREITZER

DISTRICT LEADER FEMALE

Thursday, September 7

VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS
224 W. 4th St. / CHelsea 3-6555

1961

**TAKE
THE
BULLDOZER
BY
THE
HORNS!**



V·I·D

*Replace Bossism
Reform the Democratic Party
Rebuild the City*



V·I·D

*Replace Bossism
Reform the Democratic Party
Rebuild the City*



The once-quiet streets of Greenwich Village are resounding to the rumble of the bulldozer in full-scale assault on our community...

Fast-buck real estate wheeler-dealers, using the disguise of "slum clearance" or "Title I" are demolishing low-rent resi-

dences to build luxury-priced apartments in their place. Uptown landlords are hounding thousands of Village tenants — knowing that eviction is the fastest road to higher rents. Residents are being forced out of the neighborhood where they have made their home for years and even generations...

... BUT GREENWICH VILLAGE IS FIGHTING BACK!

VID has been holding the red flag up to the bulldozer ever since the club's founding in 1956. We've fought the shady-deal speculators and the big-profit landlords on every front: in the courts, at City Hall, in Albany — with and for our fellow Villagers.

- We're helping to ward off an armored invasion of 150 South Village homes in the battle of Verrazano Street — that Street being the city's phoniest thoroughfare;
- We've supported the fight of West Village tenants against the threatened wholesale razing of more than half their neighborhood;
- Last year, we spearheaded a drive for middle-income apartments for Village families in unused Washington Square Village land;
- We were in the thick of the losing fight for a middle-income "vest pocket" project on the site of an abandoned school on West 13th Street;
- Our members and delegations have testified before the Borough President, the Board of Estimate and both houses of the State Legislature in favor of low and middle-income Village housing, tighter rent controls and zoning laws with teeth;
- Dozens of Village families have won stays of eviction — often permanent — secured rent reductions and obtained badly neglected maintenance and repairs with the help of VID's lawyer-staffed Tenant Counseling Service without fees or charges of any kind;
- We've organized rallies and fund-raising parties to aid harassed tenants in their legal bouts with eviction-happy building owners.



TEARING DOWN: More Village homes are bulldozed for high-rise skyscrapers.



FIXING UP: Carol Greitzer, VID candidate, helps victims of no-maintenance landlord.

Listen to a few of the tenants speak:

MRS. ANNA FILIPPINI, WEST HOUSTON STREET:



"I wish to express my gratitude to VID on behalf of myself, my husband and all the other tenants... from the apartments where we had lived for many years...

I wish to praise VID for its work here and at the State Legislature in Albany for legislation to stop evictions and strengthen rent control, and I wish to thank the member of VID who, without any fee, acted as our attorney in court and arranged settlement which postponed our eviction and doubled the amount of money we received for relocations."

MRS. ELOISE GIBSON, WEST 13th STREET:



"... When my husband and I found it impossible to continue to live in our apartment... and the landlord refused to cancel the lease without a heavy penalty, we were able to arrange a cancellation of the lease at half the expense, through the assistance of a member of VID who acted without fee after one short visit which I made to the VID clubhouse."

MRS. ROSE NAIMOLI, MACDOUGAL STREET:



"Last year, when our landlord applied for a certificate of demolition so that he could evict all tenants and raise rents, we wouldn't have been able to do a thing without the help of VID and Save the Village. Thanks to them, we won a stay of eviction. We're specially grateful to VID because they came in to help us even though our building isn't in their district and they knew they wouldn't get any votes."

RUDOLPH CASTORE, DOWNING STREET (Chairman, Verrazano St. Tenants Association)



"I've never been much of an organization man until this thing began, but I've learned that without VID, Save the Village and other groups I'd probably be out in the street. I have lived in the Village all my life and I know that VID has done more for this neighborhood in the past year than any other organization ever has."

The fast-buck realtors who see a gold mine in Greenwich Village have money, influence and batteries of lawyers trained to find loopholes in the law. All VID has is people — the people of Greenwich Village, who have proven that they can act effectively when their neighborhoods and their homes are threatened.



Beat DeSapio!

Elect

Lanigan & Greitzer

Democratic District Leaders



Your Vote Will Be Decisive

In the 26th Election District

VOTE LINE 2 FOR REFORM



VILLAGE **I**NDPENDENT **D**EMOCRATS

224 W. 4th Street, New York 14, N. Y.

CHelsea 3-6555



TAKE THIS TO YOUR

POLLING PLACE

208 West 13th Street
Food Trades Vocational H. S.

PULL DOWN ALL LEVERS ON LINE 2
AND LEAVE THEM DOWN - LIKE THIS



	Mayor	Comp- troller	Pres. City Council	Boro. Pres.	District Leader Male (Vote For 1)	District Leader Female (Vote For 1)	Judicial Delegates and Alternates (Vote For 12)	Members of the County Committee From the 26th Election District (Vote for Three)	
	Robert F. WAGNER	Abraham D. BEAME	Paul R. SCREVANE	Edward R. DUDLEY	James S. LANIGAN	Carol GREITZER	Charles E. McGUINNESS	VID Candidates	Uncontested and Therefore Elected

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY — THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 1961



122

POLLS OPEN 3:00 P. M. TO 10: P. M.



YOU'VE GOT PULL!

As an enrolled Democrat, you can act on Primary Day, Thursday, September 7 to restore responsible leadership to our Democratic Party, protect the legitimate interests of all segments of our community and retain the charm and character of Greenwich Village. You can vote to

JIM

Elect ✓

LANIGAN

DISTRICT LEADER MALE

CAROL

GREITZER

DISTRICT LEADER FEMALE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

V.I.D



*We Came To Make
A Date With You...*



That's the date we can help rid our Democratic Party of boss rule, at the community, city and state levels. That's Primary Day, the day we can vote to return democratic control to our party and drive out the patronage-seeking party hacks. That's the day we can elect

JIM

LANIGAN

DISTRICT LEADER MALE

CAROL

GREITZER

DISTRICT LEADER FEMALE

V.I.D.

Village Independent Democrats

224 W. 4th Street, New York 14, N.Y.

1961



VILLAGE **I**NDEPENDENT **D**EMOCRATS
224 W. 4th Street, New York 14, N. Y.

**you
have
a
job!**

SEPTEMBER

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17	18						23
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BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York, N. Y.
Permit No. 12018

Form 3547 requested

Jim Lanigan, lawyer and Democratic State Committeeman, is a former White House aide.

Carol Greitzer, a writer, is past president of VID. Both are delegates to Committee for Democratic Voters.

you have a job!

SEPTEMBER 7

That's The Day You Can...

- REPLACE BOSSISM
- REFORM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- REBUILD THE CITY

Beat DeSapio! Elect Lanigan & Greitzer

Democratic District Leaders

PRIMARY DAY, SEPT. 7

1961



James S. Lanigan



Carol Greitzer



There's no absentee
ballot for primary
elections... **PLAN** to
be here to **VOTE**...

SEPTEMBER

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VID

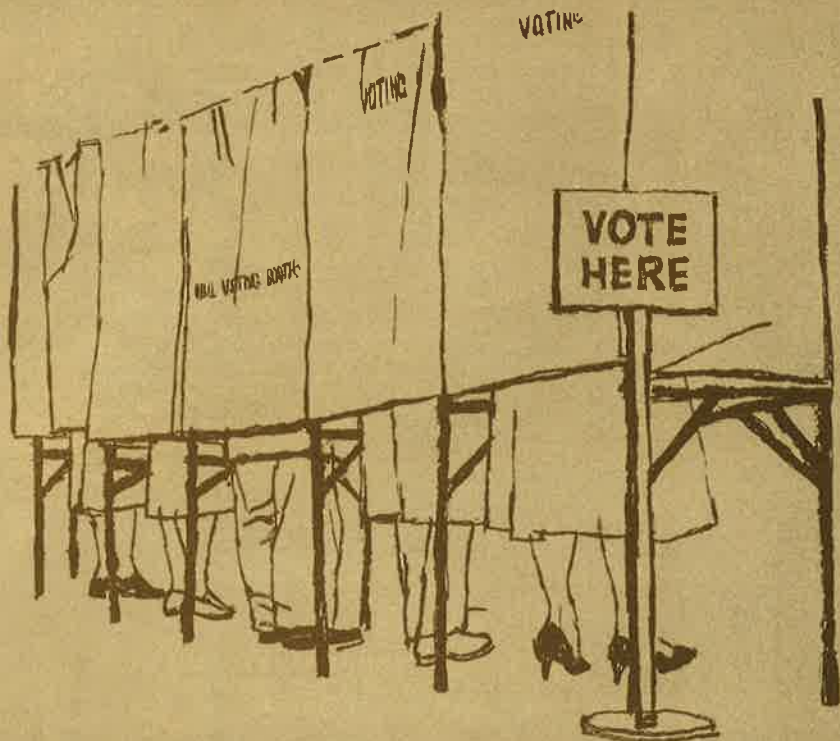
Village Independent Democrats



LET'S TALK ABOUT...

VID

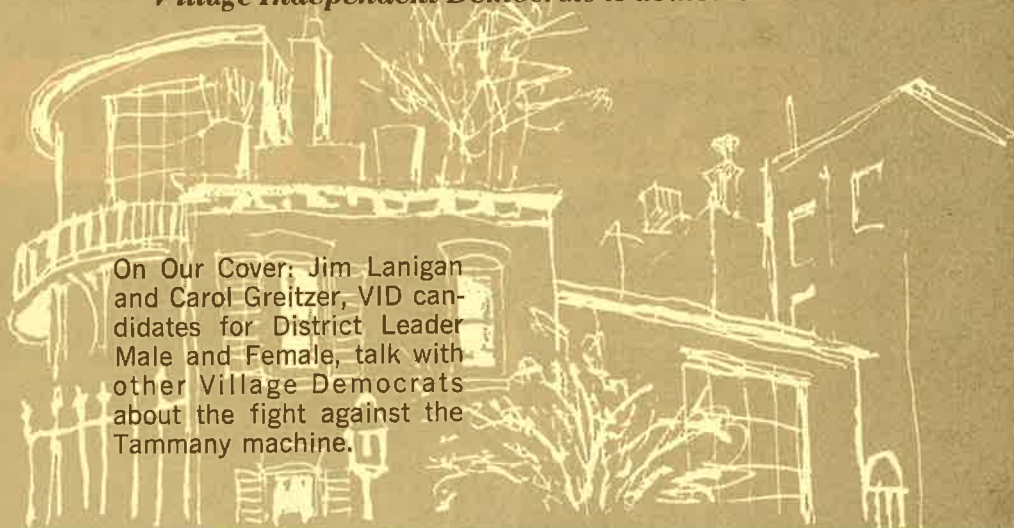
*"...represent and be
responsive to the majority
of the voters..."*



These Are Our Political Bosses

The polling place is where our city's and our community's future must be decided. The people—not the party hacks—must be entrusted with those decisions.

It is to return the control of party and political machinery to the people that the Village Independent Democrats is dedicated



On Our Cover: Jim Lanigan and Carol Greitzer, VID candidates for District Leader Male and Female, talk with other Village Democrats about the fight against the Tammany machine.

What Reform Means To You

The dual purpose of the reform movement is to restore to you and your fellow citizens your rightful voice in government; and to assure to you your rightful share in the benefits of this government.

This booklet was prepared by your neighbors in the Village Independent Democrats to tell you about some of these benefits and how to get them.

Let's Look At The Reform Program For

HOUSING

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK

THE GREENWICH VILLAGE COMMUNITY

NARCOTICS

EDUCATION

TRAFFIC

DEMOCRATIC PARTY REFORM

NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REFORM

HOUSING

*The vital elements in housing are not bricks and beams
or even principle and interest; they are people and
their needs. There's no other reason to build anything.*

NOTHING is destroying the character and balance of our community more thoroughly than the literal destruction of our moderate-priced homes. To halt this rapid process in our Village, the VID demands:

1. **Strengthened rent control... protection against unfair evictions... enforcement of sufficient building maintenance;**
2. **A new city housing philosophy. The current standard is *maximum financial return*; it should be *maximum citizen benefit*;**
3. **More "Vest Pocket" Housing development. We oppose limiting Mitchell-Lama funds to Title I projects;**
4. **Strengthened "Fair Housing" Laws.**

RENT CONTROL is necessary while there is not enough housing at rents people can afford. For rent control to work, it must forbid evictions in order to re-let units at higher rentals or to bulldoze units and build higher-rental ones. Landlords also must be made to keep their buildings in decent repair.

MAXIMUM CITIZEN BENEFIT seems an obvious guideline. Yet the city continues to sell its land to the highest bidder regardless of housing needs. One recent example was an abandoned school on West 13th Street, auctioned off for non-housing purposes despite the availability of sponsors eager to build "vest pocket" middle-income housing on the site.

VEST POCKET HOUSING means building small housing projects (such as the one that wasn't built on 13th Street) in contrast to giant developments extending over several blocks. Vest Pocket Housing.

- **Does not produce mass eviction and relocation problems;**
- **Does not necessitate destruction of good housing adjacent to it, as mass projects often do;**
- **Helps preserve the character of a community, as it is easier for smaller groups of newcomers to assimilate.**

MITCHELL-LAMA AND TITLE I are two kinds of government subsidy of middle and low income housing. MITCHELL-LAMA funds go to builders in the form of low-cost loans. TITLE I funds enable the city to sell land below cost to builders. Title I funds are only available for the purchase and redevelopment of land considered slums—though city officials can sometimes be pressured by builders into condemning as slums land that does not fit that description. The City now makes Mitchell-Lama funds available only on Title I projects, giving a special advantage to



THE PATH OF THE BULLDOZER: Jim Lanigan, at a street rally, points to houses marked for destruction by the city for Verrazano Street.



SHIRTSLEEVE POLITICS: Carol Greitzer pitches in to demonstrate needed action in city-owned—and neglected—Village buildings.

large-scale builders. VID urges that these funds be made available to Vest Pocket projects as well.

HOUSING REFORM LEGISLATION which VID is urging the State Legislature to pass includes:

- Relocation of evicted tenants by landlord (Sec. 58) in comparable apartment, at comparable rent in same general community;
- Prohibition of hardship rent increases until the landlord has owned the building for three years;
- “Prior lien” bill giving the City power to operate and repair neglected buildings, using collected rents to pay for repairs;
- Stronger State and City “Fair Housing” laws.

HOUSING REFORM: VID IN ACTION

An abandoned 14-year old plan to build a new one-block street from the point of West Houston Street and Sixth Avenue west to Varick Street was suddenly and inexplicably revived last year by the city. To build the million-dollar Verrazano Street would involve tearing down a group of moderate-rental buildings now housing 162 tenants—in the face of the city’s most urgent need for medium-cost housing and in the absence of any demonstrated need for the street.

Following a study of the situation at the request of the Verrazano Street Tenants Association, VID went into action. To publicize the tenants’ plight, VID members staged a painting party in one of the apartments taken over—and neglected—by the City Department of Real Estate. Meetings for the tenants and VID officers with a Deputy Commissioner of Real Estate and the Borough President were organized. As a result, routine maintenance was restored, some violations corrected and other conditions improved. At a street rally staged by VID and Save the Village prior to a Board of Estimate hearing on the proposed street, a number of prominent citizens pledged support for the embattled tenants, and valuable publicity resulted. At the subsequent hearing—and several continuations—several VID leaders, including District Leader candidates Jim Lanigan and Carol Greitzer, testified in opposition to the plan. (Prior to one such hearing, word came down from on high that Carmine DeSapio would deign to appear—after years of silence on the issue—provided he got sole and star billing. The tenants rejected the regal gesture—and DeSapio never showed up.)

At press time, the fate of Verrazano Street—“the street to nowhere”—remains in doubt. While still more Board of Estimate hearings are scheduled, Verrazano Street remains a line on a map. VID will not rest until the line is erased.

Washington Square Park



*For a community larger than many medium-sized cities,
Greenwich Village is scandalously lacking in recreation
facilities to serve its residents—young and old.*

VID will fight for more parks and playgrounds—but meanwhile, we urge:

- Improved care and upkeep of existing parks
- Development of pier facilities for summer recreation
- Expansion and improvement of Abingdon Square Park
- More play streets

One area must receive special mention, for Washington Square Park has a very special place in all our hearts; but we're distressed to see one of the world's loveliest parks—and certainly one of our community's most treasured landmarks—become a potential battleground. VID has frequently made its position on Washington Square crystal clear:

- We urge the immediate and *permanent* closing of Washington Square Park to all traffic—but not to people . . .
- We believe Washington Square belongs to *all* peaceful citizens to play chess, hold concerts and art shows, eat ice cream, take pictures, walk dogs—and sing folk songs.
- We're definitely in favor of police vigilance against lawbreakers and disorderly conduct in the Square.
- We seek improved facilities in the Square, including more and better playground equipment, more benches, appropriate landscaping, and adequate maintenance of the Village's most pleasant park.

ONLY the names on a few subway stations, post offices and libraries remain of many small communities that once made up New York City—but Greenwich Village is still a separate village with distinct geographical boundaries, a different architecture, a special way of life.

Sandwiched between the vast commercial centers of midtown and lower Manhattan, the Village is in constant danger of destruction—of becoming an interchange on the express highway speeding traffic through Manhattan.

Frankly, we're lukewarm about speeding through-traffic. In our community, as in our Party, we're far more concerned about people—those who were born in the Village and those who have chosen the Village as their home. We have fought to preserve the special character that makes the Village precious to those who love it.

VID worked hard for the emergency protective zoning passed in the spring of 1960 (preceding the new city-wide zoning). In this fight, we:

- **undertook a commercial survey of Village business.**
- **conducted two Christmas holiday tours for children as a means of calling attention to landmarks in danger of demolition.**

We demand tighter enforcement of the new zoning resolution.

- **we want to preserve our charming old homes . . .**
- **and we are equally determined to retain the low and middle income housing that makes the Village a balanced community.**

We have worked to save Jefferson Market Courthouse and convert it into a centrally located library.

We will work for a special city law (authorized under the state Bard Law) for additional protection to landmarks.

We demand of the Greenwich Village Planning Board a positive program to preserve our Village—rather than simply a series of defensive actions to retard its demolition.

LET'S TALK ABOUT . . .

The Greenwich Village Community

*Greenwich Village is
a living example
of people of
many cultures,
many origins,
many income levels,
many professions
and interests living
together in harmony.*



LET'S TALK ABOUT . . .

NARCOTICS

By any name—gale, tea, horse, junk, snow—narcotics isn't a pretty word. It gets uglier as it spreads into your community. Greenwich Village now has over 1,000 habitual narcotics addicts—of whom more than half are in their teens or younger.

THERE are varying views on how to handle our community's narcotics problem. Some of our neighbors believe that if you pretend addiction doesn't exist, it will go away. Some feel that addicts must be treated as criminals.

But we feel sure that the majority of Village residents recognizes narcotics addiction for what it really is: a fearful disease. A prison sentence is no more effective in curing addiction than it is in treating cancer.


Since 1957, VID has urged that addiction—in the nation, state, city, and our own neighborhood—must be regarded as a medical, not a criminal, problem. We've called for:

- increased community education to spread understanding of the sickness;
- more research funds for study of clinical and social aspects of the disease;
- stepped-up police action to halt the flow of narcotics from the big wholesale pushers at the top.

Within our city we've fought for:

- greatly increased hospital withdrawal facilities—particularly for women patients who have none at all in the entire metropolitan area;
- full-time medical staff and supplies to assist all addicts awaiting trial in the House of Detention;
- adequate replacement for Riverside Hospital—New York's only treatment center for juvenile addicts—before the city closes it down;
- administration of narcotics treatment under a single Health Dept. coordinator instead of the proposed—and highly arbitrary—division of responsibility which would only retard the pace of effective treatment;
- effective state legislation to implement and encourage such steps.

In our own community, VID was the first neighborhood organization to put the Village addiction crisis into the public spotlight, by staging a special public meeting in 1957 where the grim facts were presented to several hundred shocked residents. Many VID members, including a former VID president, were active organizers of the Village Aid and Service Center on West 4th St.



VID subscribes to the old-fashioned idea that the purpose of school boards is to advance education, not to advance political careers. We have fought to take education out of politics.

LET'S TALK ABOUT ...

EDUCATION

OBVIOUSLY an adequate education system is an indispensable building block of a stable, growing community. We cannot offer our children less than the best opportunities we can provide.

Back in 1957, when the Board of Education closed down P.S. 8, VID provided some of the most outspoken opposition to the move. We were assured then that the new P.S. 41 would be more than adequate to handle any overload. Already, enrollment at P.S. 41 is at capacity; indications are that some classes may soon be doubling up.

J.H.S. 3, the Village's only junior high school, is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of our older boys and girls. Therefore, VID has been fighting for immediate action for construction of the new J.H.S. 70. We have strongly endorsed the new site recently announced by the City Planning Commission, on 17th Street west of 8th Avenue—an area that will serve the Village and the Chelsea area as well.

Meanwhile, it has become clear that Local School Board No. 1 has been far more helpful to individual political ambitions than to our children. For this reason, VID has urged:

- **that appointments to the board be kept out of politics by excluding: all public officials holding elective or appointive office; and close associates of Board of Education employees;**
- **that appointments be based on a demonstrated interest in public education and ability and *willingness* to attend meetings;**
- **that vacancies on the board be announced and publicized well in advance of the appointment date;**
- **that all board members must live within the school district.**

VID has strongly urged the Borough President—with these criteria in mind—to consult with Village leaders and reconstitute the politically top-heavy School Board No. 1.



LET'S TALK ABOUT

TRAFFIC

***The horseless carriage
—in the stubbornly-
held view of VID—
was designed to
accommodate people.
Not the reverse. In
this, we appear to
differ from many
city officials.***

THE problem of regulating New York City's traffic is clearly one of staggering complexity. But it need not be given the priority it now enjoys over the needs of people—especially in a residential area such as the Village.

VID has offered to the City Franchise Department an alternate route for the Fifth Avenue Bus line which would bypass Washington Square entirely, relieve congestion on neighborhood streets, and provide service to South Village riders, with a terminal on Houston Street.

VID has submitted recommendations to the Traffic Department—which concur with those of the Bleeker Street Improvement Association—based on a comprehensive study of traffic patterns in the West Village, particularly the Bleeker Street-Hudson Street-Abingdon Square complex. These recommendations would substantially relieve Bleeker Street's heavy truck congestion.

VID supports continuance of the 15-cent fare on municipal and privately-owned transit and has urged expanding public transit facilities to reduce private vehicle congestion.

VID has vigorously opposed the projected system of midtown municipal garages, but would locate them west of 8th Avenue and east of 3rd Avenue, where they would not contribute to further clogging of main traffic arteries.

The guiding traffic philosophy of VID is very clearly exemplified in our campaign to save the homes along the path of the mythical Verrazano Street (see housing). Our streets, we firmly believe, must serve our homes, and both must serve our people. Our community is damaged whenever the needs of people receive less than first consideration.

Democratic Party Reform

In New York City, if you seek improved housing, better schools, better control of traffic and crime, more adequate parks and playgrounds—if you hope to reform any of these areas, you must first reform the Democratic Party. For it is a fact of New York life that the Democratic Party is dominant. Mediocrity and downright corruption in city administration are products of a Democratic Party machinery which encourages mediocrity and tolerates corruption.

THE Democratic Party is the party all of us belong to because it stands fundamentally for the things we stand for. But in New York City, the party machinery is so undemocratic that it cannot reflect our beliefs—because its mass of members have no say in such basic matters as determination of policy and selection of candidates. Such decisions are reserved to a handful of political bosses. These bosses, interested primarily in preservation of their own position and prerogatives, will always place a premium on not rocking the boat—on party reliability and loyalty. Hence, the dreary parade of mediocrities with which they have almost invariably filled our city offices.

VID, since its formation, has fought for these basic reforms:

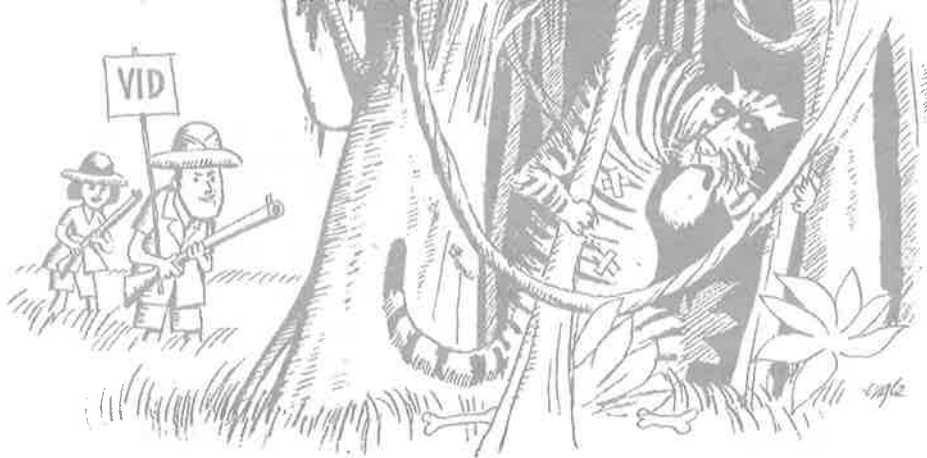
PATRONAGE

The entire system whereby municipal jobs are given as rewards for loyalty to bosses must be overturned. Specifically:

- No party officials or local club officers should hold appointive municipal jobs;
- The appointive power of elected city officials should be limited to policy-level positions. All other posts should be classified under Civil Service, which should be improved to eliminate political pressures and provide better employee incentives. All “no show” jobs, of course, would be eliminated.
- All qualified members of the bar should be eligible for judicial assignments and appointments on a rotation basis, not a patronage basis.

DEMOCRACY IN THE PARTY

Democratic procedures at all levels of the party organization— The New York State Democratic Committee, the New York County Democratic Committee, down to all local Democratic Clubs—are essential to maintenance of control of the party machinery by its members. This means constitutions conforming to the traditions of democracy, regular and open membership meetings, membership votes on all matters of politi-



cal policy including selection and endorsement of candidates, and regular financial reports and audits.

NEW YORK COUNTY (MANHATTAN) DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

This body, now an unwieldy and unworkable committee of over 3,000 members, is in theory the policy-making body of the Democratic Party in this area. It cannot function as such, however, both because of its size and because it can be convened only at the pleasure of the County Leader (DeSapio) who calls it only for the legally required single meeting per term. VID demands that the County Committee:

- be drastically reduced in size to a workable membership of about 300, holding at least eight meetings a year;
- reserve to itself the basic legislative decisions on party policy and program, and carry out that policy through instructions to its executive committee, which should report back regularly to the membership;
- serve as a democratically-selected convention for selection of candidates for local office, with members voting as instructed by their clubs;
- create real working committees on party and municipal affairs.

THE COUNTY LEADER

There are no duties listed in the Party rules for this position, a vestige of the feudal era of party politics. By unfortunate tradition, the man who assumes this office (currently Carmine DeSapio) assumes the prerogatives of an absolute boss. There does happen to exist in the rules provision for a chairman of the executive committee of the County Committee, whose duties of convening and presiding at meetings would fill all the requirements of a democratically run party organization. Electing both a chairman and a leader is like electing a president and a dictator. VID calls for the elimination of the dictator.

DUPLICATION OF PARTY OFFICES

To prevent undue concentration of power, VID opposes any one person holding more than one top party post. (DeSapio now holds three: national committeeman, chairman of the county committee and county leader—besides being District Leader of our district.)

New York City Charter Reform

*The structure of our city government—just like
the structure of our Democratic Party—should serve
the needs of its people, not the ambitions of its politicians.*

THE Moore Commission proposals for city charter reform are a BASIC MINIMUM for achievement of an efficient and responsible municipal government. VID supports these proposals and demands that they be submitted to the voters in November. The opponents of these recommendations are the same people who have always opposed reform of any sort—those who live on patronage, who encourage waste, who permit corruption.

But VID would go further than the reforms now proposed. The essential changes needed in our City Charter would provide: a stronger, responsible Mayor; a City Council with adequate legislative power, properly expanded to use the power wisely and responsibly; elimination of the Board of Estimate and the Borough Presidents; reduction of the Comptroller's power and functions; streamlining of budgetary procedures; upgrading of local level planning.

CHARTER REFORM NOW

The need for charter reform is so urgent, and the Tammany-inspired opposition so determined, that all reform-minded groups will have to fight hard for reform now—more reform later—and continued vigilance to assure that our charter is always kept workable and up-to-date. We applaud the validation of the new Commission. We hope that its hearings will produce not further delay, not speeches by Tammany bosses, but PROPOSALS TO SUBMIT TO THE PEOPLE ON NOVEMBER 7.

VID SUPPORTS THESE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS OF THE MOORE COMMISSION:

1. STRENGTHEN THE MAYOR. Bring together all executive, managerial and leadership responsibilities in the hands of one politically responsible elected official.

Currently, the Mayor does not have the power or the machinery to initiate and carry out his programs—and so cannot be effectively held responsible for them.

2. STRENGTHEN THE CITY COUNCIL. Place the responsibilities of legislation and the holding of public hearings in one elected, representative body, large enough to do the job.

Currently, the Council, though elected by the people, hasn't the power to legislate. The Board of Estimate, made up of officials not elected for legislative purposes, overpowers the Council.

3. MAKE THE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE. Establish a new voting plan designed to represent all groups and opinions in the city. This would involve electing Councilmen at large from the boroughs and the city in addition to those from Councilmanic Districts.

4. LIMIT THE COMPTROLLER'S DUTIES. The comptroller's function should be post audit—which means checking up on expenditures after they have been made, not preventing them in advance.

VID WILL WORK FOR THESE FURTHER CHARTER REFORMS:

1. ELIMINATE THE BOROUGH PRESIDENTS. Their administrative functions can be better and less expensively performed by a central Mayor's office. Their local planning functions have never been effectively handled. A stronger more representative City Council will be more responsive to the people.

2. ELIMINATE THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE. Its legislative power—never originally intended—belongs to the City Council. Its budgeting power will be better handled by an enlarged and streamlined Mayor's office. And with the elimination of Borough Presidents (see above) only three members of the old Board remain: the Mayor strengthened and made more responsible; the comptroller cut down to size; and the President of the City Council, left free to devote his efforts to that enlarged and strengthened body.

THIS IS CHARTER REFORM—A plan for a city government better equipped to plan for our city's future needs and to meet its present ones. To work for Charter Reform is not only to strengthen our city government but to weaken the source of strength for political machines which thrive on the opportunities for patronage and corruption that a feeble, wasteful city structure provides.



***"...a Democratic political organization
that will represent and
be responsive to the majority
of voters in the area."***

**From Preamble to Constitution adopted
in 1956 by majority vote in a democratically
conducted membership meeting of the
Village Independent Democrats**

OFFICERS '61

<i>President</i>	EDWARD B. GOLD	<i>Rec. Sec'y</i>	JEAN SMITH
<i>Vice-Pres.</i>	STANLEY M. GELLER	<i>Corr. Sec'y</i>	ELINOR HERRON
<i>Vice-Pres.</i>	EDNA M. WOLTER	<i>Treasurer</i>	DAVID DORSEN
<i>Vice-Pres.</i>	EDWARD KOCH	<i>Campaign Mgr.</i>	HERBERT ROSENBERG

CANDIDATES '61

JAMES S. LANIGAN *District Leader Male* CAROL GREITZER *District Leader Female*

VID grew out of the 1956 Village Stevenson for President Committee, formed by active supporters of the Presidential nominee when they found DeSapio's regular Democratic club sitting firmly on its hands.

Following the campaign, the group voted to remain in existence as a permanent political organization in an effort to grant a voice in party affairs to *all* Democrats...a voice not available in the regular club, thanks to its lack of democratic procedures, even to its own members. Since then, VID has:

- **contested DeSapio's District Leadership in 1957, capturing 36% of the vote with a slate of political newcomers;**
- **joined forces with the New York Committee for Democratic Voters, on its formation in 1958; this group is the spearhead of the city-wide Democratic reform movement led by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Senator Herbert H. Lehman and Thomas K. Finletter;**
- **again contested the leadership in 1959, this time winning close to 47% of the vote for Charles McGuinness, drew an unprecedented 9,000 voters to a primary election, and captured a majority of County Committee seats;**
- **in 1960, successfully ran James S. Lanigan and Sarah Schoenkopf for New York State Democratic Committee against DeSapio-supported opponents and spearheaded an effective drive in behalf of the Kennedy Presidential ticket in the Village.**



JIM LANIGAN

An experienced public servant at every level from the White House to local Village affairs, Jim Lanigan has been a long-time leader in the movement to reform the city-wide Democratic Party. On the national scene, he served as White House aide to President Truman, was twice deputy campaign manager for Stevenson. Back in New York, he was a charter member of the New York Committee for Democratic Voters (core of the Roosevelt-Lehman-Finletter city-wide reform movement). Here in the Village, he helped form the Village Family Housing Committee to sponsor vest-pocket middle-income co-ops and he has been active in the fight against Verrazano Street. He is a lawyer and businessman and lives in the Village with his wife Mary and three sons. In June, 1960, he was elected to the Democratic State Committee from the entire First Assembly District as VID's candidate in the successful primary against DeSapio-supported rivals.



CAROL GREITZER

Carol Greitzer is a familiar figure at public hearings of the Board of Estimate, City Planning Commission and Borough President's Office, where she has been an effective spokesman for VID and many other Village groups dedicated to preserving the character of our community and making it a better place for Villagers of all incomes and backgrounds to live. A former president of VID and a delegate to the New York Committee for Democratic Voters, she manages to combine tireless work for these and a dozen other city and Village organizations with caring for her Village home, her husband and 2½-year-old daughter Elizabeth. Her husband Herman, as VID's first District Leader candidate and a complete political unknown in 1957, astonished the experts by winning 36% of the vote against DeSapio in a supposedly solid DeSapio district.

Elect

JIM

LANIGAN

DISTRICT LEADER MALE

CAROL

GREITZER

DISTRICT LEADER FEMALE

PRIMARY DAY

Thursday, September 7

1961

VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

224 W. 4th Street, New York 14, N. Y.

CHelsea 3-6555

Replace Bossism

Reform the Democratic Party

Rebuild the City



the village

Voice

Thursday, August 31, 1961

An End to DeSapio

Two years before Senator Lehman observed that Carmine DeSapio was "an unbearable burden on the back of the Democratic party," four years before Mayor Wagner perceived that the same gentleman was "leading a secret battalion of corruption" in an assault on City Hall, the Village Independent Democrats began their seemingly quixotic battle against the Tammany Chief.

They were lonely fighters in 1957. As courage in politics is the most expendable of virtues, the VID soon discovered that even their fellow-reformers uptown found them uncomfortable allies. No one had much appetite for taking on Mr. Big. But the Village insurgents were peculiarly obtuse in their private dream, and as a result they went on to create a minor revolution in New York City politics.

The spectacle of a lonely club fighting the most entrenched boss of them all gave impetus to the latent reform spirit throughout the city. In 1958 others began to join the insurgents. The Lehman-Roosevelt Committee for Democratic Voters was formed in 1959, thus converting the reform surge into a solid political movement. The older reform clubs that had made their peace with DeSapio began to edge away from him. By the end of 1960 the Village Independent Democrats had overturned the DeSapio machine in its own First Assembly District and elected two reform state committeemen.

Today, when so many others have joined the parade against the monumental corruption Tammany Hall has fastened on this city, it is easy to forget that the ranks were once thin indeed.

It was here in Greenwich Village in a small room full of people that the battle for New York City was launched, and it is here where the first stage of the battle should symbolically come to an end with the political demise of Carmine DeSapio. It is not that he is the worst of men, but that he is a presentable front for a sick and corrupt system.

Democrats, you can close this chapter of history at the polls on Thursday, September 7, by voting for James S. Lanigan and Carol Greitzer for district leaders in the First Assembly District South.

THE LANIGAN-GREITZER TICKET
HAS JUST RECEIVED
THE PREFERRED RATING
FROM CITIZENS UNION!

Remember to vote in the
Democratic Primary
Thursday, September 7
Polls Open 3-10 P.M.

VOTE LINE 2 FOR REFORM

VILLAGE INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS

224 W. 4th Street, New York 14, N. Y.

CHelsea 3-6555