



# The New York Young Republican Club Record

## Letter from the President



On behalf of the Board of Governors, I am proud to introduce to you the first edition of the newly reborn New York Young Republican Club Record. Having existed under several previous names and iterations in the past, this revived monthly periodical will proudly serve our Club members and constituents by informing you of ongoing Club events, endorsements, and activities and by sharing statements and opinions that align with our Club's goals and mission.

The New York Young Republican Club (NYYRC) was formed in 1911, incorporated in 1912, and holds a legacy that dates from 1856. The NYYRC is the nation's longest-running, largest, and most prestigious Young Republican club.

We have served as a home for some of the most prominent young Republican politicians, thinkers, and activists. Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller, Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan II, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, Governor of New York Thomas E. Dewey, Mayor of New York John V. Lindsay, Senators K. Jacob Javits and Kenneth B. Keating, and Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr. all got their start here.

We have retained a long tradition of independence, and, as you can see from our Club's history, we have been a leading voice in city, state, and national politics since our inception.

Today, we continue to be a training ground for the next generation of Republican leaders.

Recently reinvigorated with a new Board and a new mission, our Club has seen huge attendance and energy at our events. We are reaching out to new communities and institutions to bring a strong new brand of conservatism to places it has never been. At the same time, we are expanding and strengthening the network of New York City conservatives so that we can support each other in our career and political endeavors.

We look forward to having you with us as we make our mark on New York City, the Republican Party, and our great nation.

**Gavin Wax**

*President*

*New York Young Republican Club*

# Programming

## Last Month's Events

### APRIL 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Candidate Social with Mayoral Candidate Curtis Sliwa	20	21	22 NYCRC Social at the Clubhouse	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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"The world is  
not going to  
be saved by  
legislation."

WILLIAM  
H. TAFT

## This Month's Events

### MAY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 May the Fourth: Return of the Republic Social	5 NYCRC Hispanic Caucus Cinco de Mayo Party	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Candidate Social with DA Candidate Thomas Kenniff	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Hunter Biden: A Full Frontal Exposé with Vish Burra	27	28	29
30	31					

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"To educate a  
person in the  
mind but not  
in morals is  
to educate a  
menace to  
society."

THEODORE  
ROOSEVELT

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# Statements

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## Opposition To Court Packing



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Progressives in Washington have recently discussed and prepared legislation to expand the number of seats on the U.S. Supreme Court. This is very troubling and has drawn bipartisan condemnation. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has announced that she plans not to bring this to the floor of the House at the present time, but the New York Young Republican Club remains laser-focused on the tactics that progressives take as they seek to subvert the fundamental balance of our government.

President Biden has ordered a bipartisan commission on Supreme Court reform that will consider Supreme Court expansion among other debated topics such as visual recording of oral arguments. The New York Young Republican Club strongly denounces any attempt to add more seats to the U.S. Supreme Court. The highest court in the land must be a forum outside the realm of the political divide that constitutes the foundation of the executive and legislative branches. It is not a branch to "further the interests" of Congress or the President as a rubber stamp on an agenda. It is a branch that maintains a necessary check and balance on the interests of the other branches to ensure that their actions remain within the framework of the Constitution.

Alexander Hamilton famously wrote in Federalist 78, when reflecting on the judicial branch of government, that "it may truly be said to have neither FORCE nor WILL, but merely judgment." The progressives promoting the idea that the Supreme Court (and all other levels of the judiciary) ought to further their radical ideas support a position contrary to this tenet.

Much of the energy fueling the progressive cause

stems from their fear that past controversial Supreme Court decisions may be overturned now that six members of the Supreme Court have been appointed by Republican presidents. In many cases, these judges hold a restrained view of the judiciary or follow the originalist platform focusing on the intent of the framers and plain text of the Constitution. The potential of these jurists to invalidate prior error from Supreme Court justices generations ago has created a sense of insecurity, ripe to promote politicization. Civics and separation of powers of the branches have not taken hold with these progressives. One could argue it is rather regressive to reduce the Supreme Court to a theater of partisan banter.

Furthermore, even if the progressive court-packing plan stalls, it may still devastate the upcoming Supreme Court terms, as was the case when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt championed his own (failed) court-packing plan. Roosevelt's threat induced Supreme Court justices to side with his administration on several New Deal disputes that would have likely been otherwise ruled unconstitutional. Institutional interests preempted Constitutionalist ones, and the nation suffered the consequences. The Supreme Court must be isolated from these rather extra-curricular issues and focus on interpreting the Constitution even if means rulings that defy supposed societal sentiment.

Progressives ought not let their basest urges take hold of themselves; they, like all Americans, should always aspire to further our shared national interest. The New York Young Republican Club stands firm in supporting the U.S. Supreme Court and calls for the end of this partisan rancor, which will have devastating consequences to our Republic.

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## Event Spotlight: March Social with Isabel Brown of Turning Point USA

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Isabel Brown, a spokesperson for Turning Point USA, spoke to the Club on March 22 about her new book *Frontlines: Finding My Voice on an American College Campus*, which describes her experience in college as a biomedical sciences major at Colorado State University. Her book touches on issues of Radical Leftism taking over American colleges and universities and how they sought to silence her voice. Even as a student of science, her classes and professors got political and displayed bias against Republicans and former President Donald J. Trump. Isabel's book calls all to action to speak up and fight for conservative values on and off American college campuses.

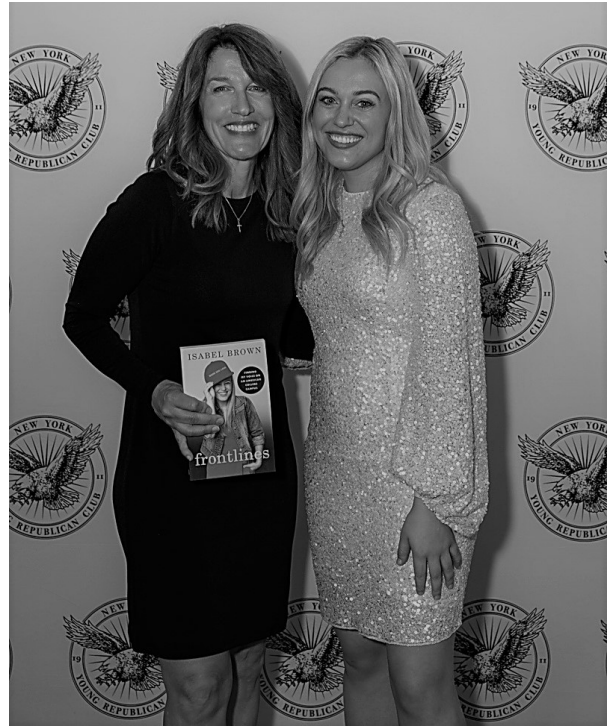


Photo by Denice Flores Almendares

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## Event Spotlight: Candidate Social with Mayoral Candidate Curtis Sliwa

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Photo by Denice Flores Almendares

Curtis Sliwa, founder of The Guardian Angels, came to the NYYRC's new clubhouse on April 19 to headline the first official event hosted in the space. He discussed his run for Mayor of New York City as a Republican and talked about his campaign platform. Curtis is running on a pro-police stance and will make New York City safe again. He plans to return this amazing city to greatness. We support Curtis and wish him well with his campaign. Did you know that Curtis has been also rescuing stray cats and that his favorite genre of music is Electronic Dance Music?

## Member Spotlight: Amanda Gragg



Amanda is a born and raised Northern California native and moved to New York three years ago to pursue her dream: revolutionizing the fashion industry through sustainability / tech, while also working full time in technology and finishing her MBA. Shent most of her childhood between DC and California as a military brat, as her father served directly under the Surgeon General in

the USPHS. Also a former Division I athlete in Track & Field, she graduated from the US Naval Academy in 2008 and served 6 years as a Marine officer. During her time in the service, she served as a Chief of Staff within the intelligence sector.

Having grown up in very blue states, Amanda struggled to find friends who shared her conservative Christian values. This continued as she served under the Bush and Obama Administrations and as she gained a broader appreciation for how horribly broken political endeavors were in our nation. After working for several years in the fashion/beauty industry here in New York and seeing their response to the 2020 election, she felt alone more than ever, which led her to join the NYIRC. Prior to 2020, she never took an activist approach to politics, but is now excited to begin getting involved in being a part of giving the Republican party the makeover it so desperately needs.

*“No country can  
squander itself to  
prosperity on the ruin of  
its taxpayers.” —  
Herbert Hoover*

## This Month in Club History

**1911** – Thirty-two young men came together under the leadership of Benjamin M. Day, along with Philip J. McCook, Lloyd Carpenter Griscom, Frederick Paul Keppel, Henry W. Goddard, Edward R. Finch, Alfred Conkling Coxe Jr., and Albert S. Bard to establish the New York Young Republican Club in April 1911 after noting the lack of a Republican organization that would appeal to the younger Republicans in New York. They sought a forum for advocating views that might, on occasion, be at variance with those of the party leaders, as expressed in the local assembly district clubs and in the

Republican Club of the City of New York, which was originally organized in September 1879 as the New York Young Men's Republican Club and would later become the National Republican Club in June of 1919. In December of 1911, the Club held its first gala. Senator William Edgar Borah was the keynote speaker at the gala for Guest of Honor: the President of the United States, William Howard Taft. Although the founders anticipated the enfranchisement of women by omitting the word "Men's" from the Club's name, membership in the Club, for the time being, was exclusively male.

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## Opinions

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### Make Sheriffs Great Again

*By Gavin M. Wax*



*"President Trump with Sheriffs in the Diplomatic Reception Room"  
by The White House, n.d. Public Domain.*

America is teetering toward one-party rule in Washington, D.C. Waiting for a Republican Congress isn't a real strategy. Instead, the right must focus locally, principally on the county sheriff with Sheriff Bill Waybourn as a role model, to revive America.

It should be obvious by now, but too many conservatives and Republicans still do not fully get how stacked the cards are against them. The left may still be reeling from President Donald Trump's impact in 2016, but for the most part, they haven't lost any ground.

Whether it's the culture war or politics, the left has home court advantage. That's because it's at the helm of nearly every institution and powerful corporation steering society today. From academia to the media and even previous conservative strongholds like the military and churches, the left dominates.

Last year, I noted that police unions were among the very few right-leaning institutions in the country. The left remains on the offensive against the police, despite skyrocketing violent crime rates nationwide.

Even more important to defend is the institution of the county sheriff. The Constitutional Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, or CSPOA, calls the county sheriff the "last hope" for freedom in America.

One of those last hopes is Texas' Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn, who won a second term in the 2020 election cycle. Waybourn won the endorsement of CSPOA's founder and former sheriff Richard Mack in 2016. His record since then should earn the upright respect from every concerned American who desires local control, not bureaucratic supremacy from D.C.

Before getting into Waybourn's effectiveness with regards to immigration, law and order, and community-building compassion, let's first reflect on the uniqueness of the sheriff's office.

The sheriff is independent from so much of the elite power centers threatening America today. He answers directly to the people who elected him. His oath to the Constitution is the same as anyone else in government, but the distinction for the office of sheriff is that he has enforcement power.

That means the sheriff can stand between the citizenry and a federal government bent on infringing upon their liberties. Sheriff Mack's lawsuit against the feds over the Brady Act gun control law was a seminal effort that solidified this unique role in the eyes of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mack's lawsuit eventually became known as *Printz vs. United States*. This SCOTUS case sided with Mack's argument that the federal government shall not command the sheriff to do its bidding, in this case perform a federal background check for gun purchases. This principle is known as the anti-commandeering doctrine.

If more sheriffs, along with their constituent electorates, embraced this principle wholeheartedly, then pushing back against unconstitutional encroachments would come more naturally.

Unfortunately, too many so-called leaders in the conservative movement don't highlight this

political tactic, because it bypasses the lucrative roles that D.C.-centered politicians and strategists have created for themselves.

Sheriff Waybourn shows the way for a successful populist strategy that isn't dependent on winning a federal election. By virtue of his line of work, he's closer to the issues facing people than far-off bureaucrats.

Before he was sheriff, Waybourn already had decades of experience in law enforcement. In 1984, at just 24 years old he was appointed chief of public safety, making him Texas' youngest chief in history. He served in that role for three decades before winning election to become the sheriff of Tarrant County, which includes the city of Fort Worth.

There's no room for political correctness in a sheriff's line of duty. Waybourn doesn't go out of his way to be necessarily politically incorrect, but he doesn't hesitate to speak to the real conflicts of "good and evil."

He's raised the ire of local and national media for pointing to the failures of federal enforcement of immigration laws. He brought attention to the fact that illegal immigrants come into his jails sometimes repeatedly for drunk driving charges, not unlike citizens do as well, but he rightfully brought attention to the matter.

This impact on his county is the result of a derelict central government, but it otherwise would've gone ignored thanks to political correctness.

All the same, Waybourn wants the federal government to improve, particularly in its cooperation with state and local law enforcement, and vice versa. Waybourn has expressed his with all levels of government that impede U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or his department from

communicating with one another over inmate transfers.

The sheriff is uniquely placed to keep federal agencies accountable to his community. Waybourn exemplifies this role, despite the political and media pressure to do otherwise. That's why he spoke at a local Stop the Steal rally to turn over all the rocks and provide transparency and accountability.

Waybourn also rapidly built a reputation of being tough on the demand side of prostitution and human trafficking. His department is invested in the National Johns Suppression program, which targets the johns, or solicitors of prostitution. Last year, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office booked 41 suspects on such charges.

But sheriffs do more for their communities than keep law and order. There is a place for compassion, the real kind, not the sort of undermining that the left perpetuates in the name of empathy or equity. For instance, Waybourn increased work programs for inmates staying or leaving his jails, and he instituted the first Christmas for Children of the Incarcerated, which provides gifts for hundreds of kids whose parents are behind bars.

Programs like these are just an extension of who Waybourn is as a man. He's a dad to 10 kids, eight of whom are adopted. He's brought that fatherliness to coaching, Scout leading, and serving in his church.

There are still hundreds of communities with local institutions and leaders like this in them across America. The populist right has to start looking there, not for a future congressman or president, but a sheriff who will stay loyal to them against all threats foreign and domestic.

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*"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." – John Adams*

# I'm Tired...

By *Nicholas T. Rafael*



I. Am. Tired. I'm tired of being called a racist because I believe in secure borders and legal immigration. I'm tired of being called transphobic because I believe that the experience of a biological woman is inherently different than that of a trans-woman. I'm tired of being categorized as a white supremacist because I can distinguish a difference between peaceful protest and violent aggressors who take advantage of a situation. I'm tired of the constant threat of being "canceled" on social media for speaking out contrary to the mainstream.

And most of all, I'm tired of being the bad guy for being a Republican in the United States of America in 2021.

We currently live in a world where being a Republican in America is undeniably seen as evil by members of the other side of the aisle. Mainstream media has decreed that we are all categorically racist, xenophobic, anti-LGBTQ white supremacists who hate poor people, rather than fellow American citizens who believe in lower taxes, less entitlements, strong borders, a merit based society, Jesus Christ, and that there are only two genders, among other things. Despite all of these topics being relatively subjective and based on values and beliefs, with no "right or wrong answer", the Left simply cannot agree to disagree. They not only refuse to accept a difference of opinion; instead, they have made it their mission to demonize us as much as possible to curry public sentiment. They do not want to help everyday Americans. They only want them to hate us so

that Democrats secure votes and power for generations to come. So I say again: I am tired of being the bad guy at the expense of the Left's political conquest.

I want to articulate my experience and what it feels like to be a Republican in New York City in 2021.

I work mostly with Democrats. Almost every member of the sports league I was a part of before the COVID pandemic is a Democrat. Any girl I've ever gone on a first date with in this city was a Democrat. And in a time when Democrats are so politically charged because of social media or how much they hated Donald Trump as president, and especially in a liberal city, how am I supposed to have a constructive conversation with anyone? Ultimately, I don't. I keep my mouth shut and bite my tongue, so as not to negatively affect my career or lose friends that I've made. I'm ashamed to say that I've even faked my opinions and dialogue to pretend I was on the Left to avoid awkward conversations.

*"We're about to flip Georgia blue!" a coworker instant messages me. "I know, it's crazy," I begrudgingly responded as the 2020 election results were tabulated.*

Every time a coworker or friend has ever fed into the Fake News over the last four years, whether it be about Russian collusion, "kids in cages" or the Ukrainian phone call, and says "Can you believe Trump is now doing this," it becomes an internal struggle whether to try to relay facts to this misguided individual or just to pretend I agree with their baseless talking points.

The Left's logic is simply this: the President is racist, you support the President, you're a racist. How am I to dispute a claim predicated on subjective and arbitrary inputs? Donald Trump certainly said and Tweeted plenty of brash statements that I can understand being perceived as "racist." But, at the same time, he also cut minority unemployment to its lowest level ever and signed the First Step Act, which reformed federal prisons and reduced sentencing, allowing predominantly minority convicts previously incarcerated for low-level crimes to reenter society. Actions speak louder



than words, and, to me, a man that is genuinely racist would not help people of color by getting them more jobs and releasing them from prison.

So, again, how did I have a civil conversation with anyone about anything during Trump's presidency, when they blatantly ignore the facts and reality of the situation? I didn't. But that

ends going forward. I'm tired of pretending to be on the Left. I'm tired of not being able to have civil conversations with my colleagues and friends. I'm tired of people not respecting me as a person because I don't share the same views as they do. But I'm certainly not tired of being a Republican.

## A Conservative Conundrum - To Pay or Not to Pay

*By Nicholas S. Tito*

As federal student loan forgiveness policy is increased under President Biden and any future liberal administrations, what is a patriotic American indebted to the government to do? I have spent much of my time mulling over this moral quandary, as it is just that: a moral issue. Enforcement of loan payback penalties is embarrassingly feeble, making loan repayment basically one of principle. And so, without much fanfare, a critical casualty of the "15-going-on-410 days to slow the spread" is the repayment of federal student loan debt by millennial borrowers. Since March 13, 2020 through at least September 30, 2021, all federal loans have been placed into forbearance with an interest rate of 0%. While payments may still be made during this period, unsurprisingly, few are opting to do so. The liberal establishment would have us believe this is a result of financial hardship produced by the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. Yet those with a functioning frontal cortex view a much more obvious and sinister cause.

With large swaths of millennials working from home throughout the pandemic, federal stimulus checks served as large windfalls for millions of Americans with student loan debt. But according to a report by CNBC, less than 11% of borrowers are paying back their loans since the federal payment moratorium.

So what gives?

As a borrower of federal student loans myself, I can tell you exactly why. Our Democrat peers have no moral conviction to pay their debts.

Millennials unabashedly spend more money than they earn upon the reliance of federal loan forgiveness. Yet, unlike their parents and grandparents, most millennials do not leverage



*"Money Wallet" by 401(K) 2013 is licensed with CC BY-SA 2.0.*

their debt against appreciable assets—namely a home and other equities. Instead, millennials purchase craft lattes, designer clothing, pet supplies, consumer electronics, and go to hipster restaurants. This obviously begs the question: what about their student loan payments? Speak to the average millennial, and you may be surprised with the answer. Most millennials have no desire to pay back their student loans and have fully embraced the fiscal policy of socialist ideologues who exchange promises of debt forgiveness in exchange for votes. InsideHigherEd reports 76% of millennials buy into this leftist narrative, and they demand nothing less than complete loan forgiveness.

Four years ago, I would have sided on the side of fiscal responsibility and civic duty. It is moral and decent to pack back one's debts. Today, I have been convinced of the opposite. With liberal power so formally planted in nearly every institution, paying back one's educational debts is futile and a haphazard exercise. Any educational debt a conservative pays back is just another dollar used to pay for another's useless liberal art degree. With socialism growing

exponentially among the youth in our country, conservatives must become much savvier in finding ways to leverage our dollars to retake control of the halls of Congress. Conservatives must make it a point to use the Left's narrative against them: refuse to pay a single dollar of your student loans, demand forgiveness when Uncle Sam comes knocking, and decry the system as oppressive when you receive pushback. Our federal loan system is long past the supercritical point of fiscal responsibility—to pay back the good ol' US of A only contributes by further propagating the taxpayer extortion scheme currently employed. Allowing the federal loan market to collapse on itself (which it has already done in all but name) is the only way to dive into the chaos and institute a free-market system of educational borrowing where consequences exist for failing liberal arts majors.

Perhaps a reason does exist to have a federal educational loan system—but a toothless system tied to parental income rather than academic merit, which we currently have, is insanity. One needs only a pulse to take out over \$250,000 in public dollars without any intention of paying that money back. You've seen with your own eyes the car, apartment, and wardrobe of the average "broke college student." Need I remind you that 41% of college graduates take a job which does not require a degree? Or that to

combat low test scores across the board, colleges are simply abolishing testing? Quite a way to spend your tax dollars.

As repulsed to collecting federal dollars as I am, strategy must be employed to capture every dollar available before it gets into the hands of leftist activists (i.e., the average college student). Educational loan debt totals \$1.57 trillion dollars spread amongst 42.9 million borrowers. If you believe this amount will ever be repaid, I applaud your naive optimism. Tantamount to the Left's strategy of controlling our lives is to devalue the currency and borrowing structures we employ amongst ourselves, forcing us into the realm of federal reliance. The larger the student debt load in America, the more credence is given to the populace for the printing of monies to cover the debt of illiterate college students. The Biden Administration has already proved it worships at the altar of modern monetary theory in less than four months. As a payer of your own federal loans, you will be left with a high tax bill, less money in your pocket to combat inflation, and moral principles which yield buying power to leftist college students shopping for a Tesla.

Paying one's loans is still the moral and decent thing to do. I am only arguing that the time for principle has long passed; the era of strategy is upon us.

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*“Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason toward my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the Majesty of Heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.” — Patrick Henry*

## Endorsement: Mark Foley For City Council (CD-5)

The New York Young Republican Club is proud to endorse Mark Foley for the New York City Council District 5 2021 election. Born in exurban Massachusetts and raised by Italian immigrants, Mark currently works as a co-founder of Pendo LLC and The Folson Group, a residential real estate financial consultancy.

In seeking to represent New York City's 5th District—where he has lived since 1987—in the City Council, Mark intends to bring his problem-solver, forward-thinking, and anti-establishment ideology to City Hall. Mark is a truly unique candidate. He will simultaneously use his vast business, management, and administrative experience coupled with his longstanding grassroots relationship with the district's citizens to provide effective leadership. His establishment competitor lacks both these skills and this connection to the community.

In crafting his campaign platform, Mark used a common-sense and transparent approach to the issues that face the 5th District. For example, a major issue facing the 5th District (and the whole city) is the Defund The Police movement. Unlike his opponent, Mark has made it clear that he vehemently supports the NYPD and funding it fully.

Another core is an issue that Mark will address is property values. Mark believes New York City can only make a full comeback if property values return to their pre-pandemic levels, and that is only possible if we reject any attempt to do the following: reduce policing on our streets, make it easier for criminals to get out of jail, or bloat the budget. Such actions would only lead to increased property and income taxes or more restrictive policies on already struggling



businesses.

Mark also knows about the devastating effects of the Coronavirus lockdown on small businesses and restaurants in the Upper East Side. Mark, unlike his opponents, wants to give the owners of these businesses a voice in the decision-making process so that New York City can enact better guidelines for reopening.

We believe that Mark stands on the right side of issues for the 5th District and can restore New York City to the once-fabled place that people around the world dreamed of visiting. The New York Young Republican Club urges all voters in the 5th City Council District of New York City to stop the rising tide of incompetence, corruption, and cronyism by supporting Mark Foley to serve as their City Councilman.

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*"We must speak our minds openly, debate our disagreements honestly, but always pursue solidarity. When America is united, America is totally unstoppable." - Donald J. Trump*

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## Sponsorships

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### Beretta

#### Discounts

20% discount on all Beretta products.

#### Shooting Range

Access to regular trips to the Beretta Shooting Range in Upstate New York.

#### Socials and Events

Use of the Beretta Gallery at 718 Madison Avenue for Club socials and events.

### Liberty Cigars

#### Discounts

19.11% discount on all Liberty Cigars.

#### Complimentary Cigars

Members will receive complimentary cigars at select events.



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## Club's Mission

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*To promote and maintain the principles of the Republican Party; to foster within the Republican Party and make practical in service of the municipality, state and nation, the idealism characteristic of youth; to correct in our own party that tendency of all parties to make organization an end rather than a means; to develop sound principle and public spirit in party politics; to promote honest and fair electoral methods, to the end that the expression of the popular will by whatever party or body, shall be as free, untrammelled and equal as possible; to resist and expose political corruption; to advocate merit rather than partisan service as entitling to public office; to watch legislation and to encourage public attention to and efficiently criticize the conduct of government.*