

Thank you, Marlene and Bill, for nominating me and for your kind remarks. Marlene, I have relied on your sense of Village history and political expertise since I have been on the Board and I hope that I can do so well into the future. Bill, it has been a distinct honor to work with you. Larchmont is fortunate to have someone of your stature -- the founding Chairman and CEO of DTC, a man who has been appointed by Presidents and Governors -- now settled down and quietly doing good works for our community. Thank you, Mirriam Curnin, for agreeing to perform the duties as Mistress of Ceremonies, for your lifelong dedication to the Village and for keeping the flame alive for Village Democrats throughout the years.

Tonight, I am honored to accept your nomination to be the next Mayor of Larchmont.

I'd like to take a moment to introduce my lovely wife, Ravit.

After we had our first child, Ravit and I decided like so many others that it was time to move out of the city. Neither of us had grown up in this area, so we spent years shopping for a place to raise our family; and we chose Larchmont. Now, I just want to take a minute to tell you how this Village stole my heart.

One of the first things I noticed about Larchmont was that there were a lot of people living in the Village who had grown up here and returned to raise their families. That's a rare thing in this day and age, and it says a lot about how residents feel about this place. I have to admit that I envy those people. You see, my father was a Surgeon in the Navy for a while, and our family moved around a lot when I was young. I have always resolved that my kids would have a different experience, emphasizing stability and community.

Since the first time we set our eyes on this place, I have been idealizing Larchmont as the community in which I would like to raise my family. For five years, as residents of Mamaroneck, we would sneak into the Village on Halloween, during parades, shopping or taking a weekend walk in the park. Finally, about four years ago we found our dream home in this -- our dream community -- and we've never looked back.

This little Village of ours is truly an amazing place -- a "garden by the sea", my daughter once said -- and I will never take it for granted. Early in its history, Larchmont was a model community in so many ways and I want it so be that same model community in the 21st century so that it will be there for my kids and their kids one day, too.

I am honored to be chosen by you as your candidate to lead the Board over the next two years, and I take seriously our responsibility to care for and preserve this unique village.

There are many things that need to be accomplished in the next year, including the Palmer Ave Streetscape, union contract negotiations, and the continued improvement of our fields and facilities, to name a few. The task of meeting these goals is made more difficult in these tough economic times. Budgets are tight everywhere, so we are going to have to seek out innovative ways to find funding for our initiatives. In order maintain the

level of services that we are accustomed to, we will have to take a fresh look at old problems.

Have no doubt; I am excited about the road that lies ahead. With the help of so many talented volunteers on Village commissions, committees and the library and Village Boards, how could we go wrong? I look forward to working with all of you to continue the work that has made this the best place to live in all of Westchester.

In closing, let me just say that while it's true that I've had a successful and very exciting career on Wall Street for nearly 20 years, I've never been more proud in my career than I am right now, as I can walk out of this room and say, "My name is Josh Mandell, and I am running to be the next Mayor of Larchmont."