



“Autumn in New York...” Curbside Composting Door-to-Door



“Autumn in New York, why does it seem so inviting?” That great lyric, written by the legendary Vernon Duke in 1934, highlights another reason to love our evolving metropolis. The chemical process in deciduous trees that yields the brilliant fall foliage we admire speaks to the biological decomposition that converts solid organic material into the substance we know as COMPOST.

The Park Slope Civic Council is eager to support the resumption of NYC’s Curbside Composting Program announced by Mayor de Blasio this past Earth Day that had been suspended due to budget constraints caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The announcement indicates that NYC residents will be able to opt-in to receive free weekly curbside composting service. Enrollment launched in August, with collection services beginning in October with phased expansion. To register contact the NYC Department of Sanitation at: nyc.gov/curbsidecomposting.

GrowNYC (gownyc.org) lets us know that composting is one of the easiest things that everyone can do to improve the environment. Potential benefits include significantly reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills, as over 1/3 of New York City’s residential waste stream consists of organic waste that could be composted. Making compost locally reduces carbon emissions from hauling trash long distances, but even more significantly, reducing food and other organic waste in landfills reduces methane emissions generated by anaerobic decomposition. The EPA advises us that landfill gas is a byproduct of the decomposition of organic material in landfills and is composed of roughly 50% methane, 50% carbon dioxide (CO₂), and a small amount of non-methane organic compounds. Methane is a very dangerous greenhouse gas and is 28 to 36 times more effective than CO₂ at trapping heat in the atmosphere over a 100-year period, per the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assessment report: “Turning Waste into a Resource.” Finally, compost is a valuable fertilizer that returns nutrients to the soil and helps plants thrive.

City Councilmember Brad Lander is keen to invigorate the city’s composting effort and has offered this observation: “Park Slope was one of the best-performing neighborhoods in New York City’s compost pilot program and I know we will be again! Curbside composting makes it much easier for New Yorkers to dispose of their organic waste, produce useful compost, and help

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“Plug NYC” Brings Electric Vehicle Charging to the Slope

As part of its “80x50” program—whose goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by the year 2050—the City of New York has embarked on an ambitious program to encourage electric vehicle ownership and to build the technology infrastructure to support it. In June 2021, the Department of Transportation launched “PlugNYC,” a program of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations spread across the five boroughs, including 120 curbside stations serving parked cars as well as higher voltage stations in certain city-owned parking lots.

Increasing the availability of charging stations is key to making electric vehicles a viable option for New Yorkers. Park Slope residents considering an EV purchase will be pleased to learn that one of the first curbside stations in the city is at 99 Prospect Park West, between 5th and 6th Streets. The station serves two parking spaces on a first-come, first-served basis.

The station provides “Level 2” charging, using 240-volt power, that provides a full charge for most cars in between 4 and 8 hours. That’s more than four times the charging rate of plugging into regular 120-volt household power. The stations use so-called “J plugs,” which are compatible with nearly every electric vehicle in the market, and Tesla cars use an adaptor that is included with every Tesla purchase.

Only electric vehicles using the charging station are allowed to park in those two spots. Like the Citi Bike program, you can search in advance to see if space is available and find alternate sites if your closest station is occupied. Payment is by smartphone, tap card, or on the program’s website. Non-electric vehicles taking up the dedicated parking spaces will be ticketed.

The program, which is run in partnership with Con Edison and FLO, a Canadian electric-vehicle charging company, is also installing faster, higher power “Level 3” charging stations in a limited number of city-owned parking garages around the city, but so far there are none in or near Park Slope.



24-hour EV charging at the recently installed FLO charging station at 99 Prospect Park West, between 5th and 6th Streets

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From our New President

Dear Members and Friends –

I don't know about you, but for me, there's definitely a different feel in the air in Park Slope this autumn. Covid continues to be a concern, but 5th and 7th Avenues appear as busy as ever with pedestrians and shoppers. The sidewalk and in-street restaurant pop-ups seem busy. Merchants I speak with are more optimistic about their businesses.

As the recently elected President of the Park Slope Civic Council, I'm working with the Executive Committee and the full Board of Trustees trying to strike the right balance between being cautious about the continuing Covid risk on the one hand and resuming our important neighborhood events and activities on the other. For now, we've decided to postpone our Food for Thought tasting event (which is indoors and unmasked) until next spring, probably May 18, and we're continuing to hold our monthly meetings on Zoom. However, our outdoor events like the Civic Sweep (Saturday, November 6) and a modified Halloween Parade (this year on a Saturday, October 30) are resuming.

As I hope you know, advocacy on issues of importance to the neighborhood is a key part of what we do, and we're looking to increase our impact and visibility on policy matters. Just since Labor Day, we've done the following:

- On September 13th, we sent a letter to the Landmarks Preservation Commission (also submitted to court) urging emergency landmarking designation for the façade of the historic Grand Prospect Hall, that a developer plans to demolish. At the moment it looks like an uphill struggle, but a courtroom battle continues.
- On the 29th, five trustees from the Livable Streets Committee

joined a Zoom call with the Plaza Street Block Association and DOT Brooklyn Borough Commissioner, Keith Bray, about pedestrian, bike and vehicle safety in and around Grand Army Plaza.

- On the 30th, I testified at an MTA public hearing in favor of the most rapid possible implementation of congestion pricing.
- In the meantime, we continue to participate constructively in the Gowanus rezoning process.

Over the summer, we took advantage of a new City program, the NYC Cleanup Corps (CCC), to launch a cleanup effort on 7th Avenue, in parallel with the 5th Avenue BID's ongoing program on their avenue - see p. 5 of our newsletter. Another feature in this issue is our tribute to Tarzian Hardware on its 100th Anniversary. Congratulations to Tarzian!!!

Speaking of congratulations, I'd like to thank and compliment my predecessor as President, Joe Rydell. He led the organization through the pandemic, with all of its challenges, and left us in a very good position to reemerge with renewed energy and engagement. It's a tribute to his leadership.

I appreciate the opportunity that's been offered me to lead the Civic Council for this next term. I look forward to welcoming new people into the organization and launching significant new initiatives to grow the organization and increase its impact.

Please email me at president@parkslopeciviccouncil.org with your ideas and suggestions, and let me know of your volunteer interests.

Very truly yours,
Timothy Gilles



Established 1896 as the South Brooklyn Board of Trade.
Incorporated 1938.

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The Park Slope Civic Council is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization

From Forum to the Ballot Box



As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Park Slope Civic Council does not endorse or favor particular candidates for election to public office, but close relationships with elected officials and their staffs are important for us to advocate successfully for our neighborhood. We have been paying close attention to the City Council race for the 39th District to succeed Brad Lander, who has been a good friend and ally of the Civic Council in his 12 years in office.

In May, the Park Slope Civic Council hosted, along with six other Park Slope organizations, a forum for the candidates running for the District's open City Councilmember spot in the June 25 Primary. Only the Democratic party held a Primary, and all seven candidates appeared, along with a crowd of about 400 people, for a spirited and informative session at the ballfields on the 4th Avenue side of the Old Stone House.

Shahana Hanif won the Democratic Primary, and she will face off against candidates from other parties (who haven't been selected as of this writing) in the General Election on November 2nd. **Early voting begins on Oct. 23, and additional info about registering to vote, absentee ballots, polling times and locations, and other election matters is available from the NYC Board of Elections: vote.nyc.**

Thank You To Our Contributors

SJ Avery, John Casson, John Ciferni, Stephen Copek, Rory Dineen, Timothy Gilles, Ezra Goldstein, Kimberly Maier, Kenneth Stevens, Joanna Tallantire, Hope Tarullo and Candace Woodward

The Tools That It Takes . . . Tarzian Hardware Turns 100

Photographs Courtesy of Tarzian Hardware



Above photos from left: Charlie Tarzian (ctr) & his brother Marty (far right), 1921; 100th Anniversary ribbon cutting - John Ciferni (ctr), family & staff; Tarzian storefront, circa 1920s; Owner - John Ciferni joined by past PSCC President - Joe Rydell, Lorraine Lowe - Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, & PSCC President - Timothy Gilles; Charlie's wife Sophie at Tarzian's, 1940

Few institutions have survived through Park Slope's myriad transformations over the last century, but chief among them is Tarzian Hardware, which marks its hundredth anniversary this year.

Not only has Tarzian kept going through the Depression, the war, the neighborhood's one-time downward slide, and the onslaughts of big-box stores and on-line shopping, but it has stayed in the same family since its founding in 1921 by the brothers Charlie and Marty Tarzian. Management passed to Charlie's son Harry in 1954, to Harry's wife Paula Ciferni in 1992, and to their son John Ciferni in 2009.

In 2009, Harry talked about the store in a conversation with students from the Secondary School for Research as part of a Park Slope oral history project organized by the Civic Council. He told the students how his father and uncle opened the store, originally located at the corner of 3rd Street, with \$500. They had been working for a brother-in-law, who had a hardware store in Bed-Stuy, but "he was hard to work for," and "they were young men and they wanted to get out on their own."

"There was a definite reason they opened in Park Slope," said Harry. "They did some research. They were thinking of opening the store off Ocean Avenue, in the Avenue J shopping area. And then they decided to open it in Park Slope because Park Slope at that time was an area that had judges and politicians and very wealthy people.

"There were a lot of [these wealthy] people who lived on 3rd Street between 7th and the park, and they figured there would be room for a hardware store."

The brothers moved the store to 193 7th Avenue in 1936, then Harry took over the adjoining storefront in 1972. But hardware, truth be told, wasn't Harry's real passion. He was an avid sailor and an accomplished amateur photographer, and in the mid 1980s he turned the store over to a manager, and the family, including young

John, moved to Maryland where, for a time, they lived on a sailboat.

By 1992, Harry was ready to sell the store but Paula refused to give it up. They came back to Brooklyn and Paula took over, making numerous improvements to compete with the big-box stores that had moved into the neighborhood. John, who volunteered for the army right after 9/11, joined her in 2004, back from serving in Iraq. In 2009, Paula turned over management to him.

John attributes the store's survival to its close ties to the neighborhood, a good staff that can provide better service than the chains, and lots and lots of hard work. He also admits it helps enormously that they own their buildings, thanks to the foresight of his forebearers. "We're local, we're convenient, and we have personal relationships with our community and customers," said John. "Paying attention goes a long way. If you're not changing and growing, you're going the opposite way."

Thanks to Covid, John shelved plans for a grand anniversary celebration in lieu of a simple but moving ceremony in front of the store on September 25. Speakers included past and current Civic Council presidents Joe Rydell and Timothy Gilles and Assembly-member Robert Carroll, who presented John with a New York State Assembly proclamation honoring the anniversary. John paid tribute to the store's employees, who had been honored at their own party the night before, for keeping the store going as an essential business through the worst days of the pandemic. Members of the extended store family cut a ceremonial ribbon opening Tarzian's and its gleaming new--but throwback--storefront to the next 100 years."

John has two daughters, 16 and 14, and the oldest works in the store from time to time, but he isn't pressuring her to be the family's fourth generation to be in charge.

"I want her to explore all the options. But if she wants it, it will be there."

- Ezra Goldstein, Trustee

Civic Council Grants Support Community Non-Profits

Each year the Civic Council awards community service grants to local organizations. Grants support the work of local community groups and non-profits for their work and commitment to improve the health, vitality and diversity of our community. Generally, the Civic Council awards several grants ranging in size from \$250 to \$750. Below are our eligibility requirements:

1. Applicants must serve the greater Park Slope community and must be non-profit organizations whose services, programs and projects are open to residents of Park Slope.
2. Funds are not provided for operating costs of ongoing programs.

3. Grant monies must be used within one year from the date of award.
4. Applicants must be or be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) organization.
5. Organizations that have received more than three grants from the Civic Council over the past five years will not be eligible.

More details about this year's grant cycle and application deadline will be announced in the coming months via social media and on our website: www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org.

- Stephen Copek, First Vice President

A Different Feel is in the Air . . .

The Old Stone House Park Slope's "Town Square"

The Old Stone House & Washington Park has a long history and has always been an essential part of the community. Today, our work focuses on being Park Slope's Town Square, serving as a gathering place for family events, playdates, recreation, education and the arts.

While many neighbors may be aware of the Revolutionary War history of the site, as well as the baseball history, the land the house is built upon was Lenape hunting ground for thousands of years prior to the arrival of the Dutch – a narrative that visitors can learn more about from OSH's new interactive exhibit during our open hours on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 12–3 pm.

During the past year and a half, we've seen how OSH's gardens and open spaces mean so much to park users. Sam Lewis, OSH's Director of Gardens, works with a wonderful team of volunteers, including Good Neighbors of Park Slope, who generously donated beautiful urns with plantings for OSH's patio. Sam and the volunteer team worked to open previously underutilized spaces in the garden to create paths for adventuring through the secret spaces along the park perimeter, as well as new open spaces with tables and chairs for parties or, on that rare quiet day in the park, contemplation.



Photographs Courtesy of The Old Stone House

Clockwise from upper left: Indigo Dyeing Workshop at OSH with artist Iviva Olenick, OSH Flowers & Compost Collection at the Down to Earth Sunday Market, Bread & Puppet Theater at OSH, and Garden Train Tool Lending Library at OSH

In addition to funding and managing the outdoor spaces in the park, OSH's role as the conservancy organization for the site includes activating the space with great programming. From hosting Bread and Puppet Theater's first outdoor performance in New York City in more than a decade, to providing rehearsal and performance space for musicians and theater companies, there is something wonderful to experience in the park nearly every weekend. We also provide space for many community groups for their events, including the Park Slope Civic Council, Arts Gowanus, the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, the Park Slope Fifth Avenue BID, Park Slope Parents and many of our local school PTAs.

Now, more than ever, we are glad to see friends and neighbors coming together in community to find a way forward after the distance we have all experienced. From helping families find ways to honor their important rites of passage, to creating outdoor school field trip opportunities, to welcoming our beloved Park Slope Civic Council Halloween celebration, we are grateful to have you with us at the Old Stone House & Washington Park, and so appreciative of the support that the community gives us to make our work possible.

- Kimberly Maier, Executive Director, The Old Stone House & Washington Park

Annual Ortner Preservation Award Nominations Open for 2022



Photo Credit: John Casson

Pictured above is the Henry Bristow School - PS 39 on 6th Avenue at 8th Street, the 2014 Ortner Award Winner for Exterior Restoration

Are you aware of a recent renovation, new building or community endeavor that has enhanced the appearance of our historic neighborhood? If you are, we would love to hear from you. Anyone can submit a nomination for the Civic Council's annual Ortner Awards (see the link below). **Applications will be sent to candidates who are nominated, and must be completed and submitted by February 1, 2022.**

Park Slope is constantly threatened by poorly designed construction and irresponsible actions, especially on blocks that are not landmarked. This is why the PSCC began issuing awards in 2014 intended to recognize construction projects compatible with the neighborhood's original architecture and interventions by residents that enhance its appearance.

The Preservation Awards honor Evelyn and Everett Ortner who moved to Park Slope in the 1960s when the neighborhood was in decline. Long term residents were moving out, buildings were being abandoned and houses were difficult to purchase because the neighborhood had been redlined by mortgage lenders and insurance companies. The Ortners and a few of their neighbors launched an effort to encourage people to move here as part of an effort to revitalize Park Slope. Their actions resulted in Park Slope becoming the attractive and vibrant community that it is today. The couple also played a pivotal role in the creation of our Historic District, now one of the largest landmarked districts in NYC.

Recipients of the Ortner Preservation Awards will be selected by a panel of experts in architecture, historic preservation and community engagement. The awards, sponsored by Tarzian Hardware, will be presented at the April 2022 meeting of the PSCC. Suggestions of candidates for and questions about the Ortner Preservation Awards can be emailed to John Casson, Chair of the Ortner Awards Committee, at jcasson@parkslopeciviccouncil.org. Eligibility requirements for the six categories of awards and an application form can be obtained at: <https://parkslopeciviccouncil.org/ortner-preservation-award-nominations-for-2022/>

- John Casson, Ortner Awards Chair

... with an Enlivened Spirit in Park Slope

Gowanus Rezoning Plan Moving Slowly But Steadily

Following delays due to the Covid pandemic and a legal case, public testimony on the Gowanus rezoning plan resumed in early June with a marathon Public Hearing at the Old Stone House. Several weeks later, Community Board 6 voted 28 to 6 to conditionally approve the plan, with a 14-page document that outlined critical issues the plan did not, but must, address. Key issues identified by the Gowanus Neighborhood Coalition for Justice (GNCJ), of which the Civic Council is a member, were included in the list of CB6 conditions.

GNCJ “Deal Breaker” conditions for support of the rezoning proposal, which Councilmember Brad Lander has stated are also required before he will vote yes, are as follows:

Upfront funding for full capital needs at Wyckoff and Gowanus Public Housing: The City must dedicate enough upfront funding for full capital needs at Wyckoff Gardens and Gowanus Houses, and HUD policies that ensure hiring of NYCHA residents and low-income residents must be followed.

Net Zero Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO): Mandate net zero CSO from new construction created because of the rezoning, through the following actions: (1) Accurately model how increased density will increase CSO and impact local hydrology, (2) Require and enforce CSO mitigation in new development and (3) Ensure city investment in infrastructure to completely mitigate any negative hydrological impacts of rezoning.

Support and fund a Gowanus Zoning Commitment Task Force: The Task Force would monitor compliance with public and private commitments, adherence to zoning requirements, and implementation of the rezoning.

The Gowanus plan has been approved by CB6 and the Borough President, with a long list of conditions, and by the City Planning Commission. The final reviews are by the City Council and the Mayor, likely in late October/early November. The Civic Council will continue to play an advocate role, in partnership with GNCJ, as the process moves along.

- SJ Avery, Forth on Fourth Chair

4th Avenue Yarn Bomb Expresses Climate Crisis Messaging



Photo Credit: SJ Avery

On October 2, Forth on Fourth Avenue, a committee of the Civic Council, joined with other Park Slope and Gowanus organizations and individual artists to install the third #4thAve-YarnBomb, a 90-foot-long fiber artwork on 4th Avenue, between 3rd and 4th Streets, highlighting the risks to the planet from climate change. The exhibition is on display until November 15. GO VISIT!

- SJ Avery, Forth on Fourth Chair

Civic Council Launches Cleanup Program with City Funding

In April of this year, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced a new program, the City Cleanup Corps (CCC), described as “a New Deal-inspired economic recovery program to directly create 10,000 jobs and make New York City the cleanest, greenest city in the United States.” The program provides funds for hiring interns across ten City agencies for neighborhood beautification - sweeping streets, removing graffiti, power-washing sidewalks and more.

One innovative element of the program is that local community organizations can apply to supervise one or more CCC interns, giving them assignments and providing training and oversight. The Civic Council jumped at the opportunity and, despite a complicated application process, intern Jessian Carrion began in August with Muneer Ansaar and Jamie McKenzie starting in September.

Pictured below, left to right, Tarzian owner, John Ciferri, interns Muneer Ansaar, Jessian Carrion, Jamie McKenzie, and PSCC President, Timothy Gilles.



Tarzian Hardware is home base for the CCC team. Arriving in the morning, Council interns get the day's assignments, and pick up any needed tools and equipment from Tarzian owner and PSCC Trustee John Ciferri or one of his store managers. After that, they're mostly out on 7th Avenue, cleaning up one of the most heavily trafficked and busy streets in the neighborhood. Coupled with the ongoing beautification and cleanup work on 5th Avenue, organized by the 5th Avenue Business Improvement District, where Civic Council Trustee Mark Caserta is Executive Director, this new initiative is making a significant difference in the attractiveness and friendly ambiance of Park Slope.

If you see our CCC interns on the street, please introduce yourself and share how much we appreciate their contributions.

- Timothy Gilles, President

Curbside Composting - continued from cover

reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I'm glad to see the restoration of curbside composting, one important strategy in the fight for a Green New Deal, but the next administration must move rapidly to implement a mandatory citywide program to achieve maximum environmental and cost benefits for our city.”

A model of a successful, community-based composting program was initiated in April 2021 at The Old Stone House (www.theoldstonehouse.org). Angela Martinez Lombardo, OSH Compost & Garden Coordinator, accepts annual membership applications on Sundays from 10am to 2pm at the OSH Garden. Since the inception of the program, one ton of food scraps and organic matter have been received! Members get the benefit of receiving metrics on how much waste is diverted from landfills. Our partners at OSH are making a significant difference.

Awareness is growing about the benefits of composting, but civic participation needs to increase. Let's continue the vital path to treat our planet with the kindness it deserves.

- Rory Dineen, Sustainability Co-Chair

New Trustees Join Council Leadership



Donna Stein

Donna was born and grew up in Brooklyn and returned to her native borough with her husband Mark in 2019 after 20 years in Boston. She had a diverse career, including many years in the fine jewelry business and then in corporate and private event catering. Donna has been involved in a wide variety of nonprofit activities, including leading mom's groups for new mothers and being a Board Member for Jewish Family & Children's Services. She currently volunteers with Big Apple Greeters, a nonprofit that connects foreign visitors with knowledgeable and enthusiastic volunteers who show visitors their favorite NYC neighborhoods on foot. Donna is very excited to be part of the PSCC community and work side by side with other trustees to make our neighborhood the best it can be.



Emmitt Sklar

Emmitt Sklar is a lifelong Brooklynite. He currently investigates police misconduct for the City of New York. He recently graduated magna cum laude from Davidson College where he served as student body president and studied political science. His passion for the neighborhood comes from a deep connection to the people here. Growing up, he refereed little league sports in Prospect Park and volunteered for a city councilmember. Emmitt hopes to leverage his skills, passion, and energy as a member of the Park Slope Civic Council to build a more inclusive and interconnected community.



Michael Mallon

Michael Mallon serves as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for the Queens Borough President, overseeing the Borough President's Civic Engagement Committee. Previously, Michael served as Communications Director for the NYC Council's Finance Chair. Michael has helped thousands of Queens residents overcome workplace and housing discrimination, immigration issues, domestic violence and other concerns. He is a board member of the Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn and the Stonewall Democratic Club of NYC, and has advocated for improved workplace protections and an end to the practice of conversion therapy. Michael has raised tens of thousands of dollars for social service organizations that serve the LGBTQ+ community and people living with HIV/AIDS. A fighter for better mass transit, Michael is a founding member of the Riders Alliance. He lives in Park Slope with his husband Albert.



Mitch Szpicek

Mitch is a lifelong Brooklyn resident and is the 2nd generation owner of Little Things Toy Store. Earlier, Mitch joined the New York City Police Department and advanced steadily from a plainclothes Transit officer, to a Sergeant leading the Brooklyn South Pattern Identification Module to a Lieutenant in the Crime Strategies and Analysis Section at Police Headquarters. Along the way, Mitch worked part-time at H&R Block and then developed a tax advisory practice. Since retiring from the NYPD, Mitch has been the owner of Little Things for the last ten years. He has been active with the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce, including serving as President, and is now leading the Chamber's effort to implement a Business Improvement District for 7th Avenue.



Rickie James

Rickie James is a Brooklyn native who attended New York City public schools and the State University of New York. He has a background in Architectural Technology and is an Associate of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. His experience has inspired a passion for historic preservation and land use that he plans to bring to his role with the Council. Rickie currently serves on the Board of Trustees at the Park Slope United Methodist Church, where his responsibilities include the preservation and upkeep of the church and parsonage. Rickie states that "as a person of color I find my interest in Park Slope and its Civic Council draws me close to the heart of what Park Slope is all about, its people."



Sarah Murphy Gersowitz

Sarah Gersowitz is a lifelong Park Sloper who met her husband, Elliott, while attending The Berkeley Carroll School. They feel lucky to be able to raise their two young daughters in our wonderful community. Sarah served a previous stint as Civic Council Trustee, during which she co-chaired what was then the Outreach Committee and helped establish Food For Thought as the beloved annual event it is today. She is thrilled to serve as a trustee again. Sarah has also volunteered at Berkeley Carroll and at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. When she has time, Sarah enjoys knitting and hiking with her family. One of her favorite things to do each summer is to try as many different blueberry pies as she can while vacationing in Bar Harbor, Maine. Sarah is an attorney.

EV Charging - continued from cover

Consistent with the Civic Council's longstanding support of congestion pricing and protected bike lanes, we are encouraged by the growth of electric vehicles as a viable option for car ownership and by the City's program to provide the needed charging infrastructure. At the same time, we recognize that controversies will arise whenever previously unrestricted curb space is redirected to dedicated uses such as EV charging or Zipcars or Loading Zones, or to non-vehicular uses altogether such as Open Streets, Open Restaurants and Open Learning.

As part of our mission to improve community life, the Park Slope Civic Council looks forward to further conversations on the current and future use of our neighborhood streets and sidewalks.

- Kenneth Stevens, *Livable Streets Chair*



Stephen Painter

Stephen Painter is a North Carolina native who moved to Park Slope with his husband in 2006. When he's not enjoying the flora and fauna of Prospect Park or exploring the neighborhood, he plays violin in the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra. Stephen has served on the orchestra's Board of Directors since 2008, including as President and Treasurer. During the day, Stephen is an Enforcement Attorney at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission where he investigates and prosecutes illegal conduct in the nation's commodities markets. His cases involve everything from complex market manipulation schemes by large banks to Ponzi schemes that victimize small investors. Stephen hopes that his work on the Council will help make Park Slope an even more amazing place to live.

The Park Slope Civic Council Working for a Lively, Safe, Green & Beautiful Park Slope!

PSCC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

- The Food for Thought Gala funds four college scholarships for community service

VOLUNTEERISM & GRANTS

- Awarding grants to diverse organizations that enrich the community
- Partnering with neighboring organizations on issues of mutual concern

ADVOCACY

- Creating NYC's largest historic district
- Campaigning for mass transit improvement
 - Promoting more livable streets
- Supporting local merchants and businesses



HONORING SERVICE & ACHIEVEMENT

- Ortner Awards for projects preserving the character and grace of the neighborhood
- Lovgren Awards honoring individuals and organizations for professional and volunteer service

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- In recent years PSCC has sponsored Town Hall meetings on the future of 4th Avenue, reducing our carbon footprint, and expanding the historic district
- Political forums for emerging local leadership

SUSTAINABILITY

- Civic Sweeps and neighborhood cleanups
- Partnership with Prospect Park Alliance Mulchfest
- Participation in climate awareness initiatives

SPONSORSHIP

- The Halloween Parade
- PSCC Historic House Tour and Virtual Tour
- Food for Thought

Our Mission Statement

The Park Slope Civic Council promotes the health, vitality and character of the Park Slope neighborhood and advocates for the interests of residents, businesses and others with a stake in the community.

Support Your PSCC

and help us to

Sustain the Relevance, Viability and History of This Community We Call Home.

Make your check payable to **The Park Slope Civic Council** and mail with this form to:
Box 172, 123 Seventh Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215, or sign up online at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Primary Contact (and company name if applicable)

Email

Other Adult Members of Household (if applicable)

Email

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Enclosed is my check for:

Household: \$40

Business/Professional: \$100

Benefactor: \$250

Student/Elder Community (65+): \$25

Other - Contribution of: \$ _____

LEARN MORE! at parkslopeciviccouncil.org

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Box 172, 123 Seventh Avenue
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Mark
Your
Calendars
!!!

Fall
Civic Sweep
Saturday, Nov. 6

10 AM - 2 PM at
John Jay
Educational Complex
7th Avenue
between 4th &
5th Streets

It's BACK!

Food for Thought
Gala Tasting Event
Wednesday, May 18
at the
Prospect Park Picnic House

Check back for times
& ticket info

Stay tuned for details at:
www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Join!
Renew!
Donate!
Volunteer!

www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org



The Park Slope Civic Council promotes the health, vitality and character of the Park Slope neighborhood and advocates for the interests of residents, businesses and others with a stake in the community.



Open Streets

Saturdays 11am - 10pm

— through November —

Dine outdoors, enjoy music, entertainment, and pop-up shops. And play on the safe blocks closed to traffic!



Community Giftcard

Buy and send a Community Gift Card through our Yiftee portal.

One gift card can be used in 80 plus small businesses around Park Slope and the Gowanus. Send someone the gift of a Park Slope experience and support local at the same time.

Tree Lighting

Kick off Shopping Small season at our Tree Lighting on Small Business Saturday, November 27th 4:30pm - 6pm
Bubbledad, Park Slope Conservatory of Music and Tropical Fete Steel Band and Stiltwalkers and of course Santa!

[#theother5th](https://www.instagram.com/theother5th)



ParkSlope
FifthAvenue



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parkslopefifthavenuebid.com