

Eating and Drinking for a Good Cause

Food for Thought, our annual tasting event, returns October 16. The party, which offers a chance to sample food and drinks from local establishments, will be held at The Picnic House in Prospect Park, from 6 to 9 pm. Keeping it local is a theme of the evening, which also raises funds for college scholarships awarded to high school seniors at the local John Jay Educational Complex. The students chosen, one from each of the four high schools at John Jay, all exhibit outstanding community service in addition to academic success.

Tickets to Food for Thought are \$100 each. To purchase tickets, please go to our website. You can also buy tickets at the door. New this year, we will have raffles for gift cards to Park Slope restaurants. Our restaurant and beverage partners this year include:

Bar Vinazo
Miriam
Lore
Un Posto Italiano
Palo Santo
Winner
The Commissioner
La Taq
Cousin John's
Da Nonna Rosa
Simply Greek
Gertrude's
Electric Beets
Kos Kaffe
Emmy Squared
Scottadito Osteria Toscana
Shawn Fine Wine & Spirits

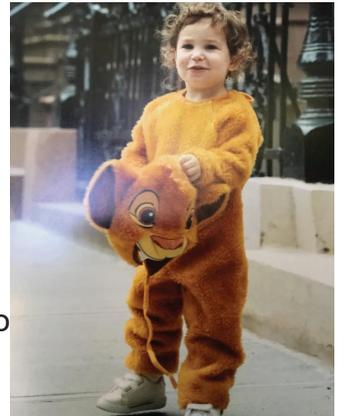


Enjoy food samples at Food for Thought.

Food for Thought Sponsors include: Brooklyn Solarworks, La Bagel Delight, Little Things, Brown Harris Stevens and Corcoran. Check our website for updates.

Celebrate Halloween with PSCC

Witches, ghouls, superheroes, and princess take over Park Slope at the annual PSCC Children's Halloween Parade. The free community event, which welcomes anyone to march in or watch the parade, is themed "Back to Life."



With the release of Lion King prequel, this could be a popular costume.

The Halloween festivities start with trick-or-treating along Seventh and Fifth Avenues in Park Slope. Businesses hand out candy from 3 to 6 pm, or until they run out. If you want to march in entire parade from the start, line up at 6:00 pm at 7th Avenue and 14th Street. At 6:30, the parade kicks off. Members of the Park Slope Civic Council and elected officials lead the parade, followed by bands, floats, dancers, bagpipers and groups of Halloween celebrants.

The parade route winds through Park Slope, going north to Third Street, turning left, and ending at Washington Park. Although the parade is officially a children's parade, adults without children are invited to march as well, and some even form ad hoc bands to add more music to the festivities. Musicians from the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music give a short concert at the end of the parade, and then it's back to homework. After all, it's a school night!

Tania Tavira, the new Halloween Parade chairperson, grew up in Park Slope and loved the parade as a child. She has continued the tradition with her daughter, taking her every year. Tania is excited to help produce an event that remains one of her family favorites.

President's Letter Fall 2024

Dear Members and Friends,

I want to start off by thanking Tim Gillis for the incredible work he has done as president for the past 3 years. He has worked so hard as President of the Civic Council, and the number of hours he donated to better our community is astounding. He is staying on our executive board, providing his insights, his intelligence, his work ethic, and his determination to get things done.

Here's why I'm so excited about the Civic Council. After my husband Mark and I raised our three children in Boston, we moved to Park Slope in 2019. It's not so easy moving to a totally new place at 58 years old. My oldest daughter was living right on 6th Avenue and Park Place, which is why we knew and loved the neighborhood so much, but I had no friends here and no sense of community.

In walks around Park Slope, I would see people of all ages waving and chatting to each other — it just looked like a real community, not your typical NYC neighborhood. I knew I had to figure out a way to make it feel like home. I volunteered, joined various clubs, and went to a ton of events that just weren't for me. I kept telling myself that the important thing was to just keep trying.

So I went to the last Food for Thought before Covid and I became a member of the Civic Council. While reading the newsletter, I saw an ad for trustees, and I thought why not? My first year on the Civic Council was hard. Almost everything was remote and it wasn't easy to connect with the group. I stuck with it, and as soon as we started having events again, I tried to attend everything I could fit into my schedule. At every single event, I met the most wonderful people who all cared so deeply about Park Slope, willing to do their part to make our neighborhood an even better place to live and work.

Fast forward a few years and Park Slope has become a real home to me because of all of you. So here I am — very excited, very honored, and very nervous as the new President of the Civic Council. I don't have the history of living in Park Slope for many years like a lot of you do. I'll count on your

help with that. I do have a profound appreciation for this neighborhood and the fact that it's become such a special place in my life. My two daughters live here now with their husbands and my two very cute grandsons. I can't imagine a better place to spend this time with them.

I will do everything in my power to celebrate our neighborhood and make it even better than it already is, and I look forward to working with all of you to make that happen. I encourage everyone to attend as many meetings and events as their schedule allows, because I know you'll be as inspired by this group as I was. I want to make sure everyone feels included at every step of the way, and I have some ideas for this year. I'm very excited about the events planned for the fall. Many are described in the newsletter and others will be added as soon as we have finalized the dates. Please check our website and look for updates via email.

Thank you all for making me feel like Park Slope is my home. I can't wait for all that's to come!

Very truly yours,
Donna Stein



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

Donna Stein, President
Deborah Lauter, First Vice President
Jed Meyer, Second Vice President
Stephen Copek, Treasurer
Jarrett Brilliant, Assisant Treasurer
Ronald Weiss, Secretary
Timoty Gilles, Membership Secretary

Trustees-At-Large:

Lee Boyes | Laurie Chaumont | Kenetta Clark
Burnley Duke Dame | Rory Dineen | Michael Feinberg
Sarah Murphy Gersowitz | Ezra Goldstein | Christina Gutiérrez-Williams
Laura Hess | Rickie James | Joyce Jed | Michael Kaye | Ira Mont
Scott Middleton | Eliza Pepper | Madeleine Rumely |
Elizabeth Scheines | Kenneth Stevens | Nan Sussman | Jeremy Woodoff
| Tiff Ziter

Editor: Judy Antell

Communications & Data Manager: Judy Antell

Mail: 123 Seventh Avenue, Box 172, Brooklyn NY 11215
facebook.com/park.council / https://twitter.com/pkslciviccouncil
www.instagram.com/park_slope_civic_council/
www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org
email: outreach@parkslopeciviccouncil.org

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

Meet our New Trustees

We had a record number of new trustees this year, offering a mixture of new ideas and perspectives. We also have a couple of trustees returning for new terms. Recruitment for new trustees starts in early 2025.

Laurie Chaumont

Laurie arrived in Park Slope at 18, as a student at Methodist Hospital's Nursing Program, fell in love with the neighborhood, and never left. Her healthcare career ranged from Hospital ICU care at NYU, editing for professional journals, to Home Health care as a field nurse. As Director of Informatics, she led several agencies from paper-based record keeping to digital formats. Laurie and her husband live in the Park Slope home they bought in 1982 where they raised 3 children. Laurie was very involved in the PTA at PS 321, serving as Treasurer and Vice President. In retirement, Laurie's volunteer activities include chair of the Parish Council at St. Boniface, Good Neighbors of Park Slope team member, and Preserve Park Slope executive committee. Laurie enjoys cooking, taking her dog off leash in Prospect Park, and spending time with her grandkids.



Kenetta Clark

Park Slope has been Kenetta's home for several decades and is where her children were born and raised. It is also a community that she enjoys immensely, especially the camaraderie of her close-knit block. Over the years Kenetta has seen many changes, quickly becoming a de facto point person



for her neighbors and business owners to express their approvals and concerns. She embraced the opportunity to join the Park Slope Civic Council as a trustee because it was a natural next step to make an impact and help champion the organization's initiatives. She is vested in helping preserve our community's character and vibrancy, and will bring her advocacy, fundraising, analytical, and strong interpersonal skills to the organization.

Burnley Duke Dame

Burnley has been a resident of Park Slope since 1970. She is a former Trustee of the Park Slope Civic Council and has served in numerous other community roles throughout her decades in the community. These include founding Harley Housewares (now Tarzian West), co-founding the 7th Avenue Betterment Committee, securing a 501(c)(3) designation for Camp Friendship Youth Programs and serving as its first board president, and serving as the Brownstone Revival Committee's executive director. Burnley is passionate about neighborhood preservation and out-of-context buildings.



Michael Feinberg

Michael's love for Park Slope comes from getting involved in many of the wonderful and unique opportunities that the neighborhood offers, from the early morning off-leash hours in Prospect Park to working shifts at the Park Slope Food Co-op. Last year, Michael and his wife started running an after-school program at a local elementary school, teaching kids about entrepreneurship and running a small business. Michael and his wife host Shabbat dinners and board game nights to bring neighbors together. During his time here, what has



Continued on Page 7

Walking Tour and Architectural Seminar

Building on our popular, sold out walking tours last Spring, we are presenting a Park Slope Historic Walking Tour on Sunday, November 12 at 1:00 pm.

We are extremely lucky to have arranged this with Francis Marrone, an American architectural historian. He is an acclaimed author who also teaches at NYU. Mr. Marrone's essays on architecture have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *City Journal*, *American Arts Quarterly*, *the New Criterion*, *Humanities*, and *The New York Times*. Mr. Marrone, who is also a Park Slope resident, led a series of virtual historic tours during Covid.

The details of the tour, including starting location, will be emailed to you upon confirmation of your spot. Space is very limited, so buy your tickets soon! They are available on our website.

Take a Seat

Because space is so limited on a walking tour, we are offering this information to a bigger audience in another format. Mr. Marrone will present a "Historic Park Slope" lecture and discussion on Thursday, December 12, at 7 pm at the Montauk Club. What is more historic than the Montauk Club itself?



The Historic Montauk Club.
Credit: Judy Antell

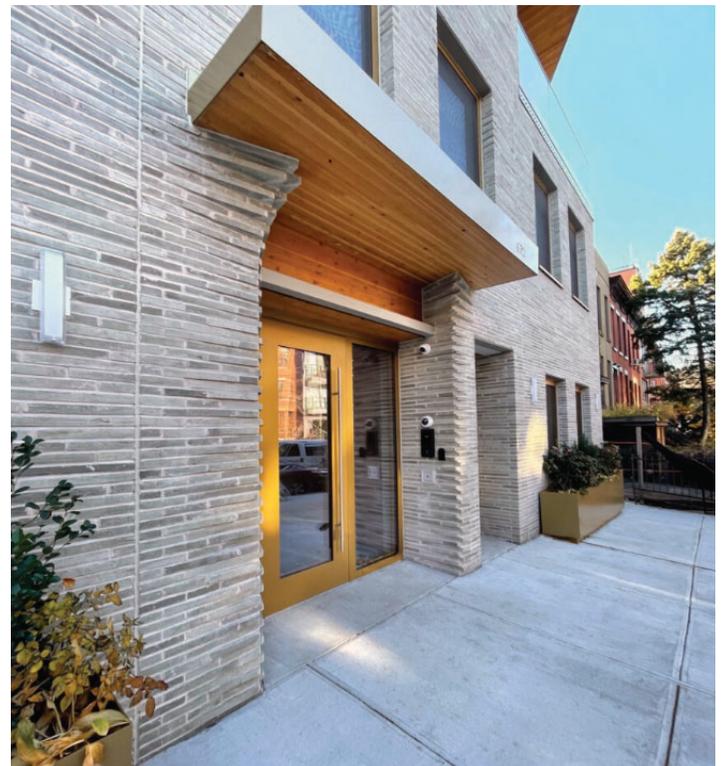
We'll meet in their main ballroom and Mr. Marrone will walk us through the history while we are comfortably sitting with a drink. More details, including ticket prices, can be found on our website.

Ortner Award Winner Announced

Eric Liftin, founder and principal of MESH Architectures, will receive the 2024 Evelyn and Everett Ortner Award at our December meeting.

The award recognizes newly constructed or renovated buildings that respect and enhance the architectural character of Park Slope. Liftin's award-winning project, Timber House, is notable for using mass timber, a sustainable alternative to steel and concrete, as its primary structural material. The building also adheres to passive home principles, with triple-glazed windows, advanced insulation and air sealing, high efficiency heat pumps, and induction cooking. There are also solar panels on the roof.

Timber House is a condominium building on Union Street. It is clad in brick, which blends well with the historic character of neighboring homes. Timber House was featured on the Civic Council's 2024 Sustainability House Tour.



Park Slope's Timber House, on Union Street

Community Grants Return

By Deborah Lauter

With the return of the House Tour in June 2024, the Park Slope Civic Council revived the community grants program. The PSCC is now accepting applications for grants to be awarded to community organizations for projects in arts, education, youth and civic improvement.

Applications will be evaluated on their responsiveness to the needs of the Park Slope community and the merits of the program proposals. Since funds for these grants were raised through the 2024 PSCC Home Tour that focused on environmental sustainability, projects that include improving the environment or environmental sustainability education will be given preference.

Guidelines for Submission:

- 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.
- Grants are for new projects or expansion of existing projects and will not be provided for ongoing operational expenses.
- Grant monies must be used within one year from the date of award.
- Applications must be received by November 15, 2024 and will be announced and awarded at the January 9, 2025 PSCC meeting.

We will be awarding several grants, ranging from \$250 to \$1,500 Please complete the online application on our website and submit it by Friday, November 15 to grants@parkslopeciviccouncil.org.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT 2024
 Annual Tasting Event Supporting Student Scholarships at the John Jay Educational Complex
 Wednesday, October 16th
 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
 Prospect Park Picnic House

OUR TASTING PARTNERS
 Electric Beets • Kos Kaffe • Lore
 Scottadito Osteria Toscana • Un Posto Italiano
 Miriam • Emmy Squared • Palo Santo
 Winner • La Taq • Cousin John's • Gertrude's
 Da Nonna Rosa • Simply Greek • Bar Vinazo
 The Commissioner • Shawn Fine Wine & Spirits
 And More To Come!

Check our website for updates
 Raffle tickets to be purchased at the door for extra giveaways

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS
 Brooklyn Solar Works • La Bagel Delight
 Brown Harris Stevens • Little Things Toy Store
 Corcoran

NEED SPONSORS
 Park Slope Listing • Brownstoner
 Music by: Michael Petrosino Trio

SCAN HERE TO BUY TICKETS!
 Tickets also available at parkslopeciviccouncil.org



Sustainability House Tour Success!

By Timothy Gilles

On Sunday, June 2, nearly 250 curious, current and would-be Park Slopers trooped across the neighborhood, in and out of other people's homes, in an extremely successful return of the Civic Council's fabled House Tour.

Started in 1959 to showcase brownstone, limestone, and brick row houses, the House Tour in its early years played a crucial role in raising awareness of Park Slope as a great as a place to live. After suspending the Tour during the pandemic, the Council relaunched it with a novel focus on innovative sustainable technologies, including rooftop solar, heat pumps, triple-glazed windows, radiant heating, advanced insulation technologies, and certified passive homes.



Architect-designed passive home on 2024 House Tour

Ticket buyers were invited to visit seven properties whose owners have made a commitment to sustainability, ranging from DIY brownstoners who installed new technologies step-by-step over nearly 30 years, to architect-designed gut renovations creating 100% passive homes. Two newly built apartment buildings that incorporate passive house features were also on the tour.

“For decades, we showed New Yorkers how tasteful and affordable renovations could turn centu-

Continued on Page 6

PSCC Celebrates the Next Gen

At the June 6 Annual Meeting, the Park Slope Civic Council awarded scholarships for community service to college-bound high school seniors from each of the four secondary schools at the John Jay Educational Complex who have shown commitment to community service and have excelled academically. It was truly inspiring to hear their stories and what they will do next!

The \$2500 scholarships, funded from proceeds from the Civic Council's food and drink tasting fundraising, Food For Thought, were awarded to:

- Hailey Herrera from Park Slope Collegiate
- Daniel Randall from John Jay School of Law
- Madison Selby from Millennium Brooklyn
- Oasis Rosa from Cyber Arts Studio Academy

The students come with family, friends, teachers and guidance counselors and inject an excitement and energy that is not typical of PSCC monthly meetings. Donna Stein, incoming PSCC president, introduced the guidance counselors, who all spoke glowingly about the student winners. We wish these students well in their future endeavors!



Daniel Randall, Hailey Herrera, and Madison Selby. Oasis Rosa could not attend.

Clean and Green (and Yellow)

Civic Sweep returns Saturday, November 16, from 10 am – 2 pm on 5th Ave in front of Old Stone House and Washington Park, between 3rd and 4th Streets. Our fall clean up always includes sweeping up leaves, as well as picking up trash. Big Reuse will join us from noon to 2pm, educating volunteers on best practices for tree care. The Lower East Side Ecology Center will be at the clean up for e-waste recycling. We will also have free daffodil bulbs available to brighten up your tree pits.

To volunteer, go to <https://bit.ly/3BeZsle>



Young helpers at Civic Sweep.

House Tour (cont. from page 5)

ry-old brownstones into stunningly handsome and comfortable homes. With this visionary tour, we demonstrated that you can also be on the leading edge of environmental sustainability and stewardship," said Donna Stein, PSCC President. The tour included a converted carriage house whose owners removed the gas boiler and water heater and retrofitted the building to become fossil-fuel free, installing an air-to-water heat pump system that drives the radiant floor heating system.

One couple showcased their brownstone in which their initial foray into sustainability was choosing an alternative, sustainable electricity supplier. Now, they have charging for their electric car, rooftop solar, and heat pumps for HVAC, hot water, and dryer. Soon, they will add an induction range. One owner said he and his wife made their sustainability renovations with the goal of "rebuilding the house to last another 100 years."

Planning starts soon on our Spring 2025 House Tour. Email us at outreach@parkslopeciviccouncil.org if you're interested in volunteering - or showing your home.

New Trustees (cont. from page 3)

become clear to him is that Park Slope is a true community, with friendly people, walkable streets, great public spaces, and interesting spaces. As Michael has come to enjoy Park Slope, he also recognizes the need to give back and get involved in supporting the community. He is looking forward to bringing his time, skills, and passion to further enrich the Park Slope community.

Laura Hess

Laura is a longtime Realtor and recent resident of Park Slope. Her connection to the Park Slope community runs deep, having worked here for the past 9 years and purchasing a coop in the neighborhood in 2020. During this time, Laura has actively participated in various community events and initiatives. In addition to her involvement in the Park Slope community, she is also a member of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and the Brooklyn Museum. As a Trustee, she is particularly interested in contributing to the sustainable house tour, drawing upon her expertise in the diversity of housing and the dire need for sustainability.



Eliza Pepper

Eliza has been a Park Slope resident for the past 11 years and was previously a trustee of the Park Slope Civic Council. She created the Lincoln Place Block Association with her neighbor to fight a major addition to one of the houses on her block. They were successful in this effort, and as a result were awarded the Ortner award from PSCC. She has also worked to get a petition signed to increase the size of the Park Slope Historic District. Eliza is very interested in bigger issues impacting



our area such as floods, rezoning, and outsized developments. She is also passionate about the environment and regenerative practices to increase the number and size of green areas—and diminish the effect of heat islands.

Elizabeth Scheines

Elizabeth has lived in Park Slope since 1983 (except for a 1½-year hiatus), originally in the North Slope on Sterling Place and then buying a brownstone in 1992 with her husband. Elizabeth and her husband raised their two children in the neighborhood, and their kids attended local public elementary, middle, and high schools. Between volunteering in the schools and park and community activism, Elizabeth has tried to stay involved in helping to make Park Slope and Brooklyn an even more interesting and wonderful place to live and work.



Nan Sussman

Nan has lived in Park Slope for 35 years and raised her two children here. She has participated in and enjoyed many PSCC events, particularly the Halloween Parade, the house tours, and Civic Sweep. She has been active in community organizations, serving as a board member at the Brooklyn Children's Museum for 15 years, and as Chairman of the Board during its capital campaign and building expansion. Nan is a strong advocate for community development including support of non-profit neighborhood groups and local schools. She has advocated for increased funding for the neighborhood from the City Council, the Mayor's office, and other elected officials. She loves introducing visitors to the history of Park Slope and developed and gives walking tours as a "greeter" in the Big Apple Greeter organization.





Box 172, 123 Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215



JOIN!
RENEW!
DONATE!
VOLUNTEER!

www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

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:
123 Seventh Ave., Box 172, 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! BECOME A MEMBER! at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

facebook.com/parkslopeciviccouncil; x.com/PkSLCivCouncil; instagram.com/park_slope_civic_council