SEEKING TALENTED LEADERS

One of the pillars of a cooperative community is its residents’ willingness to devote their time, talents, and energy to serving their neighbors. So if you are interested in donating your time, talents, and energy, consider serving on the East River Board of Directors or House Committee. East River’s annual elections to select members of the Board of Directors (four openings) and House Committee (three openings) will be held at the annual shareholders’ meeting scheduled for Monday, April 8 at 7:30 pm at P.S. 137 (293 East Broadway at Grand). If you are interested in helping to maintain and improve our beautiful community, please obtain the forms from the Management Office and return them, along with a short biography, by February 19. Please be sure to cast your vote either in person or by proxy so that a quorum will be achieved.

PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM

The East River Playroom is holding its annual membership drive. The playroom is located at 573D Grand Street and membership is open to residents of East River Housing, Hillman Housing and Amalgamated with children up to age 5. To sign up for the East River Playroom send a note to eastriverplayroom@gmail.com or learn more by visiting www.eastriver-playroom.com. The annual price is $200 per family. The Playroom is open daily and can be rented for private parties. Note: the Playroom is not monitored or staffed and use is at your own risk. All members are required to sign a release and waiver of liability.

MTAWESOME

Thanks to the diligent work of the East River House Committee and its long-term member and leader Leo Hoenig, we now have three new or expanded bus services in our community. The M-21 Houston Street cross-town route now operates seven days a week. Weekend west-bound buses leave the Grand Street/FDR Drive terminal for the West Side every 30 minutes on the hour and half hour between 7 am and 11 pm. Weekday service operates at varying times between 6:30 am and 11 pm.

Service has been restored on the B-39 Williamsburg Bridge route between Allen and Delancey Streets and Bridge Plaza in Williamsburg, which is just steps away from the famed Peter Luger Steak House. The bus operates approximately every 30 minutes and leaves Allen and Delancey Streets between 7:18 am and 9:18 pm on weekdays and from 7:15 am until 9:15 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

Finally, the M-9 Avenue C/East Broadway bus service has been extended on both ends. The north end of the line is
now at East 26th Street and the southern end has been extended from City Hall to Battery Park City.

Our House Committee has worked with our elected officials to obtain these service enhancements and now it is up to Cooperators to patronize these bus routes so service is increased and not discontinued. All aboard!

**DANCING IN THE STREETS**

Our uber-talented neighbors at the Paul Taylor Dance Company offer weekly classes for toddlers, teens and adults of all levels of experience. Friday and Saturday mornings are particularly fun, as small groups of 2-3 year-old children (“Taylor Tots”) tumble, stretch, balance, and giggle. New classes for all ages begin in February. To learn more, please visit http://www.ptdc.org/school

**YOU’VE GOT MAIL**

The fastest way for the East River management office to reach you with breaking news or information is via e-mail. If you have not already done so, please sign-up for the East River e-mail list at http://coopvillage.coop/cvEmailSignup.html

**STOP BEFORE YOU SHOP**

The weekly money-saving Fine Fare circular can always be found at http://www.finefaresupermarkets.com/locations.aspx

**YOU GOTTA HAVE ART**

As reported in the always-informative local news website www.thelowdownny.com, another new Lower East Side gallery has popped up and Grand and Orchard. Shin Gallery is the latest addition to the flourishing LES art scene, and Director Hong Gyu Shin says it’s the only gallery in New York City focused on contemporary Korean art. Most of the artists represented are well-known internationally but have never had New York shows. The first exhibition features 25 mixed-media works from South Korean artist Hong Seung-pyo, who was inspired by Chinese calligraphy. You can see the paintings through February 22. More information on the gallery is available at http://www.shin-gallery.com/exhibitions.php

**ONE OF OUR OWN**

Fran Plotnik, former Vice Chair and longtime member of the House Committee, former Board of Directors member of the old Co-op Supermarket at 545 Grand Street, and an original East River cooperator, passed away on January 24 following a long illness at the age of 78. More than 100 members of the community attended a memorial service in the co-op’s community room, conducted by Rabbi Peter Pearl, a former cooperator and House Committee member.

**CARTOONS!**

The cartoon is brought to you Evan Forsch, a Coop Village resident, dad and cartoonist. He does local cartoon work in The Villager and The Lo Down and has been seen in the New Yorker and Reader’s Digest. For cartoon, caricature or illustrations, you can contact Evan at evan4sh@yahoo.com

**East River House Committee**

The East River News is brought to you by the House Committee, a group of your East River Cooperative neighbors who are elected to advise the Board and Management Office on issues of importance to shareholders. We look forward to your comments and suggestions. You may contact us at erhousecommittee@gmail.com.