LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

May 19, 2020

DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS,

Welcome to the third issue of the digital Gazette. Going digital has long been of interest to the Editorial Team, and the changes wrought by Covid-19 led to a quick creation and launch. We saw an urgency to maintain the community ties that the *Gazette* endeavors to achieve, and erred on the side of expediency rather than perfection. This is very much an evolving enterprise, created and assembled by *Gazett*e team members who volunteered to work even at this time when member labor inside the Coop is not allowed. We ask for your patience and flexibility with this new format, as well as to help us spread the word that we are still publishing – and with the longer-than-usual lines at the Coop, we hope you enjoy.

We would like to acknowledge the many people who made this creation possible, including: Carey Meyers and Nancy Rosenberg, who dreamed of a digital *Gazette*, editors Dan Jacobson, Peter Grant, Petra Lewis, Wally Konrad, Ed Levy, and Tom Moore who eagerly supported that vision, Matthew Landfield, who turned the dream into vibrant reality, Rod Morrison, who seized the opportunity to showcase the *Gazette*'s talented artists and illustrators, Erin Sparling, who provided a major lift with coding and design, and Helena Boskovic who instructed us all on how to work with WordPress. We owe a big thanks to Coop staff Annette Laskaris, Camille Scuria, and Karen Mancuso–without them, this would all have been for naught.

This issue of the all-volunteer *Gazette* is brought to you by Ed Levy, Hayley Eva Schicker, Mia Tran, Adam Segal-Isaacson, Dilhan Kushan, Erin Sparling, Helena Boskovic, Lisa Schorr and Nancy Rosenberg.

A big shoutout to the pioneers who assembled our first issue: Peter Grant, Dan Jacobson, Leila Darabi, Rachel Blatt, Judy Antell, Rod Morrison, John Donohue, Tommy Kane, Zachary Schulman, John Midgley, Becky Cassidy, Fanny Gotschall, Matthew

Landfield, Erik Schurink, David Mandl and Jean Gazis.

We value your feedback. The process for submitting Letters to the Editors has not changed; details can still be found at foodcoop.com/lwgletters.

In Cooperation,

Editors

TO THE EDITORS:

May 19, 2020

Had the Coop in its 47 or so years of operation thought to meet the needs of its senior and disabled members and had a shopping delivery program in place, instead of first floating a plan in late 2019, the Coop would be meeting the needs of those senior and disabled persons. [redacted]

NATHAN ALLMAN

May 19, 2020

By Thomas Rayfiel

Nathan Allman, who became a Coop member relatively late in life but whose influence on the Coop began long before, died on March 22 of complications resulting from the coronavirus. He was 85. Nathan joined the Coop in 2007, when he married Ellen Krüger Allman, and retired in 2010, one of the first members eligible to do so un-

der the Coop's age-related retirement policy. Long before that, in the early 1980s, then an insurance broker, he sold the Coop its first employee health insurance policy—to current General Manager Joe Holtz. But Joe had a problem getting services, and abruptly switched to a new policy with a different provider. Joe recalls the phone call he received from Nathan: [redacted]

QUESTION REGARDING CURBSIDE PICKUP

May 19, 2020

I have a question that I haven't seen addressed in any Coop communications, that I was hoping you could cover in an upcoming edition. Has the Coop considered online/e-mail ordering with curbside pickup and payment? [redacted]

REPLY TO LOUIS LAVELLE, ERICA LESSEM AND CAROL LIPTON

May 19, 2020

We have heard these suggestions from many members, and in response, I'm taking this opportunity to share what the General Coordinators have learned after significant research and talking to other coops about their experiences. [redacted]

JOE HENNESSY

May 19, 2020



By Thomas Rayfiel

Joe Hennessy, a longtime Coop member and beloved squad leader, died April 9 of complications related to the coronavirus. He was 82. Joe came to the United States from Ireland in 1957. After serving in the Army (with Elvis Presley!) he settled in Queens where he managed a taxi fleet and served in a variety of civic capacities, most notably, Chairman of Queens Community Board 6 and President of the Board of Directors of the Forest Hills MHA Housing Development Fund Corporation. Joe was particularly sensitive to the plight of immigrants, the taxi industry being one of the areas where many newcomers first seek employment. “He would always have their back,” Frank Gulluscio, District Manager of CB 6 said. [redacted]