

FRANCONIAN

Published by Creative Kids - NYC Youth Media Makers

From Brooklyn to Harlem

by Muhamed Diop

Liz and Jimmy of **3F** are some of the newest tenants in the building. They moved here in October, 2018. They have a black and white cat named **Pippin**.



They moved from Bushwick, Brooklyn.

They love the location, close to

the subway and the park. They like that there's an elevator and laundry in the building.

Liz works as head of virtual customer service for a start up called Jet Black. Jim works as a high-end furniture salesman.



Pippin

Tenants Working Together

by Ohjani Gibson



TA Pres. Monique (left)

On Thursday June 20th, 2019, there was a meeting of the new **Franconia Tenant Association** in our building's lobby.

Tenant organizer, Monica Millay, of the **Goddard Riverside Law Project**, helped lead the meeting along with tenant association president, **Monique** from **4D**, and secretary, **Donna**, from **6B**. This was the second meeting.

"This tenant association helps people who are facing eviction and are going through tough times" said Ms. Millay. "We talk about what the tenants can do about any problems in a building."

One tenant at the meeting said, "It looks like a nuclear plant on the roof. There is way too much equipment up there." Others spoke about fixing up the backyard as a place where tenants could socialize.

Asked what they hope to accomplish with the tenant association, Monique said, "Our goal is to work together and if the landlord doesn't help us, then we will try to get things done ourselves, but we have to be a team." She added later, "We are going to make this building feel like home. This building represents us all, whether we know it or not."

Ms Millay, the tenant organizer, said, "I think it was an effective meeting. The more tenants who are involved, the better." The **next tenant meeting is Thursday, July 25th**.



Cellular equipment on roof

“West Side Story” remake



In mid July, the corner of 113th and St Nicholas was made to look like a 50s era Puerto Rican neighborhood for the **Steven Spielberg** remake of West Side Story. Many of the storefronts were made to look like bodegas, a funeral parlor, a meat shop and more. **West Side Story** will be in theaters December, 2020.

Creative Kids of

HarlemLIVE

Editor: Ohjani Gibson

Reporters (pictured): Ohjani Gibson, Justice Johnson, Harlem Johnson, (not pictured) Muhamed Diop

Youth coordinator:

Gisely C.



New Job at The Seasoned Vegan

By Harlem Johnson

My friend Abdoulaye of apartment 3C got his first job at **The Seasoned Vegan** restaurant, located at 113th Street and Saint Nicholas Avenue, in June, 2019.



Harlem and Abdoulaye

The restaurant is owned and operated by Brenda Beener and her son Aaron. Their menu is 100% vegan but with names and flavors that mimic popular dishes. Their website www.seasonedvegan.com says they're dedicated to "... creating meals that are delicious enough to satisfy the most skeptical omnivore ... serving gourmet vegan soul food."

Abdoulaye got the job through his brother, Muhamed, who worked there a couple years ago. Abdoulaye had to get working papers from school, with forms to fill out with his parents before receiving a green colored card that allowed him to start.

"I like the job. It's a great opportunity," said Abdoulaye. He began as a floater: cleaning tables, washing dishes, cleaning up messes and sometimes serving the food.

"My biggest mistake was burning "chicken" nuggets when they started teaching me to cook." The "chicken" nuggets, are made from tofu and other vegan ingredients. Most of the entrees cost between \$10 and \$20. The pancakes and "chicken" are very popular said Abdoulaye. Now they're teaching him to cook more. "Maybe one day I'll be a manager," he said.

Brad, a waiter for over a year at **The Seasoned Vegan**, said, "Abdoulaye is a great addition to the team. He's a quick learner. I appreciate his work ethic and how he's working and willing to be productive in the summer."



Aaron and Brenda

Abdoulaye now works four days a week and contributes some of his salary to his family.