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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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10 PUTNAM AV.



FRED, longtime Fort Greene neighbor



MAKING SENSE THROUGH FOOD

- LIST:
- 1) Farm
 - 2) Chicken & eggs ○○
 - 3) Seedlings/Plants
 - 4) Green Meat Radishes
 - 5) Spring Garlic
 - 6) Yogurt
 - 7) Hot Cross Buns ⊕
 - 8) Butter Lettuce
 - Tatso

**DR. GLOSE, Director of Fort Greene SNAP
community resource center**



MAKING STORIES ACCESSIBLE:

How can I leverage the commonality of food to make stories like Fred's and resources like SNAP more accessible to the community?





**42 CONVERSATIONS
AND 103 STORIES**



EDWIN, store manager

A close-up portrait of an older Black woman, Dorothy, looking slightly to the right. She is wearing a black knit beanie and a bright red jacket. A colorful patterned scarf with shades of pink, purple, green, and white is visible at her neck. The background is a blurred outdoor street scene with a yellow curb and a person walking in the distance. The entire image is framed by a thick black border with rounded corners.

DOROTHY, lifelong neighbor



VALERIE, third generation neighbor

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...PUTTING STORIES ON A MAT

GREEN IS THE NEW ORANGE

"You know cashews come from a fruit? I went to visit my brother in the DR a few years ago, and he took me to a cashew tree. We had to peel them, then put the nuts in the hot sun all day to roast. They were so good. It made me appreciate the cashews I sell for \$6 or \$7 in my store." -Edwin

JOHN'S DONUT

"John's has been here forever. They open at 5:30 in the morning, and because they're the only place open so early, all the cops go there, and others get their coffee. All John's, all cops know where to get good coffee, and what's open early. You can get eggs any style on a roll. They'll deliver anywhere." -Winston

& COFFEE SHOP

Banana Pudding

Made in Brooklyn

"My mother made banana pudding from scratch. She cracked eggs, and used fresh vanilla. She's 89, and still bakes banana pudding pies. My mother is strong."

-Valerie, longtime Clinton Hill resident

"Cino's was the place. They had the best shrimp scampi in the whole neighborhood."

"The spaghetti and the chicken parmigiana were always my favorites."

What was yours?

Remembering Cino's Italian family restaurant

I love sweets. My favorite dessert is kiffles, a Slovak dessert. It's basically a crumpled-cake-filled pastry cup with walnuts. -Dr. Glose, 18-year director of Fort Greene SNAP

kiffles! kiffles! kiffles!

something and Mark would say, "Oh, I gotta go buy some eggs." It was casual. In 2009, our Fort Greene church hosted Liyana, a band of disabled musicians from Zimbabwe; Madiba catered this amazing dinner. An Oscar-winning film was made about Liyana called Music by Prudence, and their first performance in the US was right here." -Ed

MADIBA

POWELL SQUARE FINE FOODS

We made \$80 in four years of operating the store. We were premature for the neighborhood. Once, when a woman came in and said, "I'd like a sandwich with Brie and black forest ham," Sherman Jones replied, "Oh we can't do that." She said why and he smiled, "It doesn't go!" -Fred

MEGA BITES

eat big, leave happy
"I like simple food, there's not much else around here like that. You know good eggs? I got good eggs. I've been going since I worked as a waitress long time ago. I've worked at almost every place up and down this street." -Nancy

Brooklyn Moon

"This was the hub of Brooklyn spoken word poetry, opened in '95. Mos Def, Badu, Kevin Powell were regulars. People lived upstairs so you had to stomp your fingers instead of clap. The Moon still hosts comedy and music."

Nevertheless (1944)

Marianne Moore, "Not Going out"

you've seen a strawberry that's had a struggle; get was, where the fragments met,

a hedgehog or a starfish for the multitude of seeds. What better food

than apple seeds - the fruit within the fruit - locked in like counter-curved twin

hazelnuts! Frost that kills the little rubber plant - leaves of kuk-saggy stalks, can't

harm the roots; they still grow in frozen ground. Once where there was a prickly pear -

leaf clinging to a barbed wire, a root shot down to grow in earth two feet below;

as carrots from mandrakes or a ram's horn root some-times. Victory won't come

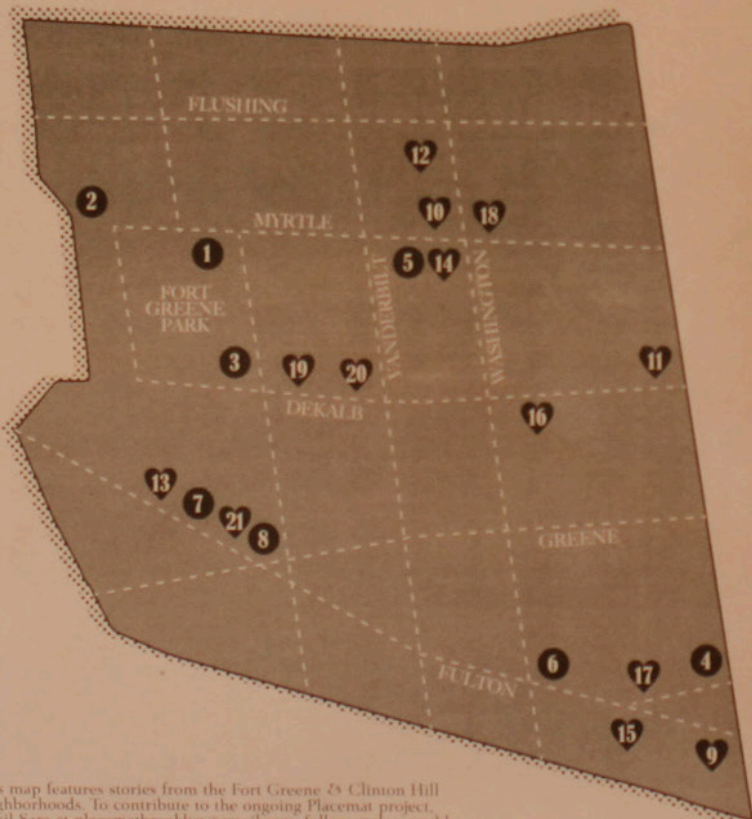
to me unless I go to it; a grape tendril ties a knot in knots till

knotted thirty times - so the bound twig that's under-gone and over-gone, can't stir.

The weak overcomes its menace, the strong over-comes itself. What is there

like fortitude! What sap went through that little thread to make the cherry red!

Welcome to Placemat



This map features stories from the Fort Greene & Clinton Hill neighborhoods. To contribute to the ongoing Placemat project, email Sara at placematbrooklyn@gmail.com, follow @placematbk or visit www.placematbrooklyn.com

BY AND FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD

sharing the flavors, characters and resources of our community

Good to know

- 1 Fort Greene SNAP (324 Myrtle Ave)
Open access computer lab, classes on parenting and the Affordable Care Act, a grandparent childcare support group, clothing drives, community dinners and more.
- 2 Shopping tours at the Red Apple supermarket (218 Myrtle Ave) The Community Food Council hosts shopping tours at the Red Apple grocery store on Myrtle and Navy. Learn how to read food labels, and the difference between whole and processed food. Tours take place the first Sunday of every month from 3-5PM.
- 3 Greenmarket (Saturdays, Fort Greene Park)
EBT/Food Stamps, Debit/Credit, WIC & FMNP checks accepted. Compost drop-off 8am-3pm. Find the best prices at J Glebocki Farms.
- 4 The Greene Hill Food Co-op (18 Putnam Ave)
Produce comes straight from farmers. No middle men, so the prices are great. It's a 100% working co-op, meaning it's fully run by its members. Stop by the store to learn more.
- 5 Mr. Coco (414 Myrtle Ave) & Mr. Melon (975 Fulton St) Open 24 hours. Cheap fresh fruits and veggies, plus really helpful, friendly staff.
- 6 Fresh Garden (729 Fulton St) & Greene Farm (17 Greene Ave) Bruce and Kay Lee's joints, the neighborhood's first green grocers

What we miss

Tillie's (243 Dekalb Ave)
Renchers Crab Inn (407 Myrtle Ave)
Cino's (243 Dekalb Ave)
Kadel's Front Porch (773 Fulton St)
Fowler Square Fine Foods (662 Fulton St)
Miss Ann's Soul Food (S Oxford & Lafayette Ave)
Brooklyn Public House (247 Dekalb Ave)
Cambodian Cuisine (87 S Elliott Pl)
...and that pastrami sandwich on Myrtle Ave
There was a place that had a pastrami sandwich you could not beat. It could feed four people.
-George, lifelong resident

Our favorites

- 9 Associated Supermarket (1125 Fulton St)
We have a beer fridge and beers on tap for growler fills. The craziest thing we sell is probably Mazuka Honey. It's vitamin rich, biodynamic honey—for \$28!
-Edwin, manager
- 10 Karrot (431 Myrtle Ave)
Karrot for their vitamin smoothies that don't break the bank. -Kassy, community food advocate at Myrtle Ave Revitalization Project
- 11 Clinton Hill Pickles (431 Dekalb Ave)
I know where to get my pickles. They're my favorite food. -Simon, recently arrived
- 12 Fresh Fanatic (275 Park Ave)
I got to their butcher for a nice, affordable cut of meat. -Kathryn, 13-year neighbor
- 13 Bati (747 Fulton St)
Bati for its authentic Ethiopian food. -Theodoros, who's from Addis Ababa
- 14 El Cofre (454 Myrtle Ave)
They sell platters for \$9 that last for three days. You can fry up the leftover rice. -Kathryn, neighbor
- 15 Seventh Day Adventists Church (457 Grand Ave)
That big brick church gives out big legs of meat. Turkey mostly, especially around Thanksgiving. -Dorothy, lifelong resident
- 16 Mike's Coffee Shop (328 Dekalb Ave)
Mike's is my 'Seinfeld' diner. Their pancakes and sausage are delicious, and you can get a good hearty breakfast for \$10 or less. -Jake, neighbor
- 17 Putnam Triangle (Putnam Ave & Fulton St)
I've lived in this neighborhood 49 years, and things have definitely changed. But I love the music events that happen here. -Valerie
- 18 John's Donut & Coffee Shop (481 Myrtle)
- 19 Madiba (195 Dekalb Ave)
- 20 Mega Bites Diner (245 Dekalb Ave)
- 21 Brooklyn Moon (745 Fulton St)

"The poet Marianne Moore was a member of the Lafayette Ave Presbyterian Church. She and her mother didn't even have a kitchen. They cooked on a hot plate sitting on the bathtub." -Ed

"I remember one summer my friend and I were so hungry. So we went around to all the places that give out free samples and food. And we just ate all day long. That was fun."

There's a man in my neighborhood who takes a cart down 7th Ave and 5th St. A little basket, milk, eggs, and cheese. I back to get everything he has. He gets us from food, and doesn't cost too much. It's real."

"My mama always made me eat oatmeal every day when I was a kid. MAN, I HATED OATMEAL! (I also hated greens.) Now I eat oatmeal nearly everyday—I know it's good for you."

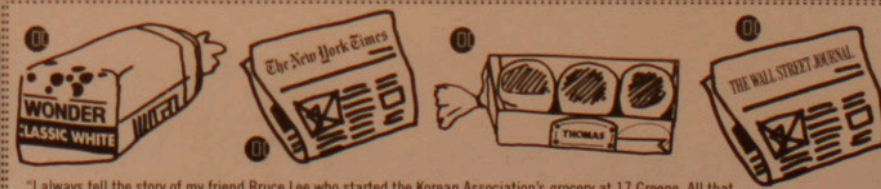
"MY MAMA WOULD MAKE FUNGI FOR BREAKFAST. WE CALLED IT CORNMEAL POP. YOU PUT CINNAMON AND MILK IN IT. DELICIOUS." -LORNA

Place dry cornmeal in a bowl and cover with water. Mix until creamy without lumps. Boil 6 cups salted water in a pot. Slowly stir in cornmeal mixture. Reduce heat to simmer. Cook 15 min. Add milk, condensed milk, sugar, and spices. Serve warm.

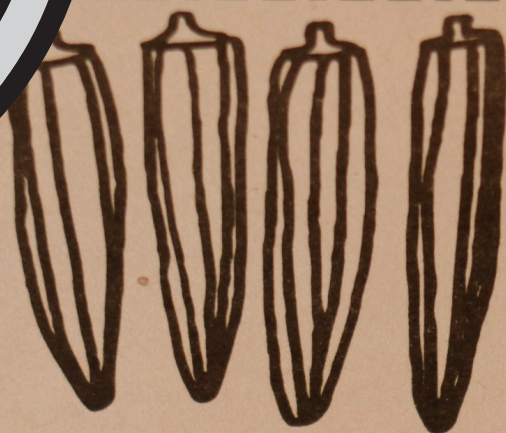
THANK YOU

All of the stories on this first Placemat are from members of our community. Thank you to all of the wonderful neighborhood contributors:

George Winston, Frankie, Nancy Howard, Jahir Michelle, Barbara Edwin, Kassy DK, Dr. Glose, Valerie Lorna Theresa, Pee Wee Larry, Jay Big Man, Frog, Kathryn, Jake, Lauren, Nick, Allison, Theodoros, Dorothy, Simon, Lyndon, Ed Ruth, Fred, and Junior's Brooklyn for all those cheesecakes.



"I always tell the story of my friend Bruce Lee who started the Korean Association's grocery at 17 Greene. All that was on sale there was Wonder Bread. He'd say, 'José, you gotta get the New York Times.' And they finally got the Times. Then it was, 'You gotta get Thomas' English Muffins.' They got the Thomas' English Muffins. When we got the Wall Street Journal, well then we thought we really arrived." -Howard, Fort Greene historian



Okra fungi

Bring water to boil, add okra. Cook over medium heat til tender. In saucepan, bring cornmeal, salt and water to boil. Stir until creamy then add mixture to okra. Stir constantly (add more water if needed) and reduce heat to low. When smooth, add butter or margarine and remove from heat. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve warm, ideally with boiled fish.

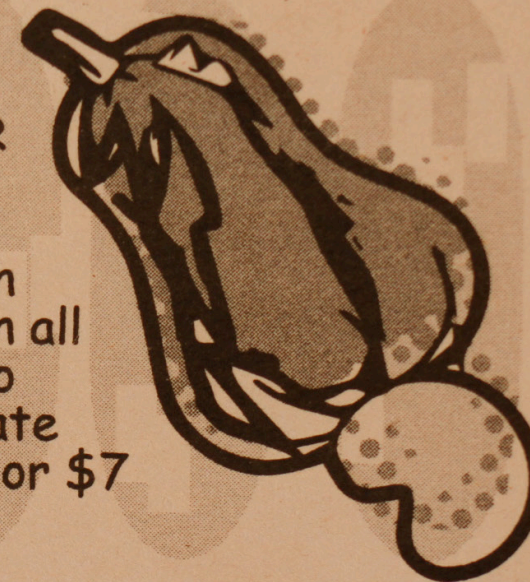
2 cups cornmeal

4 okras (washed & cut up)
or 10 oz pkg frozen

2 Tbsp butter/margarine

Salt & pepper to taste

"You know cashews come from a fruit? I went to visit my brother in the DR a few years ago, and he took me to a cashew tree. We had to peel them, then put the nuts in the hot sun all day to roast. They were so good. It made me appreciate the cashews I sell for \$6 or \$7 in my store." -Edwin



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"This was the hub of Brooklyn spoken word poetry, opened in '95. Mos Def, Badu, Kevin Powell were regulars. People lived upstairs so you had to snap your fingers instead of clap. The Moon still hosts comedy and music."

MEGA BITES

eat big.
leave happy.

"I like simple food, there's not much else around here like that. They have good eggs & good grits. I've been going since I worked as a waitress long time ago. I've worked at almost every place up and down this street." -Nancy

R	J	L	R	B	N	M	B	I	X
C	O	F	F	E	E	Z	J	S	M
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that happen here. - Valerie

♥ John's Donut & Coffee Shop (481 Myrtle)

♥ Madiba (195 Dekalb Ave)

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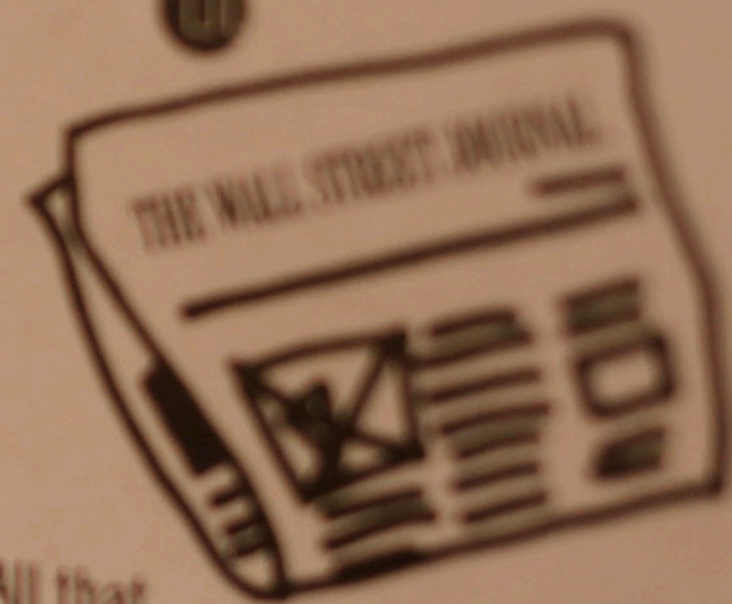
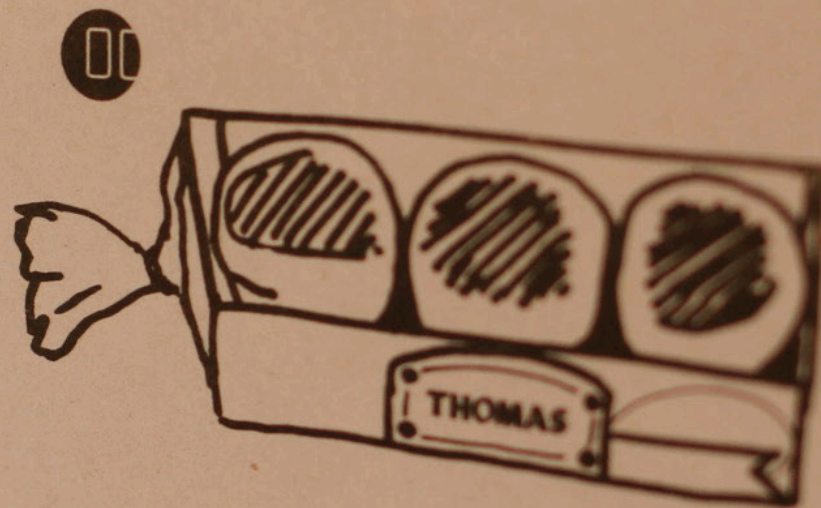
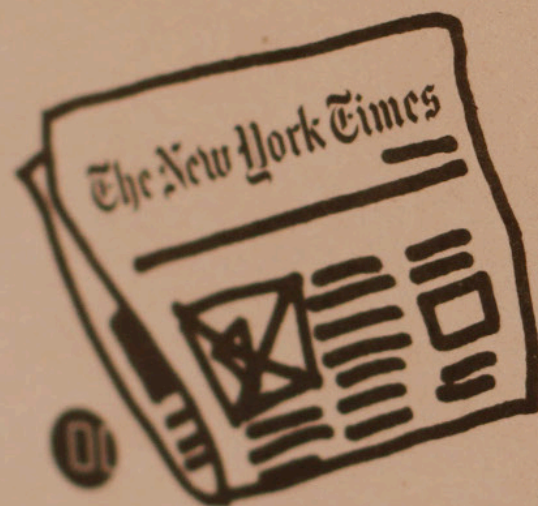
♥ Brooklyn Moon (745 Fulton St)

CORNMEAL PO

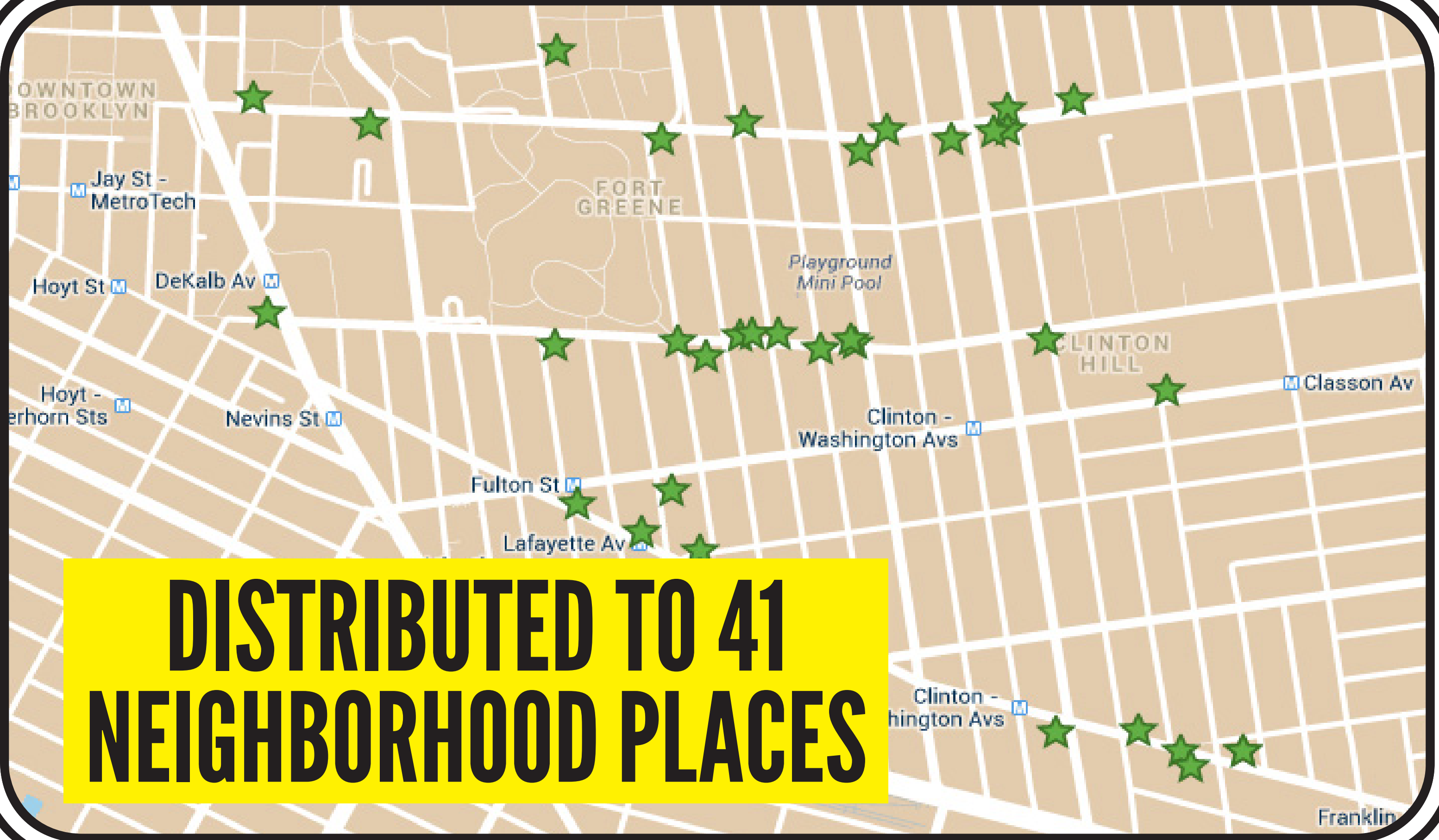
2 cups sugar
1 tsp nutmeg
1 tsp cinnamon
1.5 cups milk

CALL FOR THE
YOU PUT CINNAMON AND NUT
NUT DELICIOUS! - LORNA

Place dry cornmeal in a bowl and cover with water. Mix until creamy without lumps. Boil 6 cups salted water in a pot. Slowly stir in cornmeal mixture. Reduce heat to simmer. Cook 15 min. Add milk, condensed milk, sugar, and spices. Serve warm.



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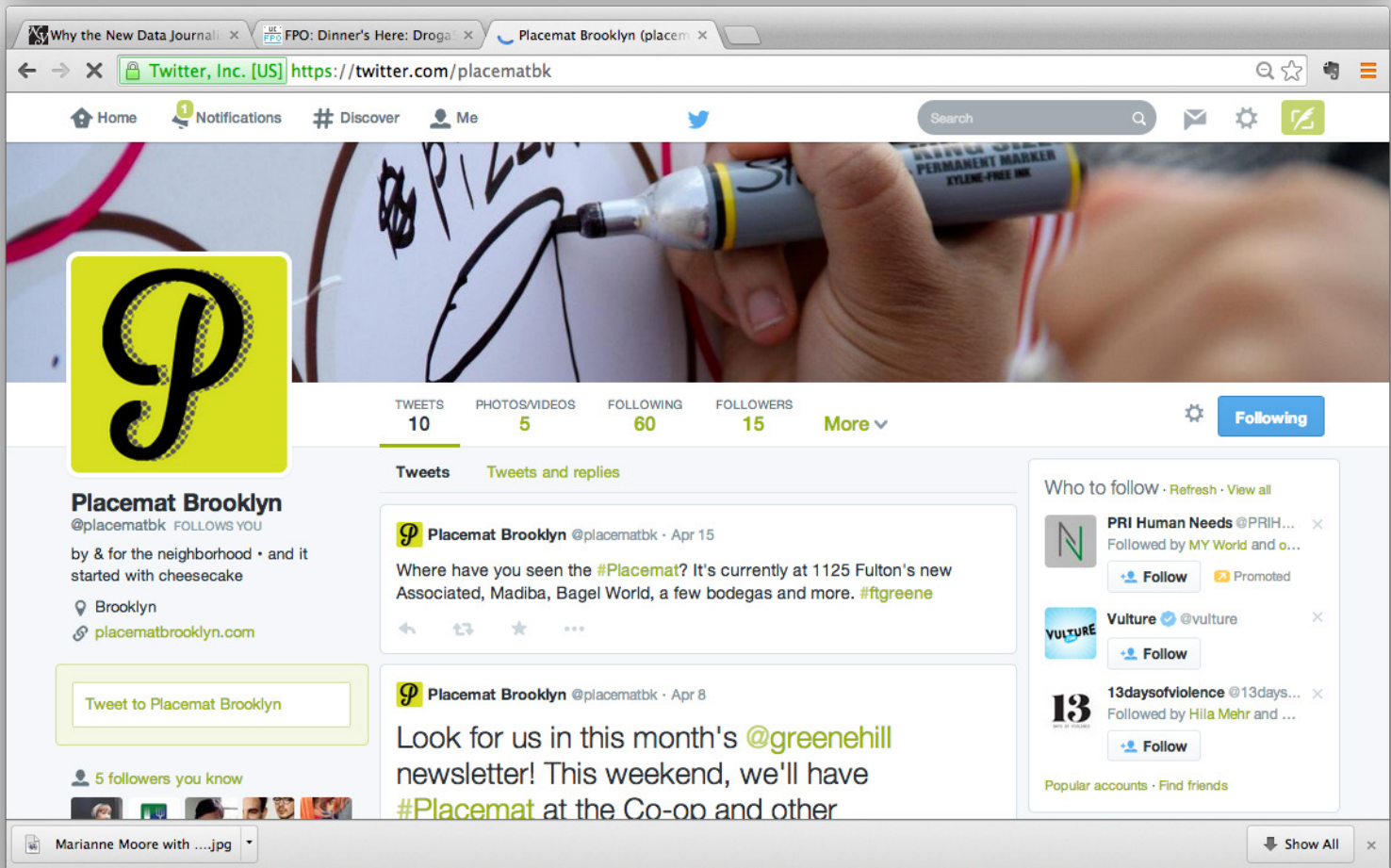
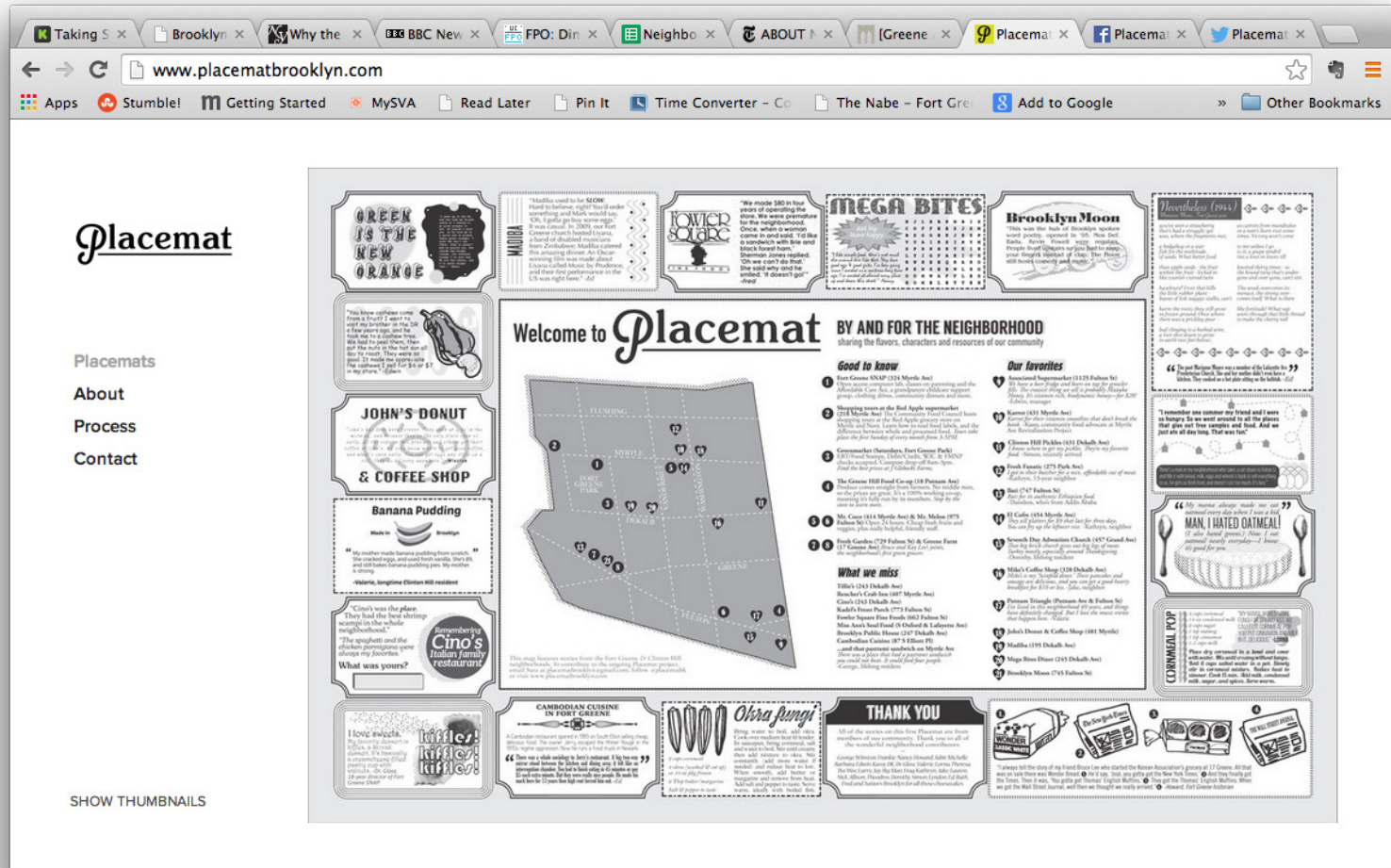
**RETURNED TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO RE-ENGAGE
NEIGHBORS AND SHARE THE PLACEMAT**











Placemat





POSSIBILITIES

Local conservancies

Community Food Council

Neighbor Kitchen Journal

Block parties

Churches & schools

Greenmarkets & farmstands

CONNECTING NEIGHBORS TO NEIGHBORHOODS ENGAGING WITH CHANGING PLACES, PEOPLE AND RESOURCES



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