

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE



Volume AA, Number 25

December 7, 2006

## Remembering Activist Brad Will

By Barbara Ensor

A member of the Park Slope Food Coop was among three people killed in the streets of Oaxaca, the capital city of the Mexican state of the same name on October 27, 2006. Wearing a T-shirt that identified him as a journalist for *The Independent*, a “world-wide network of media activists,” Bradley Will was shot twice in the abdomen while video-taping unrest in the streets of Oaxaca. A photographer for the Mexico City daily *Milenio* standing next to Will was wounded. “Brad died trying to get the story of what was happening in Oaxaca out to the world,” Beka Economopoulos, a friend, who works for an environmental group, told a reporter for *The New York Times*. As of this writing, 11 other people have lost their lives in the violence surrounding a teachers’ strike, which began in June of this year. Brad died nearly an hour after the shooting—minutes before reaching the hospital—according to witnesses. He was 36 years old.

*Brad's real work was his passionate activism on behalf of global justice and the environment. He literally worked every day of his life for it.*  
—Jenny Smith

Brad was so enthusiastic about the Park Slope Food Coop that he joked with long-time friend and fellow Coop member Jenny Smith that he ought to be called a “Coopatarian.” “Brad liked to

work and hang out all day and do several shifts at once,” recalls Smith. “Whenever I shopped with him I couldn’t get over how many people he would stop and talk to. He loved the sense of

have since been confirmed in the media as the police chief and two officers from Santa Lucia del Camino, the municipality where Will was shot, along with the town councilor for the state governing



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.BRADWILL.ORG

Coop member Brad Will

community.” With his backpack full of Coop goodies, including his favorite “raw revolution bars,” he would return home to Williamsburg on his bicycle.

Will earned a living setting up light and sound systems for a number of companies on a freelance basis. At the Coop he earned work credit unloading trucks. But his real work was his passionate activism on behalf of global justice and the environment. “Every decision that he made was made with that in mind,” says Smith. “He literally worked every day of his life for it.”

As the violence continues in Oaxaca each side has blamed the other for Brad Will’s death. According to an article in the *Village Voice*:

“When images of the shooters aired on Mexican TV, viewers began phoning in to identify the gunmen. They

party, his chief of security, and the former head of a neighboring barrio.” Outrage over the incident sparked demonstrations in dozens of Mexican Consulates from Tucson to Istanbul. On November 4, two local officials were formally charged with Will’s murder. But on November 24, the Associated Press reported “Authorities in the southern state of Oaxaca” are now saying that Will “was not shot at point-blank range as they had indicated earlier.” In fact, they hinted, he may have been killed by leftist protesters sympathetic to his views. A spokesman for the protesters suggested local authorities were “fabricating evidence.”

### An Activist’s Life

As news of Brad Will’s death spread among friends

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## A Coop Interview: Michael Pollan on Industrial Food

By Katie Benner

At the place where meticulous reporting, political vision, health advocacy and foodie desires meet, you will find writer and professor Michael Pollan. He has taken readers on journeys into gardening, environmentalism, home-building and industrial food production. Thanks to intelligent investigative work for *The New York Times Magazine* and books including *The Botany of Desire* and *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*, he has become a respected voice against the industrial food complex.

*We’ve been taught to believe that it takes a massive industrial complex to feed the nation in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.*  
—Michael Pollan

“We’ve been deliberately confused by an industry that spends \$36 billion a year on marketing messages precisely to persuade us to eat more...and to eat highly processed foods, because that’s where the money is,” he said in an interview with Bill Maher. The statement encapsulates the political message that has made him famous: steer clear of conventional food production. For Pollan, the result of the industrial

food chain is the frailty of our farmland and our litany of national health crises. Each time we buy food, we’re casting votes for a world of sickness or a world of health.

Pollan has some weighty preoccupations, and yet, on the page and in conversation, he delivers his messages with healthy doses of bemused self-discovery, witty travelogue, pragmatic consumer report and unabashed admiration for nature. He steers clear of strident rantings and in doing so has engaged readers across the political spectrum. During a conversation with the Park Slope Food Coop, Pollan discusses how the cult of convenient food thrives on ignorance, why food coops are growing in popularity and how the military-industrial food complex has subsidized our iPods.

**PSFC:** We’ve been taught to believe that it takes a massive industrial complex to feed the nation in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, and that the small family farm is an unsustainable relic. But you’ve said over and over again that this is not true.

**MP:** That’s right. When I say the industrial food system is unsustainable, that has a precise meaning: the system will break down.

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### Next General Meeting on December 19

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.\* The next General Meeting will be Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl. \*Please note that the meeting day is earlier than usual because of the holiday.

The agenda will appear in the next *Gazette* and will be available as a flyer in the entry way of the Coop beginning Wednesday, December 6. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

## Coop Event Highlights

**Fri, Dec 15 •Coffeehouse:** René Collins and Toni Blackman, 8:00 p.m.

**Sat, Dec 16 •Children’s Clothing Swap:** 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Sat, Dec 16 •Triple Bottom Line Film Series:** Double Feature—*The Take*, 5:00 p.m. and *Gorillas in the Mist*, 7:00 p.m.

**Fri, Jan 5 •Film Night:** Media That Matters—Short Films About Good Food, 7:00 p.m.

**Sat, Jan 6 •Sustainable New Year:** 4:30 p.m.

Look for additional information about these and other events in this issue.

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Remembering Brad Will

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and acquaintances, many of them posted messages on web sites, including friend-sofBradWill.com and Indy-media.com. A theme among many of the messages was Will's remarkable singleness of purpose.

"Brad's most successful campaign was his own life," wrote one contributor. "No one needed to tell him to 'actualize his desires' because his compass was always firmly rooted in his own heart. He pursued his desires like there were no other options..."

"We lived, breathed, sweat-ed and slept Indymedia,"

wrote another. "Every second of our time was devoted to it...day and night, recording everything we could...devoting ourselves with such fury to the idea that 'all voices should be heard.' And Brad was just about the most devoted devotee to that idea, that vision."

Offering hope to the hopeless was Brad Will's real passion—and creating a spectacle was often part of that. He had dangled hundreds of feet above immense Douglas firs in Oregon in order to protect old-growth trees. And nobody who saw him appear on the roof of a New York City building while it was being bashed by a

wrecking ball ever forgot the sight. It "was burned into everyone's mind," according to a friend who, along with Will, had recently been hastily evicted from the illegal squat. "It was a signal of hope even in that desperate and grief-stricken moment," recalled the friend who posted the story on a web site. "A cheer went up. Somebody had defied the insane and brutal eviction. It was Brad." Of course it was.

*"You could pretty much guarantee if there was a cause of an action, Will would be there. He felt a tremendous responsibility to do media where other media outlets wouldn't go."*

—Brooke Lehman



PHOTO COURTESY WWWBRADWILL.ORG

Coop member Brad Will.

Thursday,  
Jan 4

7:30 p.m.  
at the Coop

*Susan Baldassano  
coordinator*

**PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP**

**Sea Vegetables**  
**A Treasure Trove of  
Flavor and Health**

**RECIPES—TASTINGS TOO!**

- Cleansing Broth
- Dulce and Black Sesame Seed Cracker
- Millet Cakes with Hijiki-Orange Relish
- Sweet Bean Red Date and Seaweed Soup

**\$4 materials fee**  
Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

**Guest Chef  
Annie Kunjappy** is a graduate of the Institute for Health and Culinary Arts. Her approach to food is deeply connected to her long-term study of yoga and traditional Chinese healing practices, and integrates the belief that our bodies need change seasonally. This winter menu explores the underwater treasure trove of nutrition found in Sea Vegetables and strengthens the body during the cold dark season.

**MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS WELCOME.**

Come early to ensure a seat.

"You could pretty much guarantee if there was a cause or an action, Will would be there," Brooke Lehman, one of the owners of the radical Bluestockings bookstore on the Lower East Side told a *Village Voice* reporter. "He felt a tremendous responsibility to do media where other media outlets wouldn't go, or were afraid to go."

Will and what he called his "gang of friends" handed former mayor Rudolph Giuliani a rare defeat by dressing up as enormous flowers and bugs to protect community gardens all over the city that were set for the auction block. Will and friends won the hearts and minds of city residents along with that of Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, who later explained that he had taken on the case

because "a sunflower asked me to."

Will was not insensitive to the dangers of the appalling situations he placed himself in. A brutal police raid in Goiânia, in central Brazil, left him "haunted," according to friends. His harrowing article for *Indymedia* described being shot at and taken into police custody. Seeing a dead body "eats you up," Will wrote in his final article for *IndyMedia*, where he tells about a visit to the morgue to pay respects to a man he alleges was murdered by the police. This was "one more martyr in a dirty war," wrote Will.

It is hard to look at the footage of Brad Will's last moments seen through the lens of his own camera. Figures run in all directions as shots are fired at people armed with rocks and sling-

shots. You want to look away, but Brad continued to bear witness, until finally the camera falls to the ground. Ten days after he visited the city morgue, Will's body was also placed there. His family attended a funeral in Oaxaca the next day. Will grew up in Kenilworth, Illinois, an affluent suburb of Chicago on Lake Michigan. He was the youngest of four children.

**Memories and Memorials**

Hundreds of Brad's friends attended a memorial service at St. Mark's Church on the Bowery on November 11th. Afterwards, a reporter for the *Village Voice* describes "a boisterous and unpermitted march through the East Village to the spots where Will made his mark."

"Trailed by a single squad car, they made pit stops at 535 East 5th Street—the former site of a squat where Will once stood down a wrecking ball—and the former Esperanza community garden on East 7th Street, which was bulldozed to make way for a Baptist church and more luxury housing.

Then the crowd headed to the boarded-up P.S. 64 school building on East 9th Street and Avenue B, where the Charas/El Bohio community center thrived for 20 years before it was sold to developer Gregg Singer.

While the Hungry March Band blared, someone clipped the heavy chain on the construction fence out front and kicked open the doors. People swarmed inside to check out what had become of the center—once an activist hub in the neighborhood..."

Brad Will's family intends to establish a foundation to "support and contribute to non-violent groups dedicated to the advancement of underserved people and communities around the world" in his name. To find out more, visit [www.bradwill.org](http://www.bradwill.org). ■

**Park Slope Food Coop's  
Safe Food Committee  
in conjunction with Green Thumb  
and ENY Farms! Invite you to...**

**Celebrate  
Local,  
Sustainable  
Agriculture  
and Food  
Sovereignty**

Join us in ushering in a more sustainable New Year 2007.

There will be a puppet show, film screening, live dance performance and participatory candle-lighting ceremony.

At the United Community Center 613 New Lots Ave. at Schenck Ave. Take No. 3 Subway to Van Sicklen Avenue stop. After turnstiles, take stairs to the right and at bottom continue straight. At corner, turn left onto New Lots Avenue and walk two blocks to Schenck.

**For more information,  
call 917-680-6556.**

**FREE**  
Non members welcome

**Saturday, January 6  
4:30-6:30 p.m.**

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop

**Children  
Clothing  
Swap**

Who needs Old Navy when you can outfit your child at the Coop for free?!

Bring your child's outgrown clothes to the Coop to trade with other members.

Please bring only items that are in good condition.

Do not bring clothing to the Coop before the hours of the exchange.

**FREE**  
Non-members welcome

**Saturday, December 16  
10:00-1:30 pm  
last drop-off 1:00 p.m.**



# Members Discuss Possible Change to Makeup Policy

By D. S. Aronson

**B**owing to scheduling caveats introduced by Thanksgiving, the Park Slope Food Coop's November General Meeting took place on the 14th, rather than on the customary last Tuesday of the month.

New GM Chair Dorene J. Martinez guided 55 members through a for-discussion-only examination of the night's single agenda item: a possible change to the Coop's work slot makeup rules. But first came the Open Forum, which constituted almost a GM by itself in terms of members' questions and the discussion that followed.

## Varied Open Forum

Opening the Forum was Annie Oxidian Martinez. An entrance worker, she acknowledged that this work slot had been discussed at previous GMs, but observed, "I do believe that entrance workers' jobs need to be restructured and re-evaluated." She went on to conclude, "I don't think most entrance workers realize what the responsibility of an entrance worker is." She said that a remedy would include training but also felt that squad leaders should carefully assess whether or not a squad member would make a good entrance worker.

Karen Brightly, an occasional entrance worker, spoke next. She suggested a short training session for entrance workers and ongoing support for entrance workers, commenting, "When there are confrontations, it's helpful to know how to deal with them, but you need to have backup. I have been told in my own squad to refer things to the squad leader."

The chair thanked Karen Brightly for speaking. She also reminded the meeting that the Open Forum is a time to pose brief questions, and that there was a process for putting items that require discussion on the GM agenda. Speaking for the General Coordinators, Janet Schumacher complimented the members who spoke about the entrance worker slot, and she encouraged them to help draft guidelines for those who fill that job.

Steve Faust, a member of the committee charged with reviewing the layout of the Coop's exit area, used his Open Forum time to speak about bike parking near the Coop. He said, "I consider it to be a serious problem. There's not enough bike parking. It's frequently overloaded, and the security is ranging somewhere from nonexistent to abysmal. We really do need some additional rack space; I can't think of where we could put indoor

parking, but I'd love to see it."

Faust referred to a letter in the November 9 *Gazette* issue, which posed the issue of Coop member labor hours being used to help load cars, with no member power dedicated to watching the bike racks that are close to the Coop. Faust acknowledged the positive

alone "U"s, which take up less room than racks, could be considered as a bike-parking option.

The next speaker was Andre Schklowsky, who shared his dissatisfaction about a recent shopping experience his wife had at the Coop. Schklowsky observed

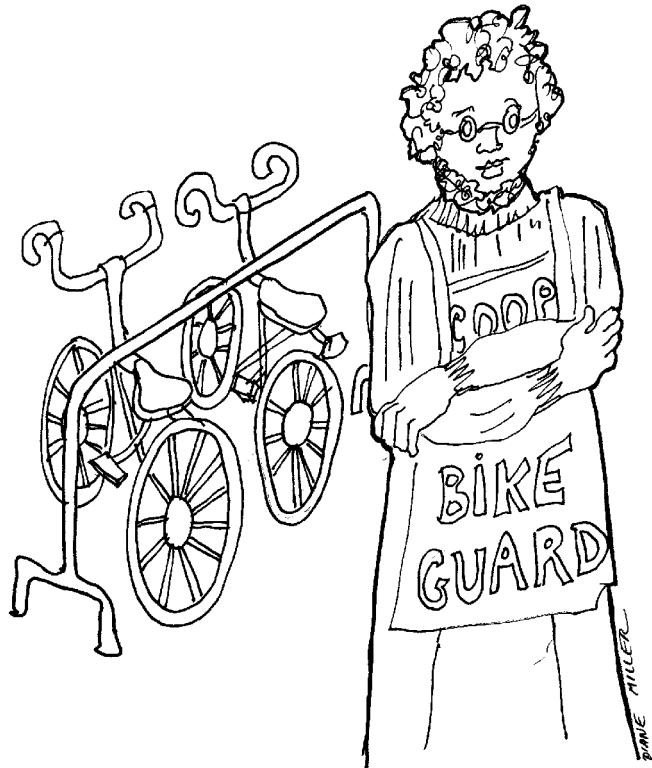


ILLUSTRATION BY DIANE MILLER

role workers play in keeping auto traffic moving on Union Street by helping fellow members load their groceries. But he observed, "At the same time, if we're going to dedicate that many people to SUVs, I think we could dedicate perhaps some time and energy toward personal utility vehicles and making sure bikes aren't stolen or vandalized." He urged members to look at what could be done to improve bike parking at the Coop.

*Eakin highlighted our member-powered labor force as a big factor in the Park Slope Food Coop's "healthier" gross margin.*

The chair asked General Coordinator Joe Holtz if he would like to respond to Steve Faust's concerns. Holtz observed, "The lack of bike parking on the block is a long-standing problem and we've been working on it for a long time." He commented that the Coop had spoken to several other businesses on the street, including the parking garage on the Coop's side of the block, and unfortunately, the businesses won't currently support bike parking. Holtz said he would welcome anybody who wanted to work on improving bike parking. He pointed out that racks in front of the Coop would be extremely difficult to place because of all the doors and loading areas as well as the Dumpster.

Another member spoke, commenting that stand-

alone "U"s, which take up less room than racks, could be considered as a bike-parking option. The GM moved on to the Coordinator's Report. Mike Eakin gave the financials. Our gross margin is 16.62 percent, which means the Coop keeps a little under 17 cents of each dollar spend in member purchases at the Coop. The ideal for the Coop would be very slightly more the 17 percent. The difference, shrinkage, at about 1 percent, Mike attributed to include "breakage, mistakes, theft."

## Coordinators' Reports

Our under-17-percent gross margin, observed Eakin, contrasts with 38 percent for a typical large coop—most large coops keep about 38 cents of each dollar spent by shoppers. Eakin highlighted our member-powered labor force as a big factor in the Park Slope Food Coop's "healthier" gross margin. He observed that because of the favorable margin, members saved approximately 7 million dollars so far in 2006,

compared to what goods would have cost at a typical large cooperative. Later in the financial report, though, Eakin announced that the rate of member growth had "leveled off, and we expect to end the year about where we began."

Our office expenses took a jump due to necessary elevator repairs. A summer rain flooded the Coop basement and water got into the pit below the elevator, which needed to be serviced. Joe Holtz would comment later that a check was to come from the insurer to help cover the costs of the elevator repair.

The Coop's long-term liabilities, including mortgages and member loans, are down, primarily due to paying back our mortgage obligation on the fastest schedule allowed without suffering a penalty from the lending institution.

Toward the end of the financial report, Eakin highlighted that our more-than once-a-week inventory turnover of 57 times a year is about three times as fast as a typical large coop.

Eakin took a question or two, and then Janet Schumacher spoke next for the

General Coordinators. She reminded members that the holiday season was one of the Coop's busiest times of the year and workers, particularly receiving squad members, checkout workers and cashiers, would be in high demand. She urged all members to make sure to arrange shift swaps if needed.

For help with holiday meal prep, Schumacher reminded the GM about the many cooking tools the Coop sells: look for our wide selection hanging on hooks above the Coop's shelves and scattered throughout the aisles. In terms of edible goodies, the Coop will feature vegan pies, to be found in the freezer, from a company founded by the famous duo, Ben & Jerry. The Coop will also offer fresh pies made by a local baker. Our shopping floor is filling up quickly with holiday gift possibilities, including infant clothes made from organic material.

After a question or two, the Coordinators' Report drew to a close. There were no committee reports, and the meeting moved on to considering the one agenda item: discussion about the Coop's work shift makeup policy. Submitted by

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## PSFC DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING Tuesday, December 19 7:00 p.m.

- Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall  
274 Garfield Pl at 8th Ave.
- Items will be taken up in the order given.
- Times in parentheses are suggestions.

## AGENDA:

### Item #1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor (10 minutes)

**Proposal:** "To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending January 28, 2006." —submitted by the General Coordinators

### Item #2: Expansion of GMO Shelf Labeling committee (40 minutes)

**Proposal:** "that the General Meeting approve an additional five (5) members for the GMO Shelf Labeling committee for at least one year." —submitted by the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee

### Item #3: Guest Sign-in Tracking & "Free Loaders" Prevention (40 minutes)

**Proposal:** "To enhance tracking of guests to prevent non-members who share a household from signing in and entering as guests." —submitted by Yigal Rechtman

## Future Agenda Information:

For information on how to place an Item on the Agenda, please see the center pages of the Linewaiters' Gazette. The Agenda Committee minutes and the status of pending agenda items are available in the office and at all GMs.



Makeup Policy

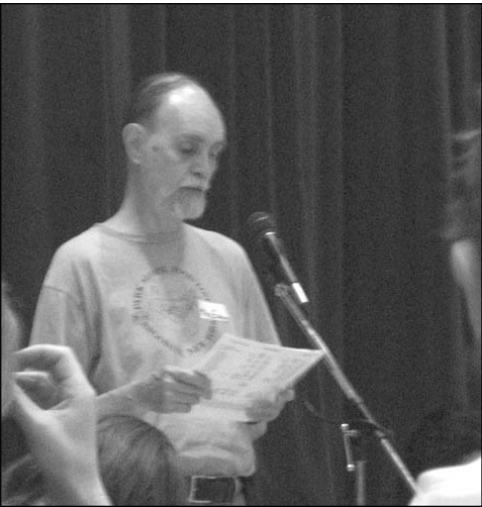
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the Joe Holtz and Allen Zimmerman for the General Coordinators, the GM handout detailed the agenda item as “We will soon have the capability in our computers to choose a different structure for keeping makeup records. One makeup for an absence on a regular basis does not provide the stability we need in squads, and they are less likely to require it. What are our choices? What will best meet our needs? This will be the first full discussion. Before we make any decisions—and when the computer program is ready—we will have another discussion and hope to follow with a proposal at a third GM.”

Makeup Revision Discussion

During his opening remarks, Joe Holtz stressed that considering a change to makeup rules “was a beginning of a long process. Our goal tonight is to get ideas from everybody in the room; to get ideas whether or not we are going in the right direction; to get ideas about whether there are other directions we should be going in.” Holtz outlined a plan to write squad leaders and ask them to think about a change to the rules; to discuss it with their squads; and give feedback. A second GM would follow, which would still be for discussion only. Holtz stressed only after this second meeting and more feedback would there be a vote at

a future, third GM. Holtz described the two-for-one shift makeup policy as one with a long tradition at Coop, starting with the Receiving Committee. Eventually, all the committees adopted the double-makeup rule. Allen Zimmerman observed that the rule was invented thirty years ago to solve the problem of imbalanced work squads. A work makeup policy helped then and continues to help ensure that members would come at a time when their labor was needed by and scheduled at the Coop. As an alternative makeup policy, Holtz offered an idea that one missed shift during a certain period would mean one makeup, while another missed work slot within a specific time of the first missed shift would mean two makeups for the member. Whatever guideline is ultimately adopted, observed Holtz, would be Coop-wide. This differs from the current practice, which allows the individual squad leader some flexibility in assigning the number of makeups. Zimmerman pointed out that a uniform makeup policy would take a lot of pressure off squad leaders. Holtz invited the GM to give feedback to the idea, particularly about how much time would need to pass between missed shifts for a makeup to require one work shift. Cesar Torras opened the discussion by asking, “There is a system now; what is the urgency of changing the system?” Allen Zimmerman observed, “I think almost any-



PHOTOS BY STEVEN FAUST

Mike Eakin addresses the General Meeting.

body who has had to do a double makeup has felt an urgency in changing the system. We are capable of creating software in the office that could support a change.” But Zimmerman also stressed it is a myth to think we have too many members for the work required. More members require more food and support, which all require more receiving, shopping, cashier, and support squads throughout the Coop. Or, as Zimmerman expressed the equation, “It does take twelve thousand eight hundred members to move twelve thousand eight hundred members’ worth of food.” Joe Holtz felt the time was right for exploring a change because “it is our duty to keep making the Coop better; this is a very important system that affects almost every member. And if this makes it easier to be a member, that’s great, that’s fantastic. That’s always a goal; that’s perhaps the most important goal.”

Coop Workers Respond

Karen Brightly commented that she had benefited from the one makeup rule, and that her understanding was if she called ahead of time, then she had been responsible, whether or not she was successful in lining up a replacement. She said, “Sometimes you try very hard and you can’t find anyone to trade with. It’s also my understanding that if I just forgot, it was fair to do two makeups.” She concluded, “I would like to see other alternatives for dealing with it.” Allen Zimmerman observed that Coop needs a work structure “that encourages people to come when they’re scheduled.” What was being proposed was “a way to continue to encourage members to have the incentive to come when they are scheduled, but have a way out without having to put the squad leader in an unfortunate situation.” Members with good attendance would be rewarded by having to complete only one makeup instead or two, should they miss a shift. Zimmerman underscored that makeup rules along the proposed guidelines would take a lot of stress out of the whole equation of how many make-

ups a member would need to complete. Andre Schklowsky thought the proposal was a good idea, adding, “How many times have you been at the Coop and everything goes fine until you get to the cashier. Lo and behold, the line is all the way around the corner. Why? Because people didn’t show up for their shift, and there aren’t enough cashiers.” Squad Leaders Weigh In Shopping squad leader Suellen Snyder-Beck was not convinced, observing, “I find myself rankling against what’s being presented. I’ve been a squad leader for a long time and I feel that our squad has a culture; we have a lot of people who have belonged for a really long time.” She remarked, “I somehow feel that the direction we’re moving in is not honoring the premise the Coop is built on. While I can appreciate that you are looking for something different, something new, I just don’t think you’ve got it here. I think we’re moving farther away from what we have rather than towards a collective system well understood by all.”

*Joe Holtz felt the time was right for exploring a change because “it is our duty to keep making the Coop better; that’s always a goal; that’s perhaps the most important goal.”*

Philip Nicholas, a Saturday night shopping squad leader, wants squad leaders to be able to maintain the lead in applying makeup guidelines. “I think it’s really important for the squad leader to have some kind of flexibility in assigning a sort of punishment. At the same time, I believe in a rigid system and the way it works, and I don’t see much of a reason to change it. It’s a very clear and simple system. If you don’t show up, you get two makeups. The squad leader may have discretion, but more likely than not, you’re going to get two makeups.” But Nicholas continued, stressing alternatives for members who have good work records. “There’s sort of a reward system for people who work really hard during their shift and give a disproportionate amount while they are there. And I think it should be up to the squad leader to be able to reward that person if for some reason they can’t make it.” Nicholas also wanted to

retain flexibility based on whether a member called the night before versus right before a shift, or if a member had an unforeseen mishap, such as an accident. Zenola Norwood thought that going the route of incentives might help cut down on the number of missed shifts and solve some of the makeup problems. She suggested the Coop look at the kind of jobs people don’t want to do and are not showing up to do, and she observed, “You could have some kind of incentive in that particular area—such as receiving, cashier, cleaning—where members can get one and a half” for work slot credit. Allen Zimmerman commented, “there is no easily identifiable job that’s considered less pleasant. What we find is that there are times that are more difficult. But there aren’t that many difficult times to staff the Coop, and I don’t think that there are that many jobs that people don’t do.” Norwood pressed the point. “Wherever there’s a lack, you could add some more to make someone want to do it—if it’s the time, if it’s the job. Whatever it is, you guys would have to get together, and figure out the particular areas.” Joe Holtz saw Norwood’s point about incentive, and pointed out to the GM that the hard-to-fill cleaning squad work slot is now a two-hour shift. Annie Oxcidian Martinez said that she was a “stickler for rules” and liked the idea of Coop rules that were more concrete. She indicated she liked a one-makeup rule, based on a member’s good shift-attendance record. Martinez stressed the importance of makeup rules that would support regularly staffed shifts, and she drew from her own experience as a squad leader with no cashiers, and having to page the Coop floor for shoppers to volunteer. Describing herself as a “dyed-in-the-wool F-topper,” long-time member Ellen Freudenheim spoke against the proposed makeup rule change, stressing, “We all have other, real, non-Coop lives, and I would like to address the question of the punitive image. I think it’s actually a problem in the Coop and in how the Coop is seen as a rule-bound place with great food and a kind of quirky history and culture.” Freudenheim would like to see the culture become more positive, and she offered an alternative attendance plan. “If I show up on time for my work slot for X period of time—six months, twelve months—I get a prize, a goody; I get a day off.” She stressed that any work rule changes should be simple ones.

Positive Reinforcement?

Felicia Watkis, a member for more than 20 years and a new squad leader, felt that

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What Is That? How Do I Use It? Food Tours in the Coop

The light is slow to light and warm  
vegetables sit and cure  
apples pomegranates and pears keep  
the creation has it all figured out-  
bring home these deep foods, store them  
and they will get you through  
the winter  
Genius

Deep from under the earth:  
beets, celeriac, sweet potatoes  
deeply nourishing: dense diameters of squash  
kabocha, buttercup, hubbard,  
sweet dumpling, delicata  
and deep dished: pies, casseroles, soups and stews

Equals deep energy to fend off the cold  
to weather the dark  
to tend to our inner self  
to feed en famille the whole clan  
love packed in a pumpkin

Come tour the produce and bulk aisles.

Tuesdays, December 15 & January 12 (B-week)  
5:00 and 6:30 p.m. tours  
Friday, December 18  
Noon and 1:30 tours  
Or you can join in any time during a tour.



## Makeup Policy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

preventive measures should be taken to encourage people to come to their squad each month instead of waiting for people to miss a squad and then punishing them. She thought if squad members had access to grids that gave future schedules, this would help people plan ahead. She drew from her own experience

as a D-week worker, commenting it was hard for her to plan because the weeks are not that consistent. Watkis also suggested that squad leaders could be more proactive and contact squad members ahead of time about attendance. She realized the plan would be time consuming, but she saw as one idea to help unify a squad and as well as manage attendance. Chair Committee member

Michael Scudder summed up questions that surfaced from squad leaders' comments as, "What would be lost if squad leaders lose discretion over makeups, and how will it, if at all, affect their ability to lead?" Scudder also spoke about another thread that he saw running through the meeting: "There is a diversity at the Coop: a diversity in what we are able to contribute; in who we are; and there is a diversity

in how squads are run. Will this measure suppress that, and is that a bad thing?"

Alex Márquez, an office coordinator, agreed with the need for scheduled makeups. He also stressed the resources available for members to plan work shifts and makeups. He encouraged members who needed help with makeups to contact the Membership Office for guidance, and that members

could also contact the office for a schedule of their upcoming shifts. Márquez mentioned there are a lot of information sheets available at the Coop entrance, including shift schedules.

After a few more members spoke, the meeting drew to a close. Since the proposal to change makeup rules was for discussion only, no item was put forward for a vote by the GM. ■

## Michael Pollan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It's already happening. We now know that living with industrial food means living with health threats. In terms of cost, the sicknesses that stem from industrial food are huge. Our public health costs are enormous.

I think that every new crisis in the industrial food chain—from mad cow disease, which we were not ever supposed to get here in the U.S., to the recent outbreaks of e-coli poisoning in our spinach—are teachable moments. They are opportunities to describe how industrial food production creates these problems. This is not to mention long simmering crises we live with, like diabetes and obesity.

I really do believe that the "fast food" system depends on ignorance. When people see how it works, they make better choices.

**PSFC:** It seems that people are more cynical now; that they accept terrible behavior in everything from politics to farming as the status quo. Do you worry that people will grow numb to the increasing number of voices—your books included—that talk about sustainable consumption? Will this issue just get lost in the do-gooder white noise of all the other things we're supposed to fight for?

**MP:** Well, it's true that not everyone who read *Fast Food Nation* changed what they ate, but some have ... and these things always begin gradually. People are slowly abandoning the supermarket and the industrial food chain, and this onslaught of information is part of that shift. The market for humanely produced meat and organic food has grown. The demand for local food has grown. Farmers' markets are the fastest growing corner of the food economy. Clearly there is a movement underway; so, no, I don't believe that people have heard the message too many times.

Look at it this way: There is a shortage of organic food in this country, and organic food is getting even more expensive because it is in such short supply. That's because more people are concerned about industrial food production.

**PSFC:** Why do you think food choice is an issue that is being so passionately embraced?

First of all, I don't think

that all of our problems will be solved by consumer choice. When it comes to what we are offered at the store, the Farm Bill matters as much as what you and I decide to buy. That said, we have more say [when it comes to what we eat] than in many other parts of our lives.

There are so many social ills and moral crimes being perpetrated around the world that we cannot say no to. Your money is being used to fight a war you may regard as immoral, or it's contributing to the torture of people in secret prisons. You're supporting that with your tax dollars, and you can't do anything about it without going to jail. But if you feel awful about the way we raise animals in confinement or spray poison on the land, you can say no to that and not be complicit. That's a very empowering thing.

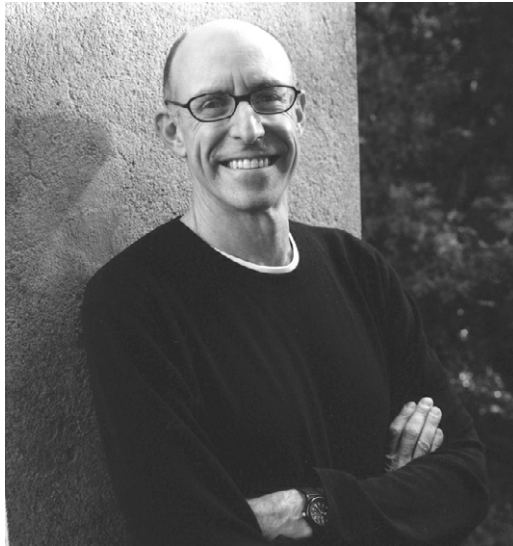
I can feel political energy around food growing, and [that feeling of empowerment] is the best explanation I can come up with for why that is happening.

**PSFC:** Could you talk about the complicated network of ramifications that our food decisions have?

**MP:** What we eat affects everything and the ramifications are physical, psychological, moral and political. It's in all parts of our lives ... and it's a powerful vote we have, because the food economy is very sensitive and responsive to consumer desire. That's why there's such concern in the market when things like the spinach panic happen. Another example would be in the dairy industry. At this moment, dairymen are converting their farms to organic because so many people want to buy organic milk.

In a sense, the free market is working well because it is conveying our food votes all the way down to the farm.

Keep in mind, though, that there are also a lot of values in conflict every time we make a food decision. Sometimes it's a choice between organic and local, or between humane practices and sustainable practices. When I say that, it's because I think that truly sustainable farming involves animals; and if you have to have animals on a sustainable farm you'll even-



Writer and professor Michael Pollan, author of *The Botany of Desire* and *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL POLLAN

tually be eating them. Not everyone is comfortable with that. Every vote represents a value, and because they are often in conflict it gets very complicated. [Editor's note—Pollan eats meat.]

**PSFC:** The *Omnivore's Dilemma* addresses the fact that a growing desire for better food has given rise to organic superstores like Whole Foods. Do you believe that this model of mass organic—in our food production and consumption—will draw people away from food coops?

**MP:** Actually, I would disagree with that. The Whole Foods in Berkeley is on the site of old food coop, which, yes, can be used as a metaphor for a transformation that is taking place. However, I've also seen a strong interest in reestablishing food coops. There will always be those who want the convenience of supermarkets, but people are increasingly looking for alternatives to industrial food production and that means a lot of exploration of alternatives to the supermarket model. That's coops, and farmers' markets and CSAs. The way we distribute food is also an important part of sustainability.

I'm not interested in looking for single solutions to problems—whether it be organic grocery chains or small food coops—because that's a form of industrial thinking, too. It is a problem to put all our eggs in one basket, or to only believe in a single solution, because that's what leads to monocultures in the field and in the supermarket. We must nurture many different systems [and sellers within each system] because some of them will fail.

**PSFC:** Organic foods and

food coops have come to symbolize, in some communities, wealth and power. How can healthy eating wash off some of the elitism that clings to words like "organic"?

**MP:** I do think it's possible for "organic" to lose elitist connotations, but right now it's a real problem for the movement that good food—meaning humane food—costs more than junk food.

I think we're finding that as organic food goes mainstream and you get companies like Wal-Mart getting serious about organic food, the prices will come down and they will make organic food much less elite. That's arguably a very good thing.

But the real problem is not that organic and local food is so expensive. It's that the other food—the industrial food, the junk food—is so cheap, and artificially cheap. We have a system that subsidizes the production of really unhealthy calories.

The price of our food, generally, has gone down since the 1970s. Fresh produce prices are up 40 percent, but the price of meat has gone down and the price of processed food has gone down. We have been spoiled.

We spend less on food than anyone else on the planet, just a shade under 10 percent of our incomes.

When food that cheap exists, people with limited amounts of money will resort to it and they must resort to it. But it's only about 20 percent of us who have no financial flexibility and who have no choice but industrial food. For the other 80 percent of us, where has all that money gone that we're no longer spending on food? It looks to me like that money is going into entertainment—cell phones and iPods and consumer electronics. That's fine, but that's a decision. That's a choice.

The challenge lies with us, the remaining 80 percent, not with the people who don't have flexibility. It's a question of a cultural shift in terms of how we entertain ourselves; of us realizing that healthy, humane food is an enjoyable and important thing to spend money on, even if we have to do with less elsewhere.

For more information about Michael Pollan, go to: [www.michaelpollan.com](http://www.michaelpollan.com). His books include: *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World*, *Second Nature: A Gardener's Education*, *A Place of My Own: the Education of an Amateur Builder* and *Voices of the Land*. ■

**Do you have  
WINTER CLOTHES  
you can't use?**

**Someone else needs them!**

Bring adult and children's winter clothes and outerwear to the Coop's second floor through the end of January.



Clothes must be clean and have working zippers & buttons!

Winter clothing only, please.

- Adult men's clothing will go to CHIPS\*.
- Women's and children's clothing will go to the Village Care of NY Red Hook Community Service Center, the Catherine St. Shelter in Manhattan or the homeless women's shelter on 8th Ave. & 15th St. in Park Slope.

**Many Thanks!**

\*Christian Help in Park Slope, our local soup kitchen at 4th Ave. & Sackett St.

**COOP HOURS**

**Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Shopping Hours:**  
Monday–Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m.  
Saturday  
6:00 a.m. to 10:00\* p.m.  
Sunday  
6:00 a.m. to 7:30\* p.m.  
*\*Shoppers must be on a checkout line 15 minutes after closing time.*

**Childcare Hours:**  
Monday through Sunday  
8:00 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.

**Telephone:**  
718-622-0560

**Web address:**  
www.foodcoop.com

# LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

The *Linewaiters' Gazette* is published biweekly by the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc., 782 Union Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215.

Opinions expressed here may be solely the views of the writer. The *Gazette* will not knowingly publish articles that are racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory.

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, and letters from members. A “Member Submissions” envelope is in the *Gazette* wall pocket near the exit of the Coop.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

All submissions MUST include author’s name and phone number and conform to the following guidelines. Editors will reject letters and articles that are illegible or too long. Submission deadlines appear in the Coop Calendar opposite.

**Letters:** Maximum 500 words. All letters will be printed if they conform to the published guidelines.

**Voluntary Articles:** Maximum 750 words.

**Submissions on Paper:** Double-spaced, typed or very legibly handwritten.

**Submissions on Disk & by Email:** We welcome digital submissions by disk or email. Email to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop.

**Classified & Display Ads:** Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the “Merchandise–Non-commercial” category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form (available at the front of the Coop). Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2"x3.5").

**Recipes:** We welcome original recipes from members. Recipes must be signed by the creator.

**Subscriptions:** The *Gazette* is available free to members in the store. Subscriptions are available by mail at \$18 per year to cover the cost of postage (at 1st class rates because our volume is low).

**Printed by:** Prompt Printing Press, Camden, NJ.



**Friday  
Dec. 15  
8:00 p.m.**

**The Good Coffeehouse**  
COOP CONCERT SERIES

A monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Park Slope Food Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture

**René Collins**

Singer/songwriter, mystic, magician and visionary **René Collins** combines a unique blend of acoustic folk-rock and hip-hop and reggae influences. In his songs, Rene effortlessly weaves together the subjects of spiritual progress, politics, love, and nature to create a unique musical and lyrical style, wooing the audience with powerful vocals, sensitive lyrics and down-to-earth manner. This is René’s debut at the Coffeehouse. He is joined by a brand new full band.

**Toni Blackman**

A rap lyricist, vocalist, actress and writer, **Toni Blackman** is the first U.S. Hip Hop Ambassador and has traveled with the Department of State to Senegal, Ghana, Botswana, Swaziland and South Africa, in addition to Southeast Asia. She is the founder and director of the Freestyle Union, an organization for hip-hop artists. As part of this, she runs a monthly cipher for female MCs called *I Rhyme Like a Girl*. She made *Essence Magazine’s* 2000 list of 30 Women to Watch. Blackman’s first book *Inner-Course* was released in 2003.

**53 Prospect Park West** [at 2nd Street] • **\$10** • **8:00 p.m.** [doors open at 7:45]  
**Performers** are Park Slope Food Coop members and receive Coop workslot credit.  
**Booking:** Bev Grant, 718-230-4999

**Puzzle Corner**

Contributions from members are welcome. Please sign your entries. Answer is on page 11.

**Cryptogram Topic: Chocolate Bars**  
The code used on the list below is a simple letter substitution. That is, if “G” stands for “M” in one word, it will be the same throughout the list.

P Z H B S N  
D P Q C J U D D W  
H V S R  
B D P S A U  
C V Q R P G K V B  
K P I U Z S O R  
E K V R U  
G O D D P S R  
H V F P B  
A D P S Q P H P S N P D T  
P C P H P R U  
Z P R R U  
Z P L U S N P D

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WORKSLOT NEEDS

Bookkeeping

Update individual cashier histories from the weekly chronological records. Six week evening cycle with some flexibility. Call the office.

Office Setup

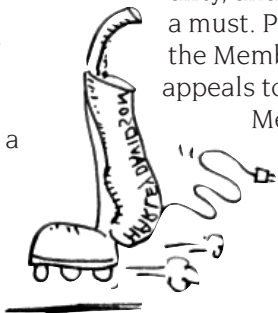
Weekday mornings 6:00 to 8:30 a.m. Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and supplies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job might be for you. Please speak to Adrianna in the Membership Office, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Office Data Entry

Are you a stickler for details, accurate on the computer, and like working independently? If this sounds like you, then Office Data Entry will be your perfect shift. Two shifts are currently available: Monday, 4:30 - 7:15 p.m. or Friday, 4:30-7:15 p.m. You will be trained by a staff person, and Coop staff will always be available to answer questions. Please speak to Rocco Arrigo in the Membership Office if you would like more information. Member needs to make a six-month commitment.

Maintenance Vacuuming Squad

Learn to use a specialized vacuum (HEPA) to clean various, hard-to-reach areas of the Food Coop. Love of cleaning, a willingness to get dirty, and comfort with climbing ladders a must. Please speak to Mary Gerety in the Membership Office if this workslot appeals to your inner neat-freak! Member needs to make a 6-month commitment.



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

Monday & Wednesday evenings: . . . 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday mornings: . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday afternoons: . . . . . 4:00 p.m.

Be sure to be here promptly—or early—as we begin on time! The orientation takes about two hours. Please don't bring small children.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Dec 21 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Dec 11  
Jan 4 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Dec 25

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Dec 21 issue: 10:00 p.m., Wed, Dec 13  
Jan 4 issue: 10:00 p.m., Wed, Dec 27

Plastic Recycling

- **2nd Saturdays**, noon–2:00 p.m.
- **3rd Thursdays**, 7–9:00 p.m.
- **last Sundays**, 10:00 a.m.–noon
- Plastics #1, 2, 4, only those *not accepted by NYC*, plus plastic shopping bags
- Plastic #5 (from dairy products only)
- All Clean & Dry!



General Meeting

TUE, DEC 19

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.  
The agenda will appear in the next issue and will be available as a flyer in the entryway on Wednesday, December 6.

TUE, JAN 2

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.  
Submissions will be considered for the January 30 GM.

The Coop on Cable TV

**Inside the Park Slope Food Coop**  
FRIDAYS 1:00 p.m. with a replay at 9:00 p.m.  
Channels: 56 (TimeWarner), 67 (CableVision).  
If specific programming is available at press time, it will appear on the Community Calendar page overleaf.

ALL ABOUT THE GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings have been at the center of the Coop's decision-making process. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors. The Coop continued the tradition of General Meetings by requiring the Board to have open meetings and to receive the advice of the members at General Meetings. The Board of Directors, which is required to act legally and responsibly, has approved almost every General Meeting decision at the end of every General Meeting. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Copies of the Coop's bylaws are available in the Membership Office and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m.

The GM is held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Location

The temple house of Congregation Beth Elohim (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

How to Place an Item on the Agenda

If you have something you'd like discussed at a General Meeting, please complete a submission form for the Agenda Committee. Forms are available in the rack near the elevator and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Linda Wheeler in the office.

Meeting Format

Warm Up (7:00 p.m.)

- Enjoy some Coop snacks
- Meet the Coordinators
- Submit Open Forum items
- Explore meeting literature

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.)

Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.)

- Financial Report
- Coordinators' Report
- Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.)

- The agenda is available as a flyer at the Coop entrance hall and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45)

(unless there is a vote to extend the meeting)

- Meeting evaluation
- Board of Directors vote
- Announcements, etc.



Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

Since the Coop's inception in 1973, the General Meeting has been our decision-making body. At the General Meeting (GM) members gather to make decisions and set Coop policy. The General-Meeting-for-workslot-credit program was created to increase participation in the Coop's decision-making process.

Following is an outline of the program. *For full details, see the instruction sheets by the sign-up board.*

• Advance Sign-up Required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

Each member may take advantage of the GM-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendaryear.

• Certain Squads not eligible:

Eligible: Shopping, Receiving/ Stocking, Food Processing, Office, Maintenance, Inventory, Construction, and FTOP committees. (Some Committees are omitted because covering absent members is too difficult.)

• Attend the entire GM:

In order to earn workslot credit you must be present for the *entire* meeting.

• Childcare can be provided at GMs:

Please notify an Office Coordinator in the Membership Office at least one week prior to the meeting date.

• Signing in at the Meeting:

1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.
2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.

• Being Absent from the GM:

It is possible to cancel without penalty. We do ask that you remove your name if you know cannot attend. Please do not call the Membership Office with GM cancellations.

• Is it FTOP or a Make-up?

It depends on your work status at the time of the meeting.

• Consider making a report...

...to your Squad after you attend the meeting.

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

**The Park Slope Food Coop is a member-owned and operated food store – an alternative to commercial profit-oriented business. As members, we contribute our labor: working together builds trust through cooperation and teamwork and enables us to keep prices as low as possible within the context of our values and principles. Only members may shop, and we share responsibilities and benefits equally. We strive to be a responsible and ethical employer and neighbor.** We are a buying agent for our members and not a selling agent for any industry. We are a part of and support the cooperative movement. **We offer a diversity of products with an emphasis on organic, minimally processed and healthful foods.** We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others. We support non-toxic, sustainable agriculture. **We respect the environment.** We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations. We prefer to buy from local, earth-friendly producers. We recycle. We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others about health and nutrition, cooperation and the environment. **We are committed to diversity and equality.** We oppose discrimination in any form. We strive to make the Coop welcoming and accessible to all and to respect the opinions, needs and concerns of every member. We seek to maximize participation at every level, from policy making to running the store. **We welcome all who respect these values.**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your listings in 50 words or less by mail, the mailslot in the entry vestibule, or [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

*\*Denotes a Coop member.*

FRI, DEC 8

GOOD COFFEEHOUSE: Roots music with Fitzgerald & Beach. Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society. \$10 adults, \$6 children. 8:00 p.m. 53 Prospect Pk W. 768-2972.

SAT, DEC 9

PEOPLES' VOICE CAFE: Chris Lang; The Caroline Cutroneo Band. Workmen's Circle, 45 E 33 St, Manh, 8:00 p.m. \$12, more if you choose, less if you can't. 212-787-3903.

SAT, DEC 9

PS 321 ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR 11-4:00, 180 7th Ave, Bklyn. Featuring beautiful handmade

gifts for every budget, lunch, kid crafts and entertainment. Sponsored by PS 321 Parents' Association. For information contact Johanna Mullinax (347)432-9750. Free and Open to the Public.

TUE, DEC 12

SMALL PLANET FUND Annual Party & Fundraiser: Join Vandana Shiva, Frances Moore Lappé, Anna Lappé, and friends. Silent & Live Auctions, Live Entertainment, Food & Wine. 6-7:00pm Special Reception: a conversation with Vandana Shiva & Frances Moore Lappé. 7-10:00pm Festivities. Space is limited. RSVP NOW at [rsvp@smallplanetfund.org](mailto:rsvp@smallplanetfund.org) for address & details.

FRI, DEC 15

GOOD COFFEEHOUSE-THIRD FRIDAY COOP NIGHT: Hip hop activist, artist & educator Toni Blackman; Rene Collins weaving together songs of spiritual progress, love & nature. Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society. \$10 adults, \$6 children. 8:00 p.m. 53 Prospect Pk W. 768-2972.

SAT, DEC 16

PEOPLES' VOICE CAFE: Debra Cowan; John O'Connor. Workmen's Circle, 45 E 33 St, Manh, 8:00 p.m. \$12, more if you choose, less if you can't. 212-787-3903.

SAT, DEC 16

WINTER CRAFTS FAIR 2006 sponsored by the Bklyn Society for Ethical Culture at 52 Prospect Park West (between 1st and 2nd Sts.). 11-4:00. Featuring home-made foods, hot and cold drinks and snacks. Free and Open to the Public.

SAT, DEC 16

BELLA VOCE SINGERS A Winter Concert. 3:00 p.m., P.S. 282 Auditorium, 180 6th Ave/Berkeley Pl. General Admission \$10.Tue,

DEC 26

KWANZAA COLLECTIVE PRESENTS "Keeping Kwanzaa in the Tradition" at Boys and Girls High School, 1700 Fulton St., Bklyn, NY. Free Admission. (718)638-6700.

FRI, DEC 29

THE AFRICAN FOLK HERITAGE CIRCLE will celebrate Kwanzaa from 4-6:30 at the Fred Samuels Recreation Center, 669 Malcolm X Blvd (Lenox Ave at 144th St). Please bring a dish to share. For Information, call Joyce C. Duncan (212) 568-1645.

ONGOING SHOWS/EVENTS

**FRIDAYS: DEC 15 & 22**  
Dancing for Animals, Inc., a non-profit organization, is holding Friday night dances at Dance Times Square, 156 W. 44th St., 3rd Fl. Introductory dance class 9-9:30 p.m. General dancing 9:30-12:00 a.m. Enjoy an evening of dancing while helping animal welfare organizations!! 212-946-1824. [www.dancingforanimals.org](http://www.dancingforanimals.org).

**TUESDAYS, DEC 12 & 19**  
A.F.R.A.I.D.: NYC, August 1858. Shortly after the weekly meeting of American Females for Righteousness Abasement Ignorance & Docility was called to order by Mrs. Senza Bliss (Office Coordinator Kathleen Keske), it was disrupted by a group of Abolitionists, Suffragists, Spinsters, Domestic, Fallen Doves, and Lunatics. 7:30 p.m., Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 4th Ave. @ President St, \$20, students/srs \$10, groups 6+ \$15. Info & tickets: [www.bropera.org](http://www.bropera.org).

Save these Dates!

The **Fun'Raising Committee** has plenty of events for you and your friends, Coop members or not. Display ads for each will appear in the *Gazette* as each event approaches.

Saturday, January 20 .....Adult Variety Show-auditions

Sunday, January 28 .....Adult Variety Show-auditions

Sunday, February 4 .....Spoken Word

Saturday, March 10 .....Adult Variety Show

Saturday, April 21 .....Earth Day World Beat Fiesta

Saturday, May 19 .....Game Night

PROGRAMS

**Friday, December 8 through Sunday, December 10**

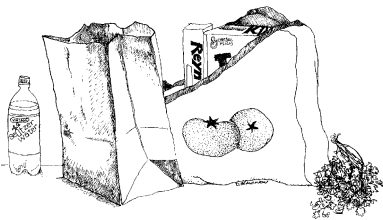
The following programs will happen within four days of publication of this issue. For full ads, please look at the November 9 or November 23 issues or pick up copies of the flyers in the Coop.

**Saturday, December 9**

3:00 Transform Holiday Stress

**Sunday, December 10**

12:00 Plan for Humanity



Could there be a Great Plan for Humanity?...

with Cielito Pascual

...one in which hunger becomes obsolete and people have the freedom to realize their highest aspirations?

What part might we play in this greater scheme of things?

Despite the chaos in today's world, there is such a plan—extraordinary, yet simple. Should we choose to implement it, we will help usher in an era of unprecedented justice and peace.

"The problems of the world, are real but solvable. The solution lies within your grasp." —Maitreya, The World Teacher

Learn more. "The Emergence of Maitreya, the World Teacher, and the Masters of Wisdom." A non-denominational message of hope.

Cielito Pascual is a long-time Coop member concerned with peace and justice issues.

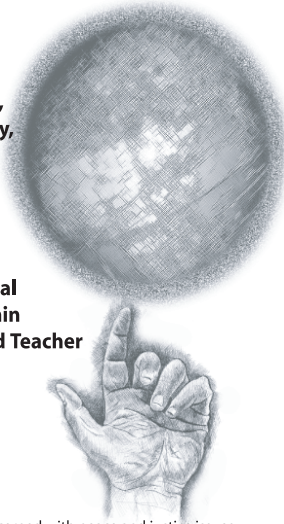
FREE

Non members welcome

Sunday, December 10

12:00 noon at the Coop

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop



There is No Joy Without Health

with Carolyn Meiselbach Circles

Learn the solutions to your mind and body pollutions

The air we breathe, the water we drink, the food and supplements we ingest, the movements we take and the emotions we feel, directly affect the state of our health and our level of functionality.

This evening's audience will receive valuable information, see and participate in various demonstrations, and take away recommendations and proven techniques that will improve their health and increase their joy.

Carolyn Meiselbach Circles is a decade-long PSFC member, Indoor Environmentalist, Health and Nutrition Coach and in certification for Energy Psychology Master Practitioner

FREE

Non members welcome

Friday, December 29

7:00 p.m. at the Coop

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop



ILLUSTRATION: CATHY WASSYLENKO



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

# Coop Now Sells Doulton Water Filters

By David Barouh

After discussions with the Environmental Committee, the coordinators have decided to sell Doulton water filters in the Coop. The discussions followed a series of EC articles in the *Gazette* about the growing awareness worldwide that access to pure water is in danger, which generated some interest among Coop members.

The Coop already sells water filters—the Pur carafe (pitcher) and faucet-mount model, and their replacement cartridges, and the Brita carafe replacement cartridge. These filters reduce chlorine and some other impurities from tap water, and are relatively inexpensive. But their gallon capacity is low, and the cartridges require frequent replacement.

The Coop decided to stock a higher-quality filter, one that does a more thorough job of filtration, and with a higher capacity (600 gallons for the Doulton, compared to 40 gallons for the Pur and Brita carafes, and 100 gallons for the Pur faucet-mount), so that the cartridges would need changing less often. The Doulton's up-front cost would be more, but the per gallon cost would prove less expensive than both the Pur and Brita in the long run, and far less than the cost of bottled water.

For example, the cost for the Doulton countertop model works out to 21.8 cents per gallon for the first 600 gallons, and 7.2 cents per gallon after that. The cost of the Pur Carafe for the first 40 gallons is 27.8 cents per gallon and 18.5 cents per gallon after that, and for the Pur Faucet Mount it is 24.7 cents per gallon for the first 100 gallons and 14.8 cents per gallon after that. All of those numbers compare favorably with the cost of bottled water. For example, The Coop sells Poland Spring gallons for \$1.27 and White Rose gallons for 79 cents (and you have to lug the heavy gallon bottles home). The sidebar accompanying this article compares the per-gallon cost of filters the Coop sells to that of bottled water.

The Coop chose Doulton ([www.doultonusa.com](http://www.doultonusa.com)) because it is one of the most highly rated manufacturers of water filters, and perhaps the oldest, having sold water filters since 1827. Their filters come in either countertop models, which attach to the

faucet by a hose and diverter valve, or under-sink models, which attach to the cold-water line beneath a sink, either to a wall or cabinet-back. Filtered water is drawn through a separate faucet.

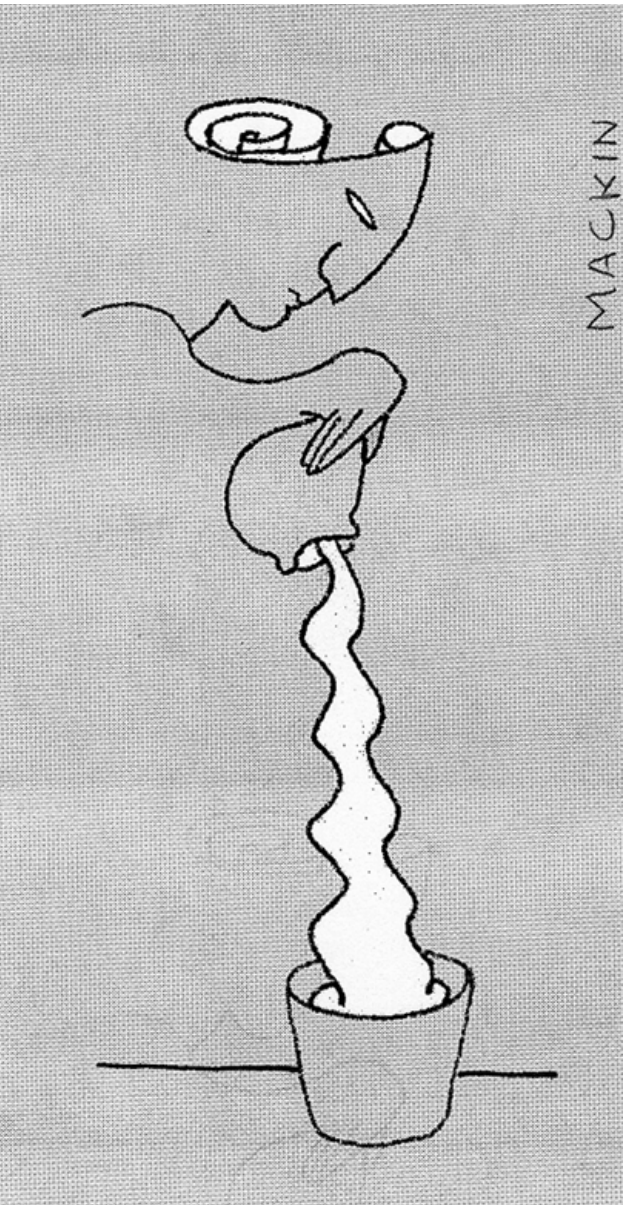


ILLUSTRATION BY PATRICK MACKIN

Both filters use the same cartridge, which lasts longer, filters more thoroughly, and removes a wider range of impurities than the carafe and faucet-mounted models from other manufacturers. And, possibly unique among countertop and under-sink filters, the Doulton features bacteriological filtration in the event of a lapse or failure of chlorine to disinfect water.

The Coop also sells the Doulton dual-cartridge fluoride filter. The American Dental Association endorses the fluoridation of community water supplies as a safe and effective measure for preventing tooth decay, but there is growing debate about whether the practice is safe. New York City's water supply is fluoridated, and according to the Wikipedia Encyclopedia, 67% of Americans and 40% of Canadians live in communities that fluoridate water. Most of Europe does not fluoridate its water. Some communities that once fluoridated their water have stopped doing so. There are lots of resources on the topic, including the ADA's Web page, ([www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)), and for the other side, [www.fluoridation.com](http://www.fluoridation.com). Note, though, that if you employ the common misspelling of “flouridation” instead of the correct “fluoridation,” you will be directed not to the anti-fluoridation Web site but to the ADA's pro-fluoridation Web site. That's the case whether you use “.com,” “.org” or “.net.”

The Doulton countertop model with fluoride filter (also a 600-gallon-capacity cartridge) works out to 36.4 cents for the first 600 gallons. The under-sink model with the fluoride filter works out to 43.5 cents for the first 600 gallons. Both work out to 13.2 cents per gallon after that.

Other Doulton systems meant for specialized water needs, including reverse-osmosis systems, are available through special order.

Mistrust of tap water is perhaps understandable, in spite of it being our most important, if least appreciated, public health resource. The water must be chlorinated to make it bacteriologically safe. While chlorination is not the only, or even the best, way to disinfect water, it is the only way to keep water disinfected as it travels through the pipes that bring it to our faucets. But bottled water presents its own problems, both in quality and safety (tap water is held by law to higher safety standards). Ironically, bottled water is vulnerable to problems from pollution of the very water resources the industry exploits—through the manufacture and eventual disposal of billions of plastic bottles. It becomes clear that filtering our tap water is the surest and most environmentally friendly way of drinking the purest water. ■

## The Cost of Filtered Water

Model	Capacity	Price	Price/Gallon
Pur CR 1400 Carafe	40 gallons	\$11.10	1st 40 gal: 28.1¢/gal.
Pur CRF1450Z Replacement Cartridge	40 gallons	\$7.39	18.5¢/gal.
Pur FM 3700 Faucet Mount	100 gallons	\$24.67	1st 100 gal: 24.7¢/gal.
RF 9999 Replacement Cartridge	100 gallons	\$14.80	14.8¢/gal.
Brita: Carafe Cartridge	40 gallons	\$6.81	17.0¢/gal.
Doulton HCP 100 Countertop	600 gallons	\$130.49	1st 600 gal: 21.8¢/gal.
Doulton HIP100 Under-sink	600 gallons	\$165.51	1st 600 gal: 27.6¢/gal.
Doulton CN-UC Replacement Cartridge	600 gallons	\$43.12	7.2¢/gal.
Doulton HCP 200 Countertop Dual Cartridge Fluoride Filter	600 gallons	\$218.48	1st 600 gal: 36.4¢/gal.
Doulton HIP 200 Under-sink Dual Cartridge Fluoride Filter	600 gallons	\$261.04	1st 600 gal: 43.5¢/gal.
Doulton B-2 Fluoride Filter Replacement Cartridge	600 gallons	\$36.08	CN-UC+B-2: 13.2¢/gal.

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PHOTO BY HAZEL HANKIN

Jezra Kaye is a professional speechwriter and presentation skills coach who works with business and non-profit leaders. She is active in Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn, which is fighting the 17-skyscraper Atlantic Yards Complex, and has been a PSFC member since 1981.


**FREE**  
Non-members welcome

**Saturday, January 6**  
**10:30 a.m. at the Coop**


Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.



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**Open House Schedule for 9/07 Admissions**



Wednesday, January 3, 2007    7:00 – 8:30 pm  
Saturday, January 6, 2007    10:30 am – noon  
Saturday, January 6, 2007    1:00 – 2:30 pm

Chickpeas is a parent-run child care cooperative located in Park  
Slope, at 451 7th Ave. between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets We offer a  
full-day program for children 2 years and 9 months through 5  
years of age. Chickpeas is a nondenominational preschool that  
welcomes children and families from diverse backgrounds.  
Children born in 2003 and 2004 will be eligible for admission in  
September 2007. No reservation is necessary for the Open Houses  
and children are welcome (although, not required) to attend.  
Please visit our website, [www.chickpeas.org](http://www.chickpeas.org) for more information

## To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per inser-  
tion, business card ads at \$30. (Ads in the “Merchandise–Non-commercial” category are free.) All  
ads must be written on a submission form. Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces.  
Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2" x 3.5" horizontal).  
Submission forms are available in a pocket on the wall near the elevator.

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## ADVERTISE ON THE WEB

If your ad would benefit from broader exposure, try  
the Coop's web page, www.foodcoop.com. The ads are  
FREE.

## Answer to Puzzle on page 8

Almond, Raspberry, Mint, Orange, Pistachio,  
Hazelnut, White, Currant, Mijao, Gran Saman Dark,  
Apamate, Latte, Lavendar

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## FROM GRAINS TO BEANS

### DEAR COOP MEMBERS,

Little did I know that my let-  
ter wondering about the Coop's  
decision to sell Indian rice  
would lead to such enlighten-  
ment. Since then I have heard  
about the rice's culinary superi-  
ority, the importance of encour-  
aging (sustainable) agriculture  
in developing countries, and  
the relative insignificance of  
shipping costs over varying  
long distances. I have to admit

that at first I thought the Coop  
was changing to an Indian-only  
policy on rice, which seems to  
be a misapprehension. Never-  
theless, I am undaunted and  
now shine my spotlight of  
inquiry on coffee, to wit: What's  
with all the coffee from South  
America and Africa, when there  
are vast tracts of North Ameri-  
can suburbs that could be con-  
verted to coffee plantations  
with just the right mix of green-  
house technology and govern-  
ment subsidies?

*Meet me in the bulk aisle,  
Tim Forker*

## THE HOT DOG KEEPS REPEATING

Dad says he took me to a game  
Of baseball at age four,  
But all I can remember is  
The frank I dropped on the  
floor.

I've since attended many games,  
A few that can't be topped,  
Yet my strongest baseball  
memory is  
The hot dog that I dropped.

*Leon Freilich*

## LETTERS POLICY

We welcome letters from  
members. Submission dead-  
lines appear in the Coop Calen-  
dar. All letters will be printed if  
they conform to the published  
guidelines. We will not know-  
ingly publish articles that are  
racist, sexist or otherwise dis-  
criminatory

The maximum length for let-  
ters is 500 words. Letters must  
include your name and phone  
number and be typed or very  
legibly handwritten. Editors will  
reject letters that are illegible or  
too long.

You may submit on paper,  
typed or very legibly handwrit-  
ten, or via email to GazetteSub-  
missions@psfc.coop or on disk.  
Disks are returned through an  
envelope at the back of the  
Gazette submissions box.

### Anonymity

Unattributed letters will not  
be published unless the Gazette  
knows the identity of the writer,  
and therefore must be signed  
when submitted (giving phone  
number). Such letters will be  
published only where a reason  
is given to the editor as to why  
public identification of the  
writer would impose an unfair  
burden of embarrassment or  
difficulty. Such letters must  
relate to Coop issues and avoid  
any non-constructive, non-  
cooperative language.

### Fairness

In order to provide fair, compre-  
hensive, factual coverage:

1. The Gazette will not publish  
hearsay—that is, allegations  
not based on the author's first-  
hand observation.

2. Nor will we publish accu-  
sations that are not specific or  
are not substantiated by factual  
assertions.

3. Copies of submissions  
that make substantive accusa-  
tions against specific individu-  
als will be given to those  
persons to enable them to write  
a response, and both submis-  
sions and response will be pub-  
lished simultaneously. This  
means that the original submis-  
sion may not appear until the  
issue after the one for which it  
was submitted.

The above applies to both  
articles and letters. The only  
exceptions will be articles by  
Gazette reporters which will be  
required to include the  
response within the article  
itself.



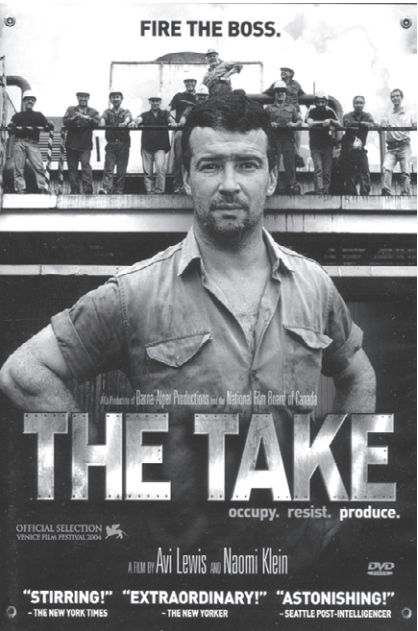


The Triple Bottom Line Film Series – double feature

The Take:

When Bosses are irresponsible, who’s taking over?  
with Mark Rego-Monteiro

All the players in globalization have led to protests like Seattle a few years back and movements like Corporate Social Responsibility and Fair Trade. And that's not all. In the wake of Argentina's gigantic economic collapse, Latin America's most comfortable middle class finds itself in a ghost town of abandoned



factories and mass unemployment. Thirty unemployed auto-parts workers walk into their idle factory in Buenos Aires, roll out sleeping mats, and refuse to leave. All they want is to re-start the silent machines. Journalist Avi Lewis and author Naomi Klein take viewers into the fray of this historic event and all it signifies.

Mark Rego-Monteiro has been a PSFC member for years, has a degree in Biological Anthropology, professional experience in financial and social services, and is an artist and activist. He is the founder of WakeUpDemocracy.org.

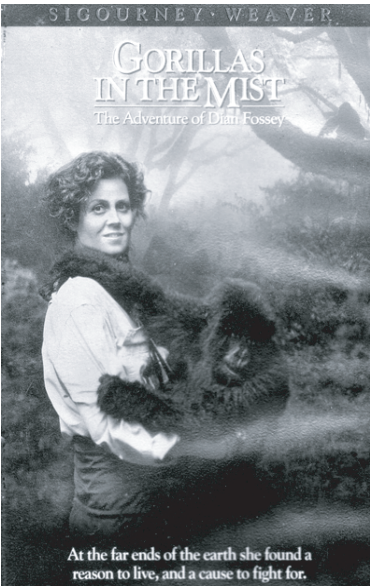
Gorillas in the Mist:

Gorillas, Kittens and Eagles aren’t so different after all  
with Mark Rego-Monteiro

Many movements have been developed to help adapt modern society to nature’s psychological and ecological life support systems, e.g. Greenpeace, Wind Power, Organics, Fair Trade, Coops, Public Interest Group Legislative Activism and more.

Dian Fossey’s story touches on the very essence of these movements. Based on the true story of young anthropologist Dian Fossey who travels to Africa to study the rare gorillas there. Her connection with them shows the power of their tenderness. Her lover, photographer Bob Campbell, can’t tear her away as she risks her life to protect them from the encroachment of civilization’s predation.

Materials for discussion and activism will be available.



Saturday, December 16  
5:00 p.m. at the Coop

FREE  
Non members welcome

Saturday, December 16  
7:00 p.m. at the Coop

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop

WELCOME!

A warm welcome to these new Coop members who have joined us in the last two weeks. We’re glad you’ve decided to be a part of our community.

Anamaria Abreu  
Mario Adams  
Carl Ageday  
Adrian Alvarez  
Pearl Anderson  
Rob Archangel  
Haley Ball  
James Batey  
Maria Berkova  
Byron Blevins  
Ariel Bordenet  
Mark Bordenet  
Rebecca Brown  
Gabriella Callender  
Robyn Coe  
Wayne Coe  
Sadikisha Saundra Collier  
Jose Concepcion  
Erin Cramm  
James Delano

Lily Dougherty-Johnson  
Maddy Elfenbein  
Alesia Exum  
Luis Fajardo  
Sam Feather-Garner  
Thea Fenichel  
Mariel Fernandez  
Lauren Ferreira  
Laura Fix  
Melanie Forstrom  
Paul Fugelsang  
Tara Gallagher  
Ethan Gamache  
David Gandy  
Stacey Georg  
Eckart Graeve  
Mary Guyton  
Hallie Haglund  
Marquerite  
Hamden-Gandy  
Anne Hinsman

Michael Hoffman  
Junko Iwasaki  
Tatsuhiko Iwasaki  
Marta Jacinbek-McKeever  
Rich Jacobs  
Matthew James  
Bianca Jarbath  
Jenifer Kaminsky  
Chris Koelling  
Flan Kramer



Steve Lambert  
Kellie Lawler  
Dorothy Lawrence  
Andrew Levine  
Yvonne Lunde  
Dan Marks  
Eleanor Martz  
Rebeca Matthews  
Dan McDonald  
William McKeever  
Wilfredo Medina

Joe Miller  
Nathaniel Moheban  
Ruth Muzio  
Michael Ness  
Tim Noe  
Jacob Oakley  
Francisco Ozuna  
Andrea Pacelli  
Anna-Lynn Pacelli  
Igor Anthony Pacheco  
Michael Premo  
Gabriel Presler  
Heather Prime  
Axel Reyes  
Elizabeth Rich  
Ricardo Rivera  
Dianne Rossomando  
Jeanette Sawyer  
David Shaenfield  
Kelly Skyes  
Hal D. Smith  
Margaret Smith

Margret Smith  
Arrel St. Clair  
Helen St. Clair  
Richard Superti  
Rachel Sutherland  
Erin Tate  
Jeremy Tate  
Miranda Tedholm  
Rosa Tenemaza  
Eric Thomas  
Kristine Thomas  
Donnell Turner  
Claire Unabia  
Jane Van Cleef  
Stefan van den Berg  
Claartje van Haaften  
Hildaura Vence  
Jennifer Voelker  
Alison Wilkey  
Daniele Yandel  
Ella Yasuogorskaya

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members for referring friends who joined the Coop in the last two weeks.

Phylis B.  
Mona Banzer  
Mayer Blumenfeld  
Karen Bonarth  
Sarah Braunstein  
Jennifer Brown  
Yolanda Concepcion  
Juliana Cope  
Lillian Dalke  
Joseph Delano  
Adam Defayette

Sara Dierck  
Lily Dougherty-Johnson  
Tim Dubnau  
Paul English  
Amy Fix  
Hanna Fox  
Masako Harada  
Andrew Hoffman  
Ava Hsu  
Maria Iracheta

Kristin  
Maicha  
Matthew Malter-Cohen  
Jake Marble  
Andrew McCarthy  
Carrie McLaren  
Samuel Merians  
Abigail Miller  
Sara Mody  
Mary Ellen Muzio  
Libby O’Bryan

Krista Peterson  
Alan Pratt  
Clara Presler  
Edith Presler  
Jodi Radwell  
Kimberely Rector  
Kim Reinhardt  
Eugene V. Resnick  
Eric Rochow  
Trish Deitch Rohrer  
Ron & Aki

Melissa Rosenberg  
Howard Rosin  
Lisa Rosman  
David Schmidt  
Laura Scott  
Ilana Sichel  
Mark Simpson  
Elyse Sparkes  
Adele Swank  
Hiroko Takeda  
Alix Thelemaque



Francis Timoney  
Gabriele Wolf  
M. Lynn York