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LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE



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Volume DD, Number 22

October 22, 2009

Coop Member Amy Sohn Chronicles Park Slope in Satirical Novel, *Prospect Park West*

By Anita J. Aboulafia

Manhattanites have Candace Bushnell's *Sex and the City*. And now Park Slopers have Amy Sohn's *Prospect Park West* (Simon & Schuster 2009), a satirical novel depicting the love lives and longings of the "bohemian bourgeois breeders" of Park Slope. Sohn, who takes readers into the lives of four thirty-something married women, is herself a thirty-something (36, to be exact) married woman, mother (of a four-year-old daughter) and Park Slope Food Coop member.

Brooklyn itself takes front and center stage in the novel—characters frequent such venues as the main branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Tea Lounge (aka the "Teat" Lounge), Third Street Playground, Loki, The Gate, Boing Boing, al di là, the Clay Pot and, of course, the Prospect Park Food Coop, a fictitious version of the Park Slope Food Coop, located on Seventh Avenue and Union Street in the novel. ("My husband said I should call the Prospect Park Food Coop the second largest food coop in the country," says Sohn, "but unfortunately that didn't make it into the novel.")

Sohn's social satire chronicles the intertwining lives of a



PHOTO BY LISA ROSS

Amy Sohn

diverse cast of characters—most of whom are Coop members. The four main characters are Melora Leigh, a ravishing two-time Oscar-winner married to a handsome screenwriter and philanderer, and three stay-at-home moms (aka SHAMs)—Rebecca, a freelance writer in a near-sexless marriage to an architect; Lizzie, a former lesbian (aka "hasbian") married to a traveling musician; and Karen, a former social worker and the frumpiest one of the lot. One might wonder why a famous, well-to-do actress who travels the globe making films would join the Coop. Sohn dryly

explains in the novel, "...all Melora had wanted was one tiny little Page Six [in the *New York Post*] or *Us Weekly* item about joining the Coop."

Early in the narrative, Melora, who appears to be addicted to Ativan, steals someone's wallet while waiting on the checkout line at the Coop. The Coop implements a random bag search policy at the exits, which leads to concerns about racial profiling. A protest outside the Coop doors leads to arrests and has repercussions for more than one of the four protagonists.

Prospect Park West takes place during the summer and fall of 2008, when Barack Obama was running for president, and Sohn enjoys poking fun at the political correctness of the Park Slopers. At one point, a character attends an "Audacity of Park Slope voter registration drive" in the Grand Army Plaza Greenmarket.

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About Amy Sohn

Born and raised in Brooklyn Heights, Sohn and her

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Trick or... Tragedy? Halloween at the Coop

By Larissa Phillips

Rustling leaves, darkening afternoons and a chill in the air—aren't they all just signposts for that special spooky night? Halloween is around the corner, and many would argue that there is no better place to celebrate than in Brooklyn's brownstone neighborhoods. I set out to the Coop on a

recent Sunday to dig up what I thought would be a trove of excited plans and sparkling quotes about the magic of Halloween in Brooklyn and the unique ways in which Coop members experience it.

Not so fast. As it turns out, that magic is not universally experienced. In fact, many Coop

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL BUCKLEY

Halloween Kids

Next General Meeting on October 27

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.* The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

The agenda is in this *Gazette* and available as a flyer in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

* Exceptions for November and December will be posted.

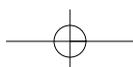
IN THIS ISSUE

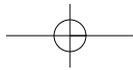
General Meeting Report	2
Puzzle	4
Are We Bankrupting Our Grandchildren?	5
Coop Hours, Coffeehouse	6
Coop Calendar, Workslot Needs	
Governance Information, Mission Statement	7
Classified Ads, Letters to the Editor	11
Community Calendar	12

Coop Event Highlights

- Fri, Oct 23** • **Blood Drive** 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Sat, Oct 24** • **Blood Drive** 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
- Sat, Oct 24** • **Food Drive to Benefit Chips Food Kitchen** 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
- Sat, Oct 24** • **Fair Trade Tea: Who Benefits** 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Oct 25** • **Food Drive to Benefit Chips Food Kitchen** 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
- Thu, Nov 5** • **Food Class: Fall Harvest** 7:30 p.m.
- Fri, Nov 6** • **Film Night: Working Title** 7:00 p.m.
- Fri, Nov 20** • **The Good Coffeehouse: Jen Chapin and Stephan Crump's Rosetta Trio** 8:00 p.m.

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





GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Should We Help Finance Other Coops? This and More Debated at September's GM

By Gayle Forman

The sixth principle of the International Cooperative Alliance, "Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures," was a hot topic at the September 29 General Meeting. The packed house in the Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall touched on that cornerstone issue of cooperation among cooperatives, while also filling several slots on disciplinary committees.

General Coordinator Joe Holtz presented for discussion a suggestion that the Coop look into "how our Cooperative can initiate an experimental pilot program to offer limited seed money to support the formation of other food coops in Brooklyn. Specifi-

cally, discuss starting a fund that would pool \$10,000 of our Coop's money with donations from our individual members (not tax deductible)." The proposal would ensure that a set of rigorous standards would be met in order for fledgling coops to access the grant money; such standards would be voted on at a future meeting if this idea was deemed worth pursuing.

While financially helping other coops is a departure for the PSFC, offering other forms of assistance is not. "Part of my job is talking to people in Holland, Denmark, Japan, California and many other states" about starting up their own coops," Holtz explained. Lately, Holtz and other PSFC members have turned that assistance local, as six food coops in Brooklyn attempt to get started (Kalabash and

Grass Roots in Bed-Stuy, the Greene Hill Food Coop in the Fort Greene/Clinton Hill area, the Bushwick Food Coop and the Bay Ridge Food Coop). In addition to offering prodigious advice and guidance, the PSFC has offered its members, who can earn work credit volunteering at one of these other coops, and has helped out in other ways, such as sending 2,000 letters to PSFC members in Fort Greene, telling them about the fledgling Greene Hill Food Coop.

But this kind of cooperation has its limits. "These coops have a money problem," Holtz said bluntly at the GM, in a way that the PSFC didn't. "We had \$320 when we opened up and we wrote checks on a Friday way past our bank balances, but we knew we'd make a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Prospect Park West

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

artist husband were in search of a child-friendly neighborhood when they moved to the Slope five years ago. A public policy major at Brown University (Sohn's classmate at Brown was Coop member Anna Lappé, a writer and food activist), Sohn launched her writing career in 1996 when

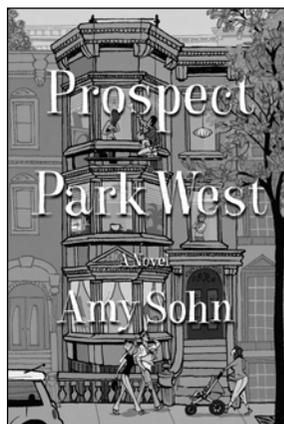
she became a columnist for the Manhattan weekly *New York Press*, writing an autobiographical dating column called "Female Trouble." From there, she became a pop-culture columnist for the *New York Post* and then moved on to *New York* magazine, where she wrote about dating, sex and romance from 2001 to 2007. Sohn's first two novels, *Run Catch Kiss* (1999) and *My*

Old Man (2004), were romantic comedies written in the first person; *Prospect Park West* is her first novel written in the third person.

This self-taught writer is an avid reader of such novelists as Bernard Malamud, Bruce Jay Friedman, Charles Bukowski, Rona Jaffe, Laurie Colwin, Hilma Wolitzer, Mary Gordon, Judith Rossner, Philip Roth and Michael Chabon. "I want my daughter to love reading as much as I do," declares Sohn, "so one of my favorite activities with her is to go to the Brooklyn Public Library and take out books to read with her. These days, it's especially rewarding because she can read picture books, not just board books, so we pick things of interest to both of us."

Coop members since 2004, Sohn and her husband work, at different times, the shopping shift doing checkout. What are her thoughts about the Coop? Sohn says, "I feel a deep-seated sense of community that comes from the fact that all members must work. Of course community can be a challenge, but it can also be great fun. People often love to roll their eyes at how strict the Coop's rules are, but it seems to be that it's actually pretty difficult to get kicked out." She adds, "There's a lot of craziness at the Coop, but there's a lot of craziness in Park Slope as well."

"The Coop is a true mix in terms of race, ethnicity, religion, marital status and sexu-



al orientation," acknowledges Sohn. "At the Coop, our members are from all over Brooklyn, which means it's more diverse than Park Slope as a neighborhood. That makes for a rich exchange of ideas because people who are

very different have to share the same space by working and shopping with one another." She continues, "There's a liveliness of people's interactions in the Coop that can make it difficult to shop there, but this liveliness is missing from the streets of the neighborhood. Inside the Coop, people engage—for better or worse—with those who are different from themselves. Outside the Coop, we tend to keep our feelings to ourselves. In some ways, I wish Park Slope were more like the Park Slope Food Coop."

Fortunately for the couple, since both Sohn and her husband are self-employed, they can shop at the Coop any time they want and, according to Sohn, "My husband does 90 percent of the shopping and 99 percent of the cooking."

What, if anything, are the pitfalls of the Coop? Sohn relates a recent incident: "I was chided by a member while I was helping to bag her groceries. I had offered to put her pint of cherry tomatoes in a clear plastic bag and she said, 'The last thing I need is a plastic bag.' I was so disturbed by her reaction that I had to walk around the aisles

a few times to calm down. There is a subset of members whose environmentalism is so strong that they are offended by anyone whom they perceive as a threat to that. On another occasion while working checkout, a shopper complained that I was chatting with my coworker. The shopper said, 'I just don't feel like you're present.' After she left, my coworker said, 'What is she—your shrink?' But luckily I've only had a few encounters like that over five years."

Sohn is writing a sequel to *Prospect Park West* for Simon & Schuster. She writes at the Brooklyn Writers Space on Garfield Place (see the July 3, 2008 issue of *Linewaiters' Gazette* for more information about the Space) and appreciates that there are so many other writers who belong to the Coop.

Reviews of *Prospect Park West* have been positive; Sohn has had standing-room-only crowds at the readings she has given at the Community Bookstore, Barnes & Noble Tribeca and Cobble Hill's Bookcourt. When asked her thoughts about the role her novel has played in garnering a higher profile for the already trendy Park Slope neighborhood, Sohn responds, "If my book is responsible for putting Park Slope on the map nationally, then I'm proud to be the Marty Markowitz of the neighborhood."

Moreover, Park Slopers, take note: *Prospect Park West's* SHAM divas may soon hit the small screen; the book has been optioned by Sarah Jessica Parker and HBO for a half-hour TV series. Stay tuned. ■

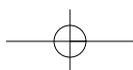
PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

Product Return Policy

The Coop does not "exchange" items. You must return item and repurchase what you need. Returns of eligible items will be handled at the Second Floor Service Desk within 30 days of purchase only when accompanied by the PAID IN FULL receipt.

Please use the following guide to determine if an item is eligible for return:

Produce (fresh fruits & vegetables)	May not be returned with the exception of coconuts, pineapples and watermelon. Even if the claim is that the item is spoiled or that it was purchased by mistake, produce cannot be returned except for the three items listed above. The produce buyer may be contacted on weekdays by members to discuss any other claims for credit.
Books	May not be returned.
Juicers	May not be returned.
Bulk items & bulk items packaged by the Coop	May not be returned. Members may contact the bulk buyer to discuss any other claims for credit.
Refrigerated items Frozen items	May not be returned unless spoiled before the expiration date or within 30 days of purchase, whichever is sooner.
All Other Products (not covered above)	A. Other products may be returned if they are spoiled or defective and the category is not specified above B. Other products may be returned if they are unopened, undamaged and therefore can be sold again. C. Other products may not be returned if they are opened or unsellable, and were purchased by mistake or not needed.



GENERAL MEETING REPORT

September's GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

deposit on Saturday and make the check on Monday. We were young and foolish." In today's days of high real estate prices and credit crunches, such practices won't fly. In order to get off the ground, these coops need more than advice. They need cash infusions, Holtz suggested.

When the floor opened for discussion, more than a dozen members spoke up, overwhelmingly to voice their support for offering some sort of financial assistance. Even longtime members like Glenn Moller, who pronounced himself "dubious" of the Coop's earlier forays into charitable causes, declared that "this particular idea we have a chance at because this is what we're good at. Food coops are what we are, what we do and what we believe in."

The devil, however, was in the details, with many members like Nancy Romer, one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Food Conference, expressing profound support for the idea, noting that the PSFC ought to use the "economical and political capital that we've amassed with other people in Brooklyn," but expressing concern about having tight guidelines for coops seeking to access money. Would they need a business plan? A certain threshold of members? Would there be a PSFC committee set up to evaluate grant applications and support these coops?

Other members, like David Marangio, who is one of the founders of the Bay Ridge Food Coop, suggested that the amount of money that grants could provide simply is not enough. Marangio explained that the Bay Ridge Coop, which hopes to open with 2,500 members, each investing \$250 and four hours a month, needs a startup budget of \$1 million. But the coop, which has a strong core of volunteers and hundreds of interested members, is encountering problems finding lenders who will loan money to coops. Marangio said that a low-interest loan from the PSFC would be more helpful than a small grant amount and suggested such a loan might open the door to other credit.

Members were mixed in their reactions to the idea of the

Coop entering the lending business, with several pointing out that unregulated lending is what landed the country in recession, and others, like Robert Matson, flat out declaring, "I don't like debt or loans. It's the best way to go out of business." Others, however,

mittee steps in. Current Disciplinary Committee member Sherry Fitelson explained that the role of the committee was to "investigate allegations of uncooperative behavior in the Coop. We're trying to make the Coop a better place." The committee

working as intended). Expenses are up some from last year, but electric costs are lower.

Holtz followed, reporting on the September 10 blackout, which put all the freezers and refrigerators out of commission. Remarkably, there

which shifts had been recorded won't be thrown away, so that historical record will exist. "We think history's going to fade as history soon will all be on the computer." One member asked if members can access their work records online. Not yet, said Holtz; the Web Committee will sort that out in the future.

Allen Zimmerman was delighted to give the fall produce report, noting that that week the Coop had 146 locally grown produce items, and the week before there were 149—an all-time high. Fall crops to be on the lookout for include greens like baby arugula and loose spinach. Amy Hepworth has put in a hothouse to grow baby lettuces that she'll be able to supply to the Coop well into November. And Zimmerman noted that we have rambutan, a not-so-local lychee-like tropical fruit, a rare item for us, as rambutans typically come from Thailand and are irradiated (the Coop doesn't carry irradiated produce), but these particular fruits are from Guatemala and haven't been nuked. Zimmerman ended his report with this amazing statistic: "The Coop sells 6,000 cases of produce a week; we're open 100 hours a week. That's a case of produce a minute." ■

AMAZING COOP SHOPPING FACTOID

"The Coop sells 6,000 cases of produce a week; we're open 100 hours a week.

That's a case of produce a minute."

GENERAL COORDINATOR ALLEN ZIMMERMAN



were more amenable to the Coop getting into the lending business—or back into it. David Moss referred to the Coop Member Loan Program. "The Coop used to take loans from its members," he explained, and further noted the pathetic rate his cash was earning in a savings account. "I'd love to earn more on my savings by making loans like these."

A few members expressed concern over what would happen if the new coops leached away too many members. But that, countered Holtz, was part of the point. One of the reasons to help these fledgling coops, beyond the sixth principle, is "self-interest." The PSFC is too crowded; as of now, expanding doesn't seem feasible. "If we could get these other coops to open, the pressure would be taken off us," Holtz said. As for concerns about competition hurting, Holtz noted that when Trader Joe's opened its Court Street location in October 2008, 1.6 miles from the Coop, beating us on prices on several items, he thought we'd lose members. "What happened was we continued to grow at an incredible rate beyond our capacity," he explained.

At the end of the lengthy discussion, not a single member opposed the idea of some sort of financial assistance to local coops, and many had broadened the idea of assistance with suggestions of loans, upping the amount of seed money and using the Coop's purchasing power to leverage better prices for these other coops.

Disciplinary Committees Get New Blood

Of course, sometimes things aren't always so utopian at the Coop. And that's when the Disciplinary Com-

is authorized to have 16 members, but had only ten and had nominated Phyllis Bowdwin to join the ranks. Bowdwin briefly spoke, describing herself as a retired life-skills educator. She was handily elected.

Sometimes when the Disciplinary Committee is unable to solve an issue, a member may be asked to leave the Coop and that member is entitled to and may request a hearing. When that happens, the Hearing Administration Committee helps set up the hearing. Gail Rosenstrauch and Rachel Garber were re-elected to that committee, and Alma de Jesus, Robert Matson and Todd Scott were elected for their first three-year terms.

Flu Readiness, Knife Safety

The Open Forum was relatively quiet, with just a handful of questions and concerns about issues like whether there's a plan to improve member safety with knives and box cutters (better labeling, said Holtz). One member asked about the Coop's plan in light of a flu epidemic. General Coordinator Allen Zimmerman explained: "We're not clear what the protocols we should undertake are. By the end of October we'll know."

Coordinators' Reports

General Coordinator Mike Eakin presented the Financial Report, noting that in general the Coop's finances are solid. "Membership is up 4.8 percent from last year, which is much less than the increase of almost 12 percent this time last year before," Eakin explained, and he attributed the lower rate of increase to the pre-registration for orientation policy (which shows the policy is

was no food loss. "Everyone pitched in, squads on duty did amazing an job putting things way. People followed the blackout procedures and now we have new blackout procedures, including the best place for dry ice." Holtz estimated that between truck rentals, dry ice and repair services, the cost of the blackout to the Coop will be between \$3,000 and \$5,000, noting that the Coop's insurance deductible is \$5,000.

Perhaps even more miraculous than the lack of food loss during the blackout was Holtz's announcement that the long-awaited computerization of the membership records is now officially operational. The index cards on

The Park Slope Food Coop Agenda Committee ("AC") is seeking qualified nominees to stand for election and serve on the committee.

The Park Slope Food Coop Agenda Committee ("AC") seeks qualified nominees to stand for election and serve on the committee. The AC was established by the General Meeting ("GM") to help facilitate the timely presentation of Coop business to the members attending the monthly meeting. In addition to assembling the monthly agenda and maintaining records of items submitted, the AC works with members who submit items for consideration by the GM to assist them in formulating proposals and discussion points.

The AC meets the first Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Coop. Committee members are also required to attend five (5) GMs per year. In addition, committee members caucus by telephone and via e-mail as needed to facilitate committee business.

Qualifications include a cooperative spirit, experience working in a committee environment and an ongoing interest in the business of the Coop. The term of membership on the committee is 2 years.

Interested members should contact Glenn Brill at glennbrill@earthlink.net.



Halloween at the Coop

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

members find much to object to in this age-old holiday.

"I actually hate Halloween," admitted Coop member Kim Brandt while standing on line at the Coop. "I don't like the costumes, and I don't like the candy."

Her shopping partner, Walsh Hansen, agreed: "I get depressed when I go into the Duane Reade and see all the costumes. I know they'll be in the garbage a week later."

Linewaiters in front of and behind Brandt and Hansen were in agreement. Most had no plans to celebrate. An objection to the "crass commercialism" of the day was one reason, along with wasteful costumes, environmentally suspect decorations and an overabundance of candy. "Do American kids really need more sugar?" asked one shopper who had no plans to celebrate.

A Sustainable Halloween?

It was starting to seem like Halloween might not even happen this year, at least not

among Coop members. Was there any way for Coop people to enjoy this holiday that is all about dressing up in a one-use costume, followed by mass ingestion of cheap, unsustainably produced candy?

Well, yes. Valery Rizzo, photographer and Coop member, finds much to appreciate, particularly the opportunity for artistic expression. "I enjoy seeing all the jack-o'-lanterns on all the stoops in the neighborhood and how creatively people carve them," she said. She freely admits to a love of candy corn, and was also one of the only people to mention the scary aspect of the season—with a low-impact means of enjoying it: "As a horror movie buff, I usually fill the entire month celebrating Halloween by watching horror movies."

Homemade Costumes?

Store-bought costumes might be the norm in this day and age, but the homemade impulse is alive and well

among Coop members.

Kaari Pitken, who celebrates Halloween on a year-by-year basis, went to a party with a history theme last year; she dressed as cotton. "I got very conceptual," she said. "I went to the flower district and bought some huge cotton stalks and attached them to my belt—they were enormous—and then I went with blood on my hands."

Sandye Renz often dresses up with her daughter, Ava, who's nine. Last year Ava went as Dracula's bride. "I was the ring bearer," said Renz. Another year she was the tooth fairy, with toothbrushes attached to her dress, handing out dental floss to the trick-or-treaters. "I was helping a lot of kids get their teeth out."

Sarah Nunberg makes her daughters' (ages six and nine) costumes every year, mostly of materials she has on hand; last year she transformed an adult's black T-shirt into a witch's dress. Her daughter, then five, drew decorations on the dress with glue and sparkles. Nunberg used scraps of sparkly fabric to trim the sleeves and hem,

and her husband Dave made a witch's hat out of newspaper and black paint, with instructions he found on the Internet. "I think you just have to decide to use what you have," said Nunberg. "I do it in a really lazy way and try to stay really simple."

Once the costumes are assembled, the pleasure of walking through the transformed neighborhood, whether en route to a parade or not, was mentioned by many. "I love going out and meeting everyone on my block," Renz said. "Everyone's really nice. They're so happy to see you in your costume...and then they give you candy."

Candy Solutions

Oh right, the candy. Even for families who love Halloween, there is the candy problem: what do you do with the giant sack of sugar and its various derivatives your child comes home with? Most parents have strategies.

"We forget about it and it... 'disappears' eventually," said one parent, with a slow wink. A one-day free-for-all was mentioned by many, along with a quick sorting of the good and the bad.

Most parents surveyed said they ration it out. "We get rid of the really bad stuff, and then we put it all a big

candy box, and it's rationed out all year. We still have candy from last year," said Denise Ganjou.

At least one Coop member has come up with a creative way to deal with the overabundance of candy: "We get a visit from the Halloween Fairy," says Cay Tolson. "Each kid gets to decide whether they want her to come visit them. The night after Halloween, having eaten your fill on Halloween night, you leave your bucket or bag of candy on your bedroom windowsill (that's how she knows you want her to come and take it). The Halloween Fairy comes and takes the candy and leaves a toy or other treat. We also usually leave a note just to be sure."

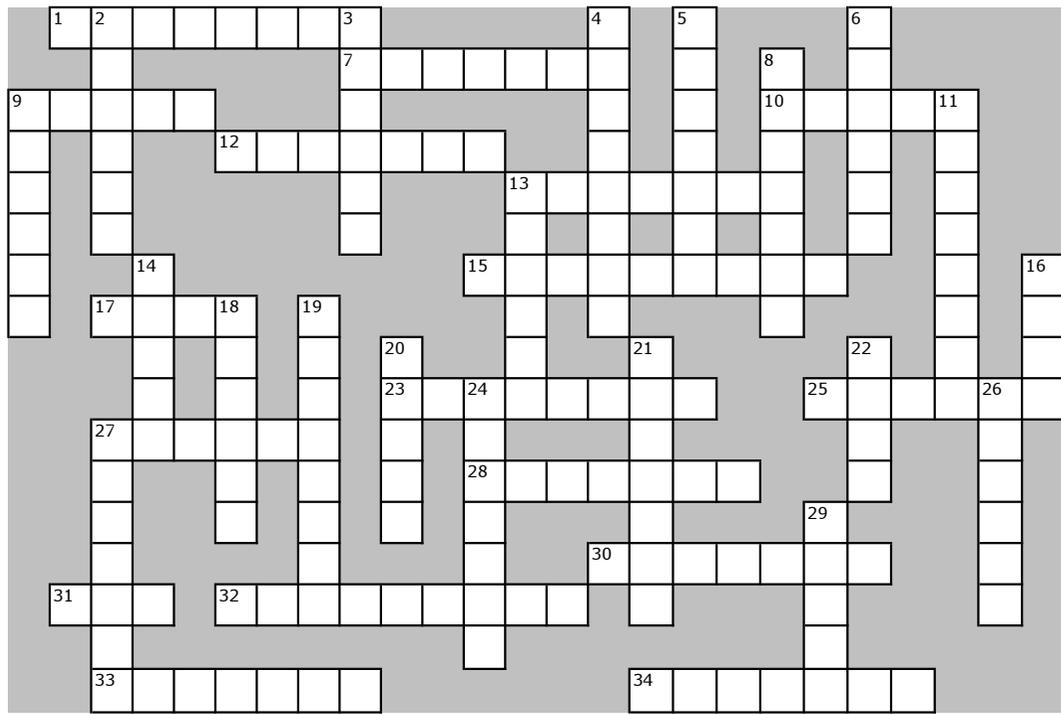
Unfortunately, fair-trade concerns seem to go out the window on Halloween. Equal Exchange offers a bag of chocolate minis; but at \$20 for a 12-ounce bag, they are expensive for a holiday that is all about the mass distribution of candy to strangers. Even candy givers with a conscience suggested a cheaper alternative: choosing candy without artificial dyes or high fructose corn syrup.

For those holding out for the magic of the spooky night, Brooklyn is a veritable crypt of events. Please see the list below. ■

Puzzle Corner

One for the Books

October is National Book Month! The clues in this puzzle are all titles of notable books. How many have you read? Fill in the grid with the last names of the authors.



ACROSS

- 1 Ragtime
- 7 The Satanic Verses
- 9 Main Street
- 10 The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
- 12 A Clockwork Orange
- 13 Lord of the Flies
- 15 The Sun Also Rises
- 17 Portnoy's Complaint
- 23 Winesburg, Ohio
- 25 Heart of Darkness

DOWN

- 2 Animal Farm
- 3 Native Son
- 4 Stranger in a Strange
- 27 Catch-22
- 28 Invisible Man
- 30 On the Road
- 31 To Kill a Mockingbird
- 32 The Grapes of Wrath
- 33 The Lord of the Rings
- 34 Gravity's Rainbow

Land

- 5 Kim
- 6 I, Claudius
- 8 Of Human Bondage
- 9 The Call of the Wild
- 11 The Catcher in the Rye
- 13 The Heart of the Matter
- 14 Ulysses
- 16 Atlas Shrugged
- 18 Brave New World
- 19 Sons and Lovers

- 20 The Ambassadors
- 21 A Passage to India
- 22 The Good Soldier
- 24 An American Tragedy
- 26 The Handmaid's Tale
- 27 The Maltese Falcon
- 29 Brideshead Revisited

For answers, see page 11. This issue's puzzle author: **Stuart Marquis**

Sunday October 25

Ghouls and Gourds

Noon-6 p.m., at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Come in costume and join the colossal puppets in the BBC's parade. Also: drum circles, recycled-junk musical instruments and carnivorous plants. www.bbg.org.

Wednesday October 27

Haunted House Tour

Download a map of Park Slope's best decorated houses, then take a spooky twilight stroll. www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org.

Saturday October 31

"Howl-a-Ween" Pet Parade

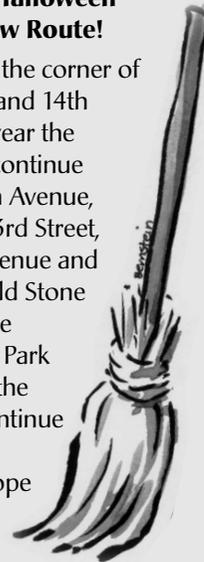
Noon-3 p.m., at the Old Stone House; the pet parade will begin promptly at 1 p.m. All proceeds from the \$10 registration fee will support maintenance and programming in Washington Park.

Halloween Costume Contest

4-5:30 p.m., in front of John Jay High School. Costume categories range from "best theme" to "best classic character" to "best use of materials." After the contest there will be a musical performance of Ethan's Motley Rockin' Show. www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org/halloween-parade.

Children's Halloween Parade—New Route!

6:30 p.m., at the corner of 7th Avenue and 14th Street. This year the parade will continue north on 7th Avenue, turn left on 3rd Street, cross 5th Avenue and end at the Old Stone House on the Washington Park field, where the party will continue until 9 p.m. www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org.



Are We Bankrupting Our Grandchildren? Or Investing in Their Futures?

By Brent Kramer

The popular press is full of items that try to scare us about our national debt. Several websites (www.davemanuel.com/usnational-debt-clock.php, for example) have running "national debt clocks" purporting to show each individual's share of the debt.

We're all familiar with household debt—the principal on our mortgage, the credit card balance—and get justifiably scared when these numbers add up, especially as our jobs become less secure (or disappear!). Just as household debt is what we've borrowed to buy what current income can't afford, the national debt is the accumulated amount borrowed by the Treasury over the years to close the deficit, the gap between expenses and tax collections.

But our grandchildren will never have to pay off their

"shares" of this debt. The Treasury has had a debt since the Civil War, and no citizen has been asked to pay a share of it. The national debt is largely a loan from the public, to the public; 37% of it, in fact,

Member Contribution

is held by the Federal Reserve Bank and other government agencies like the Social Security Administration.ⁱ When notes come due, the Treasury just issues new notes, and there are always enough buyers to pay off the old notes.ⁱⁱ Buying Treasury notes is one of the world's safest ways to save. In fact, if there were no national debt, financial markets would be much more chaotic than they are even now, as the wealthy would be scrambling to figure out safe places to park their money.

As Paul Krugman has been pointing out,ⁱⁱⁱ President Obama's promises to lower the deficit in future budgets is itself misguided; as long as the deficits that add to the debt are undertaken for projects that enhance our nation's long-term strengths (education, infrastructure, public works), adding to the debt is as sensible as taking out a second mortgage to improve your home. The real agenda of those who try to scare us into opposing deficit spending is to strangle government services and to cut back on unemployment benefits, minimum-wage and job-safety enforcement, Social Security and all the other protections that working people have. After all, if we lost these protections, we'd be forced to work for any wage, under any conditions. That would be the *real* burden on us and our grandchildren!

Brent Kramer is a labor activist

and an economist. Comments and questions welcome: bkramer@aol.com.

ⁱ As of September 2009. http://www.treasurydirect.gov/govt/reports/pd/pd_debtposacrpt.htm.ⁱⁱ More of the debt than ever before is now held by foreign governments and foreign nationals, and there are fears

that these holders may demand payment as they lose confidence in the U.S. economy. But any effort they make to "cash in" their Treasury securities would make those countries poorer in the short run, and it seems unlikely that this would happen, even in this financial crisis.

ⁱⁱⁱ See for example "Mission Not Accomplished," *The New York Times*, October 2, 2009.



The PSFC Fun Committee invites you to the next Coop...

GAME NIGHT!

• Saturday, November 21 •
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
in the meeting room of the Coop.

• Free admission • All ages welcome •
• Bring your friends •
• Refreshments for sale •

Bring your favorite game(s):

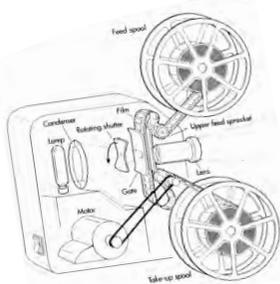
• Scrabble • Taboo • chess • checkers • bridge • Nim
• Boggle • Candyland • Trouble • Stratego • Pictionary
• Monopoly • Trivial Pursuit...

Theater Games
in the childcare room

ARE YOU A BROOKLYN-BASED FILMMAKER?

Would you like to screen your work at the Coop?

Then submit your film for possible inclusion in the Coop's Friday Night Screening Series.



If you're a Coop member you'll receive one FTOP credit for screening and offering a Q+A with your film. If you're not a member, it's still a chance to spread the word about your work and build your fan base by screening for a local audience.

We accept documentary and fiction, both features and shorts (we program shorts as a group). Please email **Faye Lederman** for details at squeezestone@hotmail.com or mail your DVD to: **Faye Lederman, 2000 Linwood Ave, #9E Fort Lee, NJ 07024**

Puzzlemaker Wanted

The Gazette is looking for a member to create new and interesting puzzles for each issue.

This will be a regular workslot.

For more information, contact Karen Mancuso
at karen_mancuso@psfc.coop

WANTED Bike Valet Parking Squad Leaders

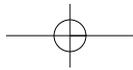


The Coop needs reliable, detail-oriented and personable members to lead the new Bike Valet Parking service.

Members will be trained for this position. Currently, these shifts will be on Saturday afternoons, though we are looking at Sunday afternoon/early evening and would like to expand this service.

The Bike Valet Parking service is for Coop members and works like a coat check for bikes (and strollers!). FTOP workers will check in and watch bikes during their shift. Depending on the shift time, the Squad Leader will be responsible for directing either the set-up or take-down of the bike racks and canopy. Training FTOP workers will be required at the beginning of each shift.

If you are interested, please contact Charlene Swift in the Membership Office at 718-622-0560.

**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.

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 guidelines above. The Anonymity and Fairness policies appear on the letters page in most issues.

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. Please note that member-submitted articles, unlike letters, can be edited for content and style by editors. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services.

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words. Like member-submitted articles, committee reports can be edited for content and style by editors.

Submissions on Paper: Typed or very legibly handwritten and placed in the wallpocket labeled "Editor" on the second floor at the base of the ramp.

Submissions on Disk & by Email: We welcome digital submissions. Drop disks in the wallpocket described above. The email address for submissions is GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Receipt of your submissions will be acknowledged on the deadline day.

Classified & Display Ads: Ads may only be placed by and on behalf of Coop members. 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 in a wallpocket on the first floor near the elevator). Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2"x3.5").

Printed by: New Media Printing, Bethpage, NY.

Friday Nov. 20

8:00 p.m.



very The Good Coffeehouse

COOP CONCERT SERIES

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

Jen Chapin's music is urban folk—story songs that search for community and shared meaning, powered by the funk, soul and improvisation of the city. Critics have hailed her work as "brilliant... soulfully poetic" (NPR), "thoughtful.. worth-savoring" (People), "addictive" (Boston Globe), "smart, observant, lyrically deft, politically aware and emotionally intuitive" (Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel). Her performances are powerful, spotlighting the world-class musicianship and rare chemistry of "Rosetta Trio:" husband/acoustic bassist Stephan Crump and guitarists Jamie Fox and Liberty Ellman.



Stephan Crump's Rosetta Trio

Hailed as "a string ensemble for the new century," Rosetta Trio is an all-string chamber jazz ensemble led by Memphis-bred bassist/composer Stephan Crump with guitarists Liberty Ellman and Jamie Fox. Renowned for their music's narrative depth and for their outstanding performances, tonight they'll focus on music from their upcoming *Reclamation*, due next spring on Sunnyside Records, which includes an extended work commissioned by the 92nd St. Y and NY Guitar Festival.

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, 718-788-3741

Monthly on the...

Last Sunday
OCTOBER 25
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Second Saturday
NOVEMBER 14
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday
NOVEMBER 19
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

On the sidewalk in front of the receiving area at the Coop.

PLASTICS

What plastics do we accept? Until further notice:

- #1 and #6 type non-bottle shaped containers, transparent only, labels ok
- Plastic film and bubble wrap, transparent only, no colored or opaque, no labels
- #5 plastic cups, tubs, and specifically marked caps and lids, very clean and dry (discard any with paper labels, or cut off)

NOTE: We are no longer accepting #2 or #4 type plastics.

PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

We close up promptly.
Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the collection end time to allow for inspection and sorting of your plastic.



R E C Y C L I N G

This Issue Prepared By:

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Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Index: Len Neufeld



Vitamin Assistant**Friday, afternoons and early evening**

Are you a detail-oriented worker who can work independently and in a busy environment? The Coop's vitamin buyer needs you to help her check in orders, organize the vitamin supply area in the basement and on the shopping floor, label vitamins and supplements, and other related tasks. You will be trained by Elinoar and will report directly to her. Contact the Membership Office if you're interested.

Check Store Supplies**Saturday, 9:00 to 11:45 a.m.**

This workslot is responsible for restocking supplies and literature throughout the Coop. Some

light maintenance, such as light cleaning of desktops and phones, is another task. This is a task and detailed-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently and is pro-active. Please speak to Alex in the Membership Office or contact him at alex_marquez@psfc.coop if you are interested.

Cash Received Bookkeeping**Tuesday, 6:00 to 8:45 p.m.**

Do you like working with numbers, have good data entry skills and can work independently? This workslot involves verifying cashier report data and inputting data into an Excel worksheet. The position requires good attendance and a six-month commitment to the workslot. Please

contact Kathy Hieatt at kathy_hieatt@psfc.coop or 718-622-0560 if you are interested.

Office Data Entry**Monday, 4:00 to 6:45 p.m.**

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. You will receive training, and Coop staff will always be available to answer questions. Please speak to a Ginger Hargett in the Membership Office if you would like more information. Workslot requires a six-month commitment.

COOP CALENDAR**New Member Orientations**

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the four weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit www.foodcoop.com or contact the Membership Office. Visit in person or call 718-622-0560 during office hours.

Have questions about Orientation? Please visit www.foodcoop.com and look at the "Join the Coop" page for answers to frequently asked questions.

The Coop on the Internetwww.foodcoop.com**The Coop on Cable TV****Inside the Park Slope Food Coop**

FRIDAYS 2:30 p.m. with a replay at 10:30 p.m.
Channels: 56 (TimeWarner), 69 (CableVision).

General Meeting Info**TUE, OCT 27**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, NOV 3

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the Nov 17 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines**LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

Nov 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 26

Nov 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Mon, Nov 9

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Nov 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 28

Nov 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Nov 11

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 at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 p.m.

The General Meeting 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 Coop Community Corner bulletin board 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 Ellen Weinstat in the office.

Meeting Format**Warm Up (7:00 p.m.)** • Meet the Coordinators

- Enjoy some Coop snacks • 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 posted at the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45 p.m.) (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 calendar year.

• 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.

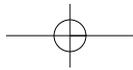
2. Please also sign in the attendance book that is passed around during the meeting.

• 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.

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.



park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

oct 22-24 Blood Drive

thu 3-8 pm
fri 11 am-6 pm
sat 11 am-6 pm

Fact: Less than 3% of the population donates blood, and 90% will use blood some time in their life. Presented in cooperation with New York Methodist Hospital. For further information about blood donation, call 718-780-3644.

oct 24-25 Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen

sat-sun 9 am-7 pm

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Ave. and Sackett St., is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. This food will go to CHIPS to help them feed people in the neighborhood who are in need of a nutritious meal. Consider contributing nonperishable foods and commercially packaged foods; canned fish; canned fruits and vegetables; pasta sauce; pasta; pre-packaged rice; pre-packaged beans; canned beans; canned soups; Parmalat milk; dry milk; peanut butter; cooking oil; or boxed raisins. Give donations to the collection table outside the Coop.

oct 24
sat 7:30 pm

Fair Trade Tea: Who Benefits?

Fair Trade Tea is one of the fastest growing products in the United States — now available in more than 35,000 locations nationwide. However, unlike many Fair Trade products, the majority of tea comes from plantations and not small farms. Join the Fair Trade Committee for a look at the tea industry and its implications for the wider Fair Trade movement.

oct 25
sun 12 pm

Nutrition Response Testing

Join us for a look at Nutrition Response Testing. **Diane Paxton**, MS, LAc, will explain how NRT can identify the underlying reason your body is creating symptoms and help you design a personalized clinical nutrition program to have you looking and feeling better than you have in years.

oct 27
tue 7 pm

PSFC OCT General Meeting



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available at the entrance table at the meeting. We ask members to please read the materials available between 7 and 7:15 p.m.

Meeting location: Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.

Item #1: Annual reevaluation of previously approved boycotts (30 minutes)

Proposal: "Passed at the July 1987 General Meeting: The October General Meeting is designated for annual reevaluation of all boycotts except those passed within 6 months prior to the GM, which will continue. This will be the first agenda item of each October GM. Each boycott must be represented at the October GM by a designated advocate."
—submitted by General Coordinators

Item #2: Update in 401k Plan (10 minutes)

Proposal: "That the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc. 401(K) Plan and Trust hereby restate the plan as needed in order to make the plan compatible with the new outside administrator to which we are changing."

Explanation: "This proposal does not change the benefits for our employees."

—submitted by Joe Holtz & Bonnie Kaplan
Trustees of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc. 401(K) Plan and Trust

Item #3: Annual Agenda Committee Election (20 minutes)

Election: "Four two-year terms are open. Nominations are being accepted now and will be accepted on the floor of the GM. Three members whose terms have expired are seeking reelection."
—submitted by the Agenda Committee

Item #4: General Coordinator Hiring (30 minutes)

Proposal: "The Personnel Committee proposes the hiring of one or more General Coordinators."
—submitted by The Personnel Committee

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 Coop office and at all General Meetings.

oct 27
tue 7:30 pm

Stop Using Gasoline Now! Go Green!

Coop members **Michael Winks** and **Kevin Burget**, founders of the Park Slope Ethanol Coop, are enlisting the help of fellow Coop members. They are forming a community-based renewable energy coop with the goal of using locally made ethanol to power vehicles and even heat homes. Come to a screening of David Blume's *Alcohol Can Be a Gas!*

oct 31
sat 1 pm

New York City Marathon Running Highlights & Party

Bring your own carbs and share with other runners while enjoying highlights from various running events, such as the recent Berlin Marathon. This is open to ALL, whether you are running a marathon or not. Runners and nonrunners (or as we say, "soon to be runners") are welcome. (Food Coop rules do not permit alcohol.) This gathering is encouraged by Coop member **Ralph Yozzo**. The New York City Marathon is the following day!

nov 3
tue 7 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



The committee reviews pending agenda items and creates the agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8 and 8:15 p.m.

Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office. **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 24, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

nov 5
thu 7:30 pm

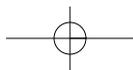
Food Class: Fall Harvest



Apples and winter squash will be prepared in a variety of dishes, including main courses and desserts. Health benefits of these items will be discussed. Guest chefs Nancy McArthur and Clare Wilson are personal chefs, caterers and cooking instructors in New York and New Jersey. After graduating from the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts, they established Natural Chef, a catering company dedicated to providing fresh, healthy and delicious foods in both New York and New Jersey. Its services include corporate and private catering, meal delivery, cooking classes and camps for kids and teens. Menu includes *apple and arugula salad with pumpkin seeds, pomegranates and optional goat cheese, butternut squash risotto, roasted squash and apples and apple crisp*. **Materials fee: \$4.**

For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: foodcoop.com

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend.
Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.



oct 22–nov 22 2009

nov 6
fri 7:30 pm

Film Night: Working Title



So, what do you do? I'm a doctor. I'm a lawyer. I'm a teacher. "Artist" is a messy term, fraught with complicated judgments about what constitutes art, work and success. *Working Title* explores what it means to be an artist in a society that values easy classification, money as success and a your-job-defines-you mentality. By following five artists from the middle-class suburb of Montclair, NJ—the

hometown of the filmmakers—the film examines this romanticized and often misunderstood vocation. Gradually, the journey of the filmmakers is revealed as they struggle to answer the question for themselves: "Am I an artist?" Filmmaker John Givens is a senior art director at Underground Advertising (undergroundads.com), where he creates television, print and outdoor campaigns for nonprofit organizations. Guest Curator Gabriel Rhodes is both an editor and a filmmaker. His work has premiered at Sundance and Cannes—among many other festivals—and has been nominated for a Regional Emmy and a Rockefeller. Film Curator **Faye Lederman** is a member of New Day Films and her work has been supported by NYSCA, NYFA, the Funding Exchange and the Puffin Foundation.

To present a Film Night, contact **Faye Lederman**, squeezestone@hotmail.com.

nov 8
sun 12 pm

Building a Cohousing Community in Brooklyn

"Cohousing" refers to a collaboratively designed community with private units around shared space that includes a commitment by members to making major decisions by a process of consensus. Our project is the first of its kind in New York City and will include 30 households. Please join us for a discussion. Coop member **Alex Marshall** is a writer on urban planning issues and founding member of Brooklyn Cohousing.

nov 10
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Reel Native New Yorkers



We pick this season of harvest to honor and learn about the customs and practices of the first people who lived in the area we now call New York State. How and what did they grow and what place did the earth's bounty play in their lives? Who did the work and how was the food prepared and distributed? Does their ancient wisdom have some place in our future? Come share in our new "old" celebration. Speaker and film to be announced.

nov 13
fri 7 pm

Labeling Committee Panel Discussion



You will soon be seeing this label on some of the products sold by the PSFC. What does the label mean? Why was it created? What are genetically modified organisms and why should you want to know? Come to the panel discussion to find out. The Non-GMO Project is a third-party certification program to enable consumers to purchase non-GMO products. The PSFC's Labeling Committee has just completed a three-year-long project that involved reading more than 8,000 labels to identify products that might contain GMOs.

nov 14
sat 10 am

Getting Fit Inside & Out

Come learn how the lack of organization on the outside of your life can have profound effects on your overall well-being and how exercise and proper organization can lead you down a path to better health. Personal trainer, holistic nutritionist and Coop member **Aja Davis** teams up with professional organizer Nicole Abromovici to teach proven systems for optimizing wellness both inside and out.

For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: foodcoop.com

All events take place at the Park Slope Food Coop unless otherwise noted. Nonmembers are welcome to attend workshops. Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the Park Slope Food Coop.

nov 7
sat 10 am

How to Spend, Save and Stay Fiscally Fit

Coop member **Jenifer Lee**, CFP®, CPA, MBA, is a frequent speaker and writer on tax and financial-planning topics. Here she suggests to pay yourself first; learn how you spend; "sale" does not equal "save"; prioritize competing financial goals; save and see your net worth grow; start early; and use basic tools to measure your fiscal fitness.

nov 7
sat 1-3 pm

Demystifying the Nutrition/Procrastination Link

This workshop explores how food and nutrition are related to procrastination and vice versa. Learn about foods that increase motivation and concentration and how to avoid the foods that feed procrastination. Presented by Coop member **Renate Reimann**, Ph.D., Certified Life Coach and founder of FreshLife Coaching, and by Coop member **Carol Patti**, M.S. Clinical Nutrition, who maintains a private practice at Dr. Andrea Auerbach's Park Slope Family Wellness Center.

nov 7
sat 4 pm

Nourishing Wisdom

We will discuss what traditional foods are and why they are of vital importance for fertility, pregnancy, lactation and feeding babies. We will cover the pioneering work of Dr. Weston A. Price, his study of healthy traditional communities and the underlying factors in a variety of traditional diets. Coop member **Angela C. Davis** is a holistic health counselor and owner of Nourishing Works Holistic Health and Wellness Counseling. **Hannah Springer-Corvera** is a holistic nutrition consultant with a private practice serving women and families in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

still to come

nov 14 From "Free" Trade to the Rwandan Genocide

nov 14 Esperanto: A Cooperative Tool/Language Toward World Friendship

nov 15 Book, CD, DVD and Video Swap

nov 17 Meet Your Mind

nov 20 Budgeting Made Easy

nov 20 The Very Good Coffeehouse Coop Concert Series: Jen Chapin and Stephan Crump's Rosetta Trio

nov 21 Helping Feral/Outside Cats: Trap-Neuter-Return

nov 21 Ways to Help a Distracted Child

nov 21 Game Night!

nov 22 Exploring Our Inner Critic: Working with the "Should" Voice

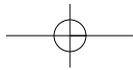


PHOTO BY HAZEL HANKIN

Halloween Window

Hearing Officer Committee Seeks New Members

The Hearing Office Committee is seeking two new members. The committee conducts and presides over disciplinary hearings, ensures that hearings proceed in an efficient and unbiased manner and, after a randomly selected Deciding Group has decided whether an accused member violated a Coop rule, determines what disciplinary action should be taken against the member. Applicants should be Coop members in good standing for at least two years, have good attendance records and preferably have judicial, arbitration, mediation or legal backgrounds.

Members of the committee meet and earn workslot credit on an as-needed basis only, that is, when hearings are required. Therefore these members must maintain regular Coop workslots in good standing or be FTOP members in good standing.

The nature of the committee's work requires that all members maintain strict confidentiality with respect to all matters on which they work.

The committee seeks an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop membership at large.

Those interested, please telephone Marian Hertz of the Hearing Officer Committee at 212-440-2743 or email at Marian.Hertz@cna.com.

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Food Tours in the Coop

Let me tell you
one thing I know
to be true:

Plants talk
they open their lips
and whisper meaning
into your soul

The part of your mind
that can't hear them
says this is—poetical

But when you step lightly
on the earth and the
ground ivy curls around
your toes
and paints its minty scent
at the back of your throat
it whispers

When you lay your hand
on a moss-covered log
it chatters
it is talking to you
as sure as these words
make their case

The common weeds are
the most talkative
beech trees
hum
bee balm sings

Always
They always have

And there is a plant that
speaks
directly to you
wherever it grows
It has things to tell you
valuable things for
you—to know

It has the same impulse as
you
to live and can tell you
about being alive

From the duck weed that
grows
in the ripples of the
mountain stream
to the grass that pulses
in the wind

Plants talk to us
in a continual hubbub
of hush

The Park Slope Food Coop
Join the conversation

by Myra Klockenbrink

Monday October 26
noon to 1:00 p.m.
and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Friday October 30
10:00 a.m. to
12:30 p.m.

You can join in any time
during a tour.

BAY RIDGE FOOD CO-OP

Join Today

Sign-up to be a member at our Greenmarket outreach table, info sessions at the library (1st Tues/3rd Sat), or online.

Get Involved

The co-op benefits from your talent and expertise. Would you like to help us grow? Please email or call today.

Stay Informed

Whether you join now, volunteer now, or have questions now or later, you can always stay informed by coming to a meeting, reading our newsletter, calling, emailing, or friending us on Facebook. We can also come to speak to your group or organization.

www.foodcoopbayridge.com
hello@foodcoopbayridge.com
347-274-8172



Help New Members Feel Like Royalty!

The Orientation Committee is looking for energetic people with a teaching or training background who can work Sunday afternoons, Monday or Wednesday evenings, or Wednesday mornings. Orienters lead sessions every six weeks, and on the week midway between sessions you must be available as backup for emergency coverage. Only Coop members with at least two years of membership will be considered.

Workslot credit will be given for training sessions. An annual meeting of the Orientation Committee is part of the work requirement.

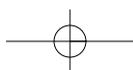
We are especially interested in members who speak fluent Spanish or Russian. For more information, contact the Membership Office or write to karen_mancuso@psfc.coop.

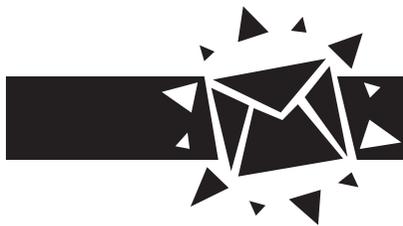
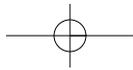
PHOTO: JOHN H. SHEALY // THE VIRGINIANPILOT (VIA GOOGLE)



Park Slope Food Coop T-shirt Design Contest

Vote for your favorite design on
www.foodcoop.com





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE CASE AGAINST TWO STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT

DEAR EDITOR,

I have been a member of the Park Slope Food Coop for over 15 years and I love it. I am actually quite addicted. I have been on the same shift all these years and have become very close to many of the members of my squad. We all look forward to seeing each other every four weeks. We have been through weddings, pregnancies, births, illnesses benign and malignant, and even deaths together. We have shared successes and failures, good times and bad times, elections, marches and protests. The point being that although people go to the Coop to shop, they also happen to become part of a community as well. Not only the neighborhood community, or the general Coop community, but the squad community itself.

Lately, people who have been on our squad for years have suddenly been disappearing—marginalized, left to wander outside their squad, homeless, all on the basis of their

inability to attend two shifts in a row. What happened? What kind of policing has determined that this is the best way to create a strong community at the Coop? What is the reasoning behind this cold and destructive method? What is the point of being a Coop Member if you cannot remain with your squad?

I would like to ask that this policy be reconsidered, re-examined in the light of the other wonderful thing about the Park Slope Food Coop. The thing called community. The thing that makes people who live alone in NYC come to the Coop to find a group of people they know and have a lot in common with, shopping preferences included, of course. The thing that makes the shift feel like a family reunion. The thing that makes the cold streets of New York, the dirty subways, the long working hours, the hardships and the happy moments of NYC life bearable, because they can be shared. The community within the squad. Please don't destroy it for administrative purposes. The Coop is not an airport.

Thank you,
Tatiana Choulika

RATS, TRAPS, MICE AND OTHER FOUR-LEGGED ANIMALS

DEAR EDITOR:

The October 8 issue had a letter about the use of glue traps at the Coop.

I agree that this way of killing is cruel and ask that the Coop discontinue using this method and apply a more humane way, as suggested in the letter by Sarah English.

Greetings,
Ingrid Cusson

GLOBAL WARNING

*Heard about the global warning?
New climatic names aborning:
Spring, which once supplied a reason
For love, is now tornado season,
And summer, hot with lovers' teasin',
Morphed into the hurricane season
Weather maven, any hint o'
Changes coming to fall and winter?*

By Leon Freilich

A BOYCOTT WOULD BREAK THE LAW

DEAR EDITOR:

The Coop's website indicates that a member has submitted an agenda item for a future General Meeting to discuss a Coop boycott of Israeli products. There has already been some discussion of this matter in other letters to the editor but no mention has been made of the potential consequences of such a boycott. The anti-boycott laws make it a federal criminal offense to participate in the boycott of Israel at this time. Penalties can include a fine of up to \$50,000 and imprisonment for up to 10 years.

It seems self-evident but perhaps it must be clearly stated in Coop policy that the Agenda Committee must reject any request to schedule a GM item aimed at having the Coop engage in an illegal act.

For more details on the anti-boycott laws, see www.bis.doc.gov/complianceand enforcement/antiboycott compliance.htm.

Sincerely,
Liz Salen

CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

The House on Third St. Bed & Breakfast—Beautiful parlor floor thru apt. living room, bedroom, den, private bath, kitchen, deck overlooking garden, AC, WI-FI, piano. Sleeps 4-5. Perfect for families. Call Jane at 718-788-7171 or visit us on the web at houseon3st.com.

SOUTH SLOPE GREEN-2-room suite w/private bath for families of 1-5. Internet, TV, mini-fridge & microwave. Full organic breakfast, most diets accommodated. Long & short stays. Easy access to transportation & parking. Reasonable rates, 10% discount to Coop members. Linda Wheeler 718-768-6492 or southslopegreen@gmail.com.

CLASSES/GROUPS

THINKING ABOUT CHILDREN? Trying? Expecting? Well Parenting: A wellness program for couples preparing for children. Transform your health & happiness and inspire the best in your growing family! Get more info or sign up for a free initial consultation at www.lizandstevedooley.com because well parents parent well.

COMMERCIAL SPACE

PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AVAILABLE. Ideal for a colon therapist, psychotherapist, medical doctor, shiatsu, reiki, speech therapist, etc. Be part of a Holistic Center in the beautiful SOHO section of Manhattan. The doctor will introduce all patients to you. For further information, please call 212-505-5055.

SERVICES

EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price for the entire move! No deceptive hourly estimates! Careful, experienced mover. Everything quilt padded. No extra charge for wardrobes and packing tape. Specialist in walkups. Thousands of satisfied customers. Great Coop references. 718-670-7071.

ATTORNEY—Experienced personal injury trial lawyer representing injured bicyclists and other accident victims. Limited caseload to ensure maximum compensation. Member of NYSTLA and ATLA. No recovery, no fee. Free consult. Manhattan office. Park Slope resident. Long time PSFC member. Adam D. White. 212-577-9710.

MADISON AVENUE Hair Stylist is right around the corner from the Food Coop, so if you would like a really good haircut at a decent price, please call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60.00.

BURIED UNDER PAPER? My organizing service reduces your stress, increases your efficiency and gives you more free time. Expert in home business, household management and downsizing. Call Margaret Barritt Organizing Service. 718-857-6729.

COMPUTER HELP — Call NY GEEK GIRLS. Setup & file transfer; hardware & software issues; viruses & pop-ups; networking; printer/file sharing; training; backups. Home or business. Mac and PC. On-site or pick-up/drop-off. References, reasonable rates. Long-time Coop member. 347-351-3031 or info@nygeekgirls.com.

ART CABRERA, ELECTRICIAN 30 yrs. residential wiring, trouble shooting low voltage, one outlet or whole house, no job too small. Fans, AC, 220 volt, lighting, out door work, insured, 718-965-0327. Emergency service, call 646-239-5197. Founding Coop member, born in Brooklyn, 35 yr. resident of Park Slope. #0225. Coop discounts.

Plastering-Painting-Wallpapering-over 25 yrs experience of doing the finest prep & finish work. One room or an entire house. LOW VOC paints used. Fred Becker 718-853-0750.

SERVICES-HEALTH

HOLISTIC DOCTOR in Naturopathy stimulates body's natural ability to heal chronic conditions, allergy, skin, muscle, cancer support with homeopathy, physical & chelation therapies, bioenergetic acupuncture, lab tests, hair analysis & more. Research Director. 20 years exp. As Featured in Allure Magazine. Dr. Gilman 212- 505-1010.

HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Brooklyn (Midwood) & Manhattan (Soho). Dr. Stephen Goldberg provides comprehensive, family dental care using non-mercury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, minimal X-rays and non-surgical gum treatments. For a free initial exam and insurance information, call 212-505-5055.

SERVICES WANTED

SEEKING COMPATIBLE female companion to assist me w/ errands, trips to Manhattan and other activi-

ties. Must be adept at responding to my physical needs and have a flexible schedule. A few hours per week now; perhaps more later. Respond in writing to K. Lieberman, 273 6th Ave. #4, Brooklyn, 11215.

VACATIONS

3-SEASON VACATION COTTAGES for sale in our friendly, wooded northern Westchester community. Pool, tennis, biking, hiking; near Hudson River and Metro North (5-minute cab ride from train). \$79,000-\$99,000; annual maintenance approx. \$3,200. Cash sales only. No dogs. 212-242-0806 or junejacobson@earthlink.net.

SUPER DEAL ON SKI RENTAL 15 minutes from Mt. Snow. Lovely 3-bedroom, 2-bath house includes use of clubhouse with pool, hot tub, sauna, WiFi. Near skating, x-country & snowshoe trails. Cable, phone, firewood, plowing, shovel-

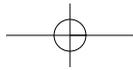
ing & garbage pickup included. 5 months-\$4,500 plus propane & electric. 718-851-4766.

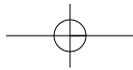
COUNTRY HOUSE for rent. Hunter & Windham ski areas. 3 BR, LR, bath, kitchen, phone, cable & Internet (on request), 4 car parking, 4+ acres, dogs (no cats). 2.5 hrs from NYC. \$5k season (Nov. 13 - April 11) + utilities or \$600/wk. Call 917-572-7923 or email edaylew@aol.com.

WHAT'S FOR FREE

FREE INITIAL ORAL EXAMINATION in a Holistic Family Dental office for all Coop members. Using a nutritional approach, Dr. Goldberg practices preventive dentistry, with non-mercury fillings, thorough cleanings and non-surgical gum treatments. For insurance information and an appointment, please call 212-505-5055.

Puzzle Answers





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. Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue. An asterick (*) denotes a Coop member.

SAT, OCT 24

Conference of the Union for Radical Political Economics: "Economic Crisis: Radical Analysis and Radical Responses." At this day-long conference, PSFC General Manager Joe Holtz*, among many other speakers, will lead a workshop titled "Building Community, Cooperation, and Affordability: How the Park Slope Food Coop Works." St. Francis College Brooklyn, 180 Remsen St. www.stfranciscollege.edu.

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Open Sing. 8-10:30 p.m., Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St. (between Madison & Park). For info call 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

SUN, OCT 25

Toxi City: Brooklyn's Brownfields, a photography exhibit by Robin Michals*, opening 3 to 6 p.m. at the Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 4th Ave. Exhibit through November 8th. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., 7 days. For more info: www.e-arcades.com or email robinmichals@gmail.com.

TUE, OCT 27

What did your child eat for lunch today? As schools struggle to provide meals for students that meet both federal nutritional requirements and the school's bottom line, our kids' health may be being sidelined. Join us for a presentation by Janet Poppendick*, Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and author of the book "Free for All: Fixing School Food in America." 7-8:30 p.m. P.S. 102, 211 72nd St. Brooklyn. Sponsored by the Bay Ridge Food Co-op. Info: 347-274-8172, www.foodcoopbayridge.com.

WED, OCT 28

BROOKLYN FREE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: 5 years-eighth grade. Meet students, parents and staff of this remarkable school, where students explore their interests at their own pace and learn to take responsibility for their education. Tuition: sliding-scale. 4-7 p.m., 120 16th Street, off 4th Ave. 718-499-2707.

THU, OCT 29

39th District City Council Candidates Debate on Food Policy: health, sustainability, school food & curriculum, expanding access to healthy food, social justice for food workers & consumers, local healthy food sources—community gardens, farmers' markets, csa's, food co-ops. 7:00 p.m. P.S. 10, 511 7th Ave., btwn Prospect Ave. & 17th St. info@brooklynfoodconference.org.

SAT, OCT 31

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Triboro, Debra Cowan. 8-10:30 p.m., Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St. (between Madison & Park). For info call 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

WED, NOV 4

Women's Health Seminar: Hadassah Brooklyn Region, The Sisterhood of EMJC and Maimonides Medical Center present information on Patients Rights, Medical Advocacy and Women's Health. \$30 at the door. Includes light kosher dairy dinner. EMJC, 1625 Ocean Avenue (between aves K & L). 4:30-8:00 p.m.

THU, NOV 5

Opening Reception for the Flatbush Artists' Studio Tour (FAST) Group Show at the Newkirk Medical Center, 1414 Newkirk Ave., Brooklyn. Preview the works of the 23 artists in the FAST event. Refreshments will be served. 7-10 p.m. Show runs from Nov. 5 to Dec. 17. 718-759-6100. www.flatbushartists.org.

SAT, NOV 7

Peoples' Voice Cafe: Peter Siegal, Joe Jencks. 8-10:30 p.m., Community Church of New York, 40 E. 35th St. (between Madison & Park). For info call 212-787-3903 or peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15 general/\$10 member/more if you choose, less if you can't/no one turned away.

Second Annual Flatbush Artists' Studio Tour: 23 visual artists will open their studios to the public

in a weekend-long, self-guided tour through the park-like, historic "Victorian Flatbush" neighborhood. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Tour maps, artists' profiles & additional info available at www.flatbushartists.org or call 347-515-2038, ext. 304.

SUN, NOV 8

COMPOST-O-RAMA! At MS 51 & The Old Stone House—5th Ave. @ 4th St. ONE DAY ONLY! Bring your old jack-o-lantern & we will supply the shredded leaves. Together we'll make beautiful compost for our historically referenced, educational gardens. 1-5 p.m. You chop 'em. 718-768-3195. info@theoldstonehouse.org

Second Annual Flatbush Artists' Studio Tour: 23 visual artists will open their studios to the public in a weekend-long, self-guided tour through the park-like, historic "Victorian Flatbush" neighborhood. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Tour maps, artists' profiles & additional info available at www.flatbushartists.org or call 347-515-2038, ext. 304.

FRI, NOV 13

Holiday Sale of Folk Art direct from Oaxaca, Mexico, to benefit Mexican artesanos. Sponsored by Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA). 20 Plaza St. East ("Mulvihill"). 7-9:30 p.m. Something for every budget. www.fofa.us

SAT, NOV 14

Holiday Sale of Folk Art direct from Oaxaca, Mexico, to benefit Mexican artesanos. Sponsored by Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA). 20 Plaza St. East ("Mulvihill"). 11-4:00 p.m. Something for every budget. www.fofa.us

SUN, NOV 15

Holiday Sale of Folk Art direct from Oaxaca, Mexico, to benefit Mexican artesanos. Sponsored by Friends of Oaxacan Folk Art (FOFA). 20 Plaza St. East ("Mulvihill"). 11-4:00 p.m. Something for every budget. www.fofa.us

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coconut oil parmesan barley honey mushrooms
cuff flour maple chickpeas pumpkin seeds potatoes tofu quinoa ginger beets eggs
onion brown rice farro also almonds raisins

Professional Diversity Consultant Needed

The Diversity and Equality Committee seeks a professional diversity consultant to review and provide input on the committee's strategic recommendations based on last year's survey. Total time needed approximately 4-5 hours. Workslot credit will be provided. Experience developing diversity programs at large, volunteer-based organizations is especially welcomed. Interested parties should contact committee co-chair George Perlov by email at george@perlov.net.

