





**Volume FF, Number 19** 

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UNION GCIU LABE

**September 22, 2011** 

## August GM Discusses Plastic-Bag Ban

By Hayley Gorenberg

Asmorgasbord of issues—from the Coop's potential sponsorship of the next Brooklyn Food Conference, to a discussion of how it should chart and learn from its own history, to urging that the Coop ban bulk plastic bags—occupied the August 30 General Meeting.



#### **Hydrofracking Update**

First, Carl Arnold gave a hydraulic fracturing or "hydrofracking" update, alerting attendees that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was due to issue a final report on the subject during the first week of September and would be taking comments for 60 days. "The DEC prefers specific responses," Arnold urged. "That will be much more acceptable than just 'I don't want it.'"

#### **Irene and Produce**

General Coordinator and produce buyer Allen Zimmer-

man reported on contacting farmers following Hurricane Irene. Many Coop suppliers reported they had escaped devastation but they knew others had suffered.

Grindstone Farm near Lake Ontario reported that despite copious rain, "There was no damage but the turkeys got a bit sick of it."

Chesapeake Organic Farm in Maryland reported, "Late season watermelon and cantaloupes are gone. Hard squashes probably gone too... Fall greens (collards/kale) are A-OK."

Hepworth Farm, about 90 miles from the Coop and "our most local and most impor-

tant, and by a huge degree our biggest supplier of local organic food," according to Zimmerman, sent a detailed report:

"There are a few down apple trees but amazingly the apples held on and we are poised for a good apple crop (this was our biggest concern)...It's been intense but we fared well. There are disaster stories, but they are not ours, and our heart aches for many of our farmer friends."

"Clearly, there has been farm devastation, but not that much to the farms with which we have relationships," Zimmerman concluded.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Coop Event Highlights

Thu, Oct 6 • Food Class:

Yummy Gluten-Free & Vegan Noodles  $7:30\ p.m.$ 

Fri, Oct 7 • Film Night:

Where I Need to Go & The Wrong Bin 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Oct 11 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Gasland 7:00 p.m.

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

## For a Local Park, It's Back to the Future

Permaculture Takes Root in Washington Park

By Frank Haberle

There is a radical transformation underway at Washington Park, located at Fifth Avenue at 3rd Street, and home to the Old Stone House Historical Center and the J.J. Byrne Playground. When the park reopens early next summer, it will be a unique urban, natural environment featuring permaculture gardens planned and planted by community volunteers and students with Claudia Joseph, Coop member

and longtime member of the compost squad, and Washington Park (and Old Stone House) Director of Environmental Education. Working closely with the Old Stone House, community leaders and the City Parks Department, Claudia is partnering with community volunteers to return the park's natural environment, very literally, to its roots.

The plan for the redevelopment project began in 2008

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Claudia Joseph at the gate of the protected garden—but the squirrels get in anyway!

#### **Next General Meeting—September 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, September 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 flier 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

	ı
Puzzle	-
Environmantal Committee: Use Less Plastic	-
Coop Hours, Coffeehouse	8
Coop Calendar, Workslot Needs	
Governance Information, Mission Statement	Ç
Letters to the Editor	(
Classified Ads	4
Community Calendar	2

### **August GM**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

He urged Coop members to follow developments through the product information blog on the Coop website (foodcoop.com). "I want to encourage all of you to take advantage of the Coop's technology as it crawls out of the 20th century."

(ED Note: As the Gazette was going to press, two upstate farms that supply the Coop, Lucky Dog and Markristo reported that flooding, which at Lucky Dog in particular had been reported at the GM as seeming manageable, had in fact caused substantial damage. As of this writing, Lucky Dog was shut down. A future issue of the Gazette will include an interview with both farmers. See the Coop website for impacts on product availability.)

#### Meanwhile, Back at the Coop

Coordinator Ann Herpel offered a "shout-out" to people working Friday and Saturday preceding the hurricane, reporting that the Coop had almost \$186,000 of sales Friday, an amount about \$70,000 higher than the usual Friday sales, and breaking the daily sales record by about \$20,000.

Members waited on line for nearly an hour at times, "but people just really hung in there and were nice to their neighbors," she said.

Tuned in to the city's official guidance, Saturday squads took all cold food to cases in the basement that hold temperature better than the cases on the shopping floor, and closed for business at 5 p.m., though some workers remained till 9 p.m. prepping for potential flooding. The Coop closed Sunday.

Herpel also promoted further use of www.foodcoop.com, which offered updates on hours and conditions when office staff were overwhelmed by phone calls. "Use other technologies to see what's going on at the Coop before calling us," she urged.

Herpel fielded a question on whether the Coop should have a generator in case of lost power. She responded that problems with that include having space to store fuel and the risks of storing fuel on the Coop's roof.

#### **Phase Out Plastic Bags**

Members of the Environmental Committee presented a report as a prelude to a future proposal to have the Coop phase out providing any more plastic bags, specifically the clear plastic bags



on rolls in the produce and bulk sections.

Committee members noted that eliminating plastic bags would comport with the Coop's environmental policy. The committee summarized, "Research shows that one of the most impactful steps toward lightening our carbon footprint and improving human and environmental health is reducing plastic usage. In doing so, we also reduce our monetary contributions to the oil, natural gas, and chemical corporations some of the biggest polluters in the world ...'

Research shows that one of the most impactful steps toward lightening our carbon footprint and improving human and environmental health is reducing plastic usage.

According to the committee, Coop members use 3,359,520 disposable petrochemical plastic bags (excluding garbage bags) annually.

The committee deems single-use plastic bags "unsustainable," since they are made from "non-renewable and rapidly declining resources, like petroleum or natural gas."

They are "poorly recycled," since plastic does not recycle nearly as effectively as glass and metal. As the committee report puts it, "Plastic is NOT effectively recycled. It may make us feel good, but plastic recycling is shown to be ineffective and sometimes as toxic as producing and using new plastic.'

Furthermore, plastic does not biodegrade into healthy soil; "instead it leaches and bio-accumulates toxins."

Plastic polymers degrade the environment further by contributing up to 90% of the waste currently floating in the oceans, the report added.

And additionally, "despite having the image of cleanliness, plastic is actually quite dirty and may not be a material that we should be putting near our food," releasing hazardous chemicals not only from the final products themselves, but through production, according to the report: "Of the 47 chemical plants ranked highest in carcinogenic emissions, 35 are involved in plastic recycling or production."

The committee's slideshow is available online (at www.facebook.com/EcoKvetch, or at EcoKvetch.blogspot.com). The committee welcomes comments on the Facebook site.

#### **Brooklyn Food** Conference

The GM also discussed potential co-sponsorship of the second annual Brooklyn Food Conference on Saturday May 12, 2012, at Brooklyn Technical High School in Fort Greene.

Member Nancy Romer explained that the conference would likely cost \$70,000 to \$80,000, and be presented free of charge. Conference organizers will seek \$10,000 from the Coop, and Romer anticipated that many members would get workslot credit for working on the conference, recalling that the original conference involved 300 members working for credit.

The first conference drew 3,300 adults and 500 children, Romer said. "It was the right idea at the right time." Outcomes included forming the food coalition and a food coop alliance for the city. One effort in the works aims to connect upstate food producers with downstate hunger/ food advocates.

The Food Bank of New York City and Food and Water Watch have each already offered \$5,000 to help fund the conference, Romer said. The group is approaching a few carefully chosen corporate sources as well.

Comments were positive. One Coop member who attended the inaugural food conference told the GM, "I just want to tell you how exciting it was, and how exciting it will be again."

Another added, "I went to the conference, and it did change my life in a lot of ways."

#### **Studying Coop History**

Retired twenty-two-year Coop member Susan Metz offered the final discussion item, suggesting the Coop create a committee to study the cooperative movement and the Coop, its governance, history, and its place in the movement. She offered to organize an initial meeting. ■



#### The Diversity and Equality **Committee Seeks New Members**

#### **Are you interested in Issues of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion?**

The Diversity and Equality Committee is dedicated to improving human relations and communication in all policies and procedures in the Coop. Our goal is to work toward preventing and eliminating discrimination in the Coop. If you are interested in issues of diversity, equality and inclusion, you can help us to achieve ours goals by becoming a member of the DEC.

We are currently seeking new members, with experience in conflict resolution and mediation, interviewing, and leading and organizing workshops, ideally around diversity. General computer skills and editing and writing skills are also helpful.

#### Requirements:

- Must be a member for at least one year
  - Have good attendance record
- Attend monthly committee meetings on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Participate in subcommittee work as needed

#### We seek members who are reflective of the diversity of the Coop membership.

If interested, please send an email with your name, PSFC member number, and details of your relevant experience to reply@psfc.coop. Please put "Diversity and Equality" in the subject line.

## **Board & Officer Elections**

Election of new Coop Secretary at the September 27th General Meeting. Election of a new member of the Board of Directors at the October 25th General Meeting. Each term expires at the June 2012 Annual Meeting.

> If you are interested in one or both of these, please attend the meeting and announce your candidacy.

If you have questions about these positions, please speak to a General Coordinator at 718-622-0560.





Claudia Joseph tending a Dutch colonial garden at the Old **Stone House.** 

#### For a Local Park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

with a series of community listening sessions that continued over three years. The commitment to transform Washington Park's gardens represents a communitybuilding effort and a step toward making the neighborhoods surrounding the Coop greener and healthier. "It is heartening that Brooklyn, and indeed all of New York City and much of the nation, is taking interest in local food, organic gardening methods, soil development, water catchment and other conservation practices," says Claudia. At Washington Park, "we feel that we were ahead of the curve or at least right on the crest of the wave of this new attitude.'

Kim Maier, Executive Director of the Old Stone House Historic Center, is especially excited about the increased garden space and the special effort that has been made to retain the historic nature of the park. Washington Park stands on grounds which two hundred years ago were a focal point of the Battle of Brooklyn. "The renovation will have an evocation of the history of the site," Kim pointed out. "A stone retaining wall marks the site of the original house, and interpretive playground pieces will reflect the history of the farm and the battle. A new water play element will include an old-fashioned hand pump."

Michael Tortorello's New York Times article of July 27 that featured Claudia's work, "The Permaculture Movement Grows from Underground," defined permaculture as "a simple system for designing sustainable human settlements, restoring soil, planting year-round food landscapes, conserving water, redirecting the waste stream, forming

more companionable communities and 'turning the earth's looming resource crisis into a new age of happiness.'" As the article explains it, "In practice, permaculture is a growing and influential movement that runs deep beneath sustainable farming and urban food gardening. You can find permaculturists setting up worm trays and bee boxes, aquaponics ponds and chicken roosts, composting toilets and rain barrels, solar panels and earth houses."

In Washington Park, "We

hope to create a permaculture model, accessible seven days a week," says Claudia. "The farm garden will be hedged by useful native and berry yielding shrubs: inkberry, June berry, winterberry, elderberry and raspberry for both human and avian enjoyment. The interior will contain fruit trees and annual beds that flow on contour with the landscape, forming natural water retention systems. The beds will contain annual food crops, herbs and insectary flowers for natural pest control and increased pollination. Plants that support butterfly feeding and breeding will be prominent."

Permaculture design methods being applied to the site include developing systems which are as important as correct plant selection. Food forests (layers of useful plants that imitate natural patterns) and capturing water in the landscape are two of the applied strategies. According to Claudia, since gardening began on the site, "the theme of our gardens has been plants for food, medicine, craft material and wildlife habitat. Our strong cooperative relationship with the Parks Department has influenced the landscape architects to include many berry yielding and native plants that relate to the colonial heritage of the site in the enormous new swath of garden that will form the border."

#### **Educational Offerings Continue for Children** and Adults

The Washington Park/Old Stone House environmental education program has continued through the restoration. Volunteers designed and a green jobs training team constructed 12 new planter boxes on wheels last year to temporarily house plantings that are now on display on the West side of the Old Stone House. Former Coop member Bruni Torres taught the July Garden Explorer's program for children, who planted, harvested and cooked food from the boxes

A unique partnership with MS 51, the middle school across the street from the park, began six years ago, when Claudia began working with special education classes taught by Mitch Porcelan. "He is certain that work in the gardens helps his students score better on exams," Claudia says. "The children move from headon-the-desk lethargy to active engagement." The program with MS 51 focused on composting over the 2010-11 school year. Neighborhood merchants contributed everything from pizza crusts to over 1,000 lbs. of coffee grounds to the project. Students monitored the three state-of-the-art, high-capacity compost bins and presented their findings at the annual school science fair.

Coop members can come out to Washington Park in October for the annual pumpkin smash —the Compost-O-Rama the weekend after Halloween. Bring your old jack-o-lantern and smash it up, mix it with shredded leaves (gathered from the park) to deposit in the compost bins.

Other school connections include The Berkeley Carroll School and Al-Madinah School, which have sent students to perform public service work. Many college interns have come to the House to learn, as well as post-college students who are seeking hands-on experience.

The park also offers adult workshops and volunteer opportunities to learn about composting, gardening and related topics. Claudia is currently teaching individual sessions on permaculture and plans to hold a new series on Saturdays in the spring. Claudia is also affiliated with the Park Slope Permaculture Guild, which presents an



Jacob Strummer Miles and his parents Brenda and Eric enjoy the scent of basil.

annual seed celebration; seed saving and food heritage are a regular part of the House programs. Through the Guild, Claudia hopes to add some herb sessions and foraging later this fall.

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#### **Aligning Future Garden** Planning with the Site's **Rich History**

"The theme of all of the gardens is History and Habitat," Claudia points out, "supporting the human community and our environment with useful plants, both native and introduced." Some of the new gardens were started with colonial Dutch kitchen garden models as a template, and there is an outdoor Dutch hearth where colonial cooking demonstrations occur.

The Old Stone House, a reconstruction of a Dutch farm house built in 1699 (80 years before the Revolutionary War) is in itself a remarkable site, marking a farmstead that represents the early European history of our region. Now the gardens surrounding it will serve as a further extension of its rich heritage. ■

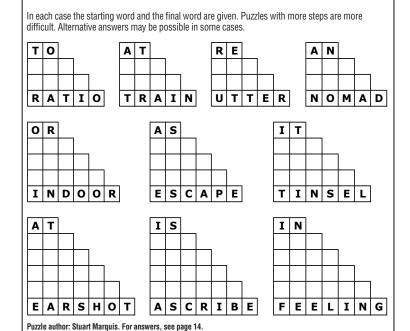
For more information about the Old Stone House, please visit www.theoldstonehouse.org. For more information about the Park Slope Permaculture Exchange, please visit www.permaculture-exchange.org.

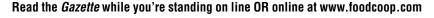
## **Stepping Out**

Each of the puzzles here begins with a two-letter starting word. On each subsequent line you are to add one letter to the previous word and shuffle the letters to form a new word. Continue until you

For example, if the starting word is OR and the ending word is DINOSAUR, the words would be:

Add a D to get.. Add an A to get.. Add an N to get.. ROD **ROAD RADON** Add an I to get .. ORDAIN **INROADS** Add a U to get. DINOSAUR







What Is That? How Do I Use It?

# Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Monday, September 26, Noon to 2:45 p.m. Tuesday, September 27, 9:15 to 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, September 28, 12:30 to 3:15 p.m.

> You can join in any time during a question-and-answer session on the shopping floor.

Look for tour leaders in produce aisle.

# Attention Coop Squad Leaders!

Interested in learning more about how diversity issues affect Coop members' shopping and work shift experiences?

Want to know more about what resources are available to help your shift run more smoothly?

The Park Slope Food Coop's Diversity and Equality Committee is holding a series of workshops for Squad Leaders. The goal of the two-hour workshop is to increase awareness and understanding of diversity in the Coop. Through interactive discussions we will talk about the values of diversity, how differences can create both collaboration and conflict and strategies for dealing with issues of diversity. We will discuss conflicts that have arisen in the Coop, the findings of the diversity survey and what you can do to make the Coop a more welcoming place for all.

### **TRAINING DATES:**

Saturday, October 15, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday, October 27, 7-9 p.m.

Please call 888-922-COOP (2667) box 89 or send an e-mail to reply@psfc.coop (with "SL Training" in the subject line) to confirm your attendance and/or for more information. In either case, please tell us your name, Coop member number, contact information and the date you are interested in attending. We will reply with a confirmation within a week.

> **DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY COMMITTEE** PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

WORKSLOT CREDIT (MAKE-UP OR FTOP) IS AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO ATTEND.



Please protect your feet and toes while working your shift at the Coop by not wearing sandals or other open-toed footwear.

Thanks for your cooperation, The Park Slope Food Coop



Every Sunday through November 20, from 3:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Coop members can leave their bikes with our valet parking service, which is like a coat check for bikes. Working members will check in and watch your bike for you.

Just drop off your bike, do your shopping or your shift, and hop back on. No locks, no worries, no theft. Service operates rain or shine. Look for us in front of the yellow wall. (Note: no bike check-in after 7:30 p.m.)

Valet bicycle parking at the Coop is brought to you by the PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee.





# Follow the Food Coop



@foodcoop

## RETURN POLICY PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP

keep prices low for our membership. Minimizing the amount of returned merchandise is one way we do this. If you need to make a return, please go to the 2nd Floor Service Desk.

#### **REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN** The Paid-In-Full receipt MUST be presented

2. Returns must be handled within 30 days of purchase

#### **CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?**

No, we do not "exchange" items. You must return the merchandise and re-purchase what you need.

NEVER

RETURNABLE

RETURNABLE

ONLY IF SPOILED

**BEFORE** 

**EXPIRATION DATE** 

Packaging/label

nust be presen ed for refund.

RETURNABLE

#### **CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?**

Produce\* Cheese\* Books Juicers

Sushi

Bulk\* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk) Seasonal Holiday Items Special Orders

Calendars Refrigerated Supplements & Oils

days to discuss your concer

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above) Meat & Fish

Items not listed above that are unopened

and unused in re-sellable condition

The Coop reserves the right to refuse returns on a case-by-case basis. If you have questions, please contact a staff member in the Membership Office.





#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

## **Use Less Plastic— Interviews with Coop Members**

By Judy Thurmond

interviewed Coop members who reduce their plastic use. Thanks to Anna Amadei, David Barouh, Michael Braudy, Laura Sheinkopf, Moraima Suarez, Majo Tinoco and Gabriel Willow for generously sharing their experiences and thoughts.

Anna moves briskly through the produce aisle, over one arm an old transparent plastic shopping bag. It contains a pile of smaller bags, both fabric and reused plastic. She selects greens and squash, taking them unbagged to her cart, then places smaller produce inside a cloth bag she lifts from her shopping bag.

David reuses "rinsed-off plastic bags when they are needed" for produce. He'd rather buy "berries and cherry tomatoes when they come in the open cardboard containers. All fruits (including tomatoes) do better out of plastic," he adds. The bulk aisle, David says, is "the easiest. I use the cloth bags for bulk dry goods, then transfer them to glass jars" at home.

Michael gradually collected 12 muslin bags. He says he had put apples into a muslin bag that morning, then in the bulk aisle saw he was one bag short. Rather than pulling a plastic bag from the overhead rolls, he removed apples from muslin and used it for quinoa.

You see people like these in the Coop—putting green beans or rice in a muslin bag, or a cloth bag sewn from dish towel or old t-shirt, or a re-used plastic bag. You may not notice some of the other things they're doing. For instance Majo says, "I do keep an eye on avoiding plastic elsewhere whenever possible, and when I do buy plastic, I make sure it's recyclable. For example, I stick to yogurt brands" that the Coop recycles. Others, including Gabriel, also recycle yogurt containers. Gabriel reminds us, though, that "reducing and reusing are way more important than recycling!"

Anna buys fresh prosciutto in a store where "they'll just wrap it in paper." Laura reuses plastic bags "for goods like flour that might not hold as well in the cloth bags." Moraima refuses to buy mesclun or arugula in plastic #7 tubs, which aren't recyclable.

One way or another, these members all seek to live without increasing the demand for new plastic. They are still a

minority. They are pioneers, and their work is commendable and important.

"The question is not 'can you make a difference?' You already do make a difference. It's just a matter of what kind of difference you want to make, during your life on this planet."—Julia Butterfly Hill

For those who haven't thought about plastic: it's made from petroleum products, never biodegrades, and often contains toxic additives that leach out. Despite the convenience and short-term "low cost" of our plastic addiction, our massive use and disposal of plastics already bear fatal fruits in our oceans. Plastics kill birds, turtles, fish, and other marine life, and poison the water. Toxins also leach into foods stored in plastic, and into the earth and groundwater when plastic is disposed of in landfills. Planet Earth is choking on our plastic. To eliminate unnecessary use of plastics is to move toward life, health, and a future for all.

Information alone, however, is notoriously insufficient to change behavior. What moved the people you see shopping "low-plastic" to actually start changing their behavior? The specifics vary, but each person had at least one strong motivator, something that stayed with them and made them change.

Moraima's affinity for Native American culture and its focus on the earth led her to "making decisions good for the next seven generations" in decreasing her plastic use. Anna was inspired by www.myplasticfreelife.com to begin a plastic-free year. Gabriel says, "I HATE using plastic." And "I grew up very aware. My parents live simply and farm, and used probably even less than I do."

With Majo's "increasing awareness of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and how it affects marine life," she acted. Laura says, "Once I learned about where our plastic comes from, how toxic it is for our bodies to regularly store our food in

it, and where it goes once we throw it 'away,' I felt compelled to limit my own use..." Michael notes that much information has been disseminated; what really moved him was realizing plastic "doesn't biodegrade. It just stays.'

Each person who acted individually began with a strong feeling, such as love for animals, aversion to using plastic, or concerns about health.

All those interviewed do at least one thing in common: instead of taking plastic-roll bags, they use no bag, cloth bags, or old plastic bags. Think of this as "Plastic Reduction 102: Start Simple. Do Something."

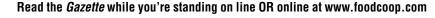
What about "Plastic Reduction 101"? You passed this with flying colors: you've been getting the groceries home without new plastic shopping bags ever since the Coop stopped providing them at checkout in 2008. Congratulations. Easy, isn't it?

"Plastic Reduction 102" is easy too. The hardest part may be simply remembering to take your bags with you to the Coop. Not that hard, it's just a matter of changing your routine. Laura: hang cloth bags "on a hook or nail, near where you store your food or gather bags for shopping, or near the door so you will remember to grab them." Moraima: "I keep muslin bags in my pack all the time. They're so light!"

Members interviewed about their plastic-reducing activities have continued and refined the basic actions outlined above. Some have also moved on to try other methods. They have plenty to say about what they're doing, problems encountered, and their hopes for a less-plastic future. Part two will cover these matters.

Meanwhile, what kind of difference do you want to make? You are needed now. To reduce plastic use, please:

- 1. Make another choice than plastic-roll bags in produce and bulk aisles.
- 2. Read about and support the Environmental Committee's proposal to phase out plastic bag rolls. It's on our blog, www.ecokvetch.blogspot.com.





## park slope FOOD COOP

# 

## Qi Gung to Prevent The Common Cold

Do you get sniffles, cough or sinus problems every fall and winter? Join in for an evening of Qi Gung exercises and breathing techniques to strengthen your lungs' resistance to illness. Learn how to treat yourself if you get sick. Workshop is limited to 18 participants. Please reserve by calling 347-461-2028. Presented by licensed acupuncturist and long-time Coop member Ann E. Reibel-Coyne, who has studied Tai Chi Chuan and Qi Gung with Master Hua Chi Wang and Master Jeffrey Yuen.

sep 2/

## **PSFC SEPT General Meeting**



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available on 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: Restatement and Amendment of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc. Pension Plan and Trust in order to comply with the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Act of 2011 and the 2006 Cumulative List of IRS Notice 2007-3 (10 Minutes)

Proposal: To restate and amend the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc. Pension Plan and Trust in order to comply with the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Act of 2001 and the 2006 Cumulative List of IRS Notice 2007-3 we approve the following motions:

With respect to the amendment and restatement of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc. Pension Plan and Trust ("the Plan"), the following resolutions are hereby adopted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Plan be amended and restated in the form attached hereto, which Plan is hereby adopted and approved;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the appropriate Officers of the Company be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to execute the Plan on behalf of the Company; **RESOLVED FURTHER:** That George Haywood and Joseph Holtz are hereby retained as

the Trustees of the Plan; and **RESOLVED FURTHER:** That the Officers of the Company be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to take any and all actions and execute and deliver such documents as they may deem necessary, appropriate or convenient to effect the foregoing resolutions including, without limitation, causing to be prepared and filed such reports documents or other information as may be required under applicable law.

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_

\_Officer —submitted by the General Coordinators

Item #2: Correction of unclear wording of our Bylaws in regard to elections (20 minutes) Proposal: "To amend the first paragraph of Article VII of the Coop bylaws so that the first paragraph reads as follows:

'Election of officers shall be held at the June meeting of the directors from among those candidates nominated from the floor at such meeting. In the case of an officer position becoming vacant, there shall be an election held at the next directors' meeting to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term." —submitted by the General Coordinators

Item #3: Election of Coop Secretary for Interim Term (20 minutes)

Proposal: Due to the resignation of the Coop Secretary, effective Aug 30, 2011, the election of a new Secretary will be held. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The term will be until the next Annual Meeting in June 2012. —submitted by General Coordinators

Item #4: Annual Hearing Officers Committee Election (20 minutes)

Election: One current committee members will stand for re-election. Hearing Officers work on an FTOP basis when needed and serve three year terms.

—submitted by the Hearing Officer 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.

sep 30

## **Improve Your Health** With Taoist Tai Chi™

Learn the first few moves of the 108-move Tai Chi set, which can bring a wide range of health benefits to the muscular, skeletal and circulatory systems, with a soothing effect on the mind. Coop member Aaron Kirtz invites you to a demonstration as a member of the

International Taoist Tai Chi Society™, which has just started classes in Brooklyn. Please wear loose and comfortable clothing and comfortable shoes. Aaron Kirtz has been practicing Taoist Tai Chi™ for 13 years and is a Continuing Instructor in Training.

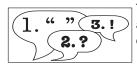
oct 2 sun 12 pm

## Why You're Not Losing Weight

What many people don't seem to realize is that you can lose weight and still be unhealthy—which means lost weight is often gained back. This workshop is designed to give you the tools you need to kick-start your metabolism and get your body in a state of calorie-burning health and balance. Find out how to become the shape you are meant to be! Coop member Coleen DeVol is a health counselor and whole foods nutrition educator. This event is rescheduled from an earlier postponed event.

oct 4 tue 8 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 or at foodcoop.com. *The next General* Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.

oct 6 thu 7:30 pm

## Food Class: Yummy Gluten-Free **And Vegan Noodles**

Do you think all noodles are made with wheat flour? Hideyo Yamada has a gluten allergy and is a noodle lover. "Mung-Bean Noodles Malaysian-Style" is Malaysian street food: a curry-flavored fried noodle with vegetables. "Rice Noodle Ramen-Style" is noodles in soup with bean sprouts and other vegetables. She will show you how to make a special vegan soup stock. She will use naturally sweet kabocha pumpkin for the "Pumpkin-Custard Rice-Paper Pudding." This holistic chef—a Coop member since 2007—is a cooking instructor and health coach. She graduated from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition. She specializes in various vegan recipes and sushi and gluten-free, vegan and refined sugar-free pastry. Menu includes mung-bean noodles Malaysian-style (curry-flavored fried noodles with vegetables); rice noodles ramen-style; pumpkin-custard rice-paper pudding. Materials fee: \$4.

oct 7

## Film Night: Where I Need to Go **And The Wrong Bin**



Where I Need To Go is a portrait of the artist Stan Brodsky. At 86 he's a formidable example of an artist committed to his work, regardless of accolades or disappointments. The son of an impoverished truck driver from Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, whose family lived in two rooms, he is a man who feels life acutely-world war, marriage, birth, the waning health of a

parent and the heartbreak of a mental illness—this is the stuff that formed him, and by extension his art. Whether observed literally as the painting's subject or encountered beneath an abstract surface, the work contains an insistent ambition to describe private fundamental truths of his experience. Alexandra Brodsky is an alumnus of The Nantucket Screenwriter's Colony, the Film Independent Screenwriters' Lab, a Fulbright scholar and received her MFA from The Yale School of Art. The Wrong Bin is a documentary that unveils the environmental and financial costs that New York City is stuck with, when its residents recycle poorly. After NYC closed the Fresh Kills landfill, it began sending all of its trash out-of-state. A small portion is incinerated, but most trash is shipped hundreds of miles away to landfills in Pennsylvania, Ohio, etc. Since 2002, the city's annual landfilling bill has doubled from \$600 million to \$1.3 billion per year. Nearly 36% of the 2 million tons NYC sends to landfills each year is recyclable. Krishnan Vasudevan is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker who resides in Park Slope. He will attend this screening. After receiving his MA in documentary filmmaking from NYU, Krishnan was a multimedia producer for *The New York Times* and Slate.com. To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeezestone@hotmail.com.

#### 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.



# sep 27-nov 3-2011

oct 8 sat 11 am

## **Healthy Thyroid**

Learn how to heal your own thyroid and free yourself of weight gains, depression, indigestion, hair loss and possibly medication. Some topics of the talk: food that sabotages and food that heals the thyroid; how water impacts the thyroid; vitamins and minerals that matter; emotions, stress and the thyroid; how to pick a good endocrinologist and what to ask him/her; how to interpret thyroid blood test results. Coop member Magdalena cured herself from years of Hashimoto's Disease, which is an auto-immune disease causing hypothyroid. She was told it was incurable. Today she teaches how to self-heal with food, supplements, water and stress management.

oct 11 tue 7 pm

## Safe Food Committee Film Night: Gasland



The largest domestic natural gas drilling boom in history has swept across the United States. The Halliburton-developed drilling technology of "fracking" or hydraulic fracturing has unlocked a "Saudi Arabia of natural gas" just beneath us. But is fracking safe? When filmmaker Josh Fox is asked to lease

his land for drilling, he embarks on a cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination. GASLAND is part verite travelogue, part expose, part mystery, part bluegrass banjo meltdown, part showdown.

oct 15

## Slingshot Hip Hop

See a screening of Slingshot Hip Hop, a documentary that braids together the stories of young Palestinians living in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel as they discover Hip Hop and employ it as a tool to surmount divisions imposed by occupation and poverty. From internal checkpoints and separation walls, to gender norms and generational differences, this is the story of young people crossing the borders that separate them. A discussion will follow the screening, moderated by Coop member Ora Wise, the film's co-producer. RSVP: psfc.BDS@gmail.com (this is not a Park Slope Food Coop e-mail address). Ora Wise directs the Children's Learning Program at Kolot Chayeinu, where she implements an arts-based, pluralistic, Jewish culture/history.

## oct 15-16 Food Drive to Benefit sat-sun 9 am-7 pm CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Avenue and Sackett Street, 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 16

## **Food Sensitivities**

Digestive problems? Bad skin? Overweight? Low energy? These are just a few of the challenges that could be the result of a food sensitivity. Others include: asthma/allergies, joint pain, headaches. Nutrition response testing is a precise analytical tool that enables us to identify food sensitivities—or any other underlying cause of physical ailments. Then we can test for the most precise whole-food supplementation, the correct diet for

your body and create a custom-designed nutrition program. Coop member Diane Paxton, MS, LAc, is the owner and principal of Inner Fire Integrative Health Services.

oct 18 tue 8 pm

## **Meet Farmer Partner from** Las Colinas Coop, El Salvador

Pedro Ascencio is a member and marketing coordinator of Las Colinas coffee cooperative in El Salvador. Equal Exchange (one of our coffee suppliers) and Pedro will visit the Park Slope Food Coop. It will be a great opportunity to have an in-depth conversation with Pedro and hear more about what Fair Trade means to his community, how Fair Trade has evolved over the years with Las Colinas and what opportunities/challenges lie ahead. Please join us for this powerful event, along with yummy Fair-Trade snacks!

oct 21 fri 7 pm

## Wordsprouts: **An Evening of Memoirs**

Donna Minkowitz won a Lambda Literary Award for her memoir

Ferocious Romance: What My Encounters with the Right Taught Me about Sex, God and Fury. A former columnist for the Village The Park Slope Food Coop's Reading Series Voice, she has also written for the New York Times Book Review. Salon and others. Minkowitz recently completed a second memoir, The Marvelous Toy, which combines approximately 87% true memoir with the fantasy that her mother created her as a golem. Writer, drummer and Coop food-processor Jacob Slichter is the drummer for the platinum-selling band Semisonic. Slichter's memoir, So You Wanna Be a Rock & Roll Star (published by Broadway Books in 2004), is a behind-the-scenes look at the workings of the music business as well as the mind of a performer who chases after superstardom with failure ever at his heels. He has also written for The New York Times and is an occasional contributor to NPR's Morning Edition. Minkowitz and Slichter will read from their memoirs and then there will be an open mic, so you can read from your work (5-minute time limit, sign up at 6:45 p.m.). Refreshments will be served.

To book a Wordsprouts, contact P.J. Corso, paola\_corso@hotmail.com.

oct 21 fri 8 pm

## **Angela Lockhart and** The Saltire Ensemble



Angela Lockhart is a poet, singer, playwright and artistic founding director of Living Lessons Inc., a not-for-profit educational theatre

company in the northeast during the 1990s. She will be performing poems from Xenogeneic, her second poetry chapbook. Angela's poetry was selected for the 2004 From The Web anthology of previously unpublished political female poets. Angela is presently a writing-workshop leader for the New York Writers Coalition. The Saltire Ensemble (Kelly Howard, violin; Helene Bergman, violin; Mary Robb, cello; and Aidan O'Donnell; double bass) is an engaging Brooklynbased group that takes its name from the Scottish St. Andrew's Flag, from where two of its members originate. The





crossroads of the flag symbolizes the group's intention to share exciting music with unusual instrumentation. Come and hear the Bach Double Violin concerto, a Rossini quartet and a double bass and cello duet in a rare setting.

Concert takes place at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (at 2nd St.), \$10, doors open at 7:45. The Very Good Coffeehouse is a monthly musical fundraising partnership of the Coop and the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. To book a Coffeehouse event, contact Bev Grant, 718-788-3741.

## still to come

Simple Solutions for Organizing Your Life

oct 29

Introduction to Fertility Awareness

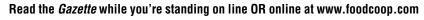
What Are Nutrient-Dense Foods? oct 25

Agenda Committee Meeting nov 1

PSFC OCTOBER General Meeting

Food Class nov 3





#### 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

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. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words.

Editor-Writer Guidelines: Except for letters to the editor, which are published without editing but are subject to the Gazette letters policy regarding length, anonymity, respect, and fairness, all submissions to the Linewaiters' Gazette will be reviewed and if necessary edited by the editor. In their review, editors are guided by the Gazette's Fairness and Anonymity policies as well as standard editorial practices of grammatical review, separation of fact from opinion, attribution of factual statements, and rudimentary fact checking. Writers are responsible for the factual content of their stories. Editors must make a reasonable effort to contact and communicate with writers regarding any proposed editorial changes. Writers must make a reasonable effort to respond to and be available to editors to confer about their articles. If there is no response after a reasonable effort to contact the writer, an editor, at her or his discretion, may make editorial changes to a submission without conferring with the writer

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.

Digital Submissions: 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: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

## Friday **Oct 21**

8:00 p.m.



Angela Lockhart is a poet, singer, playwright and artistic founding director of Living Lessons Inc., a not-for-profit educational theatre company in the northeast during the 1990s. She will be performing poems from Xenogeneic, her second poetry chapbook. Angela's poetry was selected for the 2004 From The Web anthology of previously unpublished political female poets. Angela is presently a writing-workshop leader for the New York Writers Coalition.



A monthly musical



The Saltire Ensemble (Kelly Howard, violin; Helene Bergman, violin; Mary Robb, cello; and Aidan O'Donnell; double bass) is an engaging Brooklyn-based group that takes its name from the Scottish St. Andrew's Flag, from where two of its members originate. The crossroads of the flag symbolizes the group's intention to share exciting music with unusual instrumentation. Come and hear the Bach Double Violin concerto, a Rossini quartet and a double bass and cello duet in a rare setting.

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** SEPTEMBER 25 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

**Second Saturday** OCTOBER 8 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Third Thursday OCTOBER 20 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

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

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.



#### **This Issue Prepared By:**

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Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Erik Lewis

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Hayley Gorenberg Reporters:

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Desktop Publishing: Kevin Cashman Oliver Yourke

Mike Walters

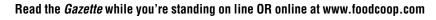
Helena Boskovic

Tioma Allison

Editor (production): Puzzle Master:

Stuart Marquis Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Index: Len Neufeld





#### **Early-Bird Entrance Desk**

Weekdays, 5:45 to 8:15 a.m.

You will be staffing the Entrance desk in hours of the weekday before the Coop is open to shoppers. You will be checking in working members, informing them of their member and household status, and handing out entrance desk slips to members who need them. You must be welcoming, polite, able to read and interpret information on the entrance desk screen and able to clearly convey information about member status directly to members. You will provide a key security function, and must remain alert throughout the shift, which may have slow periods. Therefore reading, writing, talking on the phone, texting, etc. is not allowed. Punctuality and good attendance will be essential, as you will be the only Entrance worker scheduled at this time of day.

#### **Laundry and Toy Cleaning.** Saturday, 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

This workslot has two responsibilities. You will load laundry into dryer, fold it and redistribute it around the Coop. While the laundry is washing/drying, you will clean toys in the childcare room. You will be working with a partner on these tasks. Please contact Annette or Jana in the Membership Office for further information.

#### **Vitamin Assistant**

Friday 9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; 12-2:45 p.m.; 2:30-5:15 p.m.

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. If you are interested in this work slot, please contact the Membership Office for more information.

#### **General Meeting Setup Workers** Last Tuesday of Month, 5:30-10:30 p.m.

Looking for enthusiastic and energetic members interested in joining the General Meeting setup team in hauling supplies and equipment to and from the monthly. General Meeting. Must be flexible to cover hours between 5:30 and 10:30 p.m., attending to all aspects, including gathering, delivering, setup, cleanup,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

# COP 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 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 Internet

www.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. SEP 27

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

#### TUE. OCT 4

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the Oct 25 General Meeting.

#### **Gazette Deadlines**

#### **LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

Oct 6 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Sep 26 Oct 20 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 10

#### **CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**

Oct 6 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Sep 28 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 12 Oct 20 issue:

## 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-forworkslot-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. The signups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.

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-forworkslot-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.

#### 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 nontoxic, 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, earthfriendly 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.

#### THE ALL ABOUT GENERAL MEETING

## **Our Governing Structure**

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the open monthly General Meetings, to which all members are invited, have been at the center of the Coop's decisionmaking 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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

## **Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, 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 Ann Herpel at the Coop.

## **Meeting Format**

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

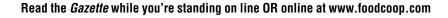
- Enjoy some Coop snacks Submit Open Forum items
- Explore meeting literature

**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 on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

Wrap Up (9:30-9:45) (unless there is a vote to extend the meeting) • Board of Directors' vote • Meeting evaluation • Announcements, etc.



#### **NEVER AGAIN**

#### TO THE EDITOR:

When I was in Israel in February 2009, almost everyone I talked with had someone dear to them involved in the fighting in Gaza. Even at that time of enormous anxiety and stress, I heard no one express rancor toward Arabs. They spoke instead of their fervent desire for peace, along with their conviction that peace can happen.

Almost from the moment Israel became a state in 1948, its army had to fight for the country's existence. Look at a Middle East map and find Israel. It has 8,019 square miles. (New Jersey has 8,729.) Notice what lies across Israel's borders, and the relative size of neighboring countries. There is nowhere to go.

Like many others I react very personally to what goes on there and to what is happening here now.

Our reactions are shaped by our experience. Some of my earliest memories are of my grandfather's small synagogue in Ohio. My mother, sister and aunts sat in the balcony. My grandfather, the oldest Cohn, sat next to the rabbi. The men in my family sat in the front row. I, for some reason, was allowed to roam freely. (Whenever I slipped in next to my father and tied the fringes of his prayer shawl to my uncle's, he just smiled and undid the knots.) While I have not adopted my grandfather's orthodoxy, my identity as a Jew and the ethical values that entails remain integral to my being. Those values are about the sacredness of life and the commitment to live in ways that reflect that holy gift.

I never knew my mother's parents. They didn't join their children when they sent them to America. They stayed, and then it was too late. When the Holocaust closed in there was nowhere to go.

All this has led to my reactions to the boycott proposal. Like many others I find it painful and frightening. Global BDS is not about selling or not selling paprika and bath salts. Contrary to what many well-intentioned Coop members apparently believe, neither is it about human rights. If it were, its aim would be peace in the Middle East and a better future for Palestinian Arabs rather than Israel's destruction. BDS talks about "occupation," never about the need for defense against unceasing rocket strikes and gun, missile, and mortar attacks on Israeli civilians; suicide bombings; arms smuggling; and threats of destruction.

But the BDS movement is about more than Israel. Hannah Rosenthal of the U.S. State Department said, "When Israel is demonized, when Israel is held to different standards than the rest of the countries, and when Israel is delegitimized, these cases are not disagreements with a policy of Israel. This is anti-Semitism."

Hatred unchecked can only fester and grow. What happened to my

grandparents and millions of others will not be allowed to happen in Israel.

And here, be certain that active opposition to a boycott will not fade. It will only intensify until the proposal is laid to rest.

Ruth Bolletino

#### **PURSUING JUSTICE**

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I was born in 1942 into a Jewish family. Mine was not a Zionist family, but there was general agreement in it and in the suburban New Jersey Jewish community where we lived that the establishment of Israel as a Jewish state was a necessary response to the Nazi slaughter of millions of Jews. I continued to defend that idea for many years.

I visited Israel in 1971 and in 1981. In 1971, I was thrilled to be there. During the 1981 trip I had doubts, as I noticed increased military presence and a strong ideological enforcement of Jewish primacy and dominance of the society. I also noticed racist policies and attitudes of Jews of northern and eastern European heritage (Ashkenazim) toward Jews of Iberian, African and West Asian heritage (Sephardim). The following year, 1982, I was shocked, as many were, by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and by Israeli complicity in the subsequent massacre of thousands of Palestinians in the Beirut refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila.

Since then I have become more and more convinced that the policies of the Israeli government toward the Palestinian people are indefensible and abhorrent. In October of 2010 I visited Israel and the West Bank with a group sponsored by Rabbis for Human Rights/North America. This organization's Israeli branch intervenes to support the few civil rights that Palestinians have, particularly in defense of their access to farmland and olive trees. We witnessed hundreds of olive trees owned by Palestinians that had been burned by Israeli settlers in the West Bank. We saw the Separation Wall that Israel has built, which stretches for miles, preventing families from visiting each other and cutting off Palestinian farmers from their land. We saw the checkpoints the Israeli government uses to harass and humiliate Palestinians. And we spoke to Palestinians about the persecution they suffer every day.

Last year I worked with the project to send a U.S. Boat to Gaza, to join the nonviolent Freedom Flotilla's attempt to break the Israeli blockade there. And I am now working with the campaign to use the nonviolent tactics of Boycott, Divestiture and Sanctions to create a change in Israel/Palestine. I believe we must end the United States government's support of Israeli policies against the Palestinian people.

I see this political work as part of my Jewish obligation to pursue justice.

Naomi Brussel

#### SUBWAY OUTREACH EFFORT FOR PEACE

#### TO THE EDITOR:

New York City transit riders will have an opportunity this month to see how concerned increasing numbers of New Yorkers are about the role of the U.S. in Israel/Palestine. Posters showing Palestinian and Israeli parents with their children—bearing the message "two peoples, one future" and calling for an end to U.S. military aid to Israel—are on display in stations throughout the subway system.

Supported by a wide range of New York City groups from the social justice and interfaith communities, this effort is part of a national campaign, "Be on Our Side," which has already run successfully in six major U.S. cities. The campaign is designed to encourage U.S. policies that promote peace, equality and security for Palestinians and Israelis and to inform Americans about the scale and consequences of U.S. military aid to Israel. The text on the posters directs riders to the national website: www.twopeoplesonefuture.org.

According to Carl Schieren, a campaign organizer, "This campaign seeks to break through the unbalanced media coverage of events surrounding the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. It is designed to promote open and honest discussion amongst New Yorkers about the possibilities of achieving a just peace and the role that the U.S. plays in the region."

Nada Khader of WESPAC, one of the sponsoring organizations, spoke about the importance of highlighting the consequences of U.S. funding to Israel: "Instead of funding Israel's unlawful occupation, I would like to see the thirty billion dollars that our government has committed to the State of Israel over the next ten years be redirected to Americans right here at home to help with job creation, increased funding for education, affordable housing investment, environmental conservation and upgrading our national transportation infrastructure."

The posters are in 18 subway stations across the City. Individuals from the many sponsoring and endorsing groups are at the stations handing out leaflets and engaging in conversation with New Yorkers about these issues.

Participating groups include sponsors: Brooklyn For Peace; Fellowship of Reconciliation; Jewish Voice for Peace–NY Chapter; Jews Say No!; Peace Action, Staten Island; WESPAC. And endorsers:Adalah-NY; Center for Constitutional Rights; CODEPINK NYC; Israel-Palestine Mission Network of the Presbyterian Church

(USA); Jewish Voice for Peace—Westchester Chapter; National Lawyers Guild—NYC Chapter; New York Collective of Radical Educators (NYCORE); Shomer Shalom Network for Jewish Nonviolence; Tree of Life Educational Foundation; Women in Black Union Square.

Mary P. Buchwald Brooklyn For Peace

## THE HARDEST—AND BEST—WAY TO DECIDE

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Protecting and preserving the principle of Dialogue, My Twelve-Step Program recommends that "All important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote and, wherever, possible, by substantial unanimity." Substantial unanimity. Unless there is an immediate requirement for a vote (such as in election of officers or whether the group will continue to exist if it does not pay the rent), most decisions are better postponed until the conscience of the group is well formed.

Substantial unanimity. What is it? For voting purposes, some say twothirds. However, please think about this. Two-thirds of 100 is 67. That means that 33 people do not agree. "33" seems to me to be a substantial number. The best definition of substantial unanimity I have heard is "When you don't have to count to know the result." In a group of 100, when 8 or 10 people do not agree, the weight of the supermajority is clear. While we hear the dissension—and consider both sides of the argumentwe also know the will of the group as a whole.

I do not need to know the pros and cons of the proposed boycott to see that we are not—NOT—substantially unanimous. As a cooperative, we have no business engaging in a boycott that will rip many of us apart—perhaps in two directions at the same time—should a majority or even two-thirds of us decide to join it. Especially a boycott that does not, in its specifics, relate to our existence and our mission as a food cooperative.

Cooperators are free not to purchase products they do not want, for whatever reason. If a substantial majority of us simply did this, the Coop would stop carrying these items. "Pro" mission accomplished: Ending support of a peoples or a faction you do not like. However, if the intent is to prevent a substantial minority from shopping and supporting the vendors it wants, then the boycott may really be a device to strip fellow cooperators of their right to decide.

If we were substantially unanimous, then in cooperative spirit I would agree with the decision, whether or not I voted on the prevailing side. With the persistent, insistent biweekly letters and discussion, it is

#### ET $\mathbf{T}$ E R S 0 THE EDITOR

clear that we do not agree. In my opinion, we should not even consider this question until we do not have to count to know where the sentiment and vote of the Coop stands.

> In service, Mary Rose Dallal Cooperator since 1995

#### MAKE ISRAEL LISTEN

#### TO THE EDITOR:

The Boycott is a non-violent, justifiable way to make Israel listen.

Successive Israeli governments have acted with impunity, violating international law, ignoring United Nations Resolutions, disregarding rulings of the International Court of Justice and dismissing the findings of neutral investigative bodies such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Jugard Commission and the United Nations Human Rights Council Report.

Since 1948, Israel has ethnically cleansed more than 700,000 Palestinians from their ancestral homes in the West Bank, forcing them into squalid refugee camps in neighboring Arab countries, which have difficulty providing for their own population. This forcible appropriation of Palestinian property, much of it valuable agricultural and mineral producing land, continues on an everyday basis in the West Bank and in East Jerusalem for the benefit of Israeli "settlers" who, protected by the IDF, harass the supplanted Palestinians.

Israel maintains the Gaza Strip as a huge open-air prison for 1,500,000 Palestinians, mostly refugees and their children, imposing an illegal blockade on essential foodstuffs, medicine, construction equipment, electrical power, water and personal travel. On Dec. 27, 2008, the IDF began Operation Cast Lead, a 22-day sustained bombardment and invasion of Gaza that took 1,400 Palestinian lives, 300 of those children; injured 6,000 and destroyed Gaza's civilian infrastructure. The IDF used the world's most sophisticated precision targeting ordinance against a population armed with no more than AK47 rifles and the military equivalent of bottle rockets. The IDF suffered 14 deaths, 8 from friendly fire. It was not a war. It was a massacre. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the UN Human Rights Council found Israeli actions constituted massive violations of International Law.

We were part of a delegation that toured Gaza in May and June of 2009. All of the destruction wreaked by the IDF was still in place because they had bombed all construction material plants and blockaded import of such materials. Entire villages were leveled. People lived in the rubble. Schools, hospitals, residential blocks, public buildings, universities, flour mills, sanitation and desalinization facilities, power plants and mosques

were gutted. The American School, built with U.S. dollars, was flattened (www.gazajournal.blogspot.com)

The U.S. bears great responsibility for Israel's ability to act with such impunity. The U.S. gives 3 to 4 billion dollars to Israel every year. It provides Israel with the latest military technology. It gives Israel all possible trade advantages. It provides a veto in the UN Security Council upon Israel's request. 81 Congressional Representatives vacationed in Israel during their recess, courtesy of AIPAC, the Israel Lobby's umbrella organization.

Most Americans opposed to Israel's policies don't have a viable option of complaining to their representative because of AIPAC's electoral

Americans opposed to the Israeli persecution of the Palestinian people must, therefore, take matters into their own hands. BDS—boycott, divestment, sanctions—until the occupation ceases, the settlements are withdrawn, the right of return is respected and the Palestinians enjoy just and peaceful self-determination.

> Dennis James Barbara Grossman

#### **RESPONSE TO PRO-BDS LETTERS**

#### **COOP MEMBERS:**

Those of us who oppose affiliating the Coop with the BDS movement have researched our arguments and presented them fully and in civil language. The same cannot be said of our adversaries.

We are still waiting to hear what the BDS supporters consider their endgame, what exactly they believe must happen for their anti-Israel activities to end

One supporter says that the movement seeks "peace and justice in Palestine/Israel." But these are very general and vague terms and do not address how boycotting, divesting from and sanctioning Israel will achieve peace and justice and, I should add, security for Israelis as well as Palestinians.

The boycotts are exclusive to Israel. The movement puts no pressure on Hamas and other Palestinian and Arab groups to renounce violence and their exterminationist language and goals and to make compromises toward a two-state

On the contrary, research into BDS shows a non-negotiable goal of populating Israel with millions of Arabs via the return of Palestinian refugees and generations of their descendents, inevitably outnumbering Jews and negating what is, to my mind, the most compelling reason for Israel's existence as a Jewish state: the welldocumented history of persecution, expulsion and extermination of Jews by other countries. And contrary to the title of a book—The End of History—I believe that the current international wave of anti-Israel sentiment and activity often provides cover for an underbelly of anti-Jewish prejudice.

Instead of presenting facts and arguments to justify their goals, pro-BDS Coop members have given us defamatory language, unfounded claims, illogical arguments and trivialization of the issue:

Defamatory language: Those of us who oppose joining the movement, we are told, "disgrace simple humanity and every form of right thinking and moral decency." And the exchange of ideas in the Gazette is a "shameful and grisly battle."

Unfounded claims: "The Israeli Arab villages are piles of white rubble"; "Arabs are not allowed in the military"; "checkpoints bloom outside Arab Israeli villages"; the occupation "has gone on for 60 years"; we should support "the historic compromise that Palestinian society has agreed to make—a viable state in less than 25% of historic Palestine."

Illogic: Israel is being singled out, it is claimed, because "Palestinian civil society has asked the international community to pressure the State of Israel..." But the fact that one side of a conflict asks for an action, in and of itself does not justify singling out the other side for selective condemnation.

Trivialization: One letter-writer refers to this complicated conflict as a "no brainer." Another compares the debate between the pro- and anti-BDS sides to a squabble between children. The last pro-BDS letter has nothing more to say than: "I support BDS. Put it to a referendum. Nuff said."

As to the tone and arguments of BDS proponents, I believe I have said enough for now.

Sylvia Lowenthal

#### **PROVIDING A CONTEXT**

#### TO THE COOP MEMBERSHIP:

BDS supporters, those Coop members who wish to boycott Israeli products, tend to use certain phrases regularly, as though these were established, uncontested truths. Phrases like "Israeli apartheid," "illegal occupation," and "violations of international law" are used to promote a misleading, and sometimes utterly false, picture of Israel's presence in "the territories." There is no context provided, no objective history that would clarify Israel's presence there, or any acknowledgement of the real problems that Israel—and the Palestinians, too—must face jointly if there is to be an end to conflict in the region.

A similar one-sided view extends to the narratives and images used by BDS. There must be justice and selfdetermination for Palestinians, we will hear, but there is never a word about justice for Israel, or about Israel's right to negotiate a peaceful solution that takes the needs of its people into consideration. Israel's "war crimes" are alleged, but there is never a mention of crimes against Israeli citizens.

Perhaps the Israelis are easy targets for those with a rigid political agenda. But we in the Park Slope Food Coop do not have to become easy targets for BDS propaganda. Their proposal will neither strengthen any movement for Mideast peace, nor strengthen our Coop.

Many members of the Coop have strong feelings for social justice. We can act on those beliefs when we recognize the complexity of problems in the Middle East, and decry hatred whenever and wherever it shows itself. It has shown itself here, at the Coop, embodied in the onesided proposal for a boycott of Israeli goods, a proposal without any sense of balance and without peace as a goal.

Michael Rieman

#### **OPPOSING A BOYCOTT** REFERENDUM

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I write to oppose the Coop's conducting a referendum on the boycott of Israel. I enumerate four reasons. First, the proponents of the boycott promote a double standard, one for the Jewish state and one for all other states. Regimes in Syria, Saudi Arabia, the Hamas-governed Gaza Strip, and many other countries have colossally worse human rights records than Israel, yet the BDS singles out Israel.

Second, look at the Boycott web site. It assails Israel with cries of execration. However, the BDS fails to mention states in which there occur abuses of women who aren't virgins, the torture and execution of political opponents, the launching of missiles at cities in southern Israel and the imprisonment of Gilda Shalit. If the BDS and its supporters did not have a double standard, they would be bereft of standards. The BDS attacks Israel but is silent about every other nation.

Third, the British author Howard Jacobson stated with regard to the British intellectual boycott of Israel: that it was "repugnant to humanity to single out one country for your hatred, to hate it beyond reason and against evidence, to pluck it from the complex contextuality of history as though it authored its own misfortunes and misdeeds...to deny it any understanding...For make no mistake, this is what an intellectual boycott means." By the same token, this is what the boycott of Israeli exports means.

Finally, a reader may say that there are Jewish people who support the boycott; therefore, a boycott can't be as one-sided as I suggest. I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



again quote Jacobson, who so capably caricatured the Ashamed Jews in his novel The Finkler Question, "and I hope these Jews don't put a fatwa out on him because he created a caricature." He saw their efforts as a pathetic attempt to mobilize their Jewish identity to reassure the British establishment. To quote Jacobson, "When it comes to Jewish anti-Zionists, their Jew-hatred is barely disguised, not in what they say about Israel but in the contempt they show for the motives and feelings of fellow-Jews who do not think as they do.'

I conclude by saying don't support this referendum. Don't give in to the anti-Semitic BDS organization, an organization that advances a double standard, a highly stringent one for Jews and a much less stringent one for those who would destroy them.

Sincerely, Irvin Shonfeld

#### 'THE CALL': MYTH AND REALITY

#### **MEMBERS:**

The oft-repeated claim is that BDS is a global movement originating in the Palestinian Territories. This is false, as documented extensively in historical research ("BDS in the USA, 2001-2010", from the Middle East Research and Information Project/ MERIP, among numerous others). This ascribes the birth of BDS to be 2004/2005, rather than 2001 when it was actually born and baptized in the hateful aftermath of the Israeldirected intolerance of the first Durban Conference and the parallel NGO Forum, itself marred by shameful well-documented anti-Semitism (with eyewitness verification from David Matias, Rapporteur for the Commission on Anti-Semitism). Willfully, the perception fostered is that the creation of BDS was as an outcome of a call from "Palestinian Civil Society," a misrepresentation suggesting a "nativist" origin by virtue of answering a "call" from Palestinians.

This mythical origin is in any case a dubious pedigree to claim, with membership in the Palestinian Civil Society Call for BDS that includes: the Palestinian National and Islamic Forces, a coalition authorized by Arafat to plan and execute joint strikes against Israel, and whose members include the Islamic Resistance Movement (IRM), aka Hamas; the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), aka Fatah; the Popular Liberation War Pioneers, a political and military faction and proxy created and operated by Syria; the Arab Liberation Front, a pro-Baathist Palestinian political faction of the PLO; the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), a political and military organization; the Palestinian Popular Struggle

Front, a militant Palestinian organization; and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Movement, among others. With several members who are recognized terrorist organizations, and with over a dozen Syrian-controlled puppets, and with extremist "noncivil" militant groups, no claim of "Palestinian Civil Society" is supportable.

And although the BDS movement did not gain international legitimacy until the cover of "the call" from "Palestinian Civil Society" in 2005, BDS was alive and well from its conception out of the Durban 2001 World Conference Against Racism (WCAR), where NGOs and anti-Israel "mono-activists" (Israel as sole focus) equated Israel's policies with apartheid, and consequently advocated Israel de-legitimization via BDS explicitly as the strategy of choice for its claimed "counterattack." The birth "cry" can be traced to paragraph 424 of the WCAR NGO Forum Declaration, aka the "Durban Strategy" (28 August – 1 September, 2001): "a policy of complete and total isolation of Israel as an apartheid state... the imposition of mandatory and comprehensive sanctions and embargoes, the full cessation of all links (diplomatic, economic, social, aid, military cooperation and training) between all states and Israel". By that act, the birth of the global BDS movement. And both the apartheid accusation issued at Durban WCAR and the "Durban Strategy" are rooted in the earlier 1975 "Zionism is Racism" resolution 3379 (XXX) of the UN General Assembly ("UNGA-3379"), but that resolution was in fact revoked in 1991 (the first time a General Assembly resolution was ever repealed).

Not a call the Coop should answer. Constantine Kaniklidis

## PUT IT IN A REFERENDUM

## TO OPEN-MINDED COOP MEMBERS:

A letter signed by 158 members (out of a total of about 16,000 PSFC members) apparently in opposition to having a referendum on a boycott of Israeli products has again appeared in the Gazette. That's less than 1% of our membership attempting to prevent a vote on an issue that other members think is important. I say "apparently" because the letter describes the July 26th GM as supporting a "...proposal to boycott products from Israel." This is not correct. The GM discussion (at which I was present) dealt with whether we should have a referendum on a boycott of Israeli products, not whether we should boycott Israeli products. I would hope that letters to the Gazette would be more careful in discussing what most will agree is a sensitive issue.

One of two letters by Jesse Rosenfeld referred to action by each of five coops on Israeli boycotts with the heading "Boycott REJECT-ED." Each was different from our situation. The only instance of the membership rejecting a boycott was in Michigan. And there the membership was permitted to vote on the question. Rosenfeld and the group of 158 are seeking to prevent a members' vote on having a referendum. In each of the other cases, it was the coop board that prevented a referendum over the protests of some coop members. These instances would not apply to us. Since the PSFC's founding, our board has voted upon the advice of the GM. The GM will give its advice to the Board when it votes on whether or not to have a referendum. It should also be noted that the Seattle Coop Board's rejection is not necessarily final since it is being contested in Court.

If my memory, as a nearly 25-year PSFC member, is correct, the GMs in the past voted for boycotts involving products of foreign nations as least twice: once against Chilean grapes and once against South African products. In each instance, the Board voted, as customary, to approve the GM's decisions. In light of that history could it reject a GM vote on holding a referendum?

Incidentally the Rosenfeld letter's reference to five other coops in the U.S. facing the Israeli boycott issue shows that interest in it is not limited to just some PSFC members. Certainly PSFC members are entitled to vote on whether or not to have a referendum even if the vote's outcome, either for or against, may upset some members.

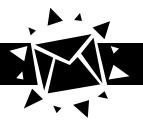
Since we do not know the wording of the referendum proposal, I am still uncertain how to ultimately vote. But I believe an organization based on democratic principles, which has a history of letting its membership vote on boycotts, should not prevent such a vote from being taken because a small minority has objected.

The letter of S. Wright in the September 8 *Gazette* seemed to reflect the wisdom that is sometimes found in brevity. "...Put it to a referendum. Nuff said."

Mel Spain

## A GROUCH GROWS IN BROOKLYN

Staycation? That was confined to last year When I couldn't afford to go anywhere.
Things've changed completely now, and not Because of a bonanza I got.
It's a matter of attitude, of Zen,
That's come over me (and like-minded men).
When my noisy neighbors leave—elation!
This marks the start of my summer vacation.
Leon Freilich



#### URGE CONGRESSMEMBERS TODAY TO VOTE 'NO' ON THREE FTAS

#### TO THE EDITOR:

If the U.S. Congress passes three Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Panama and So Korea, the consequences will be terrifyingly farreaching. These treaties would establish procedures that overpower, supersede, and are placed over and above the laws in each country. Institutions and policy that popular movements struggled for, legislators debated and were finally passed by quasi-representative bodies, would be swept aside in favor of new structures that protect the rights of investors to make a profit. Treaty becomes law. FTAs establish a New World Order—a framework with many tentacles, that allow multi-national corporations to take over power and authority that d/evolved over centuries to nation states.

We know the calamitous results of NAFTA, CAFTA and bi-lateral treaties. Research and experience are undeniable. For statistics and examples developed by researchers, academics and advocates for popular movements consult NACLA, Public Citizen Global Trade Watch, UpsideDown World.

If Congress passes FTAs, we know there will be disastrous impact on: creation and protection of decent jobs; access to medicine and to clean water and soil; food supply and food safety; human rights and labor rights; internal displacement of indigenous and afro-descendant populations and immigration; drug trafficking; financial stability and currency policy; and the ability of elected governments to make laws that protect people and the environment.

Repression by both police and private security forces enforcing FTAs means more violence and limits on freedoms. FTAs expand the international tribunal that can fine governments for limiting profits. These devastating consequences will not be debated one at a time. The treaties are a package, and each will be voted on soon in Congress: up or down, all or nothing. It has to be nothing.

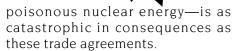
Chambers of Commerce and other spokespersons for the mega-wealthy who hire lobbyists that swarm legislators, support these Treaties. They believe that they can separate their futures from the future of the rest of us, as though bacteria will respect their bank balance.

Only ghastly energy policy—the ruinous extraction of fossil fuels which contaminate the air and change the climate and weather patterns—fracking, mountaintop removal, wars over oil fields, construction of pipelines through sensitive terrain and the promotion of

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Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY



Maybe economic changeover to producing solar panels, wind farms, and from consumerism to creative culture is possible. Maybe we can offer an alternative vision to the apocalyptic worldview of a small reactionary junta determined to control everything. We will never know if we don't dedicate ourselves to supporting policy, candidates and movements to ensure the survival of humanity.

Susan Metz

#### LIVING BETTER WITHOUT PACKAGING

#### **DEAR EDITOR:**

This time last year I pitched an assignment by my editors at Associated Press—to live without packaging for a few months and interview people around the country who feel no need to encase their food in disposable plastic, paper, cardboard or metal.

It was a life transforming experience and wouldn't have been possible without the Coop—flour, pasta, nutritious yeast, nuts, oatmeal, it's all there in the bulk aisle, and the produce aisle explains itself.

While learning about the enormous waste of the packing industry, I also learned that palm oil is contained in at least 10 percent of all supermarket packaged goods. As orangutans are being driven to extinction by ruthless financial corporations that control Indonesia's palm oil plantations, trying to live without packaging is a powerful way to save one of the planet's most intelligent species. Best of all, saving the orangutan can be achieved without a boycott—just some sensible shopping.

Cutting out the packaging also cuts out additives and coloring, fats and excessive salt and sugar. I noticed a dramatic change in my energy levels once I made the switch.

And if you forget to bring your own bags, don't worry, there are plenty of unloved plastic bags cut off and discarded in the produce aisle to get you started.

I'm hoping to give a talk on this if anyone's interested, and I've already addressed a general meeting about expanding the bulk aisle to include everything you find in the Natural Land supermarket on Flatbush chocolate, pine nuts, raisins and dried apricots. There: a healthier you, a safer orangutan, a less polluted planet and not one word about a boycott.

Sean O'Driscoll



ILLUSTRATION BY ETHAN PETTI





## park slope **FOOD COOP**

Complete your shift hours outside of the Food **Coop with Green Worker Cooperatives 2011** Coop Academy



Business planning, project management, finances, green business, marketing, sales, communication, anti-oppression, team building, democratic meeting process, management, human resources



Entrepreneurs with stories to share



Web developers, graphic artists, lawyers, photographers, videographers, Spanish/English translators, and administrative support

**Interested in putting in your hours with us?** To register or inquire more info visit www.greenworker.coop or send an email to info@greenworker.coop



We welcome letters from members. Submission deadlines appear in the Coop Calendar. All letters will be printed if they conform to the published guidelines. We will not knowingly publish articles which are racist, sexist or otherwise discriminatory.

The maximum length for letters 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

You may submit on paper, typed or very legibly handwritten, or via email to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop or on disk.

#### 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, comprehensive, 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 accusations

that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.

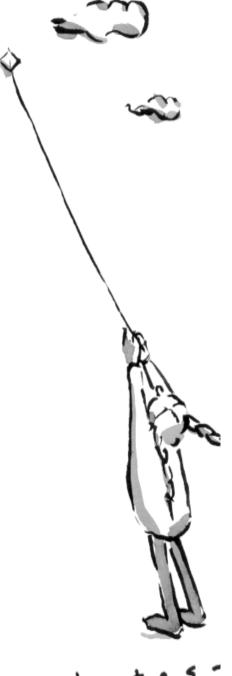
3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

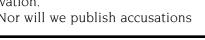
The above applies to both articles and letters. The only exceptions will be articles by Gazette reporters which will be required to include the response within the article itself.

#### Respect

Letters must not be personally derogatory or insulting, even when strongly criticizing an individual member's actions. Letter writers must refer to other people with respect, refrain from calling someone by a nickname that the person never uses himself or herself, and refrain from comparing other people to odious figures like Hitler or Idi Amin.









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breakdown and return to Coop. You must be flexible, dependable, self-motivated and able to take direction. Contact Adriana Becerra between 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Thursday, in the Membership Office.

#### **Bathroom Cleaning**

12 to 2:00 p.m.

Work with a partner to deep clean the Coop's bathrooms. Tasks include scrubbing floor tiles, cleaning toilets, mopping floors and stocking the bathrooms. You will work with only natural cleaning products. This job is perfect for members who like to clean and are conscientious about doing a thorough job.



# Looking for something new?

Check out the Coop's products blog.

The place to go for the latest information on our current product inventory.

You can connect to the blog via the Coop's website www.foodcoop.com

## **Stepping Out: Answers** IO TRIO RATIO T R U E U T T E R RANT TRAIN MOAN ODOR DONOR INDOOR FEELING

#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### **BED & BREAKFAST**

BROWNSTONE BROOKLYN BED AND BREAKFAST. Victorian home on tree-lined Prospect Heights block has space with semiprivate bath, AC, Cable TV & free WiFi. Full breakfast provided in attractive smoke-free environment. Reasonable rates. Call David Whitbeck, 718-857-6066 or e-mail brownstonebbb@yahoo.com

THE HOUSE ON 3rd ST. B&B serving Park Slope for over 20 yrs. Lovely parlor floor thru apt. sleeps 4-5 in comfort & privacy, queen bed, bath, double living room, flatscreen, kitchenette, deck overlooking yard. Visit our web site at houseon3st.com or on FB, a link is on the site. Call Jane at 718-788-7171 Let us host you!

#### **CLASSES/GROUPS**

JOIN PARK SLOPE De-Clutter Support Group. Want to create more space in your home or office? Learn how to manage paper; file & dispose of unwantedf clothes & possessions? Make room for new things to enter your life? Email Susan Kranberg at susan@simplesolutionsny.com or call 718-965-1809 for details.

CHAIR YOGA held on Friday 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM at Spoke The Hub 748 Union/6th Ave. Chair Yoga taught by Dolores Natividad, Integral Certified and Exercise Physiologist. We focus on Breath, Balance, Core Strength, easeful joint freeing movements and meditation. Gentle, safe, strong supportive. 718-408-3234. www.spokethehub.org.

INTEGRAL YOGA with Dolores Natividad Friday 7:45 - 9:00 AM at Spoke The Hub 748 Union/6th Ave. Eclectic fusion of Hatha Yoga and functional fitness enhances core power, stamina, poise and balance. All levels and New Beginners are Welcome! Join Fall Series or Drop In. Call 718-408-3234 or email: spoke@spokethehub.org.

BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR ETHI-CAL CULTURE'S sunday school teaches children how to elicit the best from themselves, build caring relationships, and explore their own spiritual beliefs in a humanist community. Classes begin Sunday, September 11th and continue to June. Learn more at www.bsec.org or call 718-768-3234.

SUPER-GENTLE YOGA. Think you're too stiff, too large, too old, too "something" to do Yoga? Recovering from an injury? Join nurturing class in convenient downtown Park Slope or do a private session. Call Mina Hamilton, experienced, wise teacher, 20 years of serving Park Slope. 917-881-9855.

YOGA WITH MINA. Be strong, be energized, be flexible, be focused, be grounded, be calm. Feel great. 20 years experience, Kripalu-professional-level certified. Convenient Park Slope locations. Individual and Group classes. Call Mina Hamilton, 917-881-9855.

#### **PETS**

PET NANNY: Retired social worker 35 yrs. exp. with all breeds, esp. rescues & traumatized dogs. One dog at a time gets the run of my large apt. Your dog will rarely be alone. Arrange a meet & greet. Act fast, many summer wkends & Xmas are booked. Call Jane 347-860-2142 or e-mail petnanny0@yahoo.com. Unbeatably low rates!

#### **SERVICES**

TOP HAT MOVERS, INC., 145 Park Place, Bklyn. Licensed and Insured Moving Co. moves you stress-free. Full line of boxes & packing materials avail. Free estimates 718-965-

#### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to 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 asterisk (\*) denotes a Coop member.

#### SAT, SEP 24

8-10:30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe: SONiA and her band disappear fear play folk, rock, blues and country. At The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. (between Madison & Park); For info call 212-787-3903 or see www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15-18 general/\$10 members

#### TUE, SEP 27

7:30 p.m. The Brooklyn Women's Chorus is having open rehearsals to invite new members. No auditions. Try it out for free, no commitment. Tuesday eves at 7:30 at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture Prospect Park West at 2nd St.



For information www.brooklynwomenschorus.com/ or call Bev Grant at 718-788-3741. We strive to represent the diversity of the women of Brooklyn; all women are welcome and encouraged to join.

#### SAT, OCT 1

Miles for Midwives, Prospect Park (Bartel-Prtichard Square). 5K Fun-Run and Birth & Wellness Fair. All ages welcome! Pee-wee race, free activities. Proceeds promote increased awareness of midwives and the services they offer to families www.miles4midwivesnyc.blogspot.com.

#### SUN, OCT 2

The Coney Island K 9 5k Boardwalk/Run/Walk to raise money for Posh pets. Rescue, which rescues, fosters, and pays for medical care for dogs and cats from the city shelters. Register: http://www.firstgiving.com/posh

pets/K 9-5k.Contact Geri Gventer@gmail.com 917-613-1889.

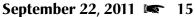
#### WED, OCT 5

7:30-10 p.m. FOLK OPEN SING: Come sing with us the first Wednesday of every month. Bring voice, instruments, friends. Children welcome. Cohosted by the Folk Society of NY, the Ethical Culture Society & the Good Coffeehouse. At the Ethical Culture Society, 53 Prospect Park West. Info: 718-636-6341.

#### FRI, OCT 14

6:30-8:30 p.m. Safe Homes Project's 18th Annual Domestic Violence Remembrance Vigil. Outside P.S.321,7th Ave & 1st St. Rain or shine.Commemorate Brooklynites whose lives have been lost due to domestic violence. For further info contact Catherine Hodes, 718-499-2151.www.safehomesproject.org

Classified advertising in the Linewaiters' Gazette is available only to Coop members. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Coop. Read the *Gazette* while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com





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HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS! Color, high lights, low lights, oil treatments. In the convenience of your home or mine. Adults: \$35.00. Kids \$15.00. Call Leonora 718-857-2215.

YOUTHFUL GRANDMOTHER FOR HIRE! Responsible, caring and playful, I seek part-time opportunities for child care. Excellent references. Reasonable rates. Call 718-783-9460 email zipport@verizon.net.

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, call Maggie at 718-783-2154. I charge \$60.00.

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—30+ years experience in all aspects of personal injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 20+ year Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccionelaw.com.

PSYCHOTHERAPY: Individual, couples & family therapy. Weekday & Saturday hours available. Offices in Union Square & Chelsea. Call Julia Chan at 917-443-1591 or visit www.juliachantherapy.com.

MONEY COACH - If thinking about your finances leaves you anxious, depressed or with a headache, help is here. I combine non-judgemental support with financial expertise and practical tools to help you gain clarity and control over your finances. See www.fmsimplified.co (not .com) for more information.

#### SERVICES-HEALTH

HOLISTIC OPTOMETRY: Most eye doctors treat patients symptomatically by prescribing everincreasing prescriptions. We try to find the source of your vision problem. Some of the symptoms that can be treated include headaches, eye fatigue, computer discomfort, learning disabilities. Convenient Park Slope location. Dr. Jerry Wintrob, 718-789-2020. holisticeyecare.com.

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 Manhattan (SOHO). Dr. Stephen R. Goldberg provides comprehensive family dental care using non-mercury fillings, crowns, dentures, thorough cleanings, non-surgical gum treatments with minimal Xrays. For a free initial exam in a nutrition-oriented practice and for insurance information, please call 212-505-5055.

CHAIR YOGA held on Friday 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. at Spoke The Hub 748 Union/6th Ave. Chair Yoga taught by Dolores Natividad, Integral Certified and Exercise Physiologist. We focus on Breath, Balance, Core Strength, easeful joint freeing movements and meditation. Gentle, safe, strong supportive. 718-408-3234. www.spokethehub.org.

INTEGRAL YOGA with Dolores Natividad Friday 7:45 - 9:00 AM at Spoke The Hub 748 Union/6th Ave. Eclectic fusion of Hatha Yoga and functional fitness enhances core power, stamina, poise and balance. All levels and New Beginners are Welcome! Join Fall Series or Drop In. Call 718-408-3234 or email: spoke@spokethehub.org.

DOLORES NATIVIDAD is an Exercise Physiologist, Integral Yoga and Gyrotonic practitioner. Fitness evaluation, Sports Stretch, Conditioning and Strength programs. Athletes, Seniors, Prenatal, Post-partum, Special Needs. Private sessions offered in home, gym or workplace. 917-609-2530 dolores@doloresnatividad.com. PSFC discount.

#### **To Submit Classified or Display Ads:**

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, display ads at \$30. (Classified 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 wallpocket near the elevator in the entrance lobby.

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**FOOD** 

# MAKE YOUR OWN PSFC WORK SHIFT!

Be a part of forming a new food co-op in the Fort Greene Clinton Hill area. Join us in getting ready to open our store and Buying Club on Putnam and Grand (near Fulton).



www.GreeneHillFood.Coop info@GreeneHillFood.Coop 718-208-4778

# **LEFFERTS FARM** FOOD COOPERATIVE

We are a newly-formed group made up of residents from Flatbush, Prospect-Lefferts Gardens and Crown Heights, working to develop a new medium-sized food cooperative in the area.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

There's no question Brooklyn needs more food cooperatives, but it's not simple. Food co-ops are businesses and development projects created for and by the community.

## JOIN OUR PLANNING GROUP

In order to make this happen, we need YOU! Why? Because as a member, you have experience with food co-ops. And as a worker/community member, you have experience we need—from organizational development, branding/ messaging, finance/accounting, fundraising, to real estate development and community outreach. Even people you know or the groups you belong to are a valuable asset to the process!

## GET <u>involved</u>

PSFC members will receive FTOP credit in exchange for their participation. Join our MeetUp group at www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop or contact leffertsfarm@gmail.com for more information.

JOIN US: www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop

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#### 16 September 22, 2011

#### WELCOME!

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

Larissa Ashdown Shami Hariharan Anne Atwood Christopher Hastings Matt Atwood Juliet Heller Clare Baldwin Allison Hemler Elizabeth Baribeau Claire Hennigan Jennifer Becker Catherine Herrera Gila Berryman Ioseph Hirsh Chris Boeckelman Lauren Hourihan Shannon Boeckelman Clare Huntington Andrew Jondahl Daniel Bogin Allyson Bone Craig Jordan Steven Bone Jason Karp Lucas Brown Sarra Kaufman Jen Bryan Yuki Kitada Christine Callahan Yuuki Kitada Shannon Carroll Eric Kroh Johanna Case Maria LaHood Josephine Castro Audrey Lam Michael Cates Vanessa Lampson Ken Cera Yve Laris Cohen Sam Cialek Caitlin LaRussa Colin Coltrera William Leamon Stacey Cook Allan Lefcowitz Ashley Curl Rhianna Lehman Michael Dallaverde Gregory Lukianoff Ionathan Daniel Catherine Luu **Nestor Davidson** Greg McKelvey Hallie Davison Erin McMaugh Ron Ditmars Nastaran Mohit Ryan Duerme Carly Monardo Rvan Dunlavev Danielle S. Mooney Andrew Egelhoff Christina Morandini Elizabeth Elliott Nick Morgan Korie Enyard Michael Mori Chadwick Essinger-Matlin Madelyn Moyer Tamar Ettun Mary Murray Tara Fahey Khia Nelson Kristen Fairey Tahneer Oksman Rebecca Olerich Aaron Finkelstein Herman Finkler Jeannine Opie Michele Flournoy Alejandro Ortiz Alonso Sasha Foster-Andres Liza Pagano Nicole Pagliaro Iane Fox Yaniv Garama Karina Paschkowiak Olga Genua Katie Patch Kim Gittens Jerzy Pekala Jennifer Graziose Katarzyna Pekala Tony Perlstein Robert Graziose Alessandra Guarino Andrea Pfeffer Ari Pfeffer Jesse Hajer Alison Hamburg Maya Pindyck

Adam Podd Matthew Podd Rachel Pollak Daniella Polvak Aric Press Carolina Ramirez Nicole Ranucci David Ranzino Lauren Ranzino Simonne Ratliff Lucy Hannah Ravich Linda Reardon Sarah Redelings Erin Remick Cynthia Roszkowski Barent Roth Anja Rothe Julie Sage Nandor Sala Ivan Samstein Shanti Samstein Angela Sande Giuliana Sarullo Dan Sellars Ariel Turok Shapro Danielle Sigler Noah Silverman William Simon Christine Tesson Julia Tygel Hilda Valdez Sarah N Volkman Jonathan Waldauer Steven Waldman Cat Walleck Adia Ware Dorota Wasilewski M. Fatimah Weening Elizabeth Whitney Jenan Wise Ethan Wolff Justin Wolfson David Wong Stephen Wood Rachael Wyant Amit Yahav Steven Yang Josh Zaharoff



## We're one step closer to opening for business NOW WE NEED YOU!

The Bay Ridge Food Co-op is moving ever nearer to opening its doors, providing a valuable new resource for communities across South Brooklyn and beyond.

Response to the launch of our membership equity drive has already been amazing, but we still need your help to ensure we achieve all our goals. If you live in or close to Bay Ridge, do consider joining our co-op now – we have set a goal of 2500 members to open our doors, ensuring a desirable product selection and service level.

We're looking for people to help our growing membership with the many tasks that go into establishing a new co-op. Whatever your skills, talent or experience, your support will truly help make a difference. And please visit our site to subscribe to our email newsletter to keep up on our progress.

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

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



#### THANK YOU!

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

Jim

Chris A. Amelia Adler Phabillia Afflack-Borja Chris Agee Seema Agnani Alex Alejandra Alvarez Amélie Asmeret Emilia Awarska Jennifer Baumgartner Marcus Beck Mariel Berger Chris Berry Gregory Bertleff Brian Jonah Bruno Eliza Brown Dan Bursztyn Allison Burtch Julian Cabrera Bond Caldaro

Camella Anthony Carelli Molly Catchen Sarah Caufield Bryan Chang Sarah Chase Nicole Cherubini Tracy Christopher Chuck Andrew Clark Aja Cohen Evan Cohen Ilana Cohen Salina Cole Katherine Costello Isabel Cruz Rena Dascal Andrea Davila Laura Dawson Ana Djordjevic Ariel Duncan Omena Afua El

Jaz Ellis Rami Ezratty Karlyn Ferrari Andrei Finocchiaro Ifeona Fulani Paul Galli Sharon Gamble Elisabeth Garrett Sarah Geis Chris Geiser Sara Glaberson Hilary Goodfriend Marla Greenwald Benjamin Hagen Adam Hitt Sam Horwich-Scholefield **Emily Huber** 

Roger Hughes

Maida Ives

Avigail Hurvitz-Prinz

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Geoff Johnson Ionathan Bonnie Jones Claire Kaplan Adrienne Kahn Debora Kane Christie Kappes Josh Karpf Katherine Kelly Darrin Kevin Daniel Kohler Meredith Kolodner Rajesh Kottamasu Erica Kronenberg Shahdiya Kureshi Bill Lawrence Lee Lawrence Jason Lee Kyla Levin-Russell Shoshanna Levy Andrea Loukin

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Pieranna Pieroni Staci Pierson **Hewitt Pratt** Rebecca Press Emily Raphael Anne Ricci Lauren Ricciardi Dar Riser Liam Robinson Lauren Rosenblum Eddie Rosenthal Katherine Sammis Tyler Sargent David Schabloski Mary-Jo Schlachter Rebecca Semrau Jordan Shapiro Samara Shapiro Brooke Singer Nigel Spong Gregg Stankewicz

Joshua Steckel Dan Stillman Andrea J. Tabot Daisy Tainton Tanya Vita Pieter van Hattem Deirdre Von Dornum Deborah W. Ellen Weinstat Melissa White Omar Williams Whitney Williams Peter Wohlsen James Wong Thomas Yagoda Nikole Yinger Janice Young Diana Yourke Iwana Zych

Jordan Starr-Bochicchio