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1973

LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE



Volume FF, Number 20

October 6, 2011

What Goes on Upstate Comes Downstate: Extreme Weather, Fracking and Federal Policies Impact Coop Suppliers

By Alison Rose Levy

Over the last five years, novel weather events have increased around the country and around the world. Thanks to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, which occurred at the end of August and the first week of September respectively, even New York City felt the impact. So did the places where the Coop's food comes from, principally the upstate regions where a new breed of organic and sustainable farmers are growing the foods that health- and environmentally conscious people, such as Park Slope Food Coop members, prefer to eat.

What does this mean for New Yorkers, the poster children for the busiest people on earth? Do we have the bandwidth to look beyond the produce section to the plight of the farmers who grow our food?

The Impact of Weather

As torrential rains swept our region, many of the farms supplying the Coop with regional sustainable produce got an extreme dousing. Some lost crops, but with a whole lot of hard work will survive the coming winter. Some may not.

Many were too busy coping with flooded fields, harvesting ruined crops, or getting remaining crops to market to speak with the *Gazette*. But two farmers who represent both ends of the spectrum were able to do so. In Hillside, NY, in the east of the Hudson downstate region, Martin Stosiek of Markristo Farm reported that in his region, many farms like his were hurt but not devastated.



Messenger bike on the Lower East Side.

"When Irene happened, most of the group of farmers in our area were saying, 'We just have to suck it up,'" he said. "But when Lee happened, it was worse."

Stosiek, who sells organic greens to the Coop, detailed his losses: cabbage unsalable, green beans sitting in a swamp of water, unharvestable leafy greens, diseased due to the damp. Plus the rains will have long-term effects, he says. "It not only stalls the harvesting, but it will mean we can't put down cover crops like rye, which we usually do to protect the soil

over the winter months."

To make matters worse, the weeds are going to seed and planting themselves in that uncovered topsoil. "An organic farm can't use pesticides for weed management," says Stosiek, who is nevertheless confident he'll weather this storm, though it will mean more work, fewer crops, and less economic security. "We've been doing this for 24 years, so we're stable and we can weather this," he maintains. But newer farms may not always be so lucky.

Richard and Holley Giles

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ILLUSTRATION BY ROD MORRISON

Locavore Movement In Jeopardy in New York State

By Allison Pennell

The Park Slope Food Coop buys two cows, three pigs, seven lambs and 500 pounds of chicken from New York State farmers each week. No locally grown, lovingly produced delicacy gets short shrift at this joint. From wind-powered beer to artisanal cheeses, the Park Slope Food Coop has positively dedicated itself to helping the locavore movement of New York State grow and flourish.

And despite a forbidding climate for farming overall in New York, where a farm goes under roughly every three days, the last decade has seen a relative boom in local producers of organically grown and minimally treated foods. The Food Coop alone buys upwards of three million dollars a year from New York area producers and farms. (For more on how the recent violent weather has affected PSFC suppliers see What Goes on Upstate Comes Downstate, also in this issue.)

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Next General Meeting on October 25

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.* The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 25, 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.

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.
- Sat, Oct 15 • Slowing Down the DEC on the**
Fast Track to Frack NY State 1-3 p.m.

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

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What Goes On

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of Lucky Dog Farm in Hamden, NY, sell Swiss chard, kale, and other greens to the Coop, as well as to farmers' markets, restaurants and wholesalers. Last winter, at a dinner featuring their produce and hosted by Park Slope's Applewood restaurant, the chef told the assembled diners, "You can vote with your pocketbook to support organic and sustainable farms in our region by going to the farmer's market."

After storms like these, will acting like consumers and "voting with our pocketbooks" still be enough to support those who make our foods sustainable?

In Lucky Dog's region, Hurricane Irene leveled entire towns like Fleischmanns and Prattsville. "In the Schoharie Valley, this is the worst flood in everyone's living memory," Giles said.

Lucky Dog sits on the West Branch of the Delaware River, near one of New York

City's two watersheds. As the storm approached, Giles and his crew were up before sunrise harvesting everything they could. As the storm came in, they worked in standing water up to their ankles; within two hours, the water had risen to their knees, and a half-hour later they had to evacuate waters six feet high that had yet to fully subside when I spoke with him 10 days later.

"We didn't lose our house and the kids are okay. But the fields were flooded. We lost all our crops—lettuce, cabbages, and greens. We're losing the root vegetables, like potatoes, and onions, which are sitting in water and deteriorating underground."

Instead of selling end-of-summer crop, Lucky Dog was in triage. As Giles points out, "The crop we lost is the crop we use to pay large bills, like the farm loans, financed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA)."

Farmers don't fall under the auspices of FEMA (the

Federal Emergency Management Administration), but their loans are administered by the FSA. Obviously, a renegotiation of loans would help, but will it be forthcoming in the current political climate? And will the Coop members who eat Lucky Dog's lettuce, green beans, Swiss chard, potatoes and collards pay attention when these matters of public policy are decided? Or will they simply expect their food to show up in the produce section?

"People don't expect a product like cars to just appear. There are industries and infrastructures that must get built for that to happen," Giles says. "Because we farmers love farming, we put forth that effort. But it shouldn't be our sole responsibility to make sure that food shows up downstate in New York City."

The Potential Impact Of Fracking

Working with nature's cycle, Giles sees things systematically. For example, as Governor Cuomo opens New



Gas drilling can pollute freshwater lakes.

PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

York to gas drilling, he proposes to exclude Lucky Dog's environs, but Giles still wonders how fracking will impact farmers in neighboring regions. "They can't call their vegetables organic if the crops are watered from sources contaminated by fracking chemicals," he notes. (For more on fracking's effect on PSFC suppliers and shoppers please see *Locavore Movement in Jeopardy in New York State* in this issue.)

While fracking's impact on regional agriculture remains to be assessed, some view USDA policy as an inadvertent contributor to the fracking of New York: many large acre landholders leasing their land for fracking are dairy

farmers. "New York's dairy farmers are facing a crisis, and we cannot wait for the next Farm Bill to develop solutions," said Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in March, when she was named the Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, Poultry, Marketing and Agriculture Security, the first New Yorker in 40 years to serve on this committee, according to an article in *The Catskill Chronicle*.

It boils down to which sectors of agriculture are favored or disfavored by subsidies and regulations. ABC News reported that "just five crops account for 90 percent of all farm subsidies: cotton, corn, rice, wheat, and soybeans." (www.abcnews.go.com/Politics/tea-party-hypocrisy-law-makers-tea-party-ties-government/story?id=13259014)

This leaves dairy farms out. Their recent decline was covered in *The Catskill Chronicle* (www.thecatskillchronicle.com/our-government/united-states-senator-kirsten-gillibrand/gillibrand-to-serve-as-chair-for-the-subcommittee-on-livestock-dairy-poultry-marketing-and-agriculture-security/).

"According to the USDA, New York State lost 23 percent of its dairy farms in the last nine years. As of 2007, New York State was home to nearly 5,700 dairy farms, down from nearly 7,400 in 2002. Since then, New York has lost even more dairy farms, with only 5,400 today."

As individual farmers accept the offers to lease their mineral rights, will their choice have unintended consequences?

"But if we stand by as gas drilling upstate proceeds, do we just leave it to farmers to get the food to us, crossing our fingers and hoping it will be okay?" Giles ruminates. "Is this really what food's worth?"

Lucky Dog Farm is currently selling produce only to its retail customers. It is working towards having a spring crop for its wholesale outlets, such as the one that supplies the Coop. To join the extended community of friends and well-wishers lending a hand to help Lucky Dog Farm weather this season go to: www.luckydogorganic.com.



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

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.

VALET BIKE PARKING IS ON HERE SUNDAYS!

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.



PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee

Locavore

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And it's not just the Food Coop. Over the last decade, the USDA reports that the appetite for locally grown foods has gone through the roof. Farmers' market sales in the state went up by 57 percent from 2000 to 2010. Almost 80 percent of people surveyed in 2007 by the Cornell University Survey Research Institute buy locally. Farmers' markets alone accounted for sales of \$362 million in New York last year.

There's just one problem. Fracking, the process by which natural gas deposits buried deep under New York State are extracted by pouring gazillions of gallons of chemically treated water (exempted from Clean Water Act disclosure rules) down wells to break through the shale-protected motherlode.

In Pennsylvania, where fracking has already started, the level of radioactivity in the wastewater has sometimes been hundreds or even thousands of times the maximum allowed by the

federal standard for drinking water according to *The New York Times*. *The Times* also reported that more than 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater were produced by Pennsylvania wells over the past three years, far more than has been previously disclosed. Most of this water—enough to cover Manhattan in three inches—was sent to treatment plants not equipped to remove many of the toxic materials in drilling waste.

So, it is no exaggeration to say that the locavore movement in New York State is in jeopardy. Should Governor Cuomo allow hydrofracking to proceed as widely anticipated, how many New Yorkers will want to buy local if it means they are putting their health in jeopardy?

"Even with our tremendous commitment to New York farmers, we could easily stop buying from them," says Joe Holtz, PSFC General Coordinator. "As real as our commitment is, it could go down the tubes and become irrelevant to our decision-making on where to buy. The

relevant thing would be to avoid buying from New York State farmers."

It will be a hard sell, agrees Bill Malloy, PSFC meat and poultry buyer. "A cattle farmer comes to the Coop and says my cows are humanely raised, they're grass-fed and grass-finished, they're treated nicely and I give them a foot rub every afternoon. Oh, by the way, they drink poisoned water. Yeah, that's definitely going to have an effect on how they get sold."

Joe Holtz's and Bill Malloy's former doctor, Ken Jaffe—who gave up medicine to start Slope Farms in Meredith, NY in 2004—is one of the success stories of the boutique farming movement. He sells a cow a week to the Food Coop. Jaffe says if gas drilling comes to his area, he can't imagine Slope Farms surviving.

"Nobody has looked at what has happened to livestock in those areas near fracking operations. It's going to be a disaster," Jaffe told me the other day. "Livestock, in particular, tend to

be drinking from ponds and streams. Gas drillers plan eight to 12 wells per pad and three million gallons per well in every square mile of the town Marcellus, all handled under very difficult conditions. If there's a spill it runs down into the surface water. That's not even talking about the ground water contamination, which will get into the aquifer."

Indeed, farmers across Pennsylvania have reported birth deformities and sickness in their cattle. A herd of 28 cows was quarantined last fall when wastewater from a nearby fracking well leaked into their field. As Reuters reported, the Pennsylvania state agriculture department said that the toxic water—which included chloride, magnesium, potassium, and strontium, a heavy metal toxic to humans especially young children—contaminated the cows' meat. The year before, in Louisiana, 16 cows died after exposure to fracking run-off.

The plans submitted for public review by the state's Department of Environmental Conservation call for opening 80 percent of the state to fracking. They recommend an outright ban of fracking within the NYC and Syracuse watersheds while green-lighting it everywhere else. The proposed gas well maps are an eery doppelganger to the agro-business

maps of the state. So, while your water may be kind of/sort of protected if you live in NYC, your locally grown foods certainly won't be.

But, there is a glimmer of hope. New Yorkers have until December 12 to submit public comments to the NY DEC about their proposal for fracking in the state. To do so, visit www.dec.ny.gov/energy/76838.html.

In addition, the DEC plans to hold four public hearings (or so they say) during the comment period for the SGEIS and regulations in November. The meetings will be held in counties in the Marcellus Shale area, as well as in New York City. Dates and locations will be announced shortly.

And feel free to "friend" Governor Cuomo on Facebook and tell him what you think or give him a call at 518.474.8390.

You can remind Governor Cuomo of what he said in his own agricultural platform, Farm NY: "Land is the lifeblood of the agricultural industry and the protection of New York State's long term food supply, the environment and the health of the public are directly related to the preservation of this land."

And please see Joe Holtz's open letter to state elected officials printed in this issue. Well, Cuomo is politically dead to me if he lets this go through. ■

A Letter from Joe: What the Frack?

Park Slope Food Coop
"Good Food at Low Prices for Working Members through Cooperation since 1973"

December 8, 2010

Open letter to Members of the New York State Senate, Members of the New York State Assembly, Governor Patterson and Governor-Elect Cuomo:

We are a retail food cooperative that is owned by our 15,800 members. Last year we purchased millions of dollars of New York State produced agricultural products.

Earlier this year we voted to support a statewide ban on hydrofracking. Our mission statement includes a strong commitment to being a good environmental citizen.

But today I want to alert you to a less obvious effect that hydrofracking will have on us and on the NYS farms whose products we make a great effort to buy. We are very responsive to the needs of our shoppers. If hydrofracking is allowed to go forward and meats from New York State are produced in areas where hydrofracking is taking place. It will not take many inquiries for us to start researching alternatives to NYS products.

In regard to animals raised in New York State, last year (and we have grown another 6% this year) we purchased the following: over \$500,000 of chickens and over \$400,000 of beef, lamb, and pork.


In regard to fruits and vegetables grown in New York State, we purchased over \$1,500,000 last year. It's too difficult for us to calculate the yogurt, cheese, eggs, cider and milk that we source from New York State.

As members of the Pride of New York program we have taken our responsibility to buy New York State produced food very seriously. But no one thinking clearly would think for a minute that hydrofracking will not quickly destroy that commitment.

As New Yorkers, yes even though we are urban New Yorkers, we want to preserve New York State farms. Please insure that we are not wondering about whether the grass fed cows we buy were drinking contaminated water and breathing the air fowled by numerous enormous trucks that will support the hydrofracking process and the process itself. I guarantee that our members will not want the fruits and veggies that come from farms in an industrial area. They will ask their employees to look elsewhere and we will.

Joe Holtz
 Joe Holtz
 General Manager
 Park Slope Food Coop Inc, Brooklyn, New York

782 Union Street Brooklyn, NY 11215 Tel: 718-622-0560

 PHOTO BY INGRID CUSON
 Joe Holtz

TOM CHAPIN
FAMILY CONCERT AND FOOD FAIR
TO BENEFIT THE BROOKLYN FOOD COALITION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23 **12:00 - 1:30**
FOOD FAIR--DISPLAYS OF SCHOOL FOOD PROJECTS IN OUR SCHOOLS PLUS HEALTHY LUNCH FOR SALE

PS 58 **1:30 - 3:00**
330 SMITH STREET F/G AT CARROLL ST. CONCERT

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
BROOKLYNFOODCOALITION.ORG
\$10 EACH/\$25 PER FAMILY (UP TO 5)
AT THE DOOR: \$12 EACH/\$30 PER FAMILY (UP TO 5)

HONORING CITY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAD LANDER AND AUTHOR JAN POPPENDECK FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON SCHOOL FOOD CHANGE.

painting © Jerry Smith
www.tomchapin.com

Carving Out a Good Time

By Nicole Feliciano

Halloween is almost here and it's time to start thinking about decorating those pumpkins. Whether you're a kid getting into the trick-or-treat spirit or a grown-up who likes to tap into your inner hooligan—this low-cost creative activity is an excellent way to welcome fall.

Pumpkin Facts

This time-honored Halloween tradition started in Ireland. The Irish carvers worked with different materials: turnips, rutabagas, gourds, potatoes and beets. The tradition of carving vegetables into jack-o'-lanterns was meant to welcome friendly spirits and keep the evil spirits at bay.

Halloween was first celebrated in the United States in the 1840s when Irish Catholics, fleeing from the potato famine, brought their Halloween customs with them to America. Once the tradition moved to the USA, the turnips were traded in for pumpkins because they are easy to grow, larger and easier to carve.

Now pumpkin carving is a well-honed craft and a tradition that young and old look forward to as a signal of the changing seasons. It's a lot less about warding off evil spirits than about creating an evening of crafty fun.

The Perfect Specimen

When it's time to select your pumpkin for carving, you'll want to make sure to find a bruise-free pumpkin. Look for smooth and evenly colored skin to make drawing and designing easier. For display purposes, you'll want to find a pumpkin with flat, stable

base so it sits upright and doesn't roll down your stoop. Beware: Avoid pumpkins with mold around the stem. This may indicate potential rot.

Finding Inspiration

If you've ever experienced carver's block, don't worry. There are plenty of ways you can unleash your inner artist before you grab the steak knife. Check out comic books, online craft sites and favorite children's books for inspiration. Remember: pumpkins don't necessarily have to be scary. They can be cute, cheeky or crazy—it's all up to you. For some pumpkin carving templates and grand visions of Halloween, visit www.marthastewart.com/pumpkins-101.

Kids rarely need to look far for ideas. If you are working with pint-sized designers, get them started by having them draw out designs on paper. When they have a draft that pleases, transfer the drawings onto the pumpkin with tracing paper or by lightly tracing the drawing with an X-ACTO knife onto the pumpkin. This drafting method works equally well for type-A adults who want to map out the entire pumpkin face before jumping into the project.

What You'll Need

Start by organizing your tools into buckets. Keep the sharpest tools out of children's reach, of course. Have a spot for the seeds to be collected and cleaned for roasting, a spot for carving tools, a spot for drawing tools and a bucket for accessories such as glitter, attachable ears and fake blood.

Make sure your carving instruments are sharp. Though this might be counter-intuitive, a dull knife can cause you to exert more force and lead to a hand or finger slipping into the blade. If you are planning detailed work, do yourself a favor and invest in a carving saw, available at craft stores.

Begin by drawing a circle on the bottom or top of your pumpkin. Carefully cut along lines with the carving saw. Angle the blade towards the center of the pumpkin to create a ledge that supports the cut piece, then remove.

Now it's time to dig in and get messy. You'll want to clean out the seeds and strings with a scoop or spoon (we find an ice cream scoop works splendidly). Keep scraping the inner pulp away from the area you plan to carve until the pumpkin wall is approximately one inch thick.

Grab your knife or saw and set to work. Try to hold the pumpkin on a low stable surface. Hold the saw steady at a 90° angle to the pumpkin. Use the tool like a pencil and saw steadily with a continuous up-and-down motion. Use gentle pressure and keep at it until your creation is done.

Out of the Ordinary

Maybe you had a nasty incident with a saw last year and want to steer clear of sharp objects. There are many cool

and creepy ways to dress up a pumpkin that don't involve trips to the emergency room.

Tiny revelers can have a go with paint and glitter glue. These beauties won't rot and don't need a ton of parental supervision. Treatments such as these are also wonderful for the tiny decorative pumpkins.

You may also want to consider an updated hue—did you know that orange isn't the only color of pumpkins? The lumina pumpkin is an eerie white color and makes a great media for carving ghosts.

Showing Off Your Creations

We spoke to the pros at PumpkinMasters.com about tips for effectively illuminating your pumpkin. Here are a few tips for lighting up your jack-o'-lantern this Halloween.

When using a candle, cut a hole on the upper back part of the pumpkin. The hole will work like a chimney by allowing the candle's heat to escape.

- If you create an opening at the bottom of the pumpkin, attach the light source to the bottom lid and place the pumpkin over it. Try drilling a hole to secure the candle. This provides a little more stability and safety, and balances the flickering effect.

- A flashing light is ideal for spooky pumpkin carvings.

- Sprinkle a little cinnamon, nutmeg and pumpkin spice on the bottom of the pumpkin lid. Once the pumpkin is lit, it will create a wonderful seasonal scent.

Care and Feeding

Nothing is more disappointing than having your painstakingly carved pumpkin ooze and decay a week before the big day. Rather than getting spooked out, study these tips to avoid "pumpkin rot."

Simple dehydration will



ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO

begin the moment the pumpkin is carved. Try to schedule carving as close to the time you plan to display the pumpkin as possible. To avoid rot, sterilize the pumpkin's carved surfaces (to kill fungi, mold, bacteria and bugs). Here's how: start by wiping down the exterior of the pumpkin with a clean, damp cloth. Next, make a bleach solution of 1 tablespoon of bleach per quart of water and put it in a spray bottle. Spray the inside of the pumpkin and all cut areas of the pumpkin with the solution. This will kill much of the surface bacteria and mold that cause rotting.

After the pumpkin dries, rub the pumpkin's outer shell with petroleum jelly. This will keep out new bacteria and molds as well as dramatically reduce the dehydration.

Another key is keeping your spooky creation cool. Some folks store the carved beauties in the fridge when they are not on display.

Zero Waste Projects

After the hacking away is complete, there's another project to take on—roasting the delicious pumpkin seeds. Rinse the goo off the seeds and set them on a dishtowel. Preheat oven to 300 degrees while you toss the seeds in a bowl with melted butter or canola oil and salt. Spread the seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet and bake for about 45 minutes or until golden brown; stir occasionally. Add spice as desired. These make a terrific, sugar-free Halloween snack. ■

Vwllss

All the clues listed below consist entirely of consonants. Each clue can be reconstituted into at least three different common words by adding appropriate vowels.

For example, the clue dbl can be turned into "double," "edible" or "audible."

The number of missing vowels may vary from word to word. Some clues can be expanded to more than three words. The answer key lists three common words per clue, but alternative solutions are possible.

dnc

hnt

lsh

nbl

blsh

bslt

frth

scld

cmmnd

thrst

Puzzle author: Stuart Marquis. For answers, see page 7.

Board Election

Election of a new member of the Board of Directors at the October 25th General Meeting.
Term expires at the June 2012 Annual Meeting.

If you are interested in this position, please attend the meeting and announce your candidacy.

If you have questions about the Board or the election, please speak to a General Coordinator at 718-622-0560.

Coop Suppliers Bake Bread with a Mission

By Hayley Gorenberg

Carbo-loading at the Coop takes on a whole new meaning once you get to know our bread suppliers. It turns out that each purchase of tasty loaves from the shelves helps create much more than a tempting spread on your table.

Hot Bread Kitchen

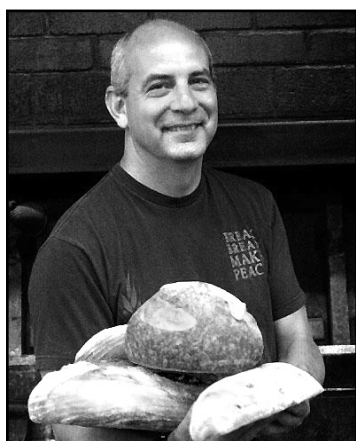
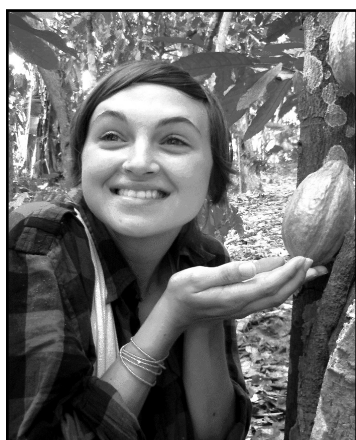
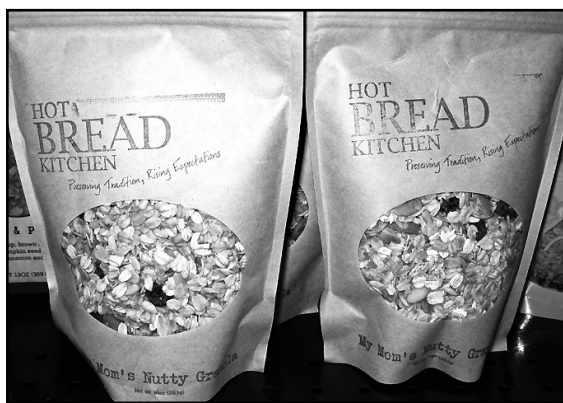
Hot Bread Kitchen produces food with a social justice mission. The company is more than a bakery, according to sales coordinator Anika Pyle. Hot Bread Kitchen is a nonprofit social enterprise dedicated to improving the lives of foreign-born and minority women through job training and small business incubation programs.

Hot Bread Kitchen pays wages to women while they learn artisanal bread baking skills, take classes in English as a second language and learn to launch their own food enterprises or garner management-track positions in the food industry. "Our multi-ethnic breads are inspired by our bakers and honor traditions from the countries they come from," Pyle explained in an email. "Our bread is not just delicious, it is an essential tool for promoting social justice and female empowerment. While women have been working in the kitchen for centuries, we still have not been given proper representation in the industry. With every loaf, we're working to change that."

Pyle called Hot Bread Kitchen "an organization dedicated to celebrating the skills and contributions of women."

The company produces a distinctive Moroccan flatbread called M'smen. Hot Bread Kitchen combines organic wheat flour, semolina, and a bit of butter and oil to yield bread Pyle described as "a mix between naan bread and a croissant, the medley of two outstanding and delicious immigrant bread baking traditions!"

The company's most popular product is its Heritage Corn Tortilla, inspired by Hot Bread Kitchen's very first baker, a woman from Puebla, Mexico. The tortillas are made the traditional way—by stone-grinding fresh corn and adding only a little lime to soften the kernel's skin. "By



Middle left: Anika Pyle, Sales Coordinator of Hot Bread Kitchen. Bottom left: Daniel Leader, founder of Bread Alone and South African Whole Grain Bread Project. Bottom right: Hot Bread Kitchen uses corn grinder imported from Mexico to make its tortillas.

using fresh corn instead of dehydrated corn flour, we achieve the rich, nutty taste produced in ancient tortilla recipes—corn tortillas that actually taste like corn!" said Pyle. She added that the tortillas are vegan and gluten-free, "and make the perfect base to any taco, tostada or quesadilla."

Pyle considers working with PSFC an excellent opportunity for Hot Bread Kitchen. "Our training programs are supported through bread sales, so every PSFC member is a potential long-term funder. We celebrate any opportunity to work with other organizations that focus on people before profit, prioritize local and organic products and delight in delicious bread!"

Bread Alone

Twenty-eight years ago Dan Leader founded Bread Alone, which he said is "the only certified organic artisan



bakery in the New York metropolitan area." The bakery produces handcrafted, traditional European-style hearth breads, free of preservatives and other additives. "All of our recipes are very traditional," said Leader. "Flour, water, salt, yeast or sourdough, slowly fermented, baked in brick ovens." The ingredients and hand-care yield breads with "more body, more texture, more flavor, more crust, a little more textured crumb," he said.

Bread Alone came to the Coop more than two decades ago, and offers whole-wheat sourdough, French sourdough, multigrain, sourdough rye and a wheat peasant loaf. The company also produces popular granolas, though they are not organic products.

Leader transitioned from chef to owner of a bread bakery after he was inspired by local bakers he met through friends in France and else-

where in Europe. "I call it the backdoor school of bread baking," he said. "Someone takes you to the backdoor of the bakery, you knock at the door, you say you're interested and that's how you learn."

Leader's influence extends beyond the Coop, the Catskills or Europe. He teamed up with retired physi-

cian Dr. Neil Ratner and his wife, Leann Ratner, on World AIDS Day to start the South African Whole Grain Bread Project (SAWGBP), a Johannesburg bakery project designed to provide high-quality, nutritious whole-grain bread to South Africans, particularly those with HIV. Leader made the critical connection during a trip to South Africa as a bakery consultant for a supermarket chain in 2005. The founder of a residential care center for mothers and children with HIV asked him to teach a bread baking class. When he offered to volunteer further, she suggested he deploy his skills to teach South African mothers in need to bake bread.

Back in New York, Leader, who has written books on baking bread, employs 100 people but makes PSFC sales calls in person. "We love the Park Slope Food Coop," he said. "I love going there. I love that we sell our bread at what we consider a reasonable price, and you sell at a markup that makes it very affordable. It's a win-win for everybody. It's really refreshing to deal with the Coop."

Bread Alone runs cafes in Woodstock and Rhinebeck, NY, and weathered Hurricane Irene fairly well compared to nearby farmers, Leader says. Bread Alone suffered no direct damage from flooding, but made an \$85,000 insurance claim for product produced that could not be delivered or sold.

Bread Alone also stocks the Grand Army Plaza greenmarket on Saturdays. "We're a small, privately held business," said Leader. "We're true to our word. We're the real deal. If you come here, you see bakers baking in brick ovens. It's not hype." ■

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Monday, October 17, 12:30 to 3:15 p.m.

Monday, October 24, Noon to 2:45 p.m.

Tuesday, October 25, 12:15 to 3 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.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

A Safe Way to Dispose of Rx Drugs

By Cynthia Blayer

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has organized the third national pharmaceutical take-back day on Saturday, October 29, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in locations across the United States. The DEA website (www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html) allows you to type in your zip code and find the locations nearest to you. There are numerous locations in Brooklyn and other NYC boroughs—more will

be added to the database until the day of the event.

The amount of pharmaceuticals currently in use has become an environmental problem because, like everything else, sooner or later the drugs turn into waste products. Trace elements of a wide variety of drugs including antibiotics, anti-depressants and sex hormones have been found in lakes and rivers as well as numerous municipal water supplies. In an effort to mitigate this problem, pharmaceuti-

cal take-back events have been organized to properly collect and dispose of leftover medications so they do not migrate into the environment.

Last April's second National Prescription Drug Take-Back event garnered more than 376,593 pounds (188 tons) of unwanted or expired medications at the 5,361 take-back sites that were available in all 50 states. This is 55 percent more than the 242,000 pounds (121 tons) the public brought in during last September's event.

This is not a reason to switch to bottled water, much of which comes from municipal water supplies. Our drinking water is carefully monitored. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires hundreds of tests each month on municipal water supplies, but the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which regulates bottled water, requires only one test per week. New York City is blessed with an exceptionally good water supply—let's do what we can to keep it that way. ■

Visit www.ecokvetch.com for more information, comments or questions.

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Gasland: More than a Movie

By Adam Rabiner

With its first-person mellow narration and a cinematographic style fond of slightly off kilter colors, quick cuts, fast-moving forests filmed from his car and a particularly strange and harrowing scene of the narrator wearing a gas mask and playing banjo in a barren landscape of oil and gas rigs, Josh Fox's powerful anti-fracking documentary, *Gasland*, evokes a dreamy, surreal world. However, Fox intends this film to be a wake up call from what he suspects is a very real nightmare.

Part road trip, part detective story, Fox first learned about

hydraulic fracturing (or fracking) in 2009 when he received a letter from a natural gas company offering to pay him a hefty sum for the right to lease his land, which happened to sit on top of the massive Marcellus Shale. At the offer price of \$4,750 per acre, Fox stood to make about \$100,000 for granting the company the right to drill on his 19 acres.

He refused, of course, and then began his fact-finding mission using a two-pronged approach—reaching out to the industry as well as to those who, unlike Fox, chose to accept the industry's financial offers. In the style of a video

diary, he films himself futilely trying to get company representatives to speak to him over the phone. Not surprisingly, not only does T. Boone Pickens refuse to answer his call, he gets the runaround from just about everybody.

When he does succeed in landing an on-screen interview or two, the unsuspecting individuals quickly depart after sensing a trap, handing Fox their cards. As a viewer, it is frustrating to watch these interviews abort but it's poignant, too, because their wall of silence echoes the Cheney exemption which allows natural gas companies

to avoid the reporting requirements of the Clean Air and Water Act. The would-be interviewees' abrupt departures reflect the obfuscation and resistance that the industry (and to some extent its regulators) have inflicted on the ever-growing numbers of people harmed by fracking.

Fox is much more successful getting fracking's victims to open up. From Dimock, PA, to countless towns in Colorado, Arkansas, Utah, Ohio and many other states, his subjects tell the same stories of: wells contaminated with methane and other poisons, people and animals sickened, natural formations leveled and destroyed, air and the environment polluted. By movie's end, Fox, like us, is

saddened and a bit dazed. He recognizes that his backyard, his precious creek, is not his but belongs to everyone.

Gasland has a distinct and strong point of view. It has been critiqued as unbalanced. Perhaps a more nuanced argument is made in Daniel Yergin's new book, *The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World*. However, *Gasland*, succeeds for what it is: an artistic, poignant and frightening warning of a possibly grim future—and an urgent call for action. It also won an Emmy and a Sundance Special Jury Prize. ■

Tuesday, October 11. Park Slope Food Coop, 2nd Floor. 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

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.

RETURN POLICY

 park slope
FOOD COOP

The Coop strives to 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

1. 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.

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

Produce* Bulk* (incl. Coop-bagged bulk)
Cheese* Seasonal Holiday Items
Books Special Orders
Calendars Refrigerated Supplements
Juicers & Oils
Sushi *A buyer is available during the week-days to discuss your concerns.

NEVER
RETURNABLE

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)
Frozen Goods
Meat & Fish
Bread

RETURNABLE
ONLY IF SPOILED
BEFORE
EXPIRATION DATE
Packaging/label
must be present-
ed for refund.

Items not listed above that are unopened
and unused in re-sellable condition

RETURNABLE

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.

Follow
the
Food
Coop
on

twitter



@foodcoop

*You Are Invited!***The New York City Labor Chorus' Gala 20th Anniversary Concert at Town Hall****Member
Contribution***By Robert Harris and
Carol Paradis*

You may have seen their table in front of the Coop recently. The PSFC members at the table are also among the 75 members of the New York City Labor Chorus, which has been performing songs of labor, peace and social justice throughout NYC and beyond since 1991. They're selling tickets and promoting their upcoming Gala 20th Anniversary Concert at Town Hall on Saturday, November 5.

This Town Hall concert promises to be especially

exciting. Director Jana Ballard, a teacher and choral director at LaGuardia High School of Music and Art, has added new repertoire including adaptations of songs by Queen ("We Are the Champions") and Bobby Darin ("Simple Song of Freedom"), as well as John Lennon's "Imagine."

The chorus has carried their musical messages of American labor and social struggles to Sweden, Wales, Canada and Washington, DC. In April they toured Cuba, performing with the National Chorus of Cuba as well as provincial and trade

union choruses.

With a membership drawn from some 20 different metro-area labor unions, the chorus performs an international repertoire that ranges over the musical traditions of gospel, jazz, classical, and folk.

They sing at union rallies and on picket lines, at 9/11 memorial services, at the United Nations, at concert halls, churches, and synagogues, and at anti-war marches.

They perform for teamsters, transit workers, teachers, and taxi drivers.

They sing to commemo-

rate events as varied as Pete Seeger's 90th birthday celebration at Madison Square Garden, Paul Robeson's Centennial, the 100th anniversary of the Triangle factory fire and the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln.

Earlier this year in *The New York Times*, Clyde Haberman devoted a column to the chorus ("The Message of Labor, Proclaimed Through Song"): "If ever public service unions needed to have their voices heard, it is now, when they find themselves demonized for much that ails America...."

"It started as a lark," said Barbara Bailey, the chorus's president and one of its founders. "The thought was to use it as a tool at rallies, at meetings, whatever. The point is, we're trying to revive the labor movement, labor culture. What better way than with song?"

Tickets to the Gala 20th Anniversary Concert at Town Hall on Saturday, November 5 at 8 p.m. (\$25; \$15 for seniors, students, unemployed) can be purchased at the table or at the Chorus website, www.nyclc.org, where there is further information about the NYCLC. ■

**Coop Job Opening:****Receiving/Stocking Coordinator****Evenings & Weekends****Description:**

The Coop is hiring a Receiving/Stocking Coordinator to work evenings and weekends.

The evening and weekend Receiving/Stocking Coordinators have a lot of responsibility overseeing the smooth functioning of the store and supporting the squads. They work with the Receiving squads, keeping the store well stocked and orderly while maintaining the produce quality. At the end of the evening, they set up the receiving areas to prepare for the following day's early morning deliveries.

The ideal candidate will be a reliable, responsible self-starter who enjoys working with our diverse member-workers. You must be an excellent team player, as you will be sharing the work with several other Receiving Coordinators. You must have excellent communication and organizational skills, patience, the ability to prioritize the work and remain calm under pressure.

We are looking for a candidate who wants a permanent evening/weekend schedule. This is a high energy job for a fit candidate. You must be able to lift and work for hours on your feet including in the walk-in coolers and freezer. Grocery store experience is a plus.

Hours: 37-40 hours per week, schedule to be determined

Wages: \$23.88/hour

Benefits: —Vacation—three weeks/year increasing in the 4th, 7th & 10th years
—health insurance
—Health and Personal time
—pension plan

Application & Hiring Process:

Please provide a cover letter and your résumé as soon as you can. Mail your letter and résumé or drop it in the mail slot in the entryway of the Coop. All applicants will receive a response. Please do not call the office to check on the status of your application. If you applied previously to another Coop job offering and remain interested, please reapply.

Probation Period:

There will be a six-month probation period.

Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least the past 6 months.

Applicants must have worked a minimum of three shifts in Receiving within the past year.

We are seeking an applicant pool that reflects the diversity of the Coop's membership.

Vwlss Sltn

dnc - audience, dance, dunce

hnt - haunt, hint, hunt

lsh - lash, leash, lush

nbl - enable, nebula, noble

blsh - abolish, bluish, blush

bslt - absolute, basalt, obsolete

frth - forth, fourth, froth

scld - scald, scold, seclude

cmmnd - command, commando, commend

thrst - theorist, thirst, thrust



ecokvetch
the environmental
committee blog

**Coop Members use
383 PLASTIC BAGS
an hour. WOW!**

Check out our
proposal to
**Phase Out the
Plastic Bag Rolls.**

ecokvetch.blogspot.com

COOP HOURS**Office Hours:**

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

Shopping Hours:

Monday–Friday
8:00 a.m. to 10:00* p.m.
Saturday
6:00 a.m. to 10:00* p.m.
Sunday
6:00 a.m. to 7:30* p.m.

*Shoppers must be on a checkout line
15 minutes after closing time.

Childcare Hours:

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

Telephone:

718-622-0560

Web address:

www.foodcoop.com

LINEWAITERS' GAZETTE

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

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

The *Gazette* welcomes Coop-related articles, and letters from members.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

Letters: Maximum 500 words. All letters will be printed if they conform to the guidelines above. The Anonymity and Fairness policies appear on the letters page in most issues.

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. 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.

very The Good Coffeehouse COOP CONCERT SERIES

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

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 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...

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

**Third Thursday
OCTOBER 20
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.**

**Last Sunday
OCTOBER 30
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.**

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

PLASTICS

**What plastics do we accept?
Until further notice:**

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

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

PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

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



This Issue Prepared By:

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WORKSLOT NEEDS

Office Set-up**Monday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.**

Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and supplies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job might be for you. Please speak to Adriana in the Membership Office for more information.

General Meeting Set-up Workers**Last Tuesday of Month, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; 7:30-10:30 p.m.**

Looking for enthusiastic and energetic mem-

bers interested in joining the General Meeting setup team to participate in hauling supplies and equipment to and from the monthly General Meeting. Attending to all aspects, including: gathering, delivering, setup, cleanup, breakdown and return to Coop. 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.

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

This work slot 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.

**COOP CALENDAR****New Member Orientations**

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the four weekly New Member Orientations. To pre-register, visit 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, OCT 25**

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, NOV 1

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the Nov 29 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines**LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**

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

Nov 3 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Oct 24

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

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

Oct 20 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Oct 26

ALL ABOUT THE 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 decision-making process. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors. The Coop continued the tradition of General Meetings by requiring the Board to have open meetings and to receive the advice of the members at General Meetings. The Board of Directors, which is required to act legally and responsibly, has approved almost every General Meeting decision at the end of every General Meeting. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting in June. Copies of the Coop's bylaws are available on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 25, 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.

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. The sign-ups 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-for-workslot-credit program two times per calendar year.

• Certain Squads not eligible:

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

• Attend the entire GM:

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

• Signing in at the Meeting:

1. After the meeting the Chair will provide the Workslot Credit Attendance Sheet.

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

• Being Absent from the GM:

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

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

10 📅 October 6, 2011

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

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
fri 7 pm**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, squeeze@hotmail.com.

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
sat 1–3 pm**Slowing Down the DEC on the
Fast Track to Frack NY State**

Governor Cuomo and the Department of Environmental Conservation are putting the energy industry on a fast track to frack New York State. Why the hurry? The NYS DEC recently issued a Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) which, if accepted, will allow hydro-fracking to begin. We have until December 12 to send comments to the DEC. The Food Coop's Environmental Committee is organizing a series of workshops to provide guidance for writing an effective letter to the DEC, commenting on their regulations. Stop by at any point during one of the workshop sessions. Bring friends—Coop members and non-members are welcome! **Future sessions will be held: Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.; Sunday, November 6, 12 – 2 p.m.; Saturday, November 19, 2 – 4 p.m.**

oct 15
sat 7 pm**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
sat-sun 9 am–7 pm**Food Drive to Benefit
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
sun 12 pm**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!

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.**

oct 6–nov 12 2011

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 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 22
sat 10 am–2 pm

Slowing Down the DEC on the Fast Track to Frack NY State

Governor Cuomo and the Department of Environmental Conservation are putting the energy industry on a fast track to frack New York State. Why the hurry? The NYS DEC recently issued a Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SGEIS) which, if accepted, will allow hydro-fracking to begin. We have until December 12 to send comments to the DEC. The Food Coop's Environmental Committee is organizing a series of workshops to provide guidance for writing an effective letter to the DEC, commenting on their regulations. Stop by at any point during one of the workshop sessions. Bring friends—Coop members and non-members are welcome! **Future sessions will be held: Sunday, November 6, 12 – 2 p.m.; Saturday, November 19, 2 – 4 p.m.**

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 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.

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.

oct 23
sun 12 pm

Simple Solutions for Organizing Your Life

Is the clutter in your home or office causing you stress? Are you having trouble finding the space for everything that you own? Certain papers and documents too emotionally charged to face? Moving date looming and you don't know what to keep or toss? Get tips on how to: prioritize; develop a task list; clear out clutter; manage time. For the past 10 years, Coop member **Susan Kranberg**, a professional organizer and experienced business consultant, has helped homeowners, apartment dwellers and professionals find relief from chronic clutter and disorganization.

oct 25
tue 7 pm

PSFC OCT General Meeting



Items will be taken up in the order given. Times in parentheses are suggestions. More information on each item may be available 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: Annual Agenda Committee Election (20 minutes)

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

Item #2: Annual Coop Boycott Renewals (20 minutes)

Proposal: "The Coop will continue boycotting Coca-Cola products and Flaum Appetizing products." —mandated by the General Meeting

Item #3: Co-Sponsorship of the Next Brooklyn Food Conference (30 minutes)

Proposal: "The Park Slope Food Coop will be a co-sponsor of the 2012 Brooklyn Food Conference with a donation of \$10,000."

—submitted by Nancy Romer on behalf of the Brooklyn Food Coalition

Explanation: The Second Brooklyn Food Conference, on May 12, 2012, will strengthen the food movement and healthy, sustainable access in Brooklyn and beyond, and advance the community work of the Park Slope Food Coop.

Item #4: Interim Board of Directors Election (20 minutes)

Election: "One interim position on the Board of Directors is open. The term of office will be until the next Annual Meeting in June 2012. Nominations for this interim position will be accepted from the floor."

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.

still to come

oct 25

What Are Nutrient-Dense Foods?

oct 29

Introduction to Fertility Awareness

nov 1

Agenda Committee Meeting

nov 3

Food Class

nov 4

Film Night

nov 6

Slowing Down the DEC

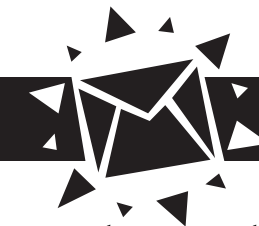
nov 8

Safe Food Committee Film Night

nov 11-12

Blood Drive

L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R



THANK YOU NANCY ROMER

TO THE EDITORS:

Thank you very much for your account of your protest, arrest, imprisonment and court experiences in the Sept. 8 Gazette.

It is very helpful to hear about what happened to you and your fellow activists, both so we can know the reality of what is happening to people and also to assist us to prepare ourselves if we intend to follow your lead.

You also gave a great explanation of the Tar Sands Oil Pipeline obscenity.

Elizabeth Tobier

THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL TACTIC

TO THE EDITORS:

Yes, anti-Semitism accusations have returned to the September 21 *Gazette*. Michael Rieman's letter doesn't explicitly say "anti-Semitism" but may as well have by saying that "hatred" "has shown itself here, at the Coop, embodied in the one-sided proposal for a boycott of Israeli goods, a proposal...without peace as a goal."

Irvin Shonfeld invokes "barely disguised Jew-hatred" to explain Jews who support BDS.

Ruth Bolletino argues that BDS is about "hatred," "anti-Semitism," and "Israel's destruction." She conjures up the holocaust, and then advises the Coop: "And here, be certain that active opposition to a boycott will not fade. It will only intensify until the proposal is laid to rest."

Such possibilities perhaps explain the General Coordinators almost uniform opposition to participation in the boycott.

Sylvia Lowenthal quotes "unfounded claims": razed homes and villages, checkpoints and a 60-year occupation, attributed to pro-BDS *Gazette* letters, *none of which* could be verified because she provided no citations. The first two are well-known features of military actions in the West Bank and Gaza. The third seems to question the occupation's very existence, which has lasted 44 years now (not the mysterious "60"). She claims that her anti-BDS partisans: "have researched our arguments and presented them fully and in civil language. The same cannot be said of our adversaries."

But my experience is quite the opposite. Past anti-BDS letters have often been poorly researched and used inflammatory accusations of anti-Semitic hatred. Her letter is yet another example.

She claims that BDS's goal is to populate Israel with Arabs: "inevitably outnumbering Jews and negating what is...the most compelling reason for Israel's existence as a Jewish state: the well-documented history of persecution, expulsion and extermina-

tion of Jews by other countries."

This naked reference to demographics, besides conjuring up gruesome images of hate-driven Arabs driving Jews into the Mediterranean—unless Israel maintains its status as a "Jewish State," reveals a sub-text of BDS and the entire Middle East conundrum. This status by definition means second-class citizenship for non-Jews, characterized by de facto and actual restrictions on immigration, land acquisition, and military service, and much worse for the occupied population of the coveted West Bank—"coveted" because how else does one explain the presence of the Jewish "Settlements," along with the length and inhumane conditions of the occupation. It further suggests that the Israeli regime has no intention of allowing a two-state solution, desiring rather the entire region, but ominously without the demographic possibilities Lowenthal fears.

Were the U.S., with its higher Christian demographic than Israel's Jewish one, to declare itself a Christian nation, needless to say the non-Christian population would not react kindly. But Palestinians have no reason to *destroy* Israel; rather, they have everything to gain from integrating into a technologically advanced and democratized nation, as do Jews. But how hard is it to understand that after 44 years of brutal and demeaning military occupation, people want it to end, and they want their human rights and dignity.

David Barouh

GETTING INFORMED

TO THE EDITORS:

There is talk about a proposal that PSFC join the global BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement by banning Israeli products. The situation in the Middle East has nothing whatever to do with the Food Coop. However, because the boycott issue is being discussed, members considering its merits need to know what it is actually about.

The problem is that many people, including media professionals, have decried the absence of balanced reporting about Israel in the news.

For example, the recent UN report about the flotilla incident concluded that Israel's Gaza blockade is legal, that Israel has the right to prevent weapons smuggling into Gaza, and that those on the Turkish boat leading the flotilla were more interested in becoming martyrs (as they declared they were) than in delivering aid. Yet this report was mostly ignored by the press, which focused instead on Israel's use of force to protect its sailors when they were attacked and Israel was condemned and vilified.

When Israel acts to defend itself—from terrorist attacks; rockets fired on civilian buses, schools and synagogues; stabbing of young people at a nightclub and even murder of infants

in their beds, the media (and then the world) talk about "excessive force" or "disproportionate reactions."

The media (and then the world) talk about Israel's "retaliation" rather than defensive measures to protect civilians.

The media (and then the world) talks about Israeli "occupation" when there is no indisputable territory of a West Palestine Arab state. Such a state has never existed in history.

The media (and the world) talk about "illegal Jewish settlers" when at best the land in question is legally disputed.

Global BDS is a major player in the game of distorting facts about Israel. Please read about its aims directly from the source, its website: www.bdsmovement.net/bdsintro.

Here are some information sources that present the other side of the story:

- CAMERA: Center for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting: www.camera.org
- Stand With Us: www.standwithus.org and www.sayyestopeace.org
- Real Partners. Real Peace: www.realpartnersrealpeace.org
- The American Israel Public Affairs Committee: www.AIPAC.org
- TIP (The Israel Project) Sheet: www.theisraelproject.org
- FrontLine Israel: www.israel/frontline.com/2011/08/scottish-professor-response-to-boycott
- Honest Reporting: www.honestreporting.com
- Simon Wiesenthal Center Newsletter: www.newsletter@wiesenthal.com
- Lies About Israel: www.liesaboutisrael.org
- Mitchell Bard, *The Arab Lobby*. (2010: New York, HarperCollins)

After visiting much of Israel and the West Bank last year, I concluded that the situation there is far more complex than I (and probably most visitors from abroad) understand.

If you are deciding whether or not to support an Israel boycott, please try to learn as much as you can about the current situation there, its historical context and the events that shape it.

Ruth Bolletino

COOP SWEDEN STOPS ALL PURCHASES OF SODASTREAM

TO THE EDITORS:

On July 19, 2011, Coop Sweden's supermarket chain, with 21.5 percent of Sweden's grocery retail business, announced it would stop all purchases of SodaStream, the Israeli maker of home carbonation devices (for seltzer) due to the company's activities in an illegal Israeli settlement in the West Bank. It is prohibited under the Fourth Geneva Convention for an occupying power to "transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies." After the 1967 war, Israel occupied the West Bank,

Gaza and East Jerusalem.

SodaStream's Report to SEC: On June 30, 2011, SodaStream, publicly traded on NASDAQ, filed a report with the US Securities and Exchange Commission describing the 164,214-square-foot facilities at Mishor Adumin (an industrial park) integral to Maaleh Adumin, an illegal settlement. Facilities include "a metal factory, plastic and bottle blowing factory, machinery factory, assembly factory, cylinder manufacturing facility, CO2 refill line and cylinder retest facility." Minor components sub-contracted out.

Palestine Solidarity Association of Sweden: In its educational outreach report to Coop Sweden, the Palestine Solidarity Association of Sweden highlighted the main issue: SodaStream, had partnered with Israeli firms complicit in violations of international law. The report emphasizes: "(A) product is part of a firm, and if you buy a product from a firm with an unethical operation, then you support the firm's operation."

Case Study on SodaStream: The study issued January 2011 by "Who Profits," a coalition of Women for Peace in Israel, underscored how purchasing SodaStream products directly supported the growth and development of Maaleh Adumin by municipal taxation of the company. Creating the industrial park involved stealing lands from seven surrounding Palestinian towns. It is Israel's 'largest area' settlement with 35,000 settlers; provides a link with illegal settlements in East Jerusalem to the Jordan Valley; bisects the West Bank, cutting off the north from the south.

Swedish TV Reports, SodaStream's Violations: On July 4, national TV (using information from Israeli journalists, human rights organizations and SodaStream's corporate data) reported "that despite claims to the contrary by both SodaStream and its Swedish distributor, Empire, "(SodaStream) products sold in Sweden were produced in an illegal settlement in the occupied West Bank. " Two weeks later, Coop Sweden stopped all purchases of SodaStream.

Global Compact: UN Ethical Guidelines for Business: Selling products in violation of international law runs contrary to Coop Sweden's ethical standards as well as Principle Two of the Global Compact, the UN ethical guidelines for business: "Business should make sure they are not complicit in human rights abuses." "Complicity basically means being implicated in human rights abuse that another company, government, individual, group etc is causing."

Implications for PSFC: Our mission statement: "We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others." "We oppose discrimination in any form." Rather than being complicit, PSFC should follow the lead of Coop Sweden: stop all purchases of SodaStream.

L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R

References: Electronic Intifada, UN Global Contract, BDSmovement.net, www.whoprofits.org, www.Code-Pink.org.

Mary Buchwald

A SIMPLE ANSWER?

TO THE EDITORS:

I have read many, but not all, of the letters regarding a boycott of products from Israel. I did not attend the July 26 General Meeting so I know that I have missed some details of this issue.

Surely somewhere in this discussion there is a list of Israeli products carried by the Park Slope Food Coop. Please publish this list so that I might know what this is all about. I assume that the Israeli couscous found in the bulk area is one of the items being scrutinized.

H.L. Mencken is not currently a PSFC member, but perhaps we can allow him to contribute to this debate with these few words: "For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear, simple and wrong."

Paul Friedman

BDS IS UNFAIR

TO THE EDITORS:

During a recent trip to the Coop I was handed a flier titled "An Open Conversation on Cultural Boycott of Israel." I had to read the smaller print to realize that this was an invitation to a kangaroo court, in which the state of Israel, already presumed guilty, will be the subject of a "conversation" on whether a boycott against it would be "appropriate and effective."

I am an Israeli artist, keenly aware of the history of Israel and its place in the Middle East. I'm also painfully aware of the vicious smear campaign that has been conducted against Israel and the "cultural boycott" against Israeli artists, scholars and organizations: film makers, orchestras, dance companies, musicians—including Israeli Arabs who dare to collaborate with Jews—on university campuses, cultural forums, festivals and media outlets. The "BDS movement" subverts the human-rights discourse in the cause of Israel bashing. The appearance of a spawn of this movement on the doorsteps of my favorite food store is a direct, discriminatory attack against me, as an Israeli. Banning Israeli products would be no different than banning me as an Israeli from the store out right.

The injustice of this campaign is breathtaking. Israel is a liberal and humane society. It affords equal rights to all its citizens, including its large Arab minority, which is represented in all walks of life and professions, in parliament, in government and on its Supreme Court. The State of Israel tolerates dissent and funds art even when it is devastatingly critical of it. Its courts are a free branch of government where even declared ene-

mies of the state can file suits, and all are equal before the law, including presidents and prime ministers. Israel should be admired and celebrated for its achievements, not boycotted.

When you contrast Israel with its neighbors, including the Palestinians, you will find the reverse characteristics in almost every respect, authoritarianism, dictatorship, and/or chaos, corruption, cruelty and lack of value for human life. The ancient Jewish communities in Arab countries, including Palestine, have all been decimated. In Gaza, a territory that was cleared of all its resident Jews, the Palestinians freely chose to elect Hamas, a reactionary, misogynistic, Al Qaeda supporting, terror organization, with a blatantly Anti-Semitic charter that includes references to the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," and Quranic quotes calling on Muslims to kill Jews (widely available online). This disparity is what makes the achievement of a just and lasting peace so difficult, not anything you may have heard about the supposed offenses of state Israel. Every person with a moral compass and a rudimentary knowledge of the facts should stand with Israel and the values it espouses.

And yet, the public-relation campaign of demonizing and delegitimizing Israel has had significant "success." It is now fashionable in many quarters to hate Israel—and the Jews—again. But Israel is not the only casualty of this BDS lynch mob. Their subversion and corruption the Human Rights discourse should worry anyone who cares about Human Rights, progress, truth and common decency.

Yoav Gal

THE COMPANY BDS KEEPS: UNHRC

TO THE EDITORS:

BDS supporters have cited as serious the promulgations against Israel issued by the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC).

This is the UNHRC of the notorious Richard Falk, who has in turn replaced the extremist John Dugard (who, like BDS, hyperbolically and without evidence under international law likened Israel to apartheid South Africa) as Investigator of Israeli actions in the Territories, a man who shamelessly deploys the language of the Holocaust in equating the treatment of the Palestinians to the collective atrocities of Nazi, Rwandan and Bosnian genocide, although he in fact goes on to acknowledge in his writings that absolutely and unequivocally no such genocide has in fact been perpetrated in the Territories [see for evidence: Falk R. *Slouching Towards Palestinian Holocaust*. Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research. June 29, 2007]. This is the Richard Falk of racist cartoons and fundamentalist biases, an enthusiastic promoter of conspiracy theories including the U.S. involvement in the 9/11 al-

Qaeda atrocity and a starry-eyed praiser of Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini.

This is the same UNHRC that has spent more time and resources on Israel than any other country, but in its entire history to date has never passed a single resolution concerning human rights violations in states such as Syria and China and has ignored thousands of independently verified complaints of gross and systematic human rights abuses in Liberia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen, Zimbabwe and others, allowing these major human rights violators to enjoy complete moral, procedural and exculpatory immunity.

This is the UNHRC who has on its governing board Iran, Pakistan, Cuba, Russia and members of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Conference), and other members with odious human rights records have recently been elected to the Commission that include racially-driven genocidal Sudan, as well as Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe. This is the UNHRC for which Libya served as chairman of the Commission in 2003, despite ties to the Lockerbie bombing and its own domestic human rights abuses. This is the UNHRC that has refused to remove from its website an anti-Semitic text (A/HRC/13/NGO/23) that outrageously accuses Israeli doctors of a racist conspiracy to steal organs from Palestinian Authority Arabs, the text of which was submitted by the laughable and Orwellian International Organization for Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, a group amazingly created wholly in Libya and closely tied to Muammar Kaddafi's horrific regime. And this is the UNHRC that has praised Libyan dictator Muammar Kaddafi's regime for its sterling human rights record!

This is the UNHRC of the BDS, but not of any moral person dedicated to justice and peace in the Middle East truly inclusive of the concerns of both Palestinians and Israelis and respectful of their complex and competitive nationalist aspirations in one and the same land for which only sincere negotiations for peace with mutual accommodation, not hollow boycotts, can hope to bring about.

Bad company.

Constantine Kaniklidis

THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COOP

TO THE EDITORS:

As I write this, President Obama is pressing for a negotiated two-state solution. Palestinian President Abbas is asking the United Nations General Assembly for a separate Palestinian state. But BDS advocates would like our Food Coop, representing 16,000 people, to have its very own, very different foreign policy by adding the Coop to a list of organizations that reject a two-state solution all together in favor of one bi-national "Greater Palestine" (something close to what Hamas would like), with a minority of

Jews outnumbered by a majority Arab population abetted by the so-called right of return. History has proven, tragically, that this is not a workable arrangement. And in any case, none of this is the business of our Coop.

Like the Palestinian leaders who are unwilling to negotiate for peace and security, BDS Coop members are not open to the compromise proposal of respecting the right of individuals (16,000 of us) to decide for ourselves whether or not to buy the handful of Israeli products we carry, rather than have our politics decided for us.

Recent BDS letters have finally been forthcoming about the BDS endgame, the bi-national state. Still, they continue to contain fallacies, for example, that the flotilla was nonviolent, that the blockade is illegal, and that Gazans don't have essential foodstuffs and medicines (all false). And the letters continue to use incendiary language and images: "ethnic cleansing", "the Gaza Strip as a huge open-air prison"; and personal observations are used instead of arguments: one writer, during a trip to Israel, "noticed" racist policies. (Very different from Israelis "noticing" Qassam rockets raining down on them in Sderot.)

Now to my main point. One writer states that the reason to hold this referendum is that some Coop members consider the issue "important". But this cannot be the sole criteria as every action taken by the Board of Directors must be examined as it relates to the best interests of the Coop and as it applies to the purposes for which it was formed.

And how does adding the Coop's name to the BDS roster serve the best interests of the Coop? The answer is that it doesn't. On the contrary, because BDS takes an extremist position, because it includes among its "civil" supporters some terrorist groups as well, joining this movement will alienate a not-insignificant number of members and diminish the Coop's good name in the eyes of the public.

And most importantly, this proposal has no relevance to the Coop's corporate purpose, which is, according to the Certificate of Incorporation: "to provide services connected with the acquisition for its members of articles of common use, including food products, family or other household and personal supplies." Taking a position on a controversial geopolitical conflict is not part of our business plan.

Sylvia Lowenthal

COLLECTIVE LETTER

TO THE EDITORS:

Since May, "More Hummus, Please" has been submitting letters to the *Linewaiters' Gazette* supporting the Coop's well-being by pointing out the inappropriateness of BDS for our organization. The letters were signed by everyone sharing the views

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

expressed in the letters. Currently, there are about 190 people who have signed on to opposing BDS.

"More Hummus, Please" submitted a 294-word letter, signed by 179 people, to the September 8 *Linewriters' Gazette*. However, the editor rejected the letter, based on length, saying the letter was too long because she included the signatures in the word count. The letter was subsequently submitted and published with a single signature.

I find this editorial decision to be unfair. Had an individual letter been submitted by each signer, the group would have been collectively allowed up to 89,500 words. The letter had less than 2 words for each signer.

Avishay Mazor

ANTI-BDS REFERENDUM

TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

The undersigned 179 people oppose the bringing to the GM a proposal to hold a referendum on joining the Global BDS (boycott, divest, sanctions) Movement of Israel. Many reasons have been presented in the LWG over the last 4 months. To join our call, send an e-mail to morehummus@gmail.com. For more information, please see our blog: www.stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com

Anita Aboulafia, Rhudi Andreolli, Maurice Appelbaum, Rebecca Appelbaum, Eva Aridjis, Roberta Arnold,

Shena Gitel Astrin, Connie Bell, Greg Bell, Steven Berke, Shalmon Bernstein, Esther Bernstein, Danielle Rose Bernstein, Ora Chaya Bitton, Peretz Blasberg, Shandel Blasberg, Jennifer Bleyer, Gloria Blumenthal, Robert Blumenthal, Ruth Bolletino, Elisa Bonneau, Carla Brookoff, Rita Brookoff, Alan Brown, Arthur Brown, Matthew Brown, Jane Buckwalter, Darrin Cabot, Nathalie Cabot, Rubi Cammarota, Sandra Catania, Benedicte Charpentier, Francois Charpentier, Chana Crayk, Meir Crayk, Zusha Dean, Sharon Eagle, Audrey Elias, Mickey Elias, Eli Eliav, Shayna Eliav, Rose Engel, Mike Epstein, Arthur Finn, Carol Freeman, Riva Freeman, Ralph Friedman, Jill Friedman, Yoav Gal, Lisa Gilinsky, Marshall Gilinsky, Olia Gitman, Yury Gitman, Isaiah Gitman, Frieda Givon, Yokhai Givon, Ronen Glimmer, Felicia Glucksman, Jordan Goldberg, Ellen Gordon, Asya Gorokhovsky, Leonid Gorokhovsky, Lori Gottesman, Leah Gradinger, Misty Gradinger, Ulrich Gradinger, Diana Gradus, Ari Gradus, Bob Graziano, Sybil Graziano, Craig Gremont, Ilene Guttmacher, Margaret Hagen, Beth Halpern, Fran Hawthorne, Devorah Hershkop, Samuel Hertz, Esther Hertz, Betty Leigh Hutcheson, Sheldon Jacobson, Rachel Kalman, Constantine Kaniklidis, Michael Katzenellenbogen, Benjamin Kessel, Eric Kim, Joshua Kranz, Maureen Kushner, Evelyn Lampart, Chaya Lang, Tzvi Lang, David Leveson, Margaret Leveson, Jess Levey, Sam Levine, Chana Lew, Pinny Lew, Sylvia Lowenthal,

Judith Magen, Ary Malamud, Sasha Malamud, Sandy Mandel, Abie Mazor, Avishay Mazor, Barbara Mazor, April Mellas, David Michaelson, Jacob Milkens, Juliet Milkens, Alan Mindel, Paula Morrell, Barry Nass, Constance Nickel, Poppy O'Neill, Baila Olidort, Marjorie Ordene, Jan Orzeck, Rodger Parsons, Ann Powell, Stewart Pravda, Joseph Raices, Rivka Raices, Rachel Ravitz, Saul D. Raw, Hara Rechman, Yigal Rechman, Jeffrey Rickin, Lila Rieman, Michael Rieman, Jill Robinson, Joy Romanski, Doris Rosenbaum, Ron Rosenbaum, Mirele Rosenberger, Jesse Rosenfeld, Riva Rosenfield, Tzivya Chaya Rosenthal, Yaacov Rosenthal, Dovid Rubashkin, Faygy Rubashkin, Moshe Rubashkin, Rochel Rubashkin, Millie Ruttner, Jonathan S. Sack, Lisa Sack, Ruth Seliger, Daniel E. Schachter, Ilan Schifter, Rita Schifter, Shayna Schmidt, Victoria Shonbrun, Rivkah Siegel, Mushkie Silberberg, Naftali Silberberg, Alan Silver, Renee Silver, Lisa Smith, Wendy Smyth, Nancy Spitalnick, Israel Spitalny, Malkah Spitalny, Marion Stein, Ronald J. Stein, Ruth Steinberg, Stephanie Steinberg, Jonathan Stern, Mirit Tal, Susan Tauber, Allen Tobias, Joel Warshawer, Rabbi Gerald I. Weider, Rosalie H. Weider, Frances Weiner, Baruch Weisman, Esther Wilenkin, Rivky Wilenkin, Constance Williams, Alessa Wircberg, Yosef Wircberg

L E T T E R S P O L I C Y

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 or too long.

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, comprehen-

sive, 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.

UPDATED BDS WEBSITE

TO THE EDITORS:

The group of members promoting a BDS referendum at the Coop has recently updated their website. The new content is a parade of mind-numbing internal contradictions, historical distortions and easily refuted accusations. Most shocking, is the inclusion of an anti-Semitic slur regarding Jews, power and control of government.

This group appears to lack the ability for critical thinking and to be too intellectually lazy to investigate what they claim. For them, if they read it from their Internet sources, then it must be true. At my blog, www.stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com, I am disproving their claims by providing not only facts but also explanations of why their claims cannot be substantiated.

Plain and simple, the Coop's BDS supporters don't know what they are talking about.

Barbara Mazor

WHAT WE STAND FOR

TO THE EDITORS:

As members of the Coop who are opposed to the proposed BDS referendum, we would like to respond to questions Coop members sometimes ask.



Why do we oppose boycotting Israeli products?

We reject the use of the PSFC as an agent for promoting only the Palestinian view without any regard for the complexities of the issues. The proposed boycott is not an initiative for peace or even for "human rights." It is nothing more than a tool for punishing Israel—and only Israel—with no aim other than to weaken Israel's standing.

The "national movement," which BDS claims, is a plan developed by extremists (check their supporters such as Hamas, Fatah, the Palestinian Islamic Movement and others who have already been mentioned in previous *Gazette* letters) pledged to isolate Israel.

Why do we oppose a referendum? Isn't that a democratic process?

We already know that there is a significant difference of opinion on this issue. A true consensus is unlikely. We don't know what percentage of membership would be required for approval but we do know that the process and its uncertain results would create or emphasize harmful divisions.

We do not believe in the need to "send a message" from the Coop to Israel, the Palestinians or the U.S. That can be done in the political arena.

We believe the message we should send is that we will not tolerate a referendum which, through its biased nature, affronts the true values of our Coop. We reject giving legitimacy to a proposal that denies the legitimacy of Israeli concerns.

If you agree with the points above, join us by sending an e-mail to morehummus@gmail.com. For more information, please see our blog: www.stopbdsparkslope.blogspot.com

Lila and Michael Rieman

BDS BIAS

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 self-determination for Palestinians, we will hear, but there is never a word

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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!

CARS

2003 Mazda MPV Minivan 95K miles, \$4950. 2000 Lexus RX300 AWD 132K miles, \$7950. 2000 Mercedes Benz E430 4matic 104K \$7950. 2002 BMW 330xi AWD 132K \$8950. 1995 Mercedes E320 convertible 90K \$11,950. 2001 VW Beetle Sport Turbo 142K \$4950. 1984 Porsche 911 Targa 143K \$15,950. 1974 Alfa Romeo GTV 2000 90K \$11,950. All cars in very nice condition & warrantied. Dauntless Auto Inc. 917-620-8158 maxforza@aol.com.

CLASSES/GROUPS

BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL 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.

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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 petnanny01@yahoo.com. Unbeatably low rates!

SERVICES

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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.

KOLOT CHAYEIMU/Voices of our lives high holidays services. All welcome-no tickets, no charge. Donations requested. 6 & 8 p.m. services for Kol Nidre; more room at the early service. Register: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/holydays5772>. Download brochure: <http://kolotchayeinu.org/pdfs/kc-high-holydays.pdf>.

SERVICES-HEALTH

HOLISTIC OPTOMETRY: Most eye doctors treat patients symptomatically by prescribing ever-increasing 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 X-rays. For a free initial exam in a nutrition-oriented practice and for insurance information, please call 212-505-5055.

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WHAT'S FOR FREE

FREE DESK. Very good condition. Dimensions 30 in x 42 in. 3 drawers on one side. Wood. Just need to take it home. Available about 10/22. 718-768-1797.

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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2.5-14 yr olds (11:00am-12:30pm)
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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

L E T T E R S T O T H E E D I T O R

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

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 Food 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 one-sided proposal for a boycott of Israeli goods, a proposal

without any sense of balance and without peace as a goal.
Michael Rieman

REFERENDUM
DEBATE

TO THE EDITORS:

At the August GM, during the discussion on a BDS referendum, I listened to person after person evade, conflate and misstate the facts in opposition to the referendum. No matter how reasonable the arguments in favor of the referendum were, they were disregarded and the debate was led off of the tracks.

This reactive behavior of fellow Coop members reminded me of a time when I too allowed fear to guide me.

September 11th produced in me panic, anger, nightmares and, worse, willfully irrational behavior. I couldn't get on a plane. I could barely make it between two subway

stations without wanting to pull the emergency brake. I avoided rush hours and was late to work. These were understandable post-trauma reactions, according to my therapist: "The brain, just like any other injured part of the body needs to heal, it just takes longer."

Most disturbing was my increased distrust of others. I felt alone in my perception of the world and justified in my hyper-vigilance, even if it meant discriminating against Arabs, Muslims, and other brown people. I almost had a meltdown once on the Q train when a man wearing a turban stood up to look out of the window!

And then, one afternoon, I was stopped by a police officer in Marblehead, MA, while visiting family. Neighbors had complained of a suspicious, Arab-looking man (read: me) prowling around the neighborhood.

Someone else's ignorance and paranoia jolted me: I'd been dishing out discrimination that I, as a brown, Hispanic man, experience regularly. Sadly, I needed to be humiliated and, well, traumatized again, in order to see how I was behaving.

I had support while I dealt

with 9/11. But no one would argue that my thoughts or behaviors were correct. There are facts and truths that supersede trauma, no matter how deep, sustained or cultural it is. Coddling isn't a solution.

Facts & truths: (1) racial profiling is vile; (2) Sikhs are not Muslims are not terrorists; (3) whether we call it Apartheid or not, Palestinians are treated like second-class citizens; (4) under the UN (the same body that supported Israel's statehood) there can be no spoils of war: pre-'67 borders are already a concession beyond the pale; (5) the PSFC sells products that profit from the violation of Palestinian rights; (6) the PSFC's inception was a political act (ask its founders), as were previous boycotts; (7) referenda are democratic tools available to PSFC members; (8) being afraid of a vote's outcome is no reason to do away with democracy; (9) the BDS referendum is about Israel's shameful mistreatment of Palestinians; charges of anti-Semitism don't change that; (10) Israeli injustice is injustice, irrespective of its neighbor's actions; (11) work against one form of injustice doesn't pre-

clude work against others; (12) having suffered doesn't give anyone the right to make others suffer.

I support our right to a referendum on BDS; but, regardless of the outcome, I will continue to participate in the PSFC community.

Alejandro Varela

BDS—AGAIN!

TO THE EDITORS:

I totally sympathize with all of you who are sick of BDS BDS BDS in the *Linewaiters' Gazette*. It sometimes seems like he-said/she-said again and again and again. I'm looking forward to having a respectful open discussion on this, some time soon at a General Meeting and moving on to a vote by the full membership soon after that. Once every member has spoken we can move on.

Carol Wald



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

WELCOME!

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

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Elizabeth Abbs | Marie Clare Katisbah | Katarina Riesing |
| Lavy Abramovitch | Nicolas Kemper | Eva Rippeteau |
| Rachel Ackoff | Afsi Khot | Dashiell Robb |
| Matthew Alie | Stacey Kirk | Charly Robinson |
| Ty Baldwin | Nicholas Klein | Jose Rodriguez |
| Stefani Bardin | David Kurfirst | Henryk Roszowski |
| Lauren Barkan | Olivia Kurz | Ben Rottman |
| Yoni Barkan | Sarah Labrie | Shelli Rottman |
| Durham Barnes | Allison LaFave | Liz Rusch |
| Désirée Barron | Jeff Latonero | Alizah Salario |
| Jeremy S. Block | Kendra Leach | Erin Saldin |
| Jamie L. Bruce | Katharine Leddington | Abigail Schiff |
| Jessica Burger | Stahelin | Jennifer Shamro |
| Stavros Calakos | Sarah Lewin | Summer Shiffman |
| Megumi Chiaya | Eveline Malle | Kathy Skinner |
| Ann Chin | Roberto Marcucci | Michael Sleap |
| Nynne Just | Robin Margolis | Kathryn Smith |
| Christoffersen | Michael J. McCarthy | Kaitlyn Somers |
| Hernease Davis | Katherine McQuerrey | Nicolas Stahelin |
| Arielle de Pinto | Jesse McWaters | Timothy Sturges |
| Julie Dechen | Pablo Menares | Sarah Swan |
| Jacob Denz | Katherine Mendez | Christina Swatzell |
| Lindsay Donnellon | Camila Meza | Amy Tai |
| Kyeli Eastland | Sam Miller | Jeffrey Tai |
| Joy Ferguson | Katie Mohrhauser | Kenji Takeda |
| Benjamin Fleming | Myrna Murchison | Marilyn Taylor |
| Jonathan Glovin | Atsuko Nakajima | Mark Tewarson |
| Peter Goldwasser | Healy | Sarah Unruh |
| Aaron Goodman | Alexander Negron | Deborah Uri |
| Alexander Gorlizki | Elizabeth O'Connor | April Wachtel |
| David Gray | William O'Connor | Robert Wages |
| Elaine Guardo | Jessica Olah | Megan Walsh |
| Martha Guenther | Antoinette Owen | Sadhbh Walshe |
| Adam Gurau | Stephen Pantalone | Josephine Wan |
| Dara Gurau | Jennifer Pardue | Sanford Wilson |
| Benjamin Healy | Mark Peterson | Liz Wisan |
| Melissa Hersh | Charles Porter | Mariko Yamasaki |
| Benjamin Holt | Michael Rae-Grant | Tzemah Yoreh |
| Adam Jaskowiak | Jamie Ratcliffe | Jon Zeffel |
| Ian Johnson | Mike Ricca | Nicole Zeffel |
| Travis Jones | Anna Richardson | |
| Hannah Junkerman | Aviva Richman | |

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.

TUE, OCT 11

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 evenings 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.

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.

SAT, OCT 15

8-10:30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe:Bev Grant & The Dissident Daughters. Bevgrant.com Sharleen Leahe sharleen-songs.net/home.cfmt. 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.

7-10 p.m. Haiti Fundraiser: Live music by Bonga and the Jean Rohe band, silent auction, to benefit Neges Fdn work rebuilding Leogane, Haiti. \$10 donation, at Brooklyn Ethical, 53 PPW @ 2nd St. www.BSEC.org.

FRI, OCT 21

7:45-9:30 p.m. Practice for the Planet: a special all-levels candlelight yoga class taught by THREE of your favorite teachers

from Jaya Yoga Center in the South Slope. This By-Donation practice is being offered to benefit Tar Sands Action, an organization working feverishly to stop the construction of a dirty-oil pipeline from Canada through America's heartland. More information: Jayayogacenter.com.

SAT, OCT 22

8-10:30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe:Dave Lippman www.davelippman.com Harmonic Insurgence A cappella vocal ensemble 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.

