

Established  
1973

# LINEWAITERS'

## GAZETTE



Volume GG, Number 1

January 12, 2012

## December GM Discusses FTOP, Labeling

By Ed Levy

It was a dark and windy night, as the December General Meeting convened for its last gathering of 2011. But inside Garfield Temple, it was relatively subdued for a GM—in part due to the evening's agenda, in part to the absence of young children in attendance with their parents, now that the Temple no longer provides the Coop with a space for child care.

There were two items for discussion on the agenda. The first, regarding FTOP (future time off program), was submitted by LaTanya Hall, who wanted to bring to the GM's attention the issue of hoarding of FTOP slots by members: FTOP workers are signing up for many slots in advance, and then cancelling at the last minute, in order to ensure that they can choose an optimum work slot for their schedules. This practice of locking in slots and then cherry picking from among them, she explained, blocks other FTOP workers from finding convenient work times.

A second proposal, brought by Gil Smuskowitz, advocated marking the country of origin on every item in the Coop, as well as mentioning whether that area is a conflict zone or not. Gil said that he likes the kinds of information the Coop has provided him about his food and wants to know more. When General Coordinator Joe Holtz pointed out that virtually all items in the Coop are already labeled with their country of origin, Gil agreed that discussion of his proposal should therefore be limited to marking items that

come from conflict zones—an ambitious idea that, as the discussion unfolded, began to seem more and more unworkable in practice.

? the growth of both the Coop as well as the number of people in the city's workforce who work freelance, tem-



ILLUSTRATION BY DEBRAH TINT

### The FTOP Issue

A table of FTOP activity up to mid-December of the past year made available at the meeting revealed that a total of 5,175 FTOP shifts were cancelled by 1,469 FTOP workers. While that is only an average of 3.5 cancellations per worker, a number of members were booking and cancelling 10, 20 or more shifts. In the worst case, one member cancelled 30 shifts.

The problem has gotten worse in recent years. With

porary and part-time jobs, the number of FTOP workers has also expanded, while the number of FTOP jobs has not kept pace.

Although several speakers stressed how vital FTOP was to maintain their flexible work schedules, FTOP did not actually begin with members' schedules in mind. Originally, it was designed as a means for the Coop to fill chronically understaffed work slots, often shifts that occurred on week-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Community Ties Offers Coop Member Discounts: Merchant Listing Due February 1

By Frank Haberle

For local merchants, now is the time to reach out to attract more business from Coop members. And for members, get ready to take advantage of the discounts offered in the new edition of *Community Ties*.

The Park Slope Food Coop's *Community Ties* program, now entering its 12th year, has an upcoming deadline of February 1 for local businesses and service providers to advertise for free in the 2012 Winter/Spring *Community Ties* bulletin. Merchants who register through the *Community Ties* program agree to provide a discount or some other special offer, only available to Coop members. The listing, included in a PDF bulletin available at the Coop website ([www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)), provides merchants with a unique opportunity to reach local consumers looking for bargains.

Dan Cayer a two-year Coop member who runs Art of



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

Swimming, a program that applies the Alexander Technique to swimming, says he's glad to be listed in the *Community Ties* program. "Whereas normally a potential student would want to be informed by a reliable friend about what I teach, being a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### Next General Meeting on January 31

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, January 31, at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

The agenda is in this *Gazette*, on the Coop website at [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com), and available as a flier in the entryway of the Coop. For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

\* Exceptions will be posted.

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## Coop Event Highlights

**Sat, Jan 21 • Auditions for Our Coop Kids' Variety Show**  
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Thu, Feb 2 • Food Class: Jewish Foods from Around the World** 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Feb 3 • Film Night: Puppet** 7:00 p.m.

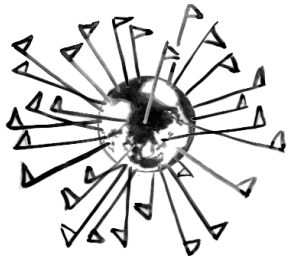
**Sat, Feb 11 • Valentine Card Making for Everyone**  
1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

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

## December GM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

days, when fewer workers were available. FTOP has also been an important resource during the ramping up of brand new Coop services, when FTOP workers initially comprise the majority of those filling those slots, until members begin to sign up for them. These new services include increased weekend shopping hours, the shopping cart return service and the seasonal bicycle valet service. There are also one-time or once a year events, like training for the debit card system, when it was introduced in October 2007, the Brooklyn Food Coalition events, food drives to support CHIPS, extra shifts in receiving, shopping and food processing for the Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's holidays, a bi-annual Civic Sweep partnership with the Park Slope Civic Council, and Mulchfest with Prospect Park and the Park Slope Civic Council.



Conflict Zones

Currently 9.5 percent, or 1,540 of the membership are signed up for FTOP. Analysis of the table reveals that about 3.5 percent of FTOP workers are abusing the system.

The GM's discussion of the item suggests there may be support for a resolution limiting the number of shifts that anyone can sign up for, and capping the number of cancellations any FTOP member can make annually.

A variation on this approach also being considered would require that the shifts FTOP workers sign up for be from a variety of squads, so that no one squad is decimated by the last-minute cancellations. The coordinators continue to look for ways to use FTOP workers as a flexible work force.

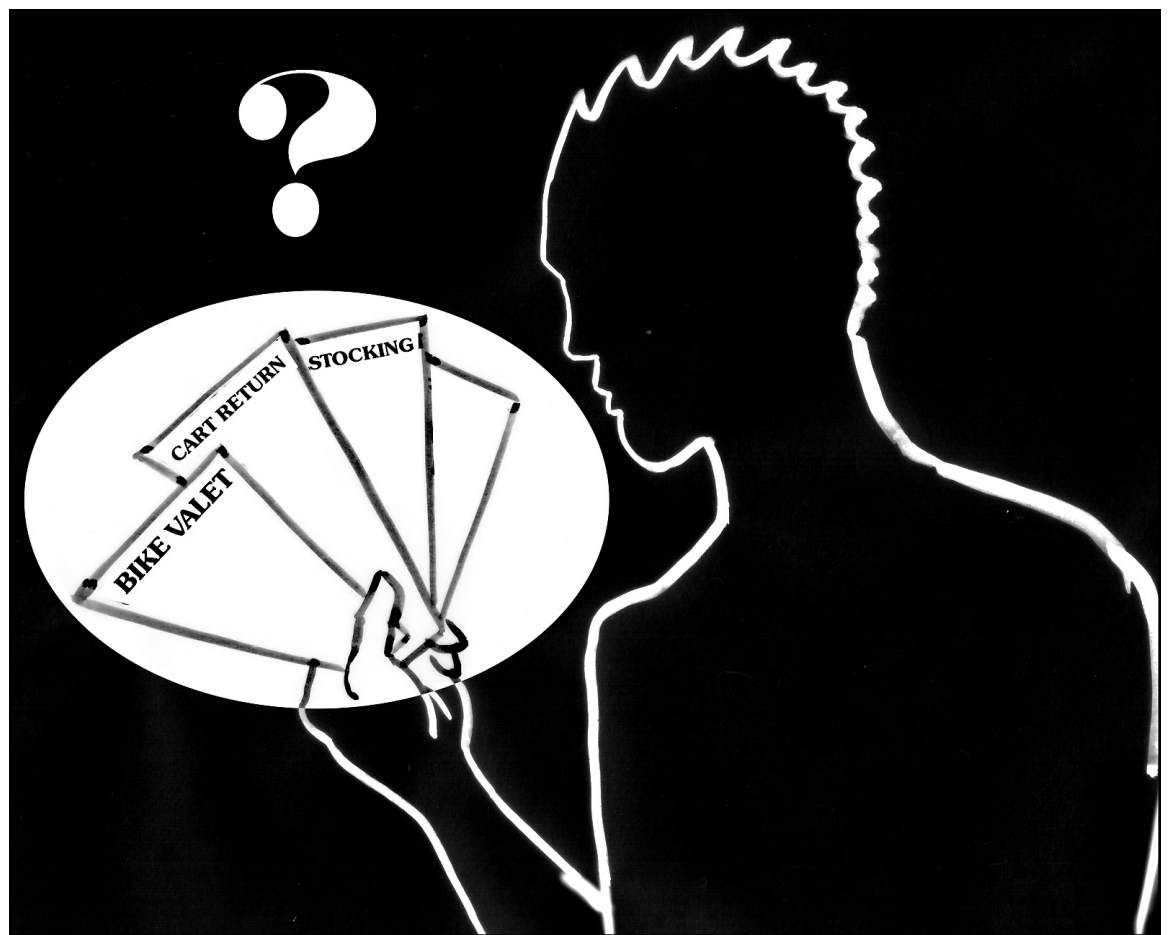
### Labeling

The second proposal about labeling seemed to be the latest iteration of the BDS controversy that has been raging lately in the GM and in the pages of the *Gazette*.

BDS stands for boycott, divestment and sanctions—actions that a group of the same name wants to take against Israel because of what is seen as that country's violation of international law and the rights of Palestinians.

Gil Smuskowitz acknowledged that determining whether or not Coop products are produced in conflict zones would be daunting, given the number of conflicts in the world, and the varying and evolving definitions of what constitutes conflict.

One list of ongoing major conflicts includes Burma, Papua, Colombia, the Philippines, Afghanistan, the United States, Somali, Kashmir, North Caucasus, Baluchistan, Yemen, Nigeria, Thailand, Laos, Pakistan, Mexico, Syria, Israel-Palestine, India, Egypt, Libya, Cambodia, Korea, Iran and the Sudan, among others. But the list expands when minor conflicts are included—according to one estimate there are 170 countries involved in military conflicts. And certain modern conflicts, like the battle the U.S. has waged against terrorism worldwide, are not confined to any country, expanding



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DEBRAH TINT

beyond historical and recognizable national geographies.

With the definition of conflict itself a source of debate, the proposal's author quipped that it would require another work slot just to keep track of conflicts—and that perhaps that would solve the FTOP problem.

### Finance

The financial report showed the Coop's gross margin at 16.84 percent of sales. Roughly speaking the gross margin is the number of cents the Coop keeps out of each dollar's worth of sales, in order to cover its expenses. Thus, for every dollar, the Coop keeps 16.84 cents. Average sales for the 44-week period ending December 4 were \$852,639 per week up from just under \$800,000 the previous year. The inventory

turnover, a marker of just how fresh the Coop's food is, is 69 times per year, which means that the store turns over its merchandise an astonishing 1.3 times per week, which is three to four times as much as the average large food coop. This is up from the previous years' turnover figure of 61 times per year.

Membership stood at 16,241 people at the end of the period, with an average for the year hovering around 16,000, an average increase

of 292. Those 16,000 or so people spent on average \$2,770 per year at the Coop, or \$53.27 per week, up \$2.46 over a year earlier.

### Publishing the Agenda

One member made a suggestion during the open forum portion of the meeting that the *Gazette* begin to print the General Meeting agenda on page one, rather than burying it inside. The *Gazette* reporter present said he would convey this request to the editors. ■

**The Coop will be closing early for shopping at 5:00 pm on Sunday, January 29, so that we can conduct our annual Coop-wide inventory.**

**Some shifts will be affected, others will not.**

**Please help inform the membership about this early closing by telling your Coop housemates and friends.**

**Members whose shifts are affected by the closing will be contacted by the Membership Office.**

## 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 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.



## Community Ties

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

member of the Park Slope Food Coop provides some of that trust. I think people have more confidence in the craftsmanship or authenticity of a Coop professional than they would in a plain old classifieds or Craigslist."

For Coop members, the program offers a special benefit: a directory of a wide range of local businesses with Coop member discounts—ranging from free initial consultations to 20% purchasing discounts. By searching the *Community Ties* bulletin, Coop members can identify the types of services they need and the Coop member discount. All members have to do is bring their Coop card to a participating local merchant to take advantage of the *Community Ties* program.

*I think people have more confidence in the craftsmanship or authenticity of a Coop professional than they would in a plain old classifieds or Craigslist.*

### Community Ties: Bringing Members and Local Merchants Together

Since its founding by Coop members in 2000, participation in *Community Ties* has grown each year. The current issue (Summer/Fall 2011) is 32 pages long, and includes 289 listings—making it the largest edition to date.

The unofficial 'editorial director' of the *Community Ties* bulletin is Camille Scoria, who joined the Coop staff as a Membership Coordinator in 2007, "after working too many years in the publishing business(!)," as she puts it. In 2008, Camille took over the reigns of *Community Ties*, which is now published three to four times per year. "I like to think of *Community Ties* as a constantly evolving publication, changing its content here and there over time," Camille says. "I get calls from excited advertisers and members happy to use the discounts. I also sometimes get calls from members who may be disgruntled if an advertiser is remiss in acknowledging their discount. I accept all these comments as updates for the next issue."

*Community Ties* originated as a project of the now-



ILLUSTRATION BY LYNN BERNSTEIN

defunct Marketing Committee, with its first printing in the year 2000. Created by members Colin Thorne (a Coop member since 1995), who advertised his own tuxedo business in the first issue, and currently operates and advertises a Driver Education school; and Mark

clean science now, and it looks great," Camille says. "I'm the only staff person working on this. Is it 'time intensive?' Well, sure...but that's what publishing and deadlines are all about," Camille adds, speaking from past experience.

### How to List

Merchants can simply download an application from the *Community Ties* page of the Coop's website, [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com). Deliver the application to Camille's mailbox in the Coop office via fax (718-622-5685) or e-mail ([CommunityTies@psfc.coop](mailto:CommunityTies@psfc.coop)). Current advertisers are welcome to deliver changes or updates to their listing at any time.

A review of the current edition of *Community Ties* gives testimony to a wide array of specialty services and offerings, while reinforcing the notion that, at least here in Brooklyn, the entrepreneurial spirit and the 'mom-and-pop shop' remains very much alive. ■

*If you are a local merchant and you are interested in listing your business or service in Community Ties, or you know a local merchant who may want to take advantage of this opportunity, the upcoming deadline for advertisers to place a listing in the 2012 Winter/Spring Edition of Community Ties is February 1. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Coop.*



Schrader (a Coop member since 1990), who operates a custom interior design business. Their initial goal with *Community Ties* and with the Marketing Committee was to help to increase Coop membership, with the benefits offered as a possible added incentive to get people to join the Coop.

Although the need to recruit new members has changed with time, *Community Ties* continues as a celebration of the spirit of community and cooperation. Thanks to Camille and others, *Community Ties* has evolved into a highly organized, easy to read publication. "We've got it down to a

## 'Anything You Want'

If, as Arlo Guthrie told it, "you can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant," then *Community Ties* must run a close second. And as a Coop member, you get a discount. The following is a sample of some of the services offered from the most recent issue:

- You can get your antique clock repaired (under 'Antiques')
- You can find T-shirts designed specifically for pregnant moms (under 'Apparel')
- You can get lessons on how to play the Tuba (under 'Classes')
- You can learn modern dance, taught bilingually in Spanish, French, Chinese, Japanese, Russian and other languages (under 'Dance')
- You can find braces for your teens (under 'Dentist')
- You can hire a whole-foods personal chef or take classes in how to prepare healthy meals yourself (under 'Food and Restaurants')
- You can find a wide range of health service providers, from Integrative Massage Therapy to Holistic Eating Counseling, Doula's, Chiropractors, Acupuncturists and others (under 'Health Services,' where more than 50 Health Service Providers were listed in the previous issue)
- You can find green pest control companies (under 'Extermination')
- You can get your dry cleaning done naturally (under 'Dry Cleaning')
- You can sign up for a Stroller Fitness class, or a Boot Camp Program (under 'Gym/Trainers')
- You can find jewelry made out of recycled refuse or made out of trees and stones (under 'Jewelry and Accessories')
- You can bring crafters, beaders, face painters, clowns and/or a string quartet to your birthday party (under 'Parties and Entertaining')

...And the list goes on. There are dozens more food and restaurant options, legal and financial services, furniture makers, dancing classes, pet care specialists and other businesses, all with special offers exclusively for Coop members.

## Sudoku

			1				7
	1	7	5	8		3	
	6		2	3			8
7					1	5	4
						6	9
			4	5			7
6		3		7		4	
		8			2		9
						2	

Puzzle author: James Vasile. For answers, see page 16.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MAY 2012 BROOKLYN FOOD CONFERENCE

Brooklyn Food Coalition is planning a  
conference for May 12, 2012.

Please join BFC as a member and help make this conference happen.



**Copywriting**  
**Graphic Design**  
**Social Networking**  
**Web Development**  
**Outreach**  
**Research**  
**Fundraising**



To learn more and to volunteer please contact:  
[conference@brooklynfoodcoalition.org](mailto:conference@brooklynfoodcoalition.org).  
You will receive FTOP credit for your work.



**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](http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com)

## THE GAZETTE INDEXES

If you are interested in the history of the Coop or in  
when and how particular subjects have been  
discussed in the Gazette...

Send an e-mail to Len Neufeld, Gazette indexer, at  
[lenneufeld@verizon.net](mailto:lenneufeld@verizon.net), to request PDF files of  
either or both of the following indexes:

- ◆ An alphabetized list of the titles of all articles published in the  
Gazette from 1995 to the present, with issue dates.
- ◆ An alphabetized list of all subjects (including people's names)  
discussed in Gazette articles from 1995-98 and 2001 to the present,  
with article titles, issue dates, and page numbers  
(subjects for the years 1999 and 2000 are being added).

Many of the Gazette issues referenced in these indexes  
are available as PDFs on the Coop's website.  
(The currently available issues cover the years 2006 to the present,  
plus selected issues from 1999, 2000, and 2005.)

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

The AG was established by the General Meeting ("GM") to  
help facilitate the timely presentation of Coop business to  
the members attending the monthly meeting.

In addition to assembling the monthly agenda and  
maintaining records of items submitted,  
the AG works with members who submit items for  
consideration by the GM and may need assistance  
formulating proposals and discussion points.

The AG meets the first Tuesday of every month  
at 8pm at the Coop. Committee members are  
also required to attend five (5) GMs per year.

In addition, committee members caucus by telephone and  
via e-mail as needed to facilitate committee business.

Qualifications include a cooperative spirit, experience  
working in a committee environment, and an ongoing  
interest in the business of the Coop. Interested members  
contact Ann Herpel in the Membership Office.

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



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

## Looking for something new?

**Check out the Coop's  
products blog.**

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

**You can connect to the blog  
via the Coop's website  
[www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com)**



# Resolutions for 2012

By Alison Rose Levy

**J**ennifer Henry, a Coop member for four years, who does a food processing shift, holds a senior position at an academic science institution. She was crystal clear about her resolution, "To be nicer to my husband. If you were to ask him if he thinks it will work, he would probably be doubtful. It's the fourth year I've made this resolution."



PHOTOS BY ROD MORRISON

In her first year of Coop membership, artist Jen Kuipers does a food processing shift. In the coming year, she intends to "Take my dog on longer walks."

Chris Dewees, a Coop member for twenty years, does a receiving shift, and works for the City of New York. His resolution is to, "Get in better shape. And treat my body as a temple. More rest, more exercise, better eating." But he confesses that the Coop isn't helping because he has a special weakness for whole-wheat bagels, as well as the bulk raisins and cashews. "Once you have them, you eat them. But at least it's not ham, cheese and beer."

Tara Gadomski, an actor, who has been a Coop member for over a year, does a 5:30 a.m. receiving shift. Gadomski intends to continue her new experiment with veganism, by seeing how it affects her to eliminate dairy. "I felt great when I went off of meat, and the Coop really helped me do it. So now I am going to try giving up cheese." Gadomski was drawn to veganism because she questioned, "Why do we love some animals and eat others?"

Serena Ma and Orest Lud-

wig have been Coop members for two and one half years. Ma is a naturopath, who does food processing as her shift, and Ludwig is a personal trainer, who does a shift as a cashier. Both oppose the use of GMO seeds and crops, and in 2012, they plan to upgrade their activist efforts to get the government to limit GMOs in the upcoming Farm Bill.

Says Ludwig, "They manipulate the DNA of plants to accelerate production, and they can't tell what influence this has."

"It's time to return to what nature has given us," said Ma.

"We talk up healthy and organic foods every chance we get. In the coming year, we'd like to get more people involved," they agreed.

Suzy Elmiger, a member since 1998, is a film editor, who works FTOP. Her resolution? "No more fracking. It's not safe and I'm tired of these energy companies storming in and doing what they want without regard for safety. It's not clean and it must be defeated. I'm going to do more, like calling Governor Cuomo every Monday with United for Action."

Jim Baker, a video producer and Coop member for two

years, works on FTOP. He resolves to, "Figure out how to pay the bills, and find new clients. Clients can't spend so readily, and they are expecting more for less. It's the story of this time. I'm not happy with the politics of the day, and I'm disappointed with both parties. Nothing's working, and we have to do something about that."

Patricia Forbes, a Coop member for ten years, who works with bread for her shift, is a housekeeper. Forbes says she aims to "Try to help more people. A lot of folks are hurting, and need help. Some kids have anger because of

what they see. I want to tell them, 'You're beautiful,' and make them feel they counted. Everyone deserves that. If you are into you, people will like you. I tell them, 'Now, go be yourself.'"

Gal Fox, a Coop member for two months was there with his two-month-old son, Adam. A newspaper circulation manager, Fox does a receiving shift. His resolution is to "Help create a peaceful world for Adam to grow up in." ■

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

## Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Monday, January 16, 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, 9:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monday, January 23, 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Monday, February 6, 12 to 12:45 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.

**Resolute members, counterclockwise from left:**  
Jen Kuipers, Suzy Elmiger, Jim Baker, Jennifer Henry, Orest Ludwig and Serena Ma, Chris Dewees, and Tara Gadomski.



## GAZETTE COMMITTEE REPORT

## Gazette Editorial Policies

By Stephanie Golden and Erik Lewis,  
Gazette Coordinating Editors

The *Gazette* editorial staff is working to be as consistent and transparent as possible. To this end, here is a summary of our editorial policies.

Please also be sure to review the editorial policies that are printed in every issue of the *Gazette*. Submission guidelines appear with the masthead, and the Anonymity, Respect, and Fairness Policies appear with the Letters.

Editors are the final authority on edited content: Reporters' articles, Committee Reports, Member Submitted Articles.

**Member Submitted Articles** (MSAs) are reviewed and edited by editors using standard editorial criteria. MSAs can be on any topic the writer chooses, except they cannot be blatant advertisements or promotions of businesses. Editors are not required to do

extensive line editing on MSAs. Articles that are very poorly written and/or incoherent will be rejected. MSAs must adhere to the Fairness, Respect and Anonymity Policies that also apply to letters. If an MSA is rejected, the writer may re-write and re-submit for the same issue (deadline permitting) or a subsequent issue.

- The difference between an article and a letter is that the article can be longer, but is subject to editorial scrutiny and possible rejection; the letter isn't, as long as it adheres to the guidelines. The choice between letter and article is the writer's choice. It has nothing to do with the topic of the piece, but only with its length.

- If an editor determines that a substantive change is needed to an MSA, the edi-

tor must make a reasonable effort to contact the writer of the article, and the writer must respond within a reasonable length of time. The editor will discuss the change with the writer, and, within the context of that discussion, decide what the editorial change will be. Bottom line—the editor has the final word on what goes into the article and what goes into the *Gazette*.

**Letters** are not edited. If a letter has no title, the editor can provide one. If it has a title, that title is generally used. We print every letter that meets the word count and the Respect, Fairness and Anonymity Policies' criteria.

Only one letter **or** MSA is allowed per member per issue. During times of intense dialogue in the *Gazette*, letters signed by five or more persons will be considered "petition" letters or "collective" letters, and their signers will be allowed to publish another letter in the same issue. Letters signed by four or

fewer signers will be considered to come from each signer, and the signers may not submit another letter or MSA in the same issue.

A Committee Report must report on the policies/activities of the committee. If not, the *Gazette*/the editor can reject it, and suggest that the writer submit a Member Article (subject to editorial review) with a smaller word allotment, or a letter (not subject to editorial review).

Political endorsements are confined to Letters, and prohibited in Member Sub-

mitted Articles.

Reporter articles will steer clear of political candidates during campaigns.

If a letter criticizing a *Gazette* article or decision requests a response, the editor or reporter concerned must respond in the same issue, in some form. That is, the editor or reporter has the right to say, "I decline to comment," or to write a fuller editorial note. If the critical letter does not call for a response, the reporter or editor may respond in the next issue by writing a letter. ■

### Length of Editorial Items:

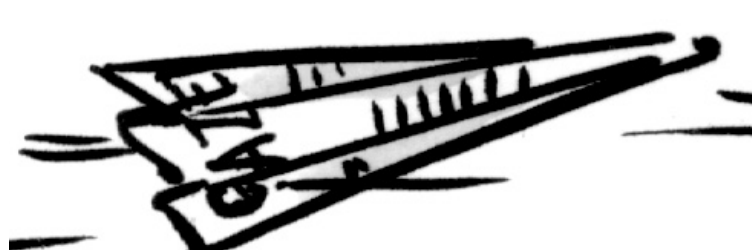
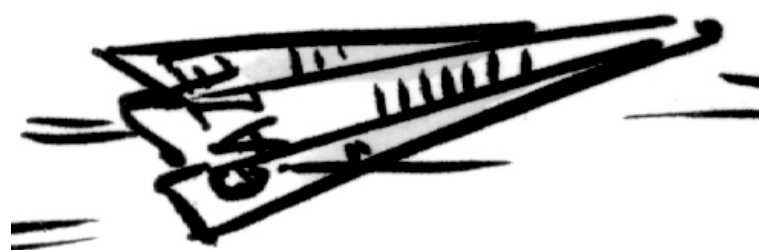
Letters—no more than 500 words

Reporter articles—1200 words—extended in some cases at discretion of Editor.

Committee Reports—1000 words

Coordinators' Reports—1200 words

Member Submitted Article—750 words



**Follow the  
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on**

twitter



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## LEFFERTS FARM FOOD COOPERATIVE

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

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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

### JOIN OUR PLANNING GROUP

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

### GET INVOLVED

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

JOIN US: [www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop](http://www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop)

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

# Q&A About Phasing Out Plastic Bag Rolls at the Coop

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about the proposal to phase out the distribution of plastic produce bags ("roll bags") on the Coop's shopping floor.

By Regina Sandler-Phillips

## If our purpose is "Good Food at Low Prices for Working Members through Cooperation," why should we care about plastic bags?

There is much more to the Coop's principles than can be included in a sound bite. The Coop's Mission Statement (see the centerfold of every Gazette) states in part: "We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others....We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations....We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others....We oppose discrimination in any form." As explained below, these principles are all violated by the Coop's distribution of free plastic bags.

## What if I reuse the plastic bags I take?

Please do! Coop members are encouraged to keep reusing the plastic bags we have already taken from the Coop—at the rate of 3,359,520 a year, or about 383 an hour—as well as from other stores. This is not a ban on the use of plastic bags; it is an initiative to eliminate their free distribution by the Coop. But be aware: every plastic bag we discard—even after multiple uses—ends up choking our environment. Plastic never biodegrades, and continues to release toxins. "We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations."

## Doesn't the Coop recycle clear plastic bags?

Our Recycling Squad does a great job of collecting plastics for recycling. However, all plastic bags must be *clean and dry* to be acceptable. Especially after multiple uses, most plastic roll bags would not qualify—and the efforts spent trying to clean them only increase the overall environmental waste.

It's essential to remember that, from an environmental perspective,

recycling should always be a last resort. Reducing our use of disposable plastic is critical. Plastics recycling, like plastics manufacturing, releases toxins into the air, water, and soil, and consumes excessive nonrenewable energy. Our plastics are often sorted through by low-income workers and reprocessed in low-income neighborhoods—whether in the U.S., in Asia, or elsewhere—with greatly increased health risks as a result. "We seek to avoid products that depend on the exploitation of others....We oppose discrimination in any form."

## What if I can't afford to spend money on reusable bags?

It actually costs less to invest in reusable bags than to invest in the throwaway plastic packaging of most of our Coop products. Long before plastic was invented—and long before it was freely distributed at the Coop—low-income people and others who lived frugally were able to obtain and maintain bags for multiple uses.

The Environmental Committee is working with the General Coordinators to make a range of low-cost alternatives to plastic bags available at the Coop. "We try to lead by example, educating ourselves and others"...but any member can continue to obtain free plastic bags from stores that are not committed to the Coop's environmental principles, and use them at the Coop if they wish.

(whether cloth or plastic) can be purchased when we forget to bring the ones we already have.

Whatever bags we use, paying for them helps us to remember the catastrophic environmental costs of plastic that are usually not passed along to us as consumers. "We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations."

## Shouldn't we give Coop members what they want?

In general, we do—unless what is wanted violates our Coop principles. Also in 2008, members voted overwhelmingly to end sales of bottled water at the Coop, upholding the environmental and health principles of our Mission Statement. Members who want bottled water—or Coca-Cola, or factory-farmed meat, or any other items not in keeping with our Coop principles—are still free to purchase these products outside the Coop.

## Won't there be an increase in theft if checkout workers can't see what's in each bag?

Checkout workers should glance inside any bag if it appears that shape and weight do not correspond with what a shopper says is in the bag. Theft is a complex, ongoing issue with which we continue to struggle at the Coop.

Many approaches to preventing theft at the Coop have not been adopted because they are seen as discriminatory. It would certainly be discriminatory to suspect those using sustainable alternatives to plastic bags of being more prone to stealing. "We oppose discrimination in any form."

## Won't this lead to longer, slower lines in an already crowded store?

All of us would prefer shorter checkout times and less crowding—but the Coop's newsletter was called *The Linewaiters' Gazette* long before the Coop began distributing free plastic bags. Today, using 3,359,520 plastic bags a year, we still face long, slow lines and crowded aisles. While various proposals have been put forward to deal with these problems, no one has yet suggested that members using time-honored alternatives to plastic are responsible for the delays.

"We strive to reduce the impact of our lifestyles on the world we share with other species and future generations." Speed and convenience are certainly desirable, but they have never been core Coop principles. And again, any member can reuse the many plastic bags previously obtained from the Coop and elsewhere—or purchase new plastic bags if they choose. ■

For more information about the proposal to phase out the distribution of plastic bag rolls, visit <http://ecokvetch.blogspot.com>.



## BAY RIDGE FOOD CO-OP

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

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

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

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

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

[www.foodcoopbayridge.com](http://www.foodcoopbayridge.com)  
[hello@foodcoopbayridge.com](mailto:hello@foodcoopbayridge.com)  
347-274-8172

## 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  
Jan 20

8:00 p.m.

very  
**The Good Coffeehouse**  
COOP CONCERT SERIES

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

**Rob Garcia's 99% Band** will perform new and old music of protest and inspiration, featuring world-class jazz musicians who are also Coop members. Drummer/composer Rob Garcia has collaborated with Joe Lovano, Dave Liebman, Wynton Marsalis, Joseph Jarman, Woody Allen and Diana Krall. *Perennial* (by Rob Garcia 4) was named in "The 10 Best Jazz Albums of 2009," by *The New York Observer*. "Remarkable drummer," said *The Village Voice*. Nir Felder, guitar; Barry Bryson, trumpet; Jenny Hill, tenor sax; Alexis Cuadrado and Jim Whitney, bass; Todd Isler, percussion; Rob Garcia, drums; plus many more.



Native Brooklynite **Debbie Deane** will be performing her soulful songs with Jim Whitney on bass and John Mettam on drums. Debbie's latest CD, *Grove House*, a musical smorgasbord of jazz, folk and funk, was released on musician Ravi Coltrane's RKM label. Come out to hear some lush vocals and seductive hooks. "A languid, yet crisp and emotive delivery, and soul to burn..." said JazzReview.com.

**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**  
JANUARY 14  
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

**Third Thursday**  
JANUARY 19  
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

**Last Sunday**  
JANUARY 29  
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

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

## PLASTICS

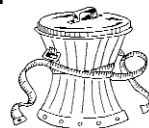
**What plastics do we accept?**  
**Until further notice:**

- #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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Index: Len Neufeld



WORKSLOT NEEDS

General Meeting Set-Up and Breakdown

**Tuesday of the General Meeting**  
Workslot meets the last Tuesday of each month for the General Meeting and consists of 2 parts—set-up and breakdown. The squad meets at the Coop at 6:00 p.m. to pick supplies for the GM and takes supplies to the Garfield Temple at Garfield and 8th Avenue. The squad sets up chairs and arranges the supplies at the GM. 2) At 9:30 p.m. the squad returns to the GM and collects all materials and bring them back to the Coop. Workslot requires good attendance because you will be working with a small team. Living in close proximity to the Coop and the Garfield

Temple at Garfield and 8th Avenue is a plus. If you are interested please contact Adriana at [adriana\\_becerra@psfc.coop](mailto:adriana_becerra@psfc.coop) or 718-622-0560 for more information.

Office Data Entry  
Tuesday, 4:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Are you a stickler for details, accurate on the computer and like working independently? If this sounds like you, then Office Data Entry will be your perfect shift. You will receive training, and Coop staff will always be available to answer questions. Please speak to Ginger Hargett in the Membership Office if you would like more information. Workslot requires a six-month commitment and a good attendance record.

Shopping Floor Set-up and Cleaning

**Monday thru Friday, 6:00 to 8:00 a.m.**  
Are you an early riser with a love of cleaning and organizing? Work under the supervision of a staff person to set up and clean the shopping floor checkout stations. Must like to clean, be meticulous, detail oriented and able to work independently. Great opportunity for someone who wants to work when the Coop is not crowded. Please contact Cynthia Pennycooke at [cynthia\\_pennycooke@psfc.coop](mailto:cynthia_pennycooke@psfc.coop) or through the Membership Office at 718-622-0560.



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](http://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](http://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](http://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, JAN 31**  
GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

**TUE, FEB 7**  
AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.  
Submissions will be considered for the Feb 28 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

**LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:**  
Jan 26 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jan 16  
Feb 9 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Jan 30

**CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:**  
Jan 26 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Jan 18  
Feb 9 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Feb 1

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](http://foodcoop.com), at the Coop Community Corner and at every General Meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 31, 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](http://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](http://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.

park slope  
FOOD COOP

## calendar of events

jan 20  
fri 8 pmRob Garcia's 99% Band and  
Debbie Deane

Rob Garcia's 99% Band will perform new and old music of protest and inspiration, featuring world-class jazz musicians who are also Coop members. Drummer/composer Rob Garcia has collaborated with Joe Lovano, Dave Liebman, Wynton Marsalis, Joseph Jarman, Woody Allen and Diana Krall. *Perennial* (by Rob Garcia 4) was named in "The 10 Best Jazz Albums of 2009," by *The New York Observer*. "Remarkable drummer," said *The Village Voice*. Nir Felder, guitar; Barry Bryson, trumpet; Jenny Hill, tenor sax; Alexis Cuadrado and Jim Whitney, bass; Todd Isler, percussion; Rob Garcia, drums; plus many more. Native Brooklynite Debbie Deane will be performing her soulful songs with Jim Whitney on bass and John Mettam on drums. Debbie's latest CD, *Grove House*, a musical smorgasbord of jazz, folk and funk, was released on musician Ravi Coltrane's RKM label. Come out to hear some lush vocals and seductive hooks. "A languid, yet crisp and emotive delivery, and soul to burn..." said JazzReview.com.

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.

jan 29  
sun 12 pm

## Financial Fitness

It's time to get your finances in shape. Deborah Mack is a Coop member and an independent representative with Primerica Financial Services, Inc. Her mission is to empower you to save money, get out of debt, and strive for financial independence by educating you with financial concepts. Come look, listen and learn.

jan 31  
tue 7 pm

## PSFC JAN 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: Creation of a Cooperative Loan Fund to Help Support Start-up Food Coops (60 minutes)

Proposal: • "To create a revolving loan fund as a donor-advised fund through an existing nonprofit foundation in order to support start-up food coops. See details in the attached documents. • To create an elected Coop committee of seven members with three-year staggered terms that would represent the Coop in all aspects of the Coop's administrative and managerial duties and responsibilities in regard to this project. • To appropriate up to \$20,000 of Coop money per year as a donation to the fund depending upon the state of the Coop's finances. • To encourage individuals to make tax-deductible donations to the fund."

—submitted by General Coordinators and Rachel Porter

Item #2: Overhauling Work-Credit Sign-up Process for the General Meeting (30 minutes)

Discussion: "Overhauling work-credit sign-up process for the General Meeting."

—submitted by Eric Kratzer

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.

jan 21  
sat 2 – 5 pmAuditions for Our  
Coop Kids' Variety Show

Auditions for Coop members ages 4-18, in the Coop second floor meeting room. To reserve an audition spot contact: Martha Siegel, 718-965-3916, msiegel105@earthlink.net. You must audition to be in the show. Polished act not required for audition; we can help you polish it.

Singers and other musicians, poets, jugglers, stand-up comics, rappers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, etc. (no lip-syncing please).

Performance date is Saturday, March 10, 7:00 p.m., at the Old First Church.

jan 22  
sun 12 pm

## Integrative Bodywork

Integrative Bodywork is a multi-dimensional approach for balancing physical, mental and subtle energy components in the body. In this hands-on workshop you will learn easy-to-perform at-home methods to ease tension. You'll also learn how Integrative Bodywork can help you rapidly recover from injuries; reduce stress; boost your energy in seconds; achieve enhanced physical and mental performance, and harness your inner genius to solve problems. Coop member Harriet Miller is a licensed massage therapist and former dancer located in Park Slope.

jan 28  
sat 6 pm

## Practicing Self Care

Come and spend some time discussing the various ways you can take back your health. A brief video will be screened. The following topics will be discussed: the power of baking soda, coconut oil, magnesium chloride, and apple cider vinegar, and the toxins in your home that may be harming you. There will be plenty of useful free handouts given to people to keep and use for their empowerment. There will be a free health-related gift given out to the winner of a raffle conducted at the end. All materials are referenced. Please RSVP at Pandre80@aol.com. Coop member Pierre Andre has been a Coop member since 2009 and has decided to put on this presentation after the realization that no healthcare provider ever teaches what day-to-day choices help avoid degenerative disease.

feb 2  
thu 7:30 pmFood Class: Jewish Foods  
From Around the World

Jewish cuisine is as diverse as the Diaspora. While brisket, gefilte fish, and kugel are traditional for some, hummus, falafel and thiebou de nyama are traditional for others. In this class we will explore Jewish history along the Chocolate Trail and take a fresh look at a seasonal hummus. Mia-Rut is a food writer, personal chef, and advocate for delicious, healthy, and sustainable food. Her writing can be found at *Jewcy* and the *Jew and the Carrot*. Mia is currently finishing her first book on Jewish cooking. She is a graduate of the Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts in Manhattan. Menu includes preserved-lemon hummus; salona (Iraqi sweet-and-sour tilapia); chocolate truffles. Materials fee: \$4.

Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.

feb 3  
fri 7 pm

## Film Night: Puppet



*Puppet* is a feature-length documentary that interweaves a broad look at the fraught history of American puppetry (its marginalization as children's theater and its sudden explosion as high art) with an intimate thread following Dan Hurlin, a downtown artist who is creating a complex puppet work about Mike Disfarmer—an eccentric, Depression-era photographer. Dan has just recovered

from a scorching *New York Times* review, which forced his last show out of theaters prematurely. Now he faces a wider backlash against puppetry, suggesting an eerie parallel between himself and his new puppet-subject—an outsider artist whose stunning body of work was very nearly lost forever. David Soll directed the feature documentary *Puppet*, which premiered in November 2010 at the DOC NYC festival.

To book a Film Night, contact Faye Lederman, squeeze@hotmial.com.

For more information on these and other events, visit the Coop's website: [foodcoop.com](http://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.



# jan 20–mar 13 2012

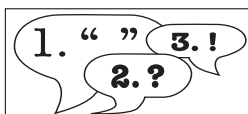
**feb 4**  
sat 2 – 5 pm

## Thyroid Problems: Fibroids, Cysts, and PMS

Participants will learn five effective, natural ways to eliminate fibroids, cysts, and PMS. We will explain the underlying causes of hypothyroidism and hormonal imbalance, how to resolve them, and how to boost energy and clarity through beneficial diet, appropriate exercise, and the use of natural supplements. Pre-registration suggested: to register call (646) 483-4571 or e-mail [GreenGemHealth@gmail.com](mailto:GreenGemHealth@gmail.com). **Rebecca Curtis** is a certified Holistic Health Coach who specializes in helping busy, professional women replenish the nutrients they need to conceive healthy babies naturally. **Mary Hart, L.Ac.**, is a nationally certified acupuncturist and the founder of Healing Hart Acupuncture in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

**feb 7**  
tue 8 pm

## Agenda Committee Meeting



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

Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at [foodcoop.com](http://foodcoop.com). **The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.**

**feb 11**  
sat 1:30 – 4 pm

## Valentine Card Making For Everyone



Bring family and friends of all ages to a Valentine's Day Card Making party in the Coop's Meeting Room. We'll supply glue, markers, and paper; bring any other special art materials you would like to use. (And we'd love donations of art supplies such as buttons, fabric, recycled paper, magazines, newspaper and cardboard.)

**feb 14**  
tue 7 pm

## Safe Food Committee Film Night: Beer Wars



Director Anat Baron takes you on a no-holds-barred exploration of the U.S. beer industry that ultimately reveals the truth behind the label of your favorite beer. Told from an insider's perspective, the film goes behind the scenes of the daily battles and all-out wars that dominate one of

America's favorite industries. *Beer Wars* begins as the corporate behemoths are being challenged by small, independent brewers who are shunning the status quo and creating innovative new beers. The story is told through two of these entrepreneurs—Sam and Rhonda—battling the might and tactics of Corporate America. This is a revealing and entertaining journey that provides unexpected and surprising turns and promises to change the world's opinion on those infamous 99 bottles of beer on the wall. Special guests TBA.

**feb 17**  
fri 8 pm

## Trainwreck and Elijah Tucker



**Trainwreck** is a trio of native Brooklynites who switch songwriters and instruments as easily as they switch genres. Although rooted in the

American rock n' roll tradition, they often use elements of reggae, funk, soul, hip-hop and jazz. Some of their songs address issues of inequality and human struggles, some are a more philosophical exploration, some are love songs and some are just for fun. "The Wreck" is laid-back, true to itself and unlike anything you've heard before. With passion born of tribulation, **Elijah Tucker** reaches into uncharted corners of his heart and comes out grinning. With the sweet rawness of early Springsteen and Van Morrison, the twists of Todd Rundgren and David Byrne and the soul-striving of Stevie Wonder and Joni Mitchell, he makes sounds to swim in.

**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.**



**feb 18**  
sat 12 pm

## Live Green, Die Green

Now is the time to educate yourself on green burial and cremation options for your elderly parents, and ultimately—inevitably—yourself and others you love. Get the low-down on your final carbon footprint now! We will discuss burial vaults, caskets on the market, green cemetery spaces in areas just outside the city and more. Coop member and former magazine writer **Amy Cunningham** felt so moved by the memorial service she helped plan for her elderly father, that she decided to pursue a second career in funeral service.

## still to come

**feb 18** Knit and Sip Series

**mar 2** Film Night

**feb 26** Staying Healthy at a Desk

**mar 4** Young Children & Media

**feb 28** Film Screening: *Until When*

**mar 6** Agenda Committee Meeting

**feb 28** PSFC FEBRUARY General Meeting

**mar 10** Coop Kids' Variety Show

**mar 1** Food Class

**mar 13** Safe Food Committee Film Night

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

## BDS LETTERS

MAYOR OF BETHLEHEM  
SUPPORTS BOYCOTT OF  
ISRAEL

## TO THE EDITOR:

Mayor Victor Batarseh of Bethlehem, located in the West Bank, Israeli occupied Palestinian territory since 1967, told reporters after his 2011 Christmas address: the international community should boycott Israel until it accepts Palestinian aspirations for independence. "We have a right to self-determination. We are peaceful people. We want peace... a just and legal peace based on UN resolutions."

The mayor, a Christian Palestinian (Roman Catholic) continued: the "only way Israel will agree to peace is if it is forced... I don't mean violently. I mean it should be boycotted. Boycott Israel culturally, educationally, in sports and in trade...and Israel will make peace in six months, believe me."

Batarseh, a retired physician, elected in 2005, said: the government of Israel makes it clearer as time goes by that peace can only be achieved through pressure. "Mr. Netanyahu and his government are still building settlements." This is despite the PLO agreeing "to accept a viable Palestinian state on just 22 percent of our historic homeland. The extremist and right-wing government won't even give us that." "They act as if this is their land and we are the foreigners."

**Bethlehem surrounded by settlements: 1967-2011**

Bethlehem, a sacred site to Christians around the world: the birthplace of Jesus, is the heart of Christian Palestinians. A few minutes north, a strip of Israeli settlements build on northern Bethlehem threatens to cut Bethlehem off from its historic twin, Jerusalem (a few miles away). There is the settlement, Har Homa and Gilo (constructed on stolen Palestinian land on a hilltop in Beit Jala, part of the Bethlehem municipality). A narrow strip between these two settlements still connect Bethlehem to Jerusalem but a new settlement, Givat Hamatos, announced in October, will fill this corridor.

In addition, new settlements are scheduled south of Bethlehem and west of Bethlehem. "The little town of Bethlehem" "will soon be the little ghetto surrounded in all directions by Israeli settlements," predicts Dr. Jad Isaac, an expert in Bethlehem demographics and consultant to the Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas.

**Bethlehem surrounded by Separation Wall, 2002-2011**

The imposing Israeli-West Bank security barrier will essentially surround Bethlehem. The wall runs close to Bethlehem's city center obstructing the movement of people, trade and commerce. The route of the separation barrier will soon cut off a dwindling Christian community of Beit Jala and their Muslim neighbors to work in Cremisan Valley during the week and to picnic with families on weekends. This Palestinian valley will be on the Israeli side of the wall and out-of-reach—a route that residents say was designated to grab their land. "With this confiscation, Bethlehem and Jerusalem will

no longer be connected."

In the words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "It is unconscionable that Bethlehem should be allowed to die slowly from strangulation."

PSFC members, join Mayor Victor Bitarseh's call to apply pressure on Israel: support the BDS movement.

References: December 2011: [www.imeu.net](http://www.imeu.net), [www.imemc.org](http://www.imemc.org), [www.mondoweiss.net](http://www.mondoweiss.net).

Mary Buchwald  
Brooklyn For Peace

DON'T BLAME "THE  
LEADERSHIP"

## TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

A letter in the last *Gazette* ("Time for Referendum; Time for Resolution") displays a not uncommon misunderstanding about the decision-making process at the Coop, and this is an attempt at clarification. The writer states: "It is time for those in a leadership role at the Coop to find a way to put the question to a vote," and "That there has been no move to conduct the called-for referendum suggests that those who guide the process at the Coop agree with some BDS opponents that it should not be put to a vote."

Fortunately or unfortunately, the way our governance is set up there is no one in a leadership role. Decisions are made at monthly General Meetings (GMs) open to all members of the Coop. And those who guide the process, such as the Agenda Committee, do so at the behest of those who make proposals.

The Coordinators manage the day-to-day business of the store. Committees manage other aspects of the Coop. The Board of Directors is largely committed to being instructed by whatever is decided at a GM, their primary responsibility being to safeguard the legal and financial integrity of the Coop, and hopefully to use their judgment about the best interests of the Coop vis-à-vis our mission statement and corporate purpose. Referendums are not part of our usual governance and therefore whether or not to hold one is subject to a vote at a General Meeting.

Anyone can submit a proposal to the Agenda Committee. Usually the item is first scheduled for discussion at a GM, then at some later time for a vote. The outcome is determined by majority vote of whoever shows up at the meeting where the vote is held and then is typically ratified by the Board of Directors, with the caveats stated above.

After more than two years worth of articles and letters in the *Gazette* by BDS supporters, a discussion was held at the July GM on the following proposal: "Conducting a Membership-wide referendum on the participation of the PSFC in the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israeli apartheid policies." What's holding up the vote as we begin the fourth year on this issue is not some anonymous Coop leadership but the sponsors themselves, who apparently have requested not a vote but rather still another discussion, this time not on whether to hold a referendum, but putatively to motivate the PSFC's participation in the BDS initiative against Israel, thereby prolonging this contentious issue still further.

So the decision for or against holding a referendum will be decided at a General Meeting only after the proposal is submitted by its sponsors for a vote. And for the record, there is nothing undemocratic about voting against a referendum in order to put an end to further argument about this divisive issue which many believe has been and will continue to be destructive to our Coop community.

Sylvia Lowenthal

JOIN THE CALL TO  
WITHDRAW THE BDS  
INITIATIVE

## TO THE COOP:

The Coop group advocating holding a referendum on joining the movement to boycott Israel (BDS) claims "avoiding a discussion [of BDS]...builds anxiety and mistrust" and "tears at the fabric of our community." Judging from the recent pro-BDS letters attacking the *Gazette*, it appears they intend to tear at the

## LETTERS POLICY

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](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop) or on disk.

## Anonymity

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

## Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, fac-

tual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's firsthand 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.

## GAZETTE COMMITTEE REPORT

## New Letters Policy

By Stephanie Golden and Erik Lewis, Gazette Coordinating Editors

In response to member comments regarding the number of letters in the *Gazette* about the BDS issue, our Editorial Board has set a new policy.

A letter signed by five or more people will be considered a "collective" letter, and the signers can publish an additional letter in the same issue. A letter signed by fewer than five people will be considered a letter from each of the signers, and our long-standing policy of one letter or member article per person per issue policy will apply: the signers cannot publish another letter in the same issue.

At least at this point, we are reluctant to limit these letters any further, since our mandate is to keep the *Gazette* open to all points of view.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

fabric of our community until this discussion is held.

Are there no limits on what can be brought before the GM? Do we, as a Coop, have a right to determine what is appropriate for discussion? No one asked: does the Coop approve being used as forum for a stunningly unpopular and unsuccessful movement? Not a single US institution has embraced BDS, other than the Olympia Food Coop, where the community has been torn asunder ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6vnPTriCw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6vnPTriCw)) and the decision is contested ([www.itsourcoop.org/chronology/](http://www.itsourcoop.org/chronology/)).

You can join me and the over 200 others who call on this group to end the BDS initiative at the Coop by sending an email to morehumus@gmail.com. There are many reasons to join:

Join us because you joined the Coop for the food and you are capable of forming your own political opinions.

Or join us because the Coop's political energies are better utilized towards an issue such as fracking, which potentially will affect our local food supply.

Or join us because you are one of the more than 1000 Coop households who collectively are saving over half a million plastic soda bottles a year using Sodastream and you don't want the product discontinued.

Or join us because you are sensitive to the diversity of the Coop community.

Or join us because you realize BDS has no constructive purpose towards bringing peace between the parties in the Middle East.

Please send an e-mail to morehumus@gmail.com.

Barbara Mazor

## RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 15 LETTER

### TO THE EDITOR:

This is in response to David Barouh's Dec. 15 letter. First, and foremost, I make no apologies for the Nov. 3 remarks for which Mr. Barouh criticized me. I am allowed to use irony through parody. It's my right to quote from Howard Jacobson's *The Finkler Question*. Or have we become so censorious that we have sunk to the level of those who would attack the *Jyllands-Posten* cartoonists for creating a caricature?

Moreover, the quote from Jacobson does not suggest that Jews who support a boycott of Israel are *self-hating*. Those are Mr. Barouh's words. On the contrary, Jacobson holds that many of them show contempt for co-religionists who don't share anti-Israel views (also see David Hirsh's commentary on the book, a work that is at its core a "political satire on the 'as a Jew' affectation, by which some attempt to mobilize their Jewish identity as an ideological weapon against Israel"

(Hirsh, D., Jacobson's demolition of the 'Ashamed Jews' wins Man Booker. *Engage Online*, Oct. 12, 2010).

My real beef is this. I accuse the BDS and its Park Slope supporters of holding a double standard. One standard for the Jewish state. And much lower standard for Hamas and its acolytes who would make the Holy Land *judenrein* (e.g., PLO Ambassador Maen Areikat, in an interview with reporters under the sponsorship of the *Christian Science Monitor*, in Washington, DC, Sept. 14, 2011; also see Areikat's interview in *Tablet* magazine, Oct. 29, 2010).

Finally, that the *Gazette* republished my letter was not a simple case of my getting a special pass. Having been an editor myself, I wrote a *Gazette* editor expressing the view that there were enough typographic errors in my letter that my meaning became unclear. Initially, the editor replied declining to publish my letter. But when I pointed out that in the editor's reply my name was misspelled, I was allowed to republish the letter.

Irvin Schonfeld

## A PLEA FOR A MORE DEMOCRATIC COOP, PART ONE

### FELLOW MEMBERS:

I am a longtime member of the Chair Committee, which facilitates the monthly General Meeting (GM). Recently I chaired the GM Rules Revision Committee, which submitted new rules of conduct that the GM approved last May. I am now leaving Brooklyn, and as I bid farewell to our Coop, I want to address two nagging issues in the hope that the members and staff will have a more democratic organization after I am gone. I will address the first issue in this letter and the second in a follow-up. My hope is to spur a conversation leading to reform.

Coop governance takes place at the General Meeting, which discusses and votes on Coop policies, subject to review by the Board of Directors. To do this, the GM relies on committees like the Agenda Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, the Diversity Committee, the Safe Food Committee, and many more.

The members of these committees are elected by the GM, but according to the *Guide to the General and Annual Meetings*, "Members interested in running...need to make their interest known to the committee," and "Each committee chooses nominees." In practice, this means that each committee chooses its own replacements for uncontested elections, and often simply re-nominates its own incumbents.

The motivations for this practice appear to be from the best of intentions. Most of these committees require experience, if not expertise.

Allowing committees to choose their own members ensures that those closest to the work can select candidates who will best continue that work.

But what may be right in practice is wrong in principle. It is not the incumbents but the GM which should decide who should serve on committees. When incumbents control nominations, the GM has no real choice, and it creates the appearance of a conflict of interest.

I am advocating a simple change: in addition to committee-approved nominees, nominations should be allowed from the floor. In practice, this would change little, as few such nominations would likely be made. But it would return the real power to the GM.

One might ask why I didn't simply include this reform in the new rules. The Rules Committee's mandate was basically conservative: simplify and clarify existing rules, and suggest non-controversial changes. This reform ran the risk of alienating members of committees, and we didn't want it to bring down our larger proposal. We hoped to get the new rules format in place, and then have the membership could suggest amendments in the years to follow.

That is what I am asking. My hope is that members will present this as a rules amendment to the GM. This can be done by a simple majority at a GM following discussion at a previous meeting. The end of closed committee elections will result in a more democratic Coop, something we should all agree to be a worthwhile goal of our organization.

In my next letter I will propose a more democratic practice for electing members of the Coop's Board of Directors.

David Hamilton Golland, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of History  
Governors State University  
[www.davidgolland.com](http://www.davidgolland.com)

## WHITHER THE GAZETTE? OUR NEWSLETTER NEEDS REFORM, PART III

### TO THE EDITOR:

The coordinating editors have acknowledged a history of inefficient and disruptive treatment of member submissions and lack of consultation with writers. They've offered reasons such as "no control or jurisdiction over the production side of the *Gazette*" and "a very tight production schedule" (Stephanie Golden and Erik Lewis letter, 4/23/2009) and the inconsistency of the Coop's unpaid workforce and "no center of operation and an extremely fragmented staff" (Stephanie Golden letter, 5/7/2009).

To suggestions that the *Gazette* enlist more editors, Stephanie Golden responded that "it will only increase the fragmentation," a stretch

considering they have Coop facilities on weekends, modern communication, and a professional staff.

The unreliability of the Coop's unpaid workers is belied by industry statistics—the Coop's overall workforce is *super-efficient*. If attitude is the problem, then it's due to the arrogance and elitism of the *Gazette's* professionals toward the Coop's amateur contributors.

Whatever the problem, *something must be done*, because ill-considered edits frustrating writers' intentions could make members forgo contributing altogether; a pity, because our diverse talent pool of members have much to contribute.

With their 12/29/2011 report, "Gazette Editorial Policies," the coordinating editors asserted their control over content, saying:

"Bottom line—the editor has the final word on what goes into the article and what goes into the *Gazette*."

They're claiming, for example, that the editor is the final authority on what constitutes a committee report—not the committee!

Letters—their version of "free-speech zones" but with the smallest word allotment of all member submissions—are unedited, except that:

"If a letter has no title, the editor can provide one. If it has a title, that title is *generally* used." [emphasis added]

*Generally!* That means they can—and frequently do—change titles *without notification*.

They set the guidelines rather than the GM, and interpret them as broadly, narrowly, or not at all, as suits them. It's as if they're the *Gazette's* owners, except they aren't—they're members doing their work slot. They're independent from management, but not from the Coop.

The sentiment at the 8/25/2009 GM was decidedly in favor of writers controlling their writing. Writers should be consulted at *all levels* of editing and production. Only typos, misspellings, and obviously incorrect grammar should not require writer consultation. Style and aesthetics should be assumed to require it. Proposed submissions guidelines should be approved by the GM.

The idea is to make writing better, and to preserve writers' intentions. This is not expecting too much of the *Gazette* staff, unpaid or though it may be. If the editors have too heavy a workload to allow that, then perhaps we need more editors.

The muses kiss and nurture us all, some more than others. No matter! Whoever takes up the pen deserves the best efforts of the editors to *clarify and strengthen* the writer's thoughts. A rejection, except for the mandated criteria, should be looked upon as a failure of the editor, not the writer. It's time to reevaluate and restructure the *Gazette*.

David Barouh

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

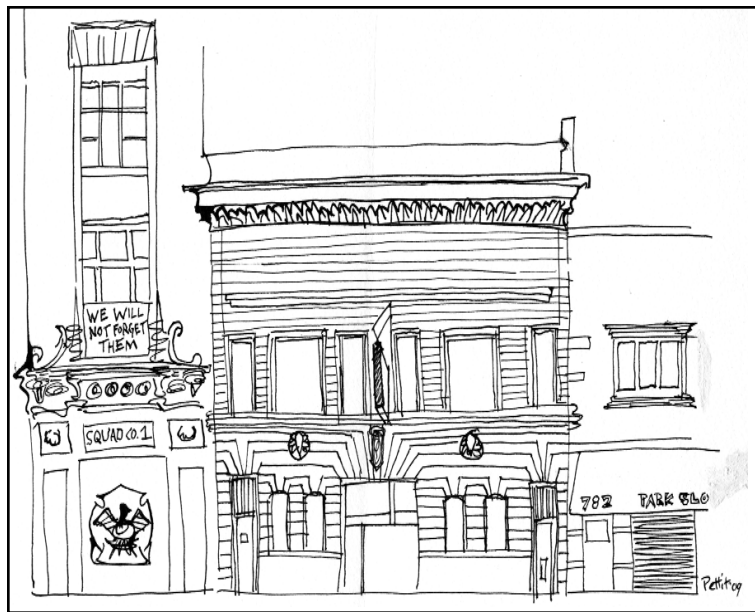
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BROMANCE  
IN THE AIR

"Bromance" is all the rage  
At the Food Coop this very age.  
Denoting friendship platonic  
Between men (not anatomic),  
Unphysical, they say,  
With nothing, nada gay.  
Their guarantors, multifarious,  
Are the wives of these bromancers  
Who supply the ready answers  
Of why their men are dating,  
Regularly tete-a-teting  
With hubs of their best friends,  
From docs to reverends.

The story wives are slinging  
Is: Put an end to clinging!  
Off our weary backs,  
All you Joes and Jacks,  
Deploy your attention elsewhere  
Instead of roosting here.  
Remove your head from my  
shoulder  
And act a little bolder—  
Leave the house for a change,  
Extend your living range,  
Hook up with friends that are male  
And give me a chance to exhale!  
And so bromance is born  
When wives want to be alorne.

Leon Freilich



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community calendar listings are free. Please submit your event listing in 50 words or less to GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop. Submission deadlines are the same as for classified ads. Please refer to the Coop Calendar in the center of this issue.

An asterisk (\*) denotes a Coop member.

## SAT, JAN 14

8 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe. Marie Mularczyk O'Connell & A Joyful Noise; Songs of the People from the English Music Halls with Heather Wood, David Jones & Jerry Epstein. At The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. (betw. Madison & Park) For info call 212-787-3903 www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15-18 general/\$10 members.

## WED, JAN 18

7 p.m. Power House Arena Book Launch Party: One Girl Cookies by Dawn Casale & David Crofton. Recipes for Cakes, Cupcakes, Whoopie Pies, and Cookies from Brooklyn's Beloved Bakery 37 Main Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 For information call 718-666-3049. RSVP: rsvp@powerHouseArena.com.



## FRI, JAN 20

7 p.m. Fr Roy Bourgeois on Stopping the US War Machine in Latin America; School of the Americas Watch, Then and Now; With the film SOMOS UNA AMERICA. Contributions welcome. at Park Slope United Methodist Church, open to the public.

## SAT, JAN 21

8 p.m. People's Voice Cafe Emma's Revolution At The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist, 40 East 35th St. (betw. Madison & Park) For info call 212-787-3903 www.peoplesvoicecafe.org. Suggested donation: \$15-18 general/\$10 members.

## FRI, JAN 27

6 p.m. Community Bookstore in Park Slope 143 7th Ave (between Carroll and Garfield). Come celebrate the publication of The Darlings in Love. Wine! Cheese! Cookies! Reading. Bring your friends and family.

## SUN, JAN 29

4 p.m. At the Central Library Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture; BPL Chamber Players: Jerry Grossman, violoncello; Korliss Uecker, soprano; Diane Walsh, piano. Free admission.

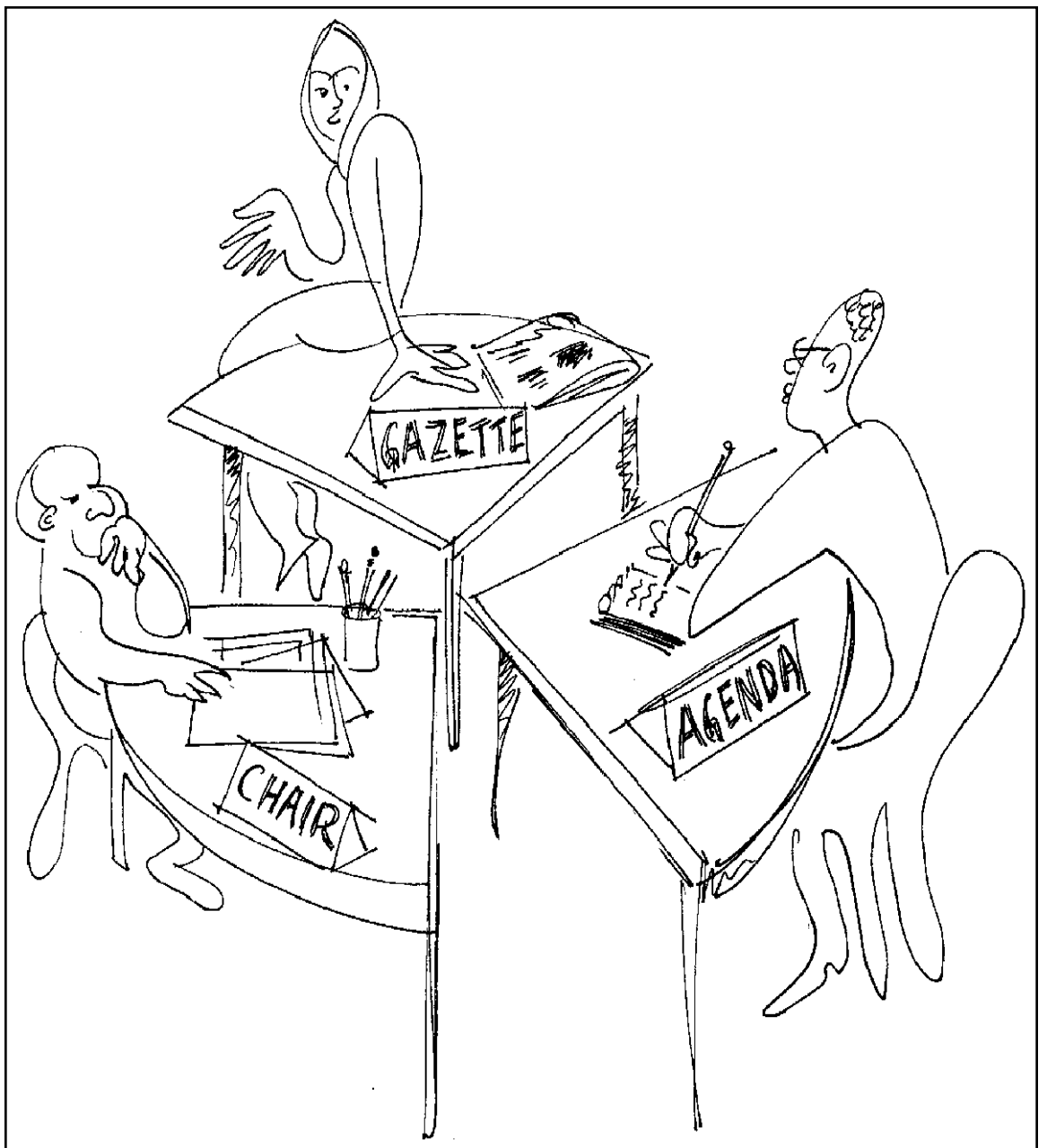
## WED, FEB 1

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



DO YOU LIKE **DESIGNING FLYERS**? HOW ARE YOU AT **MARKETING**? DO YOU LIKE **SOCIAL NETWORKING**? ARE YOU A **WEB DEVELOPER**? CAN YOU WRITE **PHP**? DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE **WORDPRESS**? DO YOU LIKE **TABLING** AT EVENTS? DO YOU LIKE **RESEARCHING FOOD**? DO YOU NEED **FTOP CREDIT**? DO YOU LIKE **COMMUNITY**, EATING **GOOD FOOD**, AND **FUN**? COME HANG OUT WITH THE **BUSHWICK FOOD COOP** AND GET **WORK CREDIT!**

A BUYING CLUB AND CSA ARE SATIATING US WHILE WE WORK TOWARDS MAKING THE DREAM OF HAVING OUR OWN STOREFRONT A REALITY. WE ARE REALLY INVESTED IN OUR COLLECTIVE GOAL OF BRINGING AFFORDABLE, LOCAL AND ORGANIC FOOD TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BUSHWICK. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE EMAIL US AT [WORKSHIFT@BUSHWICKFOODCOOP.ORG](mailto:WORKSHIFT@BUSHWICKFOODCOOP.ORG).





## CLASSIFIEDS

## BED &amp; BREAKFAST

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](http://houseon3st.com) or on FB, a link is on the site. Call Jane at 718-788-7171 Let us host you!



## MERCHANDISE

THE ULTIMATE JUICER. Norwalk Model 270. Hydraulic Press Juicer. Used very gently. Good condition. Pulp-free juice immediate. Negotiable! \$1,500. 718-332-1945.

## PETS

PET NANNY. Retired social worker, 35yrs. exp. with all breeds, esp. rescues and traumatized dogs. One dog at a time gets the run of my lrg. apt. Your dog will rarely be alone. Arrange a meet & greet. Unbeatable loving care at unbeatable low rates! Call Jane at 347-860-2142 or email [petnanny01@yahoo.com](mailto:petnanny01@yahoo.com).

## SERVICES

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

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

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.

EXPERT Editing & Coaching: Help preparing and polishing your most important communication tools: resumes, cover letters, speeches, articles, presentations. Carol Becker 718-853-0750.

SENIOR CARE. Do you know an Elder who needs/wants attention? I will provide companionship and support with errands, cooking meals, correspondence and bills, reading, computer skills. I have a lot of experience and enjoy being with seniors. Part-time in local neighborhoods. Reasonable rates. [Zipport@verizon.net](mailto:Zipport@verizon.net). 718-783-9460.

## SERVICES-HEALTH

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

HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in 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.

HOLISTIC PHYSICIAN using bio-identical hormones, diet and nutritional supplements to treat a wide variety of ailments including allergies, digestive disorders, inflammatory conditions, osteoporosis and thyroid disease. Over 20 years experience. Insurance reimbursable, Medicare accepted. Please call Marjorie Ordene, MD 718-258-7882.



## ADVERTISE ON THE WEB

If your ad would benefit from broader exposure, try the Coop's web page, [www.foodcoop.com](http://www.foodcoop.com). The ads are FREE.




PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN


## 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.



## Thyroid Diet Coach



Give your thyroid a chance, and:

- regain energy
- lose stubborn pounds
- free yourself off depression and anxiety attacks
- get off or reduce thyroid medication

[www.ThyroidDietCoach.com](http://www.ThyroidDietCoach.com) *I cured my thyroid. So can you.*

## Board of Directors Election

## The General Meeting &amp; the Board of Directors

From our inception in 1973 to the present, the monthly General Meeting has been the decision-making body of the Coop. Since the Coop incorporated in 1977, we have been legally required to have a Board of Directors.

The Bylaws of the Park Slope Food Coop state: "The portion of the Board of Directors meeting that is devoted to receiving the advice of the members shall be known as the General Meeting.... The members who gather to give advice to the directors may choose to vote in order to express their support or opposition for any of the issues that have come before the meeting."

## Duties of the Directors

The Board of Directors is comprised of five elected Coop members and the senior General Coordinator president. Members serve three-year terms. Members of the Board are expected to attend GMs monthly. They receive Coop work credit for their attendance.

The Board of Directors conducts votes at the end of every GM whether to accept the advice of the members that night. Members of the Board are required to act legally and responsibly.

## Openings

There are three openings on the Board. We have two three-year terms open this year and one one-year term.

## Candidate Deadline

If you wish to place your name into nomination, you must declare your candidacy by Thursday, March 1, 2012. Please submit a statement of up to 750 words to [GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop](mailto:GazetteSubmissions@psfc.coop). Please include a small photo for publication in the *Linewaiters' Gazette* and the member proxy mailing.

## Deciding and Voting

Candidates will have the opportunity to present their platform at the March 27, 2012 General Meeting.

Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. Members may vote by returning their ballots by mail or by bringing them to the Coop. Members may also vote at the Annual Meeting on June 26, 2012.



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](http://www.foodcoop.com)

WELCOME!

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

Amir Abbas	Patrick Carmichael	Alex Goldberg	Will Kastner	Joseph Nussbaum	Katya Schapiro	Dennis Torreggiani
Zainab Akbar	Veronika Carmichael	Jeremy Goldman	Joseph Konig	Sheryl Olsen	Jennifer Scheurman-	Meghan Treleaven
John Allspaw	Daniel Ceballos	Hayley Goldstein	Matthew Koreiwo	Chaya Osdoba	Ceballos	Robin Turner
Avi Amon	Richard Chan	Saeideh Golji	Elise Kornack	Yisroel Osdoba	Emily Schmid	Lisa Upkong
Danielle Angel	Patricia Chen	Brian Gordon	Juliette Kotov	Amanda Padilla	William Schmid	James Varner
Michael Angel	Maya Choy-Sutton	Lauren Grant	Paul Landsbergis	Jessica Pantzer	Jacqueline Schmidt	Robert Vaughan
Irwin Applebaum	Sehee Chung	Simon Greiner	Garretson Lang	Anton Papakhin	Giovana Schnabel	Lotta Wahlquist
Fukada Astko	Johnny Cicco	Amy Gropp Forbes	Scott Langton	Lindsay Paul	Susanna Scott-Mitchell	AJ Walzer
Sharon Avnon Yaniv	Daniela Ciocca	Linda Guo	Joyce Lea	Aniella Perold	Aaron Sechler	Charles Ward
Marce Ayala	Erica Cohen-Taub	Henny Hanuna	Cathy Lee	Caterina Peters	Thomas Shaw	Caren Washkewicz
Andres Barnils	David Crossman	Hannah Harpole	David Leventhal	Truett Petty	Masako Shiba	Naomi Weinstock
James Beeks	Dana Davis	Eliza Hartley	David Levinson-Wilk	Michael Prall	Yoshiko Shibata	Bryony Weiss
Heather Behrend	George Davis	Noah Hecht	Alexandra Lezberg	Anne Prendergast	Yusuke Shibata	Nathan Wessler
Jordan Benkov	Tracie Davis	Nancy Henry	Benjamin Liu	Alex Pushkin	Joel Silberstein	Cresta White
Pamela Berger	Rita Erica Doyle	Mary Hentz	Emily Magid	Shaila Rao	Bridget Soto	Elisa Winter
Clarina Bezzola	Okcana Dubov	Anna Hieironimus	Victoria Malmygin	Gary Ravert	Devorah Sreter	Thomas Wirthensohn
Sunil Bheda	Brittan Dunham	Greg Hill-Ries	Michel Marriott	James Richards	Timothy Stenovec	Aaron Wright
May Boeve	Liesl Elgenberger	Leeor Hoffinger	Kathleen Mazzucco	Victoria Roberts-	Daniel Stern	Alissa Wright
Liz Bracco	Melissa Ennen	John Hoobyar	Melissa Mazzucco	Wierzbowski	Taryn Strauss	Yoko Yamamoto
Evgenia Bracichowicz	Brett Ferguson	William Hopkins	Kylie McAdam	Aaron Rockers	Natalya Suite-Williams	Oren Yaniv
Gracie Brahimy	Adam Forbes	Haisam Hussein	Jennifer McConnell	Arlene Rodrigrez	Kimm Sun	Lillie Zuck
Elina Bromberg	Katherine Fraser	Levi Hutton	Ansje Miller	Erik Romanschyn	Liliya Talesnik	
Dave Bryson	David Friedlander	Monica Ikeda	Laura Minnear	Kevin Rosenberg	Alison Tanner	
Charles Buckley	Marjolaine Gallet	Ronen Itzik	John Mitchell	Joe Rydell	Katherine Tanujaya	
Lucy Butcher	Daniele Genadry	Irina Kagan	Jess Moss	Emily Rynd	Sara Tempel	
Justin Cahill	Gian Murray Gianino	Elizabeth Kairys	Sean Newcott	Samantha Safer	Anne Thiwa	
Silvan Carlson-Good-	Molly Gillin	Lucy Kaminsky	Leslie Nguyen	Seyyed Ali Sajjadi	Maggie Thom	
man	Damien Glass	Kay Kastner	Abbas Noori Abbood	Anna Salvati	Randi Toll	



THANK YOU!

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

Amna Akbar	Levi Capland	Uli Geissendoerfer	Jenna	Susan O'Brien	Ed Ruch	Praveen Vajpeyi
Kelly Alba	Kathleen Casanova	Nicola Giardina	Kate Johnson	Kelly Oberndorf	Chloe Safier	Julia V.
Eli Anthony	Chardean Chum	Frank Goldsmith	Sarah Kehoe	Alexander Parachini	Barbara Schauwecker	Hans Van Meeuwen
Alexander Applebaum	Sarah Clark	Meera Gowda	Kyle Kilness	Jane Pfitsch	Ans J.W.M. Schickler	Yukari Watanabe
Dana Archer-Rosenthal	Anthony Copioli	Laura Grey	Arin Kramer	Jesse Phillips-Fein	Lea Siegel	Lauren Wigo
Libby Augarten	Jessica Corriere	David Grodsky	Natalia Kramer	Roberta Piket	Kim Skadan	Alissa Wright
Koa Beck	Cyntia	Aya Hibino	Allison LaFave	Zach Poff	Kathryn Smith	Charlotte Wolovsky
Carly Benkov	Alison Easter	Channell Holiday	Ted Lefer	Allison Raaum	Wendy Smith	
Liza Bolitzer	Amy Foote	Kathy Huang	Emily Lew	Melissa Rahmanian	Aleksey Solovkov	
Eric Brooks	Mary Frost	Lorraine Hughes	Liza Lowinger	Elchonon Reizes	Javaka Steptoe	
Tisa Bryant	Michael Gamble	Jill Jefferson	Ayaka Matsushima	Hannah Roth	Morgan Strecker	
Virginia Byron	Keen Gat	Gordon Jenkins	Brianna McGurran	Roxanne Ryce-Paul	Joseph Therrien	



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Solution to this issue's sudoku puzzle

3	8	5	1	6	4	9	2	7
2	1	7	5	8	9	3	6	4
4	6	9	2	3	7	1	5	8
7	3	6	8	9	1	5	4	2
8	5	4	7	2	3	6	1	9
1	9	2	4	5	6	8	7	3
6	2	3	9	7	5	4	8	1
5	4	8	3	1	2	7	9	6
9	7	1	6	4	8	2	3	5