

Established
1973

LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE



Volume GG, Number 5

March 8, 2012

OUR MILLION DOLLAR DECISION: Participatory Budgeting Brings Power Back to the Community



Before posting the district. From left: Christian and Tabitha Tagne, Gervaise Mourlet, Rachel E. Fine, Christine Petro, Chrystelle Seidman, David Seidman, Alex Moore and Council Member Brad Lander.

By Frank Haberle

If you had a million dollars to improve your neighborhood, what would you do with it? Participatory Budgeting New York City (PBNYC) is a pilot project launched this year in four City Council Districts (CDs) including Brooklyn's CD 39 (Columbia Waterfront, Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, Windsor Terrace, Kensington and parts of Borough Park and Park Slope) and CD 45 (East Flatbush, Flatlands and parts of Midwood and Canarsie). Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a democratic process in which community members directly decide how to spend part of a public budget. At stake in each district is at least \$1

million of Councilmember discretionary funds to make capital improvements that have been proposed, presented and chosen by the community.

Last fall, community members met throughout these districts to brainstorm ideas for improvements to their schools, parks, playgrounds, street safety and public transportation. Over the winter months, volunteer delegates honed these ideas into proposals. On the evening of March 14, community members can come to a PB Expo at the Park Slope Armory to learn about the proposals for CD 39. Residents of the district can then vote at several locations on the proposals

they would like to see funded, between March 27 and April 1.

A Growing Movement, Locally and Globally

The most famous example of PB is the Brazilian city of Porto Alegre, where since 1989 as many as 50,000 people have decided how to allocate as much as 20% of the city budget annually. In the past 20 years, PB has spread around the globe. This is the first PB project in New York City. The time is right, points out Josh Lerner, Coop member and Executive Director of the nonprofit The Participatory Budgeting Project, "In a time of wide-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

A Co-op Grows in Fort Greene, Brooklyn

By Alison Rose Levy

When it comes to Brooklyn coops the newest kid on the block is the Greene Hill Food Co-op, a 100-percent member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative grocery store a few miles from the Park Slope Food Coop. Located at 18 Putnam Ave., (between Grand Ave. and Downing St., a block from Fulton St.) the Greene Hill Food Co-op serves Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Mount Pleasant, Crown Heights, Prospect Heights and nearby neighborhoods by providing its 800 members (and growing), "local, organic, and

high-quality food that is affordable and sustainable," according to a soon-to-be-released press release. One member called the neighborhood where it's located, "ethnically diverse, and filled with a great blend of newcomers, young families, and long-term residents."

At a recent visit, the product offerings danced a deft balance between well-priced staples familiar to PSFC Coop members and other healthy food shoppers (from brands like Organic Valley, Eden, Tofutti, and others), and creative, local and artisanal items

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Next General Meeting on March 27

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month. The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m. at a different location, for this meeting only: **Brooklyn Technical High School, 29 Fort Greene Place. Use main entrance on corner of South Elliot and DeKalb Ave.**

The agenda is in this Gazette, on the Coop website at 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.

Check-in for this meeting will begin at 6:15 p.m. Members will not be allowed in prior to 6:15 p.m. You must be a Food Coop member to attend the General Meeting and must bring a photo I.D. card to be admitted. There is no re-entry. Once you check-in, if you leave the building, you will not be allowed to re-enter. Snacks and beverages will not be provided by the Coop. Please plan accordingly if you need food or drink. We request that you keep eating to a minimum. Time for agenda item in parentheses is a suggestion. The Chair has the discretion to change the time allotted. This meeting must end by 10:15 p.m. More information on this item may be available at the entrance table at the meeting.

IN THIS ISSUE

Puzzle	3
Talking of Technotrash	4
Coordinator's Corner: Proposed Boycott Referendum	5
I'm Going to Tell You a Story About Food	6
Great Reasons to Reject BDS Referendum	6
Coop Hours, Coffeehouse	10
Coop Calendar, Workslot Needs	
Governance Information, Mission Statement	11
Letters to the Editor	12
Classified Ads	15
Community Calendar	16

Coop Event Highlights

- Thu, Sat Mar 8 & 10** • **Move Your Money! See What the PAFCU Offers**
4-6 p.m., Thu; 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sat
- Tue, Mar 13** • **Safe Food Committee Film Night:**
Queen of the Sun 7:00 p.m.
- Fri, Sat Mar 30-31** • **Blood Drive**
11 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Thu, Apr 5** • **Food Class:**
Food for BrainPOWER 7:30 p.m.

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

Budgeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spread budget crises and plummeting trust in government,” Josh says, “community members and government officials are searching for more democratic and accountable ways to manage public money.”

“Participatory budgeting offers a model for more transparent and democratic budgeting. It offers people a fundamentally different way to engage with government. PB lets them directly decide what government does with taxpayer money, rather than just electing politicians to make those decisions for them.”

This first year, “we invited every Council Member to participate, but only four signed up,” Josh reports.



Josh Lerner

“Three of them agreed to participate after attending public talks that my organization set up in 2010 with the Chicago Alderman who launched the first PB process in the US.” Other Councilmembers wanted to see how the first year went before committing. “We’re expecting additional districts to join after the first year.”



PHOTO BY ROD MORRISON

Christine Petro, Tabitha and Christian Tagne posting flyers promoting the Participatory Budgeting Project.

The Neighborhood Assemblies: Building a Platform for Participation

In CD 39, represented by Brad Lander, The PBNYC cycle began with five Neighborhood Assemblies last October and November. Led by volunteers, 500 people attended meetings in Windsor Terrace, Borough Park, Park Slope, Carroll Gardens and Kensington (a meeting led in three languages: English, Spanish and Bengali). The assemblies defined the parameters of the PB program and funding (projects must be for capital improvements and must range between \$35,000 and \$1 million). Volunteer Budget Delegates were commissioned to transform ideas into proposals.

Josh has seen excitement growing, even with the challenges of launching a new program. “People are excited that their Councilmember gave them real power over real money,” he says. “The main challenge has been finding enough time and resources to create a whole new budget process from

scratch. Democracy takes a lot of work...PB won’t be perfect this year, but it’s a good start and we have lots of ideas for how to make it even better next year.”

Rachel L. Fine, a Coop member who practiced pub-



Rachel L. Fine

lic interest law for many years, volunteered to steer the PB process in the district. “I’ve been active in my kids’ school and involved with public school issues in general,” Rachel says. “When (Councilmember) Brad Lander asked me to join his PB District Committee and be the facilitator of the education committee I was excited

to be part of a process that would allow the public to decide how resources could be spent to address some of the needs facing public schools.”

Josh credits staff from CD offices who work with volunteers to make the project a success. “PB requires that city staff take on new roles, and this transition isn’t always easy. Staff have to share more information, offer a lot of support, and work more collaboratively with residents. Most staff that we’ve worked with embrace this role.”

Alex Moore, staff member from CD 39, says “about 1,000 people have participated in our district and about 800 ideas were offered for how to spend the money. Anyone over the age of 18 who lives in Councilmember Lander’s district can vote –

and I hope a lot of Coop members participate.” Stefan Ringel from CD 45, represented by Jumaane Williams, agrees. “Participatory budgeting has been an exciting adventure in democracy for the 45th District in its first year. This has provided a whole new way for residents to organize around their local interests and their shared love of our community. Since the first round of neighborhood assemblies, we have had several hundred participants attend meetings around the district to learn about the process.” Stefan expects approximately 10 proposals to be presented during the second round of neighborhood assemblies this week. Those proposals will be finalized and put on the ballot for a public vote the last week of March. ■

LOOKING FOR MEMBERS TO FILL A NEW WORKSLOT

Revolving Loan Management Committee

On January 31 participants in the General Meeting overwhelmingly approved the Coop’s new **Revolving Loan Program**. This initiative allows the Coop and our individual members to donate money into a fund that will make loans to start-up coops using the PSFC model.

As part of that resolution, a committee will be formed to develop, oversee and report on the loan program. We have begun the committee selection process, which involves an interview for those who express interest and a vote for candidates at a future GM, probably in April or May.

Committee members must:

1. Agree to be interviewed by the program developers, Joe Holtz and Rachel Porter;
2. Be able to attend monthly meetings;
3. Be willing to do additional work (beyond 2.75 hours/four weeks) as needed;
4. Be committed to the loan program; and,
5. Have expertise in a relevant area, such as non-profit management, finance and lending, coop development, grocery store management, law.

Committee members will receive work credit.

Once the interviews are completed, all candidates seeking committee placement will write a statement to be published in the *Linewaiters’ Gazette*, and will stand for a vote at a General Meeting.

To sign up for an interview, please send a statement of interest and your resume to loancommittee@psfc.coop and we will contact you.

How to Get Involved in Participatory Budgeting

A resident of **CD 39** or **CD 45** has multiple opportunities to become involved:

CD 39 Expo: Wednesday, March 14, 6:30–8:30 p.m. at the Park Slope Armory (361 15th Street, between 7th and 8th Avenues). “I’d encourage anyone living in the district to come to the Expo,” Rachel L. Fine says, “to learn more about PB and how the \$1M could be spent.”

Voting on proposals: Tuesday, March 27 through Thursday, March 29 (7:30 a.m.–8 p.m.) at Councilmember Brad Lander’s Office (456 Fifth Ave., Third Floor); Saturday March 31 at the Windsor Terrace Library (10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.); PS 58 (10 a.m.–6 p.m.) and the Old Stone House (10 a.m.–7 p.m.); and Sunday April 1 at Beth Jacob Day Center (10 a.m.–5 p.m.), Old Stone House (10 a.m.–5 p.m.) and Carroll Park (10 a.m.–5 p.m.).

Alex reports that “we also need volunteers to help with outreach and staff the vote. Contact us at lander@council.nyc.gov.”

In **CD 45**, “Anyone who wants to be involved,” Stefan says, “should contact our district office at (718) 629-2900 or e-mail Director of Community Outreach, Monique Chandler-Waterman, at mwaterman@council.nyc.gov. Outreach support will be greatly appreciated leading up to the vote to educate residents about this new process.”

To learn more about PBNYC and The Participatory Budgeting Project, visit www.participatorybudgeting.org.

Those living outside these CDs can contact their Councilmember and urge them to participate next year. Josh says some elected officials “feel that they were elected to make all the decisions or that they know best what the community wants. Around the world, though, we’ve found that if elected officials share some of their power with the community, they actually become more popular, and the community grows stronger.”

A Co-op Grows

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not widely seen elsewhere, like the glass bottled milk and local butter sourced from a Pennsylvania dairy farm. This is the doing of Chief Buyer, Aaron Zueck, one of the co-chairs of the Merchandising Committee, who has built relationships both with major suppliers in the region such as Angelo's Foods, as well as with a range of smaller local outfits. The GHF Co-op's rule of thumb is that local or regional items can be sustainably grown, and minimally treated even if they lack the organic certification. But items that come from a distance must be organic. This winter for example, Zueck is aiming to buy more citrus from Florida rather than California to save the energy use occasioned by long distance transport.

Many of both the GHF Co-op's vegetable and meat offerings are sourced by Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperation in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with whom the Co-op has cultivated a special relationship, analogous to the PSFC Coop's creative one with Hepworth Farms. But even though Pennsylvania provides Apple Tree Goat Dairy's Honey, Pear, and Date Goat Cheese, and Oak View Acres Blueberry and Raspberry jams, Brooklyn supplies the Brooklyn Cured sausages in flavor variations ranging from Duck to Chicken Chorizo. Equal Exchange coffee beans sit on shelves next to the pricier Oslo brand. The Cholula brand standard issue hot sauce is flanked by Green's Gourmet of Vermont's Texas Chipotle Sauce, with a label that boasts that it's produced "without pepper mash, extracts, artificial preservatives, or coloring." There was even a giant bulk-sized can of fresh-packed Jersey-grown crushed tomatoes, which was delivered by mistake but has been a well selling item. "At five dollars a can, you can't go wrong," Zueck notes.

Lining the rustic wooden produce shelves currently is a spread of winter vegetables, like potatoes, greens, turnips, and onions, grown by the Lancaster Coop. But even in winter, the GHF Co-op has

experienced a 26-percent increase in membership since opening its doors in January 2012. Co-op members expect an even greater uptick in membership when the spring growing season fills its produce aisle with an abundance of green vegetables.

The store's three aisles are flanked on one end by the produce offering, and on the other by a long row of refrigerators, stocking dairy

Merchandising Committee gauge inventory supply and demand, build relationships with local suppliers and attract new members. Last summer, they curtailed the Buyer's Club in order to begin renovation of the store, preparing for the January 2012 opening as a full coop.

The members with whom I spoke during a visit to the GHF Co-op cited as membership benefits both the availability of organic foods at good prices and also participation in the community of members. Joe Holtz and Ann Herpel of the PSFC have offered

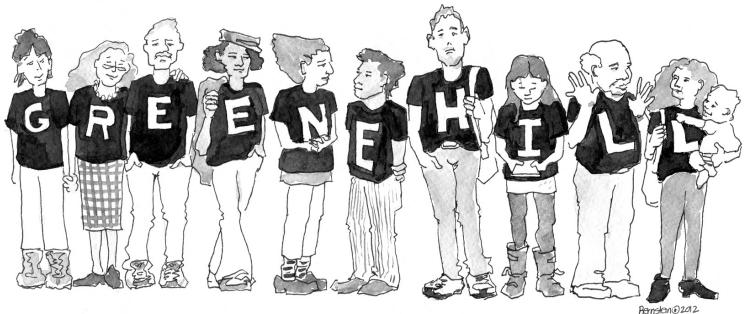
support through acting as advisors to the GHF Co-op planning from the outset and continue to be available for any questions, says Zueck. "We call them all the time."

The GHF Co-op has several standing committees, and all committee co-chairs belong to the steering committee. Currently some of the committee chairs work long hours. The three with whom I spoke were Zueck, Philip Ashlock, (who co-heads information technology) and Doug Warren (who co-heads Finance.) They are currently developing process manuals that can be used to train others to perform certain key functions. Just like at the PSFC, there is a monthly membership meeting, where members make all decisions by vote. The only difference is that a portion of the meeting is also devoted to introducing new prospective members to the Co-op.

According to Zueck, if the store has revenues of \$10 thousand per week, it covers its fixed costs. Since it sells approximately one thousand dollars for each hour it's open, that is no problem. Up until March 15, 2012, the GHF Co-op is also offering a loan program, with a minimum investment of one thousand dollars to participate and a range of time and rates that investors can select. The office space, with its few chairs and small tables for laptop computers, is located right in the midst of the food receiving and storage area, a long room, adjacent to the large area housing the store. Come warmer weather, this room, without any form of temperature control, will become too warm for food storage. That's

why the goal, says Doug Warren, is to raise \$40 thousand to pay for an HVAC system and professional refrigeration units to replace (or complement) the donated household refrigerators, currently in use. People wishing to participate can go to [www.greenhill-](http://www.greenhill-coop.com/loans)

coop.com/loans or write to finance@greenehillfoodcoop.com The GHF Co-op plans to apply to the newly-formed revolving loan program at PSFC for a loan to cover this need. For general information, the website is www.greenhillfoodcoop.com. ■



LEND TO US BRING QUALITY AFFORDABLE FOOD TO OUR COMMUNITY!

Our loan program is a great way to make a socially conscious investment in the future of our 625 (and rising!) member co-op serving Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Bed-Stuy and Prospect Heights.

If you are a resident of New York State and would like more information, please visit our website: www.greenhillfood.coop/loans, or contact Doug Warren at finance@greenehillfood.coop.

Mashups

Below are several lists of three-letter words. Within each list the three-letter words can be paired up, and then each pair of two short words can be mashed together to form a common six-letter word.

For example, the set of words CAN, HEM, LET, TIP can be paired up as follows:

CAN + TIP = CATNIP
HEM + LET = HELMET

(As an additional hint, the letters of the two three-letter words will be intermixed, but not scrambled. That is, for the word C-A-N inside the word CATNIP, the C comes before the A, which comes before the N.)

The order of the three-letter clue words in each puzzle below is alphabetical and does not suggest how they are to be combined.

1) LIT, PIT, PUP, SON

2) ANT, CAT, TEN, VAN

3) MAT, POT, TAO, TOO

4) BOY, GET, MAN, NOD

5) ASH, SKY, TRY, WAN

6) LIE, PIE, POT, RAT

Puzzle author: Stuart Marquis. For answers, see page 16.

Talking of Technotrash

By Ed Levy

When I speak an address into my new phone, for example “Brooklyn Academy of Music,” it not only knows that BAM is at 651 Fulton Street, the phone asks me if I’m walking or driving. A voice then guides me patiently to my destination. “Turn left in 1000 feet. Turn left now.” It even knows which streets are one-way. And if I get hungry and take a detour over to Smiling Pizza for a slice with extra cheese, it knows that too. And once I get to BAM, there’s a picture of the streetscape on the screen, to reassure me that I’m in the right place. Incredible, isn’t it. Even the ordinary wonders of the digital age, like e-mail, still amaze me. To keep moving, I pinch myself, like Prufrock, and say, “Oh, do not



ask, ‘What is it?’ Let us go and make our visit.”

But beyond the startling increase in my monthly cell phone bill, there’s a price to pay for these digital thrills. For many of these miraculous devices contain toxic substances like lead, mercury, phosphorous, and cadmium, and flame retardants—substances that don’t belong in landfills, where they can leach into the water supply. With 26 electronic devices per household, on average, the problem of what to do with our electronic waste, our e-waste, has been growing in gigabytes.

Lower East Side Ecology Center

Enter the Lower East Side Ecology Center (aka, Outstanding Renewal Enterprise, Inc.) founded 25 years ago—well before anyone dreamed up the first app. Its mission is to offer local communities recycling and composting programs and environmental education. A few years ago, when the center began looking for a place to locate a new e-waste facility, it noticed that among the five boroughs, it usually received the best response to its mobile e-

waste drop-off centers in Brooklyn, particularly South Brooklyn. (A lack of affordable warehouse space in Manhattan was another big factor.) And so, in early February, the center opened its new e-waste facility at 469 President Street on the corner of Nevins. Any New York resident, any business with fewer than 50 employees, and any nonprofit organizations can drop off unwanted electronics for recycling. Bring in your old TVs, computers, cell phones, monitors, VCRs, fax machines, printers, scanners, iPods, video games, pagers, answering machines, tablets and e-readers, along with any other e-trash you may have sitting around. The center also accepts peripherals like keyboards, mice, cables, and chargers. And if any of your stuff is still working, the center will try to resell it. The e-waste facility is thus also a warehouse for people who are shopping for used electronics and invites the public to come by to peruse their affordable equipment and parts.

All donations of equipment are tax-deductible.

The electronic waste recycling program does not accept appliances, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, and microwaves. And for those who want to recycle their CDs, floppies, and VHS tapes, the center advises visiting www.greendisk.com.

Once equipment is dropped off at the warehouse, it’s sorted, weighed and then sent to a recycling facility in Westchester, which removes the copper and shreds the plastic, reselling both of these materials. Computer monitors are sent to either California or Canada for smelting, a process in which the lead is removed, also destined for reuse, along with glass components.

According to Caroline Kruse, Development Director of LESEC, the careful tending and recycling of e-waste is not only sound environmental policy, because so many people and processes are involved along the way, it has great potential for job creation.

Speaking of jobs, Caroline also said she envisioned Park Slope Food Coop members receiving workslot credit for volunteering at the President

Street location, although no discussions with the paid staff have been undertaken yet.

Pop-Ups

Although the center now has its permanent location in Brooklyn, it is still planning to hold what it calls “pop-up events” around the city to assist people who may have difficulty getting their electronics over to President Street. For example, it may send a truck once a month to a particular location, like the Coop. And even if you can’t get your e-waste to the facility or popup event, there are other ways to dispose of it. Retailers and manufacturers now accept e-waste, and in fact are required to do by so-called “take-back” laws. For example, the New York State Rechargeable Battery Law requires retailers to accept from consumers at any time during normal business hours rechargeable batteries of a similar size and shape as those they offer for sale.

Protecting Your Data

Still, many people hesitate to recycle because of concerns about the safety of the data on their hard drives. What to do about those e-mails to someone your partner is jealous of, last year’s tax info, and that trail of websites you should never have visited? According to the center, recyclers they work with protect the privacy of sensitive data during the entire process of collection, transport, and recycling, using “up-to-date security standards and practices . . . certified to Department of Defense standards.” But if

you don’t want to take any chances, the center recommends downloading either of two free programs, Kill Disk (killdisk.com) or Darik’s Boot and Nuke (dban.org), disk erasers that remove data without any possibility of recovery.

Classes and Workshops

The e-waste center is open Tuesday through Saturday, and is closed Sunday and Monday. On Wednesday evenings, it stays open till 7 p.m. In addition, the center continues to run mobile collection stations in the five boroughs. It also offers classes through in-school and after-school programs, community groups, public workshops, lectures, teacher trainings, green job trainings, internships and private events. Workshop and class topics include the New York City environment, the ecology of the East River Estuary, the New York City sewer system, fishing, water infrastructure, the urban water cycle, water conservation and water quality monitoring. The public is invited to visit the center’s website, lesecologycenter.org for a calendar, hours of operation, or call (212) 477-4022 or e-mail info@lesecologycenter.org.

In addition, the Lower East Side Ecology Center runs another program, EcoBizNYC, which is designed to help small businesses reduce their environmental impact and save money by increasing their energy efficiency. Small business owners in New York should contact the center for eligibility.

It will continue to hold e-

waste collection events city-wide throughout the year as it has since 2003.

Upcoming Programs

The center’s upcoming public programs include Compost Harvesting and Street Tree Care, on March 10, at the La Plaza Cultural Garden, East 9th Street and Avenue C, from 1 to 3 p.m. (admission is \$5 if you are not a member of the garden). Participants will learn when to harvest and how to apply compost, as well as how to use compost to improve the health of New York City’s street trees. On March 20, an Indoor Composting Workshop will be held at the Peter Jay Sharp Volunteer House, in Riverside Park at West 107 St. The fee is \$5 and worm bins will be sold at the discounted price of \$44.

A number of off-the-beaten-path products can be purchased on the center’s website or at the Union Square Greenmarket. These include potting soil, compost, red wiggler worms, worm “condos” and outdoor compost bins.

The Lower East Side Ecology Center’s e-waste programs are financially supported by donations from the New York Community Trust, ConEdison and Tekserve. ■



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DEBRA TINT

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
You will receive FTOP credit for your work.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

On March 27, Please Vote 'COOP' on the Proposed Boycott Referendum

By Joe Holtz, General Coordinator and Coop Co-founder

Voting "COOP" means voting NO on the proposed Israel/BDS referendum at the March General Meeting, regardless of your opinion on the extremely troubling situation in the Mideast.

Please attend the March 27 meeting at Brooklyn Tech High School and stand with me and others who have the third side of this issue in mind despite the idea held by many that this is a two-sided issue. We need to have passion for what the Coop has accomplished and passion to protect our survival as a thriving community of people from widely diverse backgrounds coming here to work together.

Before I address further why we need to stand for the third side—the Coop side—of this issue, I want to address why a referendum is not a good path to take in this situation. Any monthly General Meeting can authorize a referendum as a mechanism to make a decision. But the meetings have rarely done so. The

wisdom that comes out in face to face discussions has saved the Coop from making many risky decisions that seemed like slam dunk no brainers before discussion. Over the years GM discussions have many times pointed the Coop in good directions. Please don't be convinced by arguments that referendums are a higher form of democracy. Our open and transparent meeting process, the Coop's form of democracy, is central to the sustainability of our precious Coop. By voting against the referendum we can make it clear that the Coop is not in favor of seriously supporting an issue on which we are very divided. But if we approve holding a referendum we will be sending a message to the membership and the world that we want to be involved in divisive issues. We know joining BDS is divisive and can only harm both the perception of the Coop and the future of the Coop. We don't need a referendum to figure that out.

The International Cooperative Alliance Statement on Cooperative

Identity states clearly that coops are not organized for the purpose of taking political positions. This statement is printed in this issue of the *Gazette* and the Coop's Membership Manual. As one of the founders of our Coop, I can tell you that the group of our founders did not have uniformity around politics. But we had uniformity in our belief that there was too little cooperation in the world. We were determined to start this Coop because we believed in the beauty and the power of people working together for the collective good.

When there is a crisis in our society or around the world, the Coop is not expected to take a position. The media does not call to ask the Coop's position on U.S. relations with Cuba, for example. Members do not expect the Coop to weigh in on whether or not social security should be privatized or what to do about the war in Afghanistan. The Coop in its usual operative mode does not take a position. We do not measure members on their adherence to any political position. There is no litmus test here for members other than whether the member is cooperating by fulfilling her membership responsibilities. We are open and welcoming to all who practice cooperation. Anyone who thinks we can start being unwelcoming to those of our members who hold fairly widely held views and still maintain sustainability as an organization is sadly mistaken. In the last years it has become clear from reading our *Gazette* that the March 27 proposal, if passed, will leave a large portion of members feeling unwelcomed and alienated from what has been their Coop.

Through all these years I have never for a moment thought that a vast swath of the members should be made to feel that being an owner of the Coop was a challenge to their sense of well being or justice or fairness because of a political position the Coop has taken.

We are a democracy, which is fundamental to being a cooperative. Part of being a democracy is that we do not ignore proposals posed to us by our members. We must today, as we have always done, respond to member proposals in the open and democratically.

How have we balanced our usual way of not taking political positions with democratically answering questions or proposals that whichever way we answer them will be seen as taking a political position? How can we fulfill the part of our mission where we welcome all of our members? How can we maintain diversity, which, according to our Mission Statement, is something we are committed to? How has the Coop taken positions on boycotts without becoming known for alienat-

ing members who do not agree with the Coop's decisions and without narrowing the diversity of those who feel comfortable here?

The answers are that the Coop has never really taken a position on any boycott that was at all controversial. I reviewed our decisions to boycott from 1989 to the present. The issues were varied: grapes, products of Chile, products of South Africa, tuna fish, products of Colorado, Tropicana products, Garden Burgers, Nestlé's, Domino Sugar, Coca-Cola and Flaum Appetizing. The percentage in favor of boycotting on 11 of 13 separate votes was over 90% and over 80% the other two times. The only current boycotts, Flaum and Coca Cola, are at close to 100% approval. These votes represent a Coop united behind these boycotts. Clearly, that is not the case on the proposal before us now.

We have held our Coop community together by only taking positions on boycotts that had overwhelmingly wide support. This current proposal to join BDS does not have similar Coop-wide support. Please recognize this and act to protect the Coop by voting NO, regardless of your opinion on the troubling situation in the Middle East.

One of the ways the Coop practices transparency and democracy is by having a basic policy of printing virtually all letters to the editor. An alternative to the Coop taking a stand on a boycott is for members to write letters urging fellow members to buy or avoid products they feel strongly about. Each of us can boycott whatever we want every time we shop.

In my capacity as one of the stewards of the Coop, I hope to see the Coop both survive and thrive. I hope many others will join me in thinking as stewards of the Coop's future and take the time to come to the meeting at Brooklyn Tech on March 27 and vote NO on this issue that will divide us and hurt the Coop if we allow it to go forward.

About 25 years ago I read a quote from a professor in New England who stated that food cooperatives which require member participation in the work and that sell only to members are impossible to sustain.

It's always fun to be possible after others predict your impossibility. You can help your Coop to continue to be possible by attending this meeting and voting to protect some vital elements of our success together. ■



The International Cooperative Alliance Statement of Cooperative Identity

(The Statement of Cooperative Identity has its origins in a published set of "practices" of the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers in 1844 and later became known as the Rochdale Principles. It was eventually renamed and has been periodically updated by the International Cooperative Alliance.)

Definition:

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.

Values:

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

Principles:

The cooperative principles are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice.

First Principle:

Voluntary and Open Membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibility of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

Second Principle:

Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

Third Principle:

Member Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. At least part of that capital is

usually common property of the cooperative. They usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible, benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative, and supporting other activities as approved by the membership.

Fourth Principle:

Autonomy and Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

Fifth Principle:

Education, Training and Information

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public—particularly young people and opinion leaders—about the nature of benefits of cooperation.

Sixth Principle:

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Seventh Principle:

Concern for the Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

I'm Going to Tell You a Story About Food

By Tara Tabassi

A few weeks ago, I'm standing in the cold outside our Coop on a late Saturday afternoon. I'm passing out fliers about the upcoming March 27 General Meeting vote on whether to have a referendum in support of boycotting Israeli products at the Coop. Many people walk by, hastily replying they don't have the time, don't want to hear about the referendum or about Palestine. "I just need to shop," "I just need my food," they say. A few get upset, yelling at us leafletters. Then, a fellow Coop member harasses me, pushing his nose up to mine and spitting insulting language on my face.

This was not the first time Coop members working towards this boycott have had our safety compromised by a fellow member opposing our non-violent efforts. We are thousands of miles away from the horrific institutionalized violence Palestinians face every day at the hands of Israel. Yet passing out leaflets and asking fellow members to vote for measures that underscore the Coop's own mission of social justice is seemingly cause enough for an opponent to use intimidation against us.

His violence underscores

the importance of our vote for non-violence.

The choice before us is thus clear: we choose to side with the non-violent struggle against Israeli apartheid, or we side with the oppressors. As Howard Zinn once said, "There is no neutral on a moving train." Palestinians have struggled for decades against Israeli domination: their homeland now scarred with walls, checkpoints, military bases, illegal settlements—all markers of colonialism and apartheid. We in the U.S. are not neutral in this struggle. We both help shape and are shaped by Israeli apartheid policies. For years U.S. taxpayers have showered Israel with over \$3 billion in direct aid annually, much of this funneling into military spending on tanks and guns. By stocking Israeli products in our Coop, we are taking a side in this.

In 2005, Palestinians called on civilians around the world to stand in non-violent solidarity against the militarized occupation of their homes. This call asks us to not cross international picket lines against Israeli corporations by boycotting Israeli products.

As I passed out fliers that day at our Coop, Khadar Adnan was on his 62nd day of

hunger strike protesting Israel's detention of him without charge or trial. Can we really comprehend what not eating for over two months means as we walk down our abundant Coop aisles? Can we imagine putting our lives on the line to resist violence, to fight for our existence?

That is why it is our duty here in Park Slope, as a leader for emerging coops across the nation, to engage with the world around us. To connect to those hungry and blockaded and respond to this moral crisis with a moral solution. Khadar Adnan himself stated, "My dignity is more important than food." By not buying a few simple products, we can make a statement about how

we value human dignity over convenience.

Today we know that peaceful solutions won't come from our governments. It is only through our people power: to stand together in solidarity across borders and identities, acknowledge our link in the chain and send a collective statement to oppressed people everywhere: we are with you.

As a Coop, **we have that people power.** We have the power to choose what we eat. International boycotts helped to dismantle South African apartheid, and our own Coop's long boycott was part of that movement. As we did with the boycott of South Africa, let history recall that the people power of the Park Slope Food Coop again chose justice.

While voting at our General Meeting on March 27, please

think about Khadar Adnan, about the 4,489 Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli detention, about every person in Gaza and their right to not only eat, but to exist. Think about what our shopping and our eating has to do with their dignity. We can make an impact here in Brooklyn with what we decide to buy and eat and live on. What we eat, and what we don't eat, connects us across borders and checkpoints.

See? This is a story about food. ■



MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Great Reasons to Reject BDS Referendum

By Jesse T. Rosenfeld

Port Townsend Food Co-op. Boycott REJECTED!!

Board member Rick Sepler: "We are not in the business of adjudicating international issues..." Board member Steve Moore, "**It's not why we were elected.**"¹

Davis Food Co-op. Boycott REJECTED!!

Davis saw "...**a reduction in shoppers and sales** [and] disruption to business operations..." Accepting the boycott would, "...**require us to accept the Global BDS Campaign's tactics as our own**, and would allow the Global BDS to determine our compliance with its principles and policies..." "Davis would also **have to subject its fiduciary authority, discretion in the management and operation to BDS.**" "...the Davis Food Coop is not qualified to pass judgment on the legitimacy or illegitimacy of actions or policies of any foreign government... and **the initiative may be excluded for failure to specify a proper purpose.**"²

Sacramento. Boycott REJECTED!!!

"The store's General Manager **received repeated customers complaints about tablers** for this particular issue and suspended their privileges... Unfortunately, the Sacramento Police have been called to the store twice after customers complained that the group was blocking access to the Co-op to customers."

"...when there is no apparent connection

between an act called for in a petition for member vote and the purposes of the cooperative itself... **certifying the petition would have put the Co-op in legal jeopardy.**"³

Seattle. BOYCOTT REJECTED!!!!

The Central Co-op in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood, **killed a boycott proposal...** The committee leadership decided that further consideration would damage the co-op and had become, "**a malignancy to our business.**" said former committee member Rick Bannerman.⁴

Ann Arbor, Michigan. BOYCOTT REJECTED!!!!!!

"The attempt was made to essentially say that we as a board are guilty of killing Palestinians because this isn't happening quickly enough."⁵

"The co-op managers began to hear complaints of **aggressive tactics from those collecting signatures...**" "**A member outburst at a board meeting** accusing the board of being directly involved in the deaths of Palestinians **resulted in our losing our free meeting space.**" "Statements to the press needed to be carefully worded, and **staff needed support and direction on how to respond to questions or when confronted by angry shoppers and protestors.**" "The board was asked to be a part of efforts to resolve the conflict in the Middle East, **a task we were not prepared for.**"⁶

"**The conflict in the Middle East, however, remains as difficult and challenging as ever.**"⁷ ■

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.

¹ <http://ptleader.com/main.asp?SectionID=36&SubSectionID=55&ArticleID=27784>.

² http://daviswiki.org/Davis_Food_Co-op/Boycott,_Divestment,_And_Sanctions.

³ http://www.sacfoodcoop.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1504:faq-on-the-israeli-boycott-issue&catid=51:ownershipbod&Itemid=82.

⁴ <http://www.jtnews.net/index.php?news/item/7670>.

⁵ <http://www.lindadianefeldt.com/blog/?p=199>.

⁶ <http://www.cooperativegrocer.coop/articles/2009-01-19/co-op-challenged-member-boycott-request>.

⁷ *ibid.*

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

What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Friday, March 9, 8 to 10:45 a.m.

Monday, March 12, 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Tuesday, March 13, 9:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Monday, March 19, 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.

Follow the Food Coop on

twitter



@foodcoop



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, 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.)



Healthy Schools Healthy Kids A Town Hall Meeting & Community Forum School Food Change in NYC Public Schools

Brooklyn Food Coalition invites all PSFC members to join us in our efforts to bring food justice to schools in East New York and Brownsville
Wednesday, March 21, 6 p.m.

Meet as a community with our elected officials and learn about the work being done to improve the meals served in NYC Public Schools. Light dinner, childcare, and Spanish translation will be provided.

6–8:30 p.m.

613 New Lots Ave., United Community Centers

Contact info@brooklynfoodcoalition.org for more information.

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").

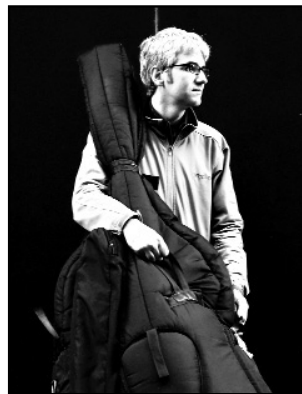
Printed by: Tri-Star Offset, Maspeth, NY.

**Friday
Mar 16**

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

**Alexis Cuadrado and the Miles Away Band**

Alexis is an award-winning jazz bassist and composer originally from Barcelona who has been a Brooklyn resident for the last 12 years (and a PSFC member for 10!). For this special occasion, and with the support of a fabulous 10-piece band made of PSFC member-musicians, he'll present a selection of pieces from the electric Miles Davis repertoire, bringing the jazz-funk to the Good Coffeehouse. Not to be missed!

Janine Nichols and SEMI-FREE

Opening up straight-ahead songwriting forms to make room for the emotional power of free jazz, SEMI-FREE is the loose-limbed trio of guitarist Brandon Ross (Harriet Tubman: the band, Cassandra Wilson, Henry Threadgill, Lizz Wright), violinist Charlie Burnham (Steven Bernstein's MTO, James Blood Ulmer, Cassandra Wilson, Medeski Martin & Wood) and singer/writer/rhythm guitarist Janine Nichols, whose "idiosyncratic sense of space and time elevates everything she sings" (David Greenberger, *Metroland*).



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
MARCH 10
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.**

**Third Thursday
MARCH 15
7:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.**

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

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

PLASTICS

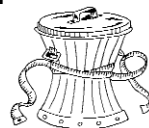
**What plastics do we accept?
Until further notice:**

- #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:**

Coordinating Editors: Stephanie Golden
Erik Lewis

Editors (development): Erik Lewis
Joan Minieri

Reporters: Frank Haberle
Alison Levy
Ed Levy

Art Director (development): Eva Schicker

Illustrators: Lynn Bernstein
Ethan Pettit
Deborah Tint

Photographers: Rod Morrison

Traffic Manager: Barbara Knight

Thumbnails: Kristin Lilley

Preproduction: Helena Boskovic

Photoshop: Terrance Carney

Art Director (production): Lauren Dong

Desktop Publishing: Kevin Cashman

Mike Walters

Oliver Yourke

Editor (production): Tioma Allison

Puzzle Master: Stuart Marquis

Final Proofreader: Nancy Rosenberg

Index: Len Neufeld

Advertisement: Peter Benton

WORKSLOT NEEDS

Bathroom Cleaning
Monday, 12 to 2 p.m.

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

Beer Enthusiast Squad

The Coop is seeking members to stock and organize the beer shelf in the afternoons and on the weekends. The arrival times for these shifts can be made a little flexible. We are looking for folks who are a knowledgeable and/or interested in beer, a bit meticulous, able to lift

cases of beer, and willing to be responsive to member requests. It is very important that Beer Squad members be what are referred to as "self-starters" and can work without direct supervision. The squads will be comprised of one or two members and will be trained by and work with the Coop's beer buyer. Please e-mail anngel_delaney@psfc.coop directly to sign up.

Office Set-up

Thursday, 6 to 8:30 a.m.

Need an early riser with lots of energy to do a variety of physical tasks including: setting up tables and chairs, buying food and supplies, labeling and putting away food and supplies, recycling, washing dishes and making coffee. Sound like your dream come true? This job

might be for you. Please speak to Adriana or Cynthia in the Membership Office for more information

Store Equipment Cleaning
Monday and Wednesday, 6 to 8 a.m.

The Coop is looking for members to clean the checkout area of the store. It entails cleaning the scales at each checkout and vacuuming around the base of the checkout station, as well as sweeping and occasionally mopping. You will work under the supervision of a staff person.



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

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

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

The Coop on the Internet

www.foodcoop.com

The Coop on Cable TV

Inside the Park Slope Food Coop

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

General Meeting Info

TUE, MAR 27

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, APR 3

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the Apr 24 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Mar 22 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Mar 12
Apr 5 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Mar 26

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Mar 22 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Mar 14
Apr 5 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Mar 28

ALL ABOUT THE
GENERAL MEETING

Our Governing Structure

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

**Next Meeting: Tuesday,
March 27, 7:00 p.m.**

The General Meeting is held on the last Tuesday of each month.

Location for March Only

Brooklyn Tech High School, 29 Fort Greene Place.

**How to Place an Item
on the Agenda**

If you have something you'd like discussed at a General Meeting, please complete a submission form for the Agenda Committee. Forms are available on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, in the rack near the Coop Community Corner bulletin board and at General Meetings. Instructions and helpful information on how to submit an item appear on the submission form. The Agenda Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month to plan the agenda for the GM held on the last Tuesday of the month. If you have a question, please call Ann Herpel at the Coop.

Meeting Format

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

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

Open Forum (7:15 p.m.) Open Forum is a time for members to bring brief items to the General Meeting. If an item is more than brief, it can be submitted to the Agenda Committee as an item for a future GM.

Reports (7:30 p.m.) • Financial Report • Coordinators' Report • Committee Reports

Agenda (8:00 p.m.) The agenda is posted on the Coop Web site, foodcoop.com, the Coop Community Corner and may also appear elsewhere in this issue.

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

**Attend a GM
and Receive Work Credit**

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

To be eligible for workslot credit, you must add your name to the sign-up sheet in the elevator lobby. The sign-ups sheet is available all month long, except for the day of the meeting when you have until 5 p.m. to sign up. On the day of the meeting, the sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office.

Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

• Certain Squads not eligible:

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

• Attend the entire GM:

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

• Signing in at the Meeting:

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

• Being Absent from the GM:

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

**Park Slope Food Coop
Mission Statement**

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

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

mar 8
thu 4–6 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

mar 10
sat 10 am–12:30 pm

See What the PAFCU Offers

Representatives from People's Alliance Federal Credit Union will be at the Park Slope Food Coop in the Meeting Room to sign up members for credit union membership. Learn about: \$5 minimum savings balance; loans starting at 2.99%; holiday club account; debit/Visa cards; mobile/text message banking; no-fee checking; Internet banking; kids' accounts; vacation club accounts. Any new member to open an account, any existing member to add a PAFCU product, or any member to refer a new member to the credit union will be entered to win a Drive Away Vacation Package. Stop by for a chance to win a surprise gift.

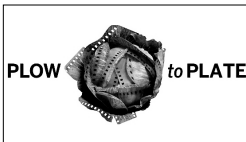
mar 10
sat 7 pm

Coop Kids' Variety Show



Performers in alphabetical order: Lochlan Brooks, Sadie Carroll, Zabi and Amaru Davila-Lomas, Cloe Amelia Dean, Johnny Ali Garcia, Silas Gaughran, Skye James, Eli Jort, Ruby Kahn, Raven Karlick, William Lach, Lola Lafia, Zev Lane, Jonah Murphy, Jordan Nass-deMause, Leah Perkel, Leela and Maya Phillips, Ellie Pike, Elijah Pluchino, Marlen Popkin, Tallulah Pratt, Lara Saddique, Emma Scholl, Lara Schuman, Emmanuel Ball Storrow, Clementine and Graham Vonnegut, Mia Weiss, Deasian Williams, and the PS 321 PAC (Performing Arts Company). Types of acts include: piano, singing, guitar, drums, cello, hip-hop, tap, stilts, hula hoop, trumpet, Tae Kwan Do, dramatic monologue, flute, and rock'n roll. Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 kids 12-18, free kids under 12. Refreshments for sale.

Event takes place at Old First Church, Carroll St. and Seventh Ave.

mar 13
tue 7 pmSafe Food Committee Film Night:
Queen of the Sun

Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us? is a profound, alternative look at the global bee crisis from Taggart Siegel, director of *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*. Taking us on a journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the mysterious world of the beehive, this engaging and ultimately uplifting film weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists, and philosophers from around the world, including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk, and Vandana Shiva. Together, they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.

mar 16
fri 8 pmAlexis Cuadrado and
Janine Nichols

Alexis Cuadrado is an award-winning jazz bassist and composer originally from Barcelona who has been a Brooklyn resident for the last 12 years. For this special occasion, and with the support of the fabulous 10-piece **Miles Away Band**, he'll present a selection of pieces from the electric Miles Davis repertoire, bringing the jazz-funk to the Good Coffeehouse. Not to be missed! Opening up straight-ahead songwriting forms to make room

for the emotional power of free jazz, **SEMI-FREE** is the loose-limbed trio of guitarist Brandon Ross (Harriet Tubman: the band, Cassandra Wilson, Henry Threadgill, Lizz Wright), violinist Charlie Burnham (Steven Bernstein's MTO, James Blood Ulmer, Cassandra Wilson, Medeski Martin & Wood) and singer/writer/rhythm guitarist **Janine Nichols**, whose "idiosyncratic sense of space and time elevates everything she sings" (David Greenberger, *Metroland*).

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.**

mar 17
sat 7 pmFood Justice & Ecological
Damage in Palestine/Israel

Joel Kovel, an anti-Zionist, anti-capitalist Jew and pro-peace activist who is editor-in-chief of the academic quarterly *Capitalism Nature Socialism*, will speak on how Zionist ideology and policy have created an environmental crisis in Palestine/Israel. While this crisis mainly impacts Palestinians, it affects food production and the quality of life of all humans in this region. Water usage and water, air and ground pollution by Israeli settlers, industrialists, weapons manufacturers, and the Israeli military will be addressed. A discussion will follow. Due to space limitations, RSVPs are required: psfc.BDS@gmail.com. Moderator **Dennis James** is a Coop member and retired attorney, active in Palestinian issues in Detroit and New York.

mar 18
sun 12 pm

Fitness for Moms

Certified personal trainer and mom of two **Chana Balk** offers tips and expert advice on living your life as a fit and healthy mom. You will learn about functional movement and core training, among other fitness principles, and take home practical tips to help fit fitness into your life as a busy mom. This workshop will be of value to moms of all fitness levels. Former lawyer turned business owner/trainer, Balk runs Move It Momma, a company that offers group fitness and personal training for moms. She also runs Babybites Brooklyn, a company that hosts events for moms.

mar 24
sat 3 pm

Esperanto

Esperanto is a fascinating language useful in meeting people in China, Brazil, Cuba, France, Japan, Israel, and most countries. Thousands of speakers meet internationally, nationally, regionally, and locally year-round. More than 1,000 individuals offer free hosting via Pasporta Servo. Designed to be easy, most young speakers master the language on-line for free. Activists world-wide link friendship with a chance for peace. Come for an introductory lesson, including a sing-a-long. **Neil** is a 15-year Coop member, a retired school teacher, and a UN volunteer. He has traveled to 34 countries using Esperanto. Hear some experiences and share your stories from a linguistic viewpoint.

mar 27
tue 7 pm

PSFC MAR General Meeting



Meeting Location for This Meeting Only: Brooklyn Technical High School, 29 Fort Greene Place. Use main entrance on corner of South Elliot and DeKalb Ave. Check-in for the meeting will begin at 6:15 p.m. Members will not be allowed in prior to 6:15 p.m. You must be a Food Coop member to attend the General Meeting and must bring a photo I.D. card to be admitted. There is no re-entry. Once you check-in, if you leave the building, you will not be allowed to re-enter. Snacks

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

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

mar 8–apr 24 2012

and beverages will not be provided by the Coop. Please plan accordingly if you need food or drink. We request that you keep eating to a minimum. Time for agenda item in parentheses is a suggestion. The Chair has the discretion to change the time allotted. This meeting must end by 10:15 p.m. More information on this item may be available at the entrance table at the meeting.

Item #1: Referendum on the BDS Question (90 minutes)

Proposal: “We propose that the Coop hold a referendum to decide whether we will participate in the international Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement to support Palestinian human rights.”
—submitted by Bill Mazza and Carol Wald

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.

mar 27
tue 7–9 pm

Putting Your Passion Into Action

Come to this workshop, to jump-start your journey toward finding the work you love. Here, you will begin to: uncover your passions, exploring what you really love to do and can do; clarify related career options; identify specific steps to create new career goals and actions. You will walk away from the experience with a greater awareness of what will bring you more meaning, as well as specific goals to take immediate action. **Anne Baker** is a certified life and career coach and has been a Coop member for the past 10 years.

mar 30-31
fri-sat 11 am–6 pm

Blood Drive

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

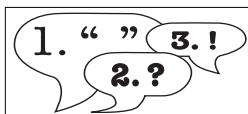
apr 1
sun 11 am

What’s All the Excitement About Vitamin D

Vitamin D—the “sunshine vitamin”—has received a lot of attention recently. **Dr. Milo F. Vassallo** will give an interactive lecture to share his perspective on this essential nutrient and the evidence of its importance in the medical literature. Dr. Vassallo received his MD and PhD degrees from NYU School of Medicine and completed a Fellowship in Allergy and Immunology at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Vassallo is a member of the Park Slope Food Coop and in practice counsels people to identify environmental factors that trigger and worsen allergy symptoms and to maintain a healthy immune system with an aim toward long-term wellness.

apr 3
tue 8 pm

Agenda Committee Meeting



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

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

apr 5
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Food for BrainPOWER



Susan Baldassano, Coordinator

Discover how much food controls the speed and precision in which you think. While Chef **Andréa Hammond** explains this food-brain science, she’ll show you how to whip up your own mouthwatering brain fuel. Impassioned by her findings, Andréa founded A.H. Nutrition Therapy to teach others the power of food to advance their minds. She completed her chef’s training at the Natural Gourmet Institute, then went on to become a Certified Nutrition Counselor through the Academy for Healing Nutrition, which teaches nutrition according to Eastern sciences. *Menu includes easy eggs florentine; omega-3 salad; coconut parfait.* **Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.**

apr 7
sat 2 pm

EFT Workshop for You

Maybe you know the eight tapping points, or it will only take a minute to show them to you. Come to this workshop with your pain, your anger, your disappointment, and even your trauma memories, or hatred, worries or lack of self-esteem. EFT practitioner(s) at this workshop will guarantee to reduce or eliminate that pain and suffering by doing and teaching you these powerful tapping techniques. Come early to get a seat. Presented by **Carolyn Meiselbach**, EFT counselor, teacher and Coop member for more than 10 years.

apr 10
tue 7 pm

Safe Food Committee Film Night: Farmageddon



Americans’ right to access fresh, healthy foods of their choice is under attack. Filmmaker Kristin Canty’s quest to find healthy food for her four children turned into a journey to discover why access to these foods was being threatened. *Farmageddon* tells the story of small, family farms that were providing safe, healthy foods to their communities and were forced to stop, sometimes through violent action, by agents of misguided government. *Farmageddon* highlights the urgency of food freedom, encouraging consumers and farmers to take action to preserve access to food free from burdensome regulations. The film serves to put policymakers and regulators on notice.

apr 13
fri 7 pm

Film Night: Stages



In New York City’s changing Lower East Side, a group of older Puerto Rican women and inner-city youth come together over 20 weeks to create an original play out of the stories of their lives. Amid the isolating bustle of nine million people, participants diverse in age, race and nationality confront stereotypes and examine their own histories, exploring themes of immigration, relationships, aging and coming of age. Woven together, their stories take on new meaning, first as they are spoken across generations and later when they are performed for a sold-out show. In response to a political climate that assigns little value to community-arts initiatives, *Stages* offers an intimate portrait of an unlikely ensemble, transformed by the liberating power of their own stories.

Special screening date due to Passover this month.

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

apr 14
sat 10 am

Knit & Sip Series

Calling all knitters and crocheters. Please bring yarns and needles and be prepared to knit and crochet. **Naeemah Senghor** is a knitter, crocheter and raw-foodist and loves to organize swaps and community events. She has been organizing “Knit & Sips” all over Brooklyn. She has been a Coop member for several years.

still to come

apr 14 Here’s Why You’re Not Pregnant

apr 20 How to Lighten Your Final Carbon Footprint

apr 20 *The Very Good Coffeehouse Coop Concert Series*

apr 24 Healthy Thyroid

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



DEMOCRACY AND GOODWILL

Once again I'm appealing to everyone who feels passionately about our upcoming vote on whether or not to have a referendum on BDS:

Let's have a civil and respectful discussion about the issues. Let's be non-violent in both speech and action. Let's not let our personal and political fears cause us to act unkindly to each other. Our differences can be democratically resolved in a referendum. Please come to the General Meeting on March 27 and vote your conscience.

Carol Wald

GM VOTE

I understand that a vote will be held during the March GM regarding BDS. I am opposed to BDS and urge members to vote down this proposal.

This letter however is concerned about the vote itself. At the GM votes are counted by having three people independently count raised hands and report the result to the meeting organizers table. This can be a slow and tedious process with only 200 members voting. The turnout is expected to be much larger and there is talk about holding the vote in a space where over 1,700 members could be present. I don't believe our present voting system can handle this volume in a timely and accurate manner, especially if the vote is close.

I suggest renting electronic voting machines in sufficient numbers to quickly and accurately handle the vote. A cursory search on the Web yielded a number of firms that rent the equipment. This will also provide an audit trail and could prevent any discussions of a miscount.

Thank you for your consideration of the above.

Stewart Pravda

OCCUPY DEMOCRACY!

If we learned anything last year from the Arab Spring, European Summer and U.S. Autumn—the nascent Occupy movement and its impact on political discourse—it's that people's collective action makes a tremendous difference. By getting together and participating in democratic discussion and decision-making, we can transform the world. For the past few years, many of our members have been discussing participation in the growing global movement of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) aimed at pressuring Israel to respect the human rights of Palestinians and end its brutal, illegal occupation of Palestinian land. Those of us interested in the Coop joining this nonviolent movement are answering a call from Palestinians, who need global support in achieving peace and justice.

We have tried to conduct a civil discussion via letters here in the *Gazette*, an attempted GM discussion on BDS

that was refused, a number of Coop special educational events, and flyer-ing in front of the Coop. Some of our opponents have taken a hostile and unseemly stance. A few of us have been shouted at and followed while shopping or working our shift. One of us had her hair pulled after presenting the idea of a referendum at a GM. While I was flyer-ing, a woman cursed, and tried to hit and kick me. (This is under investigation.) This violence, harassment and attempted intimidation is all the more reason to redouble our commitment to democratic process by allowing a member-wide referendum using anonymous ballots. Our community cannot tolerate bullies trying to quash discussion. Every member has the right to be heard.

A vote on referendum will happen on Tuesday, March 27 at the GM. We proposers, many of us Jewish, are not singling Israel out. We work on a broad range of social justice issues. We have years of experience studying and organizing around the issue and a number of us are from or have spent time in Palestine/Israel. In the struggle for Palestinian self-determination, BDS is a vibrant campaign with just aims and strategic means. We offer a democratic way to enable our huge membership to have a voice and make a collective decision on this ethical and moral question.

The BDS call is being answered with resounding enthusiasm throughout the world. Hundreds of BDS actions have been taken by universities, religious institutions, national political parties, pension funds, municipalities, banks, trade unions and supermarkets. Cultural icons like Brian Eno, Alice Walker, Jean-Luc Godard, Adrienne Rich, Eduardo Galeano, Arundhati Roy, Dustin Hoffman, Meg Ryan, Carlos Santana, Bjork, Elvis Costello, Roger Waters, The Pixies, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, and Desmond Tutu are just some in support of BDS. South Africa's BDS campaign took twenty years to achieve what this struggle accomplished in the first five years of the campaign that began in 2005. (www.palaestina-portal.eu)

The Coop can lag behind global opinion or stand on the right side of history and join the growing international people's movement to end Israeli oppression of Palestinians. You can make a difference: vote for referendum on 3/27.

Liz Roberts

POLITICALLY HARASSED

HELLO GAZETTE EDITORS:

I just want Coop members to be aware that those of us who have written to support BDS in the past few months are being personally harassed and attacked. No matter what one's ideological and political beliefs, personal attacks are not part of a civil, democratic dialogue. Such

behavior makes transparent the motivations of those who engage in it. I would say that some of the letters published in the *Gazette* also engage in ad hominem character attacks rather than debate the issue at hand. I believe this is because it is hard to argue against the truth and easier to impugn those who speak it.

On 2/21, I received the following message from someone named Isaac who read a recent *Gazette* letter from me:

"I just read an article that quoted you and a letter you wrote regarding the Park Slope Food Coop, and your support for a ban on Israeli made products. Your position is laughable. You said, 'Economic engagement with the state of Israel gives it the means and muscle to oppress, destabilize, and colonize the Palestinian people.' I'm sure you said much more, but I'm not here to blow apart your stupid, ignorant statement. I would merely like to comment on the fact that if you and your boyfriend and dog lived Ramallah or Gaza, I'm not sure how welcome you would be. However if you decided to shack up in Tel Aviv, you could participate in the annual gay pride parade. Think about it, you moron."

The idea that LGBT people of color take any of our rights for granted anywhere is simply presumptuous. However, support for LGBT and sexual rights in any society in no way invalidates the value of cross-national solidarity in the struggle against oppression, injustice and occupation. In fact, those struggles are linked. I'd like to remind Isaac that many people in Israel feel the same way. It's with that lens that I and others who are not Palestinian speak up against the policies of the State of Israel in colonizing Palestinian society, culture and resources, policies that affect LGBT and straight people alike. Odd that speaking up against State oppression makes me stupid and moronic. So be it.

I was taken aback that Isaac had taken the trouble to search the internet for details about my personal life and for my personal contact information. He left his message on the contact page of my author's website without a full name, email or phone, so that he would be hard to trace. I interpret this message, and the form it was delivered, as a barely veiled threat. Any further unsolicited contacts of this type will be directly reported to the police. I expect Coop management to also take a stand for the personal safety of its members, and for the right to express one's political views in appropriate forums without risk of personal retaliation.

Mohan Sikka

THE HISTORY OF THE JEWS

(Before I start, how about a shout-out? Should I run for the Board again

this year or not?)

My family was split when I was two years old and my parents separated. I lived with my mother's side who were agnostic; my father's people were orthodox. The rabbi gave me a record to follow in my haftorah. I recited it impressively even though I didn't know a word of Hebrew. I wish my grandmother had not allowed me to be bar-mitzvahed, and today I almost wish I weren't a Jew because the Jews have become insane, at least most I know.

At the synagogue a man educated in Jewish history and conflict told me I was wrong about Arabs being expelled from Palestine. They were sharecroppers on land legally purchased by Jews, and the Jews decided not to continue their services. Besides, he added, they were insignificant people. One of the sweetest people I ever met, a newly minted Lubovitcher, winked his eye and said that Black people are not like "us." Just tonight I asked a man I have known for years about the BDS issue at the Co-Op. His reply made it clear that he was unalterably against it. No erasers on those pencils, eh?

In Israel I hear they are not as decided. American Jews have never experienced war, apartheid, the house next door being blown up, or knowing someone who gave birth on the hood of a car. I guess it's easier to be a fascist from a safe distance!

Because of their furore and blindness, American Jews are supporting a relationship of our country with Israel that should never have existed. And to the Why single out Israel? argument I give two reasons: I am an American and I am a Jew. I think they're both excellent reasons and I'm proud to support BDS.

A tactical suggestion for the March 27th Meeting: They will try to get the vote at the meeting rather than a referendum of all members. I suggest as a middle ground we do both: A vote at the meeting, which the Co-Op will implement immediately, and also a referendum enclosed with the Board ballots in June, whose results will supersede those of the meeting vote.

The maturity of a nation or a co-op should include an ability to distinguish between empty shibboleths and the truth or a reasonable simulacrum of it. Israel has clearly not attained this ability and the US is retreating from it as fast as possible. Maybe the Co-Op can do them one better.

Serving you as always, I remain—

albert

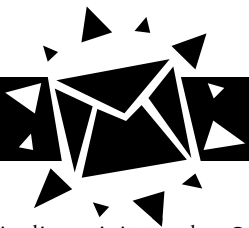
718-768-9079

hobces@yahoo.com

EDUCATORS CAN'T STAY SILENT ABOUT ISRAELI APARTHEID

COOP MEMBERS:

The following is excerpted from the letter by five returning academics



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

from a fact finding visit to the Occupied Territories and Israel. (For complete letter: www.electronicintifada.net, 2/13/12).

Boycott: a tool of solidarity

While other countries may have worse human rights records, Israel is the world's most egregious example of an occupation that has persisted for almost half a century in flagrant violation of international law. Neither periodic pressure from diplomats and non-governmental organizations, nor international legal judgments condemning Israel's wall in the West Bank, the settlements, or the siege of Gaza, nor the ongoing, and now visibly fraudulent "peace process" itself, have pierced the veil of Israeli impunity.

In response to a call from within Palestinian civil society, we therefore declare our support for the U.S. Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel. The academic and cultural boycott emerges in the context of a broader call for boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel until it fully abides by its obligations under international law.

The call for boycott has been endorsed by a majority of Palestinian unions, political parties, non-governmental organization networks and civic organizations. We believe that it is one of the more hopeful signs in ongoing Palestinian resistance to occupation and systemic inequality within Israel and a powerful means to build international solidarity with the Palestinian people.

We refuse to be silent or passive in the face of gross violations of principles of universal human rights that both Israel and the U.S. publicly purport to uphold. As was the case with the U.S. removal of tribal nations, the U.S. South under anti-black "Jim Crow" laws, or South Africa under apartheid, Palestine today is the measure of the meaning and value of human rights in our time.

By challenging injustice there, we call into question U.S. and Israeli state policies that normalize military colonialism, mass incarceration and permanent war—a security regime for the global one percent that today jeopardizes basic aspirations for opportunity and freedom. Prospects for self-determination and human rights wither under heavily policed states, particularly those subject to occupation, colonialism, segregation, or discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, nationality or religion.

We urge our academic colleagues to join U.S. in endorsing the U.S. Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel and upholding the principles of boycott, divestment and sanctions in solidarity with our Palestinian counterparts. We believe that the perpetuation of the international travesty of colonial occupation in a post-colonial world must be brought to an end for it ultimately threatens the rights, dignity and security of everyone who believes in self-determination, equal justice and human rights."

J. K. haulani Kauanui, Wesleyan University; Robin D.G. Kelley, University of California Los Angeles; Bill V. Mullen, Purdue University; Nikhil Pal Singh, New York University; Neferti Tadiar, Barnard College.

SAVE THE DATE! Come to the General Meeting, Tuesday, March 27. Vote on whether to have a Referendum!

Mary Buchwald
Brooklyn For Peace

AN ALTERNATIVE

On March 27th the Park Slope Food Coop will decide whether to hold a referendum on the boycott of Israeli products from store shelves. I propose an alternative—that the Coop make a concerted effort to import and sell Palestinian-made products. This can also be an opportunity to identify Palestinian entrepreneurs who, despite providing high quality products, are unable to export or grow their business due to some constraint (financial or otherwise). The Coop could even partner with organizations that support Palestinian entrepreneurs.

I believe that socially responsible organizations must take actions that unite rather than divide. I believe that the message sent by actively supporting both Palestinian and Israeli entrepreneurs is much more powerful and constructive than any boycott. Also, the arguments that favor such a boycott are hypocritical. Why punish Israeli entrepreneurs for wrongs committed by their government? If the Coop boycotts Israeli entrepreneurs then it should boycott U.S. entrepreneurs as well, or at least devise a system to determine whether an entrepreneur has ties to the government.

Casey Frid

WORKING THROUGH DIFFICULT PROBLEMS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

I have written a letter before but feel compelled to write again. As I read many of the letters to the editor I am increasingly upset by the singling out of Israel as a nation that must be punished and forced to stop its "overt violation of human rights" and its "apartheid" of the Palestinian people. As a social studies teacher currently teaching about China under Mao Zedong and the Rape of Nanking, I am seriously disturbed that we keep talking about Israel with similar distinction. Mary Buchwald, in "Israeli Law Discriminates," on Jan 26th, writes in favor of the Coop to support BDS, but yet in just the first paragraph she mentioned Israel's Supreme court, the fact that there are 11 people on it who get to have a voice, the fact that a case about Palestinian rights was brought to that court, the fact that the vote was almost split down the middle, the fact that Israeli civil rights groups were upset about the verdict, the fact that there are Israeli civil rights groups at all, the fact that they worry about Palestinians, the fact that there are Arab-Israeli joint civil rights groups, the fact that these groups are quoted in the newspapers and not censored, and the list can go on.

The letter immediately afterwards, as well as countless others over the past few months, argues that "the overtly shameless violation of human rights anywhere in the world is not

something that should be condoned, much less supported by any organization in this country." I do not think one can legitimately make an argument (as many have tried) that the country described above (with its echoes of democracy and freedom of speech) is an example of an "overtly shameless violation of human rights." I am truly baffled as to why Israel is the constant focus of these efforts. They are certainly not perfect, but I can think of so much worse in this world that we can put our energies toward. (check out *The New York Times* article about the source of iPhones for ideas, or most of our clothing labels, or our own backyards).

Additionally in the February 9th *Gazette* Mary Buchwald brings another example of Israel's injustice. What is one of her sources—an Israeli Newspaper!—Israeli citizens are criticizing their own government. Some might say this could be used as support for the BDS movement—even Israeli citizens are mad—but on the contrary this is a reason to just leave them alone. We are talking about a country where freedom of speech and press allows people to criticize the government in their newspapers; where Israeli's are defending the Palestinians—this is not a location of "shameless abuses of human rights," but a place that is working through some deep-seeded and difficult problems, but working through them nonetheless.

Rebecca Appelbaum

TOTALLY FED UP

I'm sure I'm not the only member who is thoroughly sick of this whole boycott/referendum debate! By way of history, I was in Lebanon in 1973, I saw the Palestinian camps and was appalled at the conditions in which the people had to live. Jump ahead 39 years and the situation in the Middle East is, if anything, even worse, but you can't blame that on Israel alone (or at least I can't). Basically, I deplore the fact that Israel continues to blatantly build illegal settlements on what is obviously Palestinian land, but I also deplore the fact that the Palestinians elected to represent them a terrorist organization that not only

refuses to acknowledge their next door neighbor's right to even exist but overtly calls for their total destruction, yet then complains when that neighbor doesn't acting "neighborly!" There is plenty of blame to go around.

Re: the Coop and politics, I believe we should limit our "group" involvement to issues that specifically affect food and the environment (fracking, food safety, etc.). Chris Seymour (whom I do not know and who certainly has a right to his/her opinion) said in the February 23 newsletter that we should "support human rights." I'm totally supportive of that, but if boycotting a country's products is the way to do it, why is no one at the Coop (that I know of) suggesting that we boycott products from China, Russia, Burma, part of Central and South America, a good portion of Africa, Syria, and much of the rest of the Middle East since many of those governments are also engaged in human rights abuses (some on a truly monumental scale)? Is the Israeli government somehow worse than the Chinese, Russian, Burmese, or Syrian governments? And, if so, why? I hate to say it, but I'm afraid I can see no reason other than anti-Semitism (and, for the record, I am not Jewish).

I plan to be at the March 27 meeting and will vote against a vote to boycott Israeli products. If a referendum vote is accepted, I will then vote against any boycott. That is my position, and I'm sure that everyone else will also do what they think is right. But, in any event, let's please put this long debate behind us and return to those halcyon days when the "letters page" was filled primarily with complaints about long lines and why there are never enough walkers when we have a snow storm or Biblical flood, but more than enough when the sky is blue and the temperature 74 degrees.

James Harter

A CANCER GROWS IN BROOKLYN

There is something sickening about the fact that PSFC will vote on boycotting Israeli products.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Enabled by ultra-liberal Coop policies, a small group of members has pushed for PSFC to align itself with Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS), the global movement with a monomaniacal focus on Israel.

Masquerading as a humanistic crusade, BDS uses deception and lies to provoke outrage. Israel is portrayed as the perpetrator of all evils, and the sole source of Palestinian suffering and of conflict in the region. Palestinians are portrayed as victims of a new kind of holocaust by a neo Nazi-like state. BDS ignores the terrorist attacks, and thousands of rocket, missile and mortar strikes at Israel's civilian areas, while denying Israel's right of self-defense. Opposing any Israeli-Palestinian co-operation, it is against peaceful co-existence.

History matters. What BDS has going for it is that most people, knowing little or nothing about Israel's past, recent and current history, cannot distinguish lies from truths.

BDS expresses no interest in such notoriously oppressive governments as North Korea, China, Sudan, Iran and Pakistan. Even the rights violations of Arabs citizens in Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen are ignored.

What is most curious (read "hypo-critical") is that while vilifying the only Jewish state in the world for its treatment of Palestinian Arabs, BDS makes no mention of their subjugation by Arab governments. Jordan treats many citizens of Palestinian descent as foreigners, required to pay fees in foreign currency (making it difficult to enter universities), and allowed employment only in the private sector. Many were recently deprived of citizenship with all its attendant rights. Gaza, ruled by Hamas, curtails political, religious and social freedom. Women's rights are restricted; homosexuality is a criminal offense. Militant activities are localized in civilian centers where residents, used as human shields, are injured or killed. Syria houses Palestinians in refugee camps with crude mud or concrete houses and an inconsistent water supply. Almost half of Palestinian families live at or below poverty levels. Palestinians are not allowed to vote. Lebanon denies such basic rights to Palestinians as identity registration and concomitant access to health services, education, and civil, social and economic rights. They cannot register marriages or births, are barred from high-status professions, and excluded from owning real estate. Subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention and torture, they are denied legal representation.

BDS rhetoric aims to delegitimize Israel in preparation for the ultimate goal of dismantling it as a Jewish state. What comes to mind is the boycotting of Jewish business in Germany in the 1930's. History shows grave and tragic consequences when mass

movements focus on Jews. Invariably malignant and often deadly, they metastasize, spreading hate throughout the world. Martin Luther King's words bear consideration: "When people criticize Zionists they mean Jews, you are talking anti-Semitism." And, "Israel's right to exist as a state in security is uncontested."

What is wanted now is that when the votes are counted the BDS cancer in Park Slope is brought into permanent remission and the Coop heals quickly from damage caused to its membership and its reputation.

Ruth Bolletino

Editor's Note: to see the full context of the quote of Martin Luther King in an article by Congressman John Lewis go to: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2002/01/21/ED115336.DTL>--z-

MORE IMPORTANT THINGS

Not only has the BDS movement succeeded in dividing the Food Coop, it has succeeded in turning off potential members. BDS has made the Park Slope Food Coop and Park Slope infamous. In an article in The Daily News on 2/22/12, Senator Charles Schumer (not a member) denounced the BDS movement.

Andrea Peyser responded in a comment on the post on 2/23/12 with the headline reading "hateful anti-Israel boycott is typical Park Slope." Do we Coop members really need or want all this negative notoriety? I have been a member for 35 years and have always been proud to say I am. I believed in the mission of quality food at reasonable prices. I took pride in being a part of a socially active group with a positive agenda. Susan Metz and Mary Buchwald in their letters give me reason to rethink my membership.

Susan Metz, in her letter, told a heart-warming story of Jews who suffered during the Holocaust and anti-Semitism in the U.S. when she was growing up. Now she compares the plight of the Palestinians to this history and naturally blames Israel and the Jews. Susan neglects to think about the Jewish children in Israel who are killed by bombs. She has slanted her letter to fit the Arab leaders of the Middle Eastern countries who want to keep the focus from Israel and wipe it off the face of the earth.

Susan fails to mention these leaders who are using the Palestinian refugees, not helping them. Susan Metz also doesn't talk about how the Palestinians who fled from Israel in 1948, are still being treated 60+ years later as sub-humans in the countries where they have sought refuge. They have never been given citizenship or if they have it has been revoked. They cannot enjoy any of the social or economic benefits citizens have in the countries. When questioned about

this, the leaders admit the purpose of the sub-human treatment is to unite the world against Israel.

Mary Buchwald's letter of Feb 9 talks about the sub-standard treatment of Palestinians in Israel but she never talks about the inhuman treatment of Palestinians in any of the surrounding Middle Eastern countries. On 2/22/12 newspapers reported that a young Palestinian woman was stabbed in Jordan because she was Palestinian, an American journalist was killed in Syria to keep her from telling the truth.

Neither Susan Metz nor Mary Buchwald mentions the fact that Israel is not the occupier. They won the war in 1967. Israel isn't occupying in the West Bank any more than George Bush in Texas is occupying Mexico. Come on people, let's get it right. Yes, political discussion is good. Political disagreements are what make politicians run for office, but we are a food coop not running for public office. We have many more important things to focus on that fit our mission purpose: toxic waste, poison chemicals in food cans, and eating healthy, to name a few. Let's get back to what we do, informing people about good food and improving our environment.

Sharron Eagle

THE NEVER-ENDING, NEVER-END-ABLE ISRAEL ISSUE

The continued debate over a boycott of Israeli products is the wrong argument for the Coop to be having.

If we assume the Coop's mission statement of protecting diversity and opposition to all forms of discrimination extends to geo-political decisions, we are going down a path the Coop isn't designed or equipped to manage.

The need is not for a boycott of any specific state policy, but for the Coop to more fully flesh out what it means by opposing all forms of discrimination. This is a broader and more important conversation.

The point has been made that the Coop acted in response to the apartheid state of South Africa. I was not a member then, but I would argue this is a bad precedent. It's not bad because apartheid was defensible, but because I think it is the height of arrogance and folly for the Coop to think it can insert itself into international affairs without potentially making short-sighted decisions.

If the Coop decided to boycott Israeli products, would it make an exception for:

- 1) an Israeli company that specifically hires Palestinian workers?
- 2) an Israeli company that donates a portion of its profits to peace causes
- 3) an Israeli company whose management publicly voices opposition to government policies?

Would a boycott include the products of:

- 1) any company from any country in

the world that does business with Israel or in Israel?

2) any company that sources materials for its end products or operations/equipment from Israel?

3) any US-based company that is an affiliate, parent company to, or subsidiary of a company in Israel?

A definitive line can't be drawn.

If an individual Coop member does not want to buy a product from Israel, they don't have to, and they can make that decision and political statement in their personal buying decisions every time they shop at the Coop.

There is no end to the potential anti-discrimination stances that the Coop could be forced to consider if this path is pursued as part of the Coop's mission statement: Do all products from New Jersey become subject to a boycott if Governor Christie vetoes the gay marriage act and/or he achieves his goal of having state residents vote in a referendum on the issue and those residents vote against gay marriage? Should the Coop already boycott products from any state where gay marriage has not been approved, or any products from the United States, since President Obama has publicly said he does not support gay marriage but only civil unions?

Where does discrimination worthy of a boycott begin and end? There is a right role in the world for the Coop's mission statement, and it's not global in nature, but local in scope and only by being local will it be effective on a consistent basis.

*Sincerely,
Eric Rosenbaum*

WHY THE SACRAMENTO FOOD COOP REJECTED BDS

TO THE MEMBERSHIP,

The first responsibility of a cooperative is to the cooperative itself and its members. So the question for those who think we should have a referendum to support BDS is whether the divisiveness this movement has created within our Coop is in keeping with that responsibility. The leadership of the Sacramento Food Coop wisely decided it was not:

"Let's return to the Co-op peace and tranquility on Alhambra Blvd.," by Sonny Eboigbe, August 2011 Board Perspective:

"... the second principle [on which the cooperative movement was founded] ... alludes to democratic member control. This particular principle allows owners to express opinions and participative [sic] fully in the affairs of their Coop. The owners chose their Board and have considerable input in the activities of the Board. The second principle also is in sync with the same democratic rights granted us by the US Constitution. I, as a Coop owner have the belief that in a free and open society such as we

LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR

have here, entitles any man or woman the right to express his or her views *provided that this freedom is not taken as a license to trample on the feelings of other members of the society. I further believe that when one engages in allegations or actions capable of lacerating the sensibilities of others, he or she should be checked.*" (italics added)

"This brings me to the current family feud at the Co-op which is unhealthy and unproductive. This feud emanates from the desire of one group of owners who say some items from one country should be banned from being sold and the other group saying we should leave items alone. The Board after consultation with our Attorney and consultants voted to leave the items on the shelf. The Board decision was not a slap on those who oppose nor was it a support of those who say leave things alone. Rather, consistent with decisions made by the Board, this decision was again made in the best long term interest of the Co-op."

I would urge the membership to follow this wise advice and vote NO on the referendum. Let's finally put this divisive issue to rest.

Sylvia Lowenthal
Progressive Voices for Peace
in the Middle East

ESPRESSO TRAINING
IN PARK SLOPE

It takes a heap o' trainin'
To make a kid a Sloper,
A striving over-reacher
Who'll never be a moper.

Stroller culture starts him
In socializing with others,
Acknowledging his peers
And choosing model brothers.

He needs to prepare for Slopehood
By learning to sashay
Exactly like mom and pater
Into a swank cafe.

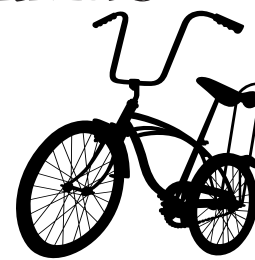
And now a brand new course
In living at the top—
His very own tailored coffee
At just two bucks a pop:
Steamed milk barista-ed with decaf
Devised for the bambino
Who'll need suite smarts aplenty—
A drink called babyccino.

Our upper-middle-classer-
To-be sips his with poise,
Rubbing elbows with fellow
Upscaling girls and boys.

Leon Freilich

VALET BIKE PARKING
IS HERE
ON SUNDAYS!

strollers & scooters
& carts too!



Every Sunday, April 1–November 18,
from 3:30–8 p.m.,

Coop members can leave their bikes with
our valet parking service, which is like
a coat check for bikes. Working members will
check in and watch your bike for you.

Just drop off your bike, stroller, scooter or
personal cart, do your shopping or your shift,
and hop back on.

No locks, no worries, no theft.

Service operates rain or shine.

Look for us in front of the yellow wall.
(Note: no bike check-in after 7:30 p.m.)

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



PSFC
Shop & Cycle
Committee

CLASSIFIEDS

BED & BREAKFAST

THE HOUSE ON 3rd ST. B&B -
serving the Slope for over 20 yrs.
Parlor floor-thru apt. sleeps 5 in
comfort & privacy, queen bed,
bath, double living room, kitchenette,
outdoor deck. Visit our
web site at houseon3st.com.
Click our FB link or call Jane at
718-788-7171. Ask about bargains
for last minute bookings. Let us
host you!

COMMERCIAL
SPACE

PROFESSIONAL OFFICES available
for Health Practitioners; e.g.
Nutritionist, Medical Doctor, Psychotherapist,
Massage Therapist,
Podiatrist, Dentist, Reiki, Shiatsu,
etc. Be part of an Holistic center in
SOHO. Doctor will introduce all
patients. Non-medical spaces also
available. For information, please
call 212-505-5055.

HOUSING
WANTED

FATHER OF COOP MEMBER visiting from France, (mid-60-s, bilingual) needs a room for the month of May in the Park Slope area (surrounding neighborhoods, OK). Please call 646-206-7732 if you can rent a room in your home.

VACATION RENTALS

CATSKILL RENTAL. Secluded. Plan your spring getaway now at oasishill.com. Coop members' discount. Dave 212-289-6282.

PETS

PET NANNY. Retired social worker, 35 yrs. exp. with all breeds, esp. rescues and traumatized dogs. One dog at a time gets the run of my large 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.

SERVICES

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

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury Emphasis—33 years experience in all aspects of injury law. Individual attention provided for entire case. Free phone or office consultations. Prompt, courteous communications. 22-year Park Slope Food Coop member; Park Slope resident; downtown Brooklyn office. Tom Guccione, 718-596-4184, also at www.tguccione.law.com.

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.



NEW LOOK PAINTING CO. Artist owned and operated. Everything from expert wall prep to specialized wall treatments. 30 yrs. exp. Free estimates and color consultations. References. Low VOC products utilized. Materials recycled. Low rates. Contact: 718-832-6143 or eyegrease@earthlink.net

SERVICES
AVAILABLE

TUTORING: NYS LICENSED, Experienced high school teacher will tutor for living environment / biology tests and Regents exams. Call any time during day at 718-438-5021.

PAINTING & WALLPAPERING- 25 yrs exp. doing the finest prep + finish work. One room or an entire house. Free estimates + full insurance coverage. Call Fred Becker @ 718-853-0750.

HAIRCUTS HAIRCUTS haircuts. Color, high lights, low lights, oil

treatments in the convenience of your home or mine. By appt., call Leonora 718-857-2215. Adult cuts \$35.00. Kids cuts \$15.00.

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.



Have you moved?
Changed your phone number?
Got a new email address?
Drop by or call the
Membership Office to update
your contact information.
718-622-0560
Thanks for helping us keep our
records up to date!

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, MAR 10

8-10-30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe Alix Dobkin; KJ Denhart. 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

SAT, MAR 17

8-10-30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe. Irish Women's Voices for Peace with Maryellen Costello, Mia Theodoratus, Gina Tlamsa & Sarah Underhill. 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, MAR 23

8 p.m. Bob Franke, Renowned Singer-Songwriter, Concert at OSA Hall, 220 E. 23rd St, Suite 707 (between 2nd & 3rd

Avenues), New York, 10010. \$20 general; children & full-time students free. Presented by Folk Music Society of NY Info: 212-957-8386 or www.folkmusicny.org.

SAT, MAR 24

1:30-4:30 p.m.; 2 day (continued on Sunday 3/25) Songwriting Workshop with Bob Franke a renowned singer songwriter; Includes resources, individual interviews, assignments, critiques, and rewrite advice. \$50. West Side Manhattan. Reservations & advance payment required. Call 718-965-4074. Folk Music Society of NY, Inc.

SUN, MAR 25

2-5 p.m. Greening Flatbush: Garden Where You Are engages and empowers people from all over Brooklyn to participate in creating sustainable urban neighborhoods. At the Flatbush Reformed Church (890 Flatbush Ave). Event is free, with a suggested donation of \$10 for the

event and the community meal. RSVP: <http://sustainableflatbush.org>.

WED, MAR 28

7-9 p.m. James Peterson discusses and signs this revised version of his acclaimed cookbook "Vegetables", which features new recipes and 500 full-color photos, with famed baker Nick Malgieri. The power-House Arena at 37 Main Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. For more information, please call 718.666.3049. RSVP: rsvp@powerhousearena.com.


THU, MAR 29

7 p.m. Busting the Self-Made Myth at the NY Society for Ethical Culture (2 West 64th Street, NY) Brian Miller (United for a Fair Economy) and Mike Lapham (Responsible Wealth Director) will discuss their book, The Self-Made Myth: And the Truth About How Government Supports Individual and Business Success. The event will include lively discussions.


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 *I cured my thyroid. So can you.*

Code Local, Act Global

Your organization's website should grow organically, too.

Building websites that put you in control of your content. Brooklyn-based since 2007.

social-ink.net !

GOOD GREEN FAMILY FUN CAMP COMMON GROUND!

Spend a week on our 700 gorgeous acres in Vermont this summer!

www.cgcv.org

We're cooperatively-run!

Check out our website for info about local house parties!



Mashups Answers

- 1) PIT + SON = PISTON / PUP + LIT = PULPIT
- 2) TEN + ANT = TENANT / VAN + CAT = VACANT
- 3) POT + TAO = POTATO / TOO + MAT = TOMATO
- 4) MAN + GET = MAGNET / NOD + BOY = NOBODY
- 5) SKY + WAN = SWANKY / TRY + ASH = TRASHY
- 6) PIE + RAT = PIRATE / POT + LIE = POLITE

ADVERTISE ON THE WEB

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



ILLUSTRATION: ETHAN PETTIT

Classified advertising in the *Linewriters' 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