

Established
1973

LINEWAITERS'

GAZETTE



Volume GG, Number 7

April 5, 2012

Through the Looking Glass: The Media Stereotypes the Coop

By Thomas Matthews

Linewaiters! Look in the media mirror. The debate over the BDS proposal to ban products from Israel resulted in dozens of stories, from *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* to the tabloids to *The Daily Show* to blogs around the world. Collectively, they are drawing a portrait of the PSFC and its members. Do you recognize yourself?

Do you belong to “the iconic Park Slope Food Coop, where elite lefties meet to share organic recipes [and] gossip about social justice and the best private schools”? That’s the way Andrea Peyser describes the “co-op” [sic] in her Aug. 25, 2011, column in *The New York Post* about the BDS issue.

Or perhaps you are part of “the wonderland run by and for the people the hilarious blog F—ed in Park Slope calls ‘militant sanctimonious fascist hippies.’” That’s the way the *Post*’s Kyle Smith summed us up in his Febru-

ary 26, 2012, analysis of the controversy.

Smith tells his readers that the “Co-op” [sic—can’t these writers get the name straight?] “is not like your ordinary neighborhood Buy N’ Large. Few grocery stores on earth are as sustainably eco-adoring, social consciousness-raising, people-powered and nuclear-free as this communitarian improvement on utopia.”

Perhaps it isn’t surprising that a conservative-leaning newspaper like the *Post* would have a skeptical perspective on a liberal-leaning organization like the PSFC. You might expect a more sympathetic point of view from the liberal-leaning *New York Times*. But then, you’d be wrong.

People In Overalls Behaving Unpleasantly

“Food Coop Politics Leave a Bad Taste,” wrote Ginia Bellafante under the Big City rubric in the *Times* on March 2, 2012. Living in Park Slope

in the late 1980s, she recounts, she wanted to join, “but a brief flirtation confirmed my suspicions that the co-op was a place where people in overalls behaved unpleasantly toward you and where arriving at consensus over the price of a plum took longer than the first and second phases of the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks.”

Bellafante’s conclusion: “The co-op [sic—again with the hyphen!], despite the wonderful job it does providing organic foods at affordable prices, suffers from its own adolescent myopia: It believes that what it does has broad implications. Suppressing hummus on Union Street won’t change the world.”

The piece drew 95 comments in its online version, including one from “Skippy” in NYC, who wrote: “Once upon a time, I thought it would be worthwhile to join the PSFC. I went to the orientation session and met some

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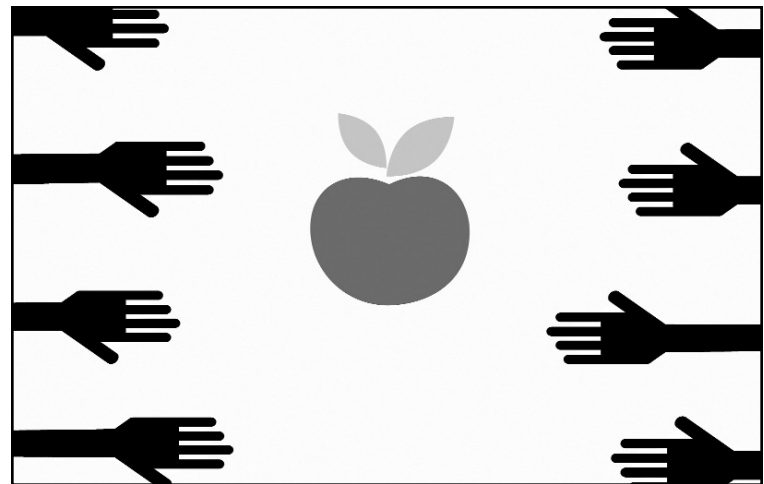


ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL JAY COHEN

SO MANY MEMBERS, TOO FEW SHIFTS

By Gayle Forman

On a recent Wednesday morning, about a dozen people attended an orientation for the Park Slope Food Coop. Some people, like Michael Lovaglio, had been trying to get in for two years! Now, orientation complete, they likely figured the hard part was over.

They were wrong.

Upstairs, after the orientation and tour, the prospective members were met by members of the office committee, who were there to help them sign up for a shift. Membership Coordinator Charlene Swift laid it out: “I must tell you, in terms of shifts, there’s not a lot,” she said. There were several crack-of-dawn receiving shifts but not much else. Swift advised the prospective members to think about when they could work, on a long-term basis, and to think in terms of third or fourth or fifth choices.

Wendy Goldberg and her partner Makela Spielman were the first to hit the books, and neither one seemed too thrilled with the prospect of working receiving. But then Spielman happened upon an open cashier shift and Goldberg grabbed an office shift.

For Rose Costello, trying to find a shift that would work with her own schedule (she works nights until about 1 a.m.) proved

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Coop Nixes Referendum

By Willow Lawson

At the March 27th General Meeting, the largest in Coop history, members voted against holding a referendum to join the Boycott Divestment & Sanctions Movement—an international boycott of Israeli-made goods. The vote was 1005 against and 653 for the referendum. ■

Coop Event Highlights

- Thu, Apr 5 • Food Class:**
Food for BrainPOWER 7:30 p.m.
- Apr 5, 17, 21, 22 • Training Sessions for 2012**
Brooklyn Food Conference – various times
- Tue, Apr 10 • Safe Food Committee Film Night:**
Farmageddon 7:00 p.m.
- Fri, Apr 13 • Film Night: Stages** 7:00 p.m.

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

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Media Stereotypes

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of the people. What words to describe them? Insular? Creepy? Rigid? Ideologues? Silly? Smothering?... I got my card, but decided that the entire enterprise, which included tiny carts, long lines, limitations on certain household staples, was not for me. Now, after reading this, I'm sure I made the right decision. Note to PSFC boycott leaders: GET OVER YOURSELVES. YOU'RE A GROCERY STORE!"

A Google search for "Park Slope Food Coop" and "BDS" in early March yielded 5,350 results. General Coordinator Ann Herpel, who often takes on the role of Coop spokesperson dealing with the press, reports that the BDS debate has resulted in several "spikes" of media coverage.

"One when it was brought up in an open forum at the GM about two years ago," she recalls. "Then a second one last summer in July, that lasted through September. And the most recent spike in February, when the item actually got put on the agenda for the GM in March." (Editor's note: there was another, bigger spike immediately leading up to and following the vote against holding the referendum.) She sounded weary just thinking about it.

"I've probably dealt with 15–20 outlets personally in this spike," Herpel recounts. "In comparison, in a normal month, when you ask about local outlets, there might be, well, maybe none."

While press interest in the PSFC has been supercharged by the BDS debate, the stories build on existing images and information about the Coop. A general Google search for the PSFC itself turned up 194,000 results. The portrait they draw of the Coop is not always flattering. Who can forget the 2011 *New York Times* expose of wealthy members forcing their nannies to cover their Coop shifts? Or the *Times* reporter who confessed her shame at "flunking out at the food co-op [sic]" in 2009?

Commies, Hippies, Weirdos

"All these stories tend to peddle in some really old stereotypes," Herpel says. "There's a certain cast of characters that play out in these articles that get recycled over and over. Commies, hippies, weirdos—there's a list of words and people just grab them and roll them out again. It's not just the Coop, it's Park Slope. And we're perceived as one of the Park Slope characters, even though our members come from far beyond Park Slope. I mean, when was the last time you saw anyone in the Coop in overalls?"

Whether or not the stories themselves perpetuate stereotypes, the people who comment on them seem eager to jump to their own conclusions. In one *Times* thread, Liz Delaney from Washington, DC opined, "Gah! Sounds like an awful place full of judgmental, holier-than-thou, rule-obsessed jerks. I'd gladly pay a little more at Whole Foods or a farmer's market just to not have to hassle with that type of person."

Whatever the reason, the Coop triggers strong emotions. Amplified by the political and religious forces battling over BDS in particular and Israel in general, these emotions express themselves in portraits of the Coop that often seem like gross caricatures.

One of the flashpoints in the BDS controversy came when former Fox

POSSIBLY OVERHEARD AT THE PARK SLOPE CO-OP...



News commentator Glenn Beck weighed in with remarks that were reported in stories ranging from *The Brooklyn Paper* to *The Huffington Post*.

"What is happening with the food co-op where they are seriously considering a boycott of Israel?" Beck thundered, "When you use words like 'I'm just anti-Israel' or 'I'm just anti-Zionist'—that's anti-Semitic."

His remarks drew other politicians into the fray. Assemblyman Dov Hikind seemed to agree with Beck, saying "You have some idiots in Brooklyn."

However, the comment threads on these articles give supporters of the Coop a forum to respond to its critics. Responding to the *Brooklyn Paper* article, "Kalahari Dessert from Brooklyn" weighed in. "I'm a co-op member," wrote "Kalahari," who went on to criticize many of Israel's policies, while arguing that a boycott of its products would be inconsistent and impractical.

"By the way, I was a skeptic when I joined," the comment concluded, "but I can say with no reservations the co-op is the best thing Brooklyn has going for food, friendship, cooperation and community

advancement—whatever country you come from."

Herpel points out that comments from members are the best way for the media—or anyone—to understand the Coop. "I encourage journalists to come here and talk to members for themselves."

When it comes to the stories about BDS, she says, "The biggest challenge is to help reporters understand the process. They tend to assume that there's some authority, like a board of directors, behind the process, and that's not true. We need to get the media to understand that there is no 'Coop' point of view. No one can speak for 16,000 members. I can't even speak for all the coordinators."

But there is a brighter side to the picture. "It's interesting that the local media has focused again on us for the BDS debate," she says. "But at the same time, international media are still contacting us about the Coop and its principles and activities in general—all positive, positive, positive. It's not fluff—they are just in awe of what we are able to achieve. I was just with a photographer today working on a story for the French magazine that appears on the TGV. It feels like a bifurcated world at some times. It's not always negative." ■



Looking for a programmer to help a start-up food coop in Paris get its website launched.

Earn FTOP credit for work done remotely.

Interested? E-mail Ann Herpel at ann_herpel@psfc.coop.

Time Heals Wounds In Bygone Coop Conflicts

By Danielle Uchitelle

The bellicose strife between Spartans and Athenians is the stuff of legend, fodder for every global history textbook. But how many remember what, exactly, it was they were fighting about? The Guelphs and the Ghibellines, famous factions of Renaissance Florence, skulked and stabbed in the back streets of the city, but who among their descendants today remembers the politics that drove families into one camp or the other?

The sharp edges of dispute have a way of becoming smoothed with the passage of time. At its worst, we end up with a Hatfield-McCoy sort of feud that outlives its origins and continues, zombie-like, long after the original disagreement is forgotten. At its best, yesterday's disagreements become part of the evolution and growth of a group. So it has been at PSFC, where 40 years of participative democracy have brought many such conflicts, each eventually transformed into change and woven into the fiber of the Coop's being.

Playing Chicken

In order to recall some of the more contentious issues of Coop history, it helps to have been on the scene for a long time. Davella May has been a member for more than 35 years, and she can recall when member was pitted against member in the disagreement over whether or not to stock chicken. "It was the hot button topic of the day," recalled Davella. "We were a vegetable-oriented Coop, and when some of the members wanted to carry organic poultry it was a big issue, because the plant-based members wanted nothing to do with it." Eventually, after heated debate and numerous *Gazette* letters in support of one or the other side of the argument, a vote was taken and poultry was in. A vegetarian, Davella admits that "looking back, it seems like such a minor issue," but she acknowledges that the debate, and the vote itself, ultimately helped strengthen the Coop. "In the long run it did make the Coop a better place," she said.

An equally contentious debate took place a few years later over whether or not to continue providing white

plastic "tee-shirt" shopping bags at checkout. "After we finally decided to stop providing those bags, you had to change the way you took home your goodies," recalled Davella. Today, we don't think twice about rummaging through the pile of empty cardboard boxes to pack our groceries. Back then, it was a radical proposition that brought out all manner of arguments for and against. In the end, the debate and the vote helped evolve the environmental consciousness of the burgeoning Coop membership without the dire consequences that some at the time had predicted. "It was a mind shift," said Davella. "Not carrying those white plastic bags made us all think differently about what role we play in the environment."

What Didn't Kill Us Made Us Stronger

This being Brooklyn, real estate issues always seem to generate plenty of opposing positions. "In 1978 we had our first big argument about whether the Coop should expand into a larger space," remembers General Coordinator Joe Holtz. "People were very concerned about becoming an institution that would have so many members. Some people thought that the Coop would get out of hand, that the size would kill us." Subsequent proposals to approve additional expansion met with an equal amount of argument pro and con. Now that we've been at our current physical size for a number of years, it comes as a shock to see pictures of the limited shelf space available to Coop shoppers in decades past. "You might still find members who regret the expansion," muses Holtz, "but mostly I think it has worked out."

Some of the biggest controversies in the Coop's past turned upon parliamentary issues that served to amplify member disagreements, notably a series of Board of Directors actions in the 1990s linked to expansion proposals. "That was one of our bigger controversies," opines Holtz, though the debates and votes ultimately led to the purchase of the old Clines building to provide additional growth space for the Coop.

Another controversy that

later grew into part of our everyday shopping experience was the decision to allow debit cards. While 85 percent of today's Coop revenue comes from debit card sales, the original proposal to study the implementation of both credit and debit cards generated months of debate. Some saw the cards as a pathway to personal financial ruin, or an unholy alliance between the Coop and the banking industry. Holtz considers the decision, and the subsequent compromise to accept debit cards but not credit cards, to be part of the growth and learning experience of the Coop as a whole and particularly the Coordinators. "We really learned a lot from this," recalls Holtz.

The list of debates goes on and on, from votes to grant defined-benefit pensions to the Coordinators to impassioned pleas to boycott—or refrain from boycotting—a food, a company, an entire country. Once the heat and sparks and letters to the editor have died away, each new controversy leaves its imprint on the Coop membership. Then we get back to our grocery shopping. ■


☒ Yes

☐ No

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Yes

☒ No

☒ Yes

☐ No

ILLUSTRATION BY INGSU LIU



Food Coop Band Nite

The Fun Committee is
looking for bands
(various genres including rock, folk
rock, funk, indie, etc.)
to perform at a free event
on June 2, 2012,
at Bar 4.

At least one
member of your
band must be a Coop member.
Maximum of five members per band
(stage is very small)

Please contact Sarah Safford at
saffo1953@gmail.com or drop off demo CD with
Jason Weiner at the Coop.
Deadline for submission is May 30.



What's a Name in

Below is a list of popular girls' names, embedded within common English words. The remaining letters have been removed, and need to be filled in.

For example, if the clue was "___ D O R A ___", the blanks could be filled in to make the word "DEODORANT."

Can you find all the words?
Alternative solutions are possible for some clues.

___ K I M ___
___ I D A ___
___ A D A ___
___ E V E ___
___ K A T E ___
___ T I N A ___
___ R U T H ___
___ L O I S ___
___ N O R M A ___
___ R I T A ___
___ M A R I A ___
___ E T H E L ___

Puzzle author: Stuart Marquis.
For answers, see page 13.

FEW SHIFTS

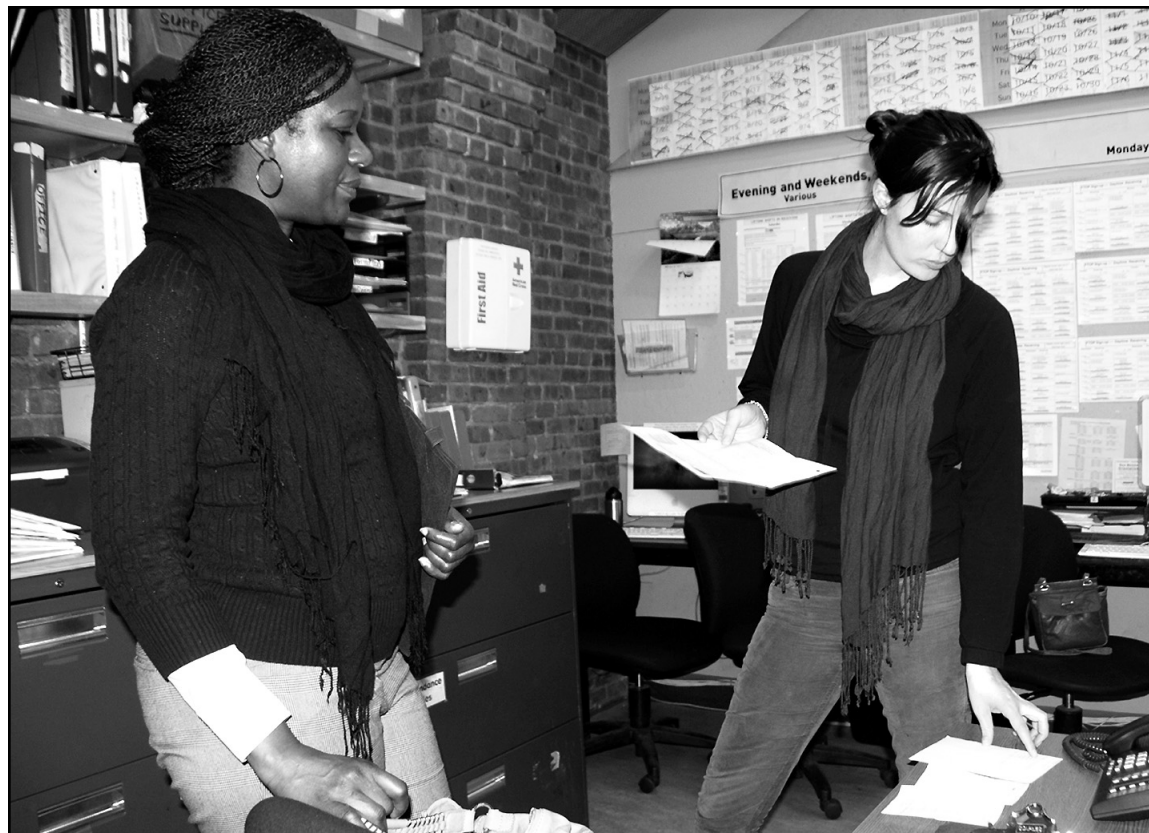
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difficult, a sort of game of scheduling Tetris. Early morning receiving shifts were out of the question because she gets home so late. “I don’t want to take a shift I know I won’t be able to make and then go delinquent,” she said. Office squad member Philipp Goedicke helped her navigate the books, looking at each day of the week for daytime availability that would have her out of the Coop by 4 p.m. Again, the pickings were slim, the books showing packed shifts. Salvation came in the form of a Tuesday noon cashier shift, which not only worked for the schedule, but appealed to Costello. “I’d love to cashier,” she said.

Once upon a time—as recently as seven years ago when this reporter joined the Coop—office workers signing up new members would ask two questions: What do you want to do? And when can you work? People with week-day flexibility had a buffet of Coop shifts available to them. No more.

At or Beyond Capacity

With the Coop hitting yet another record membership high—more than 16,300 members as of mid-March—things are tight all over. It’s crowded on the shopping floor. Makeup shifts are more



New member Winsome Green looking for work slot opening after her orientation.

heavily attended than ever. And now, we are at capacity when it comes to available shifts, so much so that some prospective members, after going through the online ordeal to get an orientation slot and attending orientation, are forced to leave without joining because there is no work slot available that fits their schedule.

“We are at capacity, or beyond capacity,” said General Coordinator Joe Holtz. The shift shortage is just one manifestation of the fact the Coop is once again having

serious growing pains.

Everyone has an opinion about how to solve a shift shortage, from getting rid of the 13th shifts—which would put the entire Coop calendar, which operates on a four-week schedule, into disarray—to creating all kinds of new shifts to absorb new members. The problem with

that latter idea, as General Coordinator Ann Herpel pointed out, is that it creates a problem while fixing one. “Add another shift? That’s great,” she said. “But for every person you accept to join the Coop, you accept them as a shopper, too. We’re already pushing Receiving staff and members to the max.”

In recent years, the Coop has added new work slots, from outside workers to line managers. But those were to fill a need. “We never create shifts just to create them, to allow ourselves to accommodate more members,” said General Coordinator Jess Robinson. “We change the size of existing squads, we create new tasks in existing squads. We create a new member service—but only when there’s a need for that.”

Sunday Night Shopping?

Still, the Coop is looking for ways to expand, to take our current space and membership force and rejigger it, so to speak, to create more room, for workers and for shoppers. “One option being discussed is trying to figure out how to stay open late on Sunday nights,” said Robinson. This would add work slots, which of course could conceivably increase crowding by allowing for new members to fill them. But the new slots might turn out to be ones that are convenient to a large number of existing members, so the current membership might absorb most of the slots. And perhaps most importantly, staying open until 10 p.m. on Sundays (currently, we close at 7:30) would be a major convenience for existing members. Another idea being bandied about is to add a new squad that comes in after closing to do stocking, cleaning and other projects that are difficult to do during shopping hours.

But with a ship as large as the Coop, each of those potential changes will create several changes in their wake: staff members to oversee the

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TRAINING SESSIONS FOR 2012 BROOKLYN FOOD CONFERENCE

Here’s your chance to be part of the May 12 Brooklyn Food Conference and get FTOP credit as well.

Here’s the deal: you go to a training session (see dates and times here) and then you show up at the agreed-upon time and date for the Conference (TBD at the training meeting). When you do your work at the Conference, you’ll get FTOP credit for that work as well as for the training meeting.

Examples of work: registration, set-up, breakdown, childcare, youth activities, expo and workshop support, building guide, literature distribution, staffing info tables, music performance (we need musicians all day), logistics, and more!

Sign-up sheet for training sessions in Membership Office.
The May 12 Conference itself will be at Brooklyn Tech HS in Ft. Greene.

All training sessions will take place in the Coop’s second-floor meeting room:

~~Sunday, April 1, 7 p.m.~~

~~Monday, April 2, 9:30 a.m.~~

~~Tuesday, April 3, 7 p.m.~~

Thursday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 17, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 22, 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY KEVIN RYAN

Looking for something new?

Check out the Coop’s products blog.

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

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



MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Settlement Myths: By the Numbers

By Constantine Kaniklidis, Director, Progressive Voices for Peace in the Middle East (PVPME)
Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)

The claim by BDS and other anti-peace rejectionist players that settlement building in the West Bank by Israel is consuming or expropriating substantial and increasingly larger proportions of land is unsustainable. Israel has had in place since 2003 arrangements (negotiated agreement executed by Elliot Abrams & National Security Council with Israel, Bush administration) that no new West Bank settlements can be built and that existing settlements cannot expand territorially, with construction in them allowed only in built-up areas, assuring (1) no construction beyond existing construction line, (2) no expropriation of land for such construction, (3) no special inducements / economic incentives, (4) no new settlement construction.

Although some settler groups have constructed "outposts" in violation of Israeli law, the Israeli government has not constructed any new West Bank settlements since 1998, as demonstrated by the comprehensive list of settlements and construction dates compiled by Foundation for Middle East Peace (FMEP), a leading critic of settlement policy. FMEP publishes the bimonthly authoritative Report on Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Territories containing detailed analysis, data and maps on settlements. Their chart of settlements in the West Bank (http://www.fmep.org/settlement_info/settlement-info-and-tables/stats-data/settlements-in-the-west-bank-1) confirms the absence of new government-sanctioned settlements after 1998, numbers cross-confirmed by other authoritative research from non-partisan sources (see below).

But a second, related charge needs to be addressed, that even without material expansion, the proportion of Israeli settlement land may nonetheless be seen to disallow the "viability" of a Palestinian State. The legitimacy of this claim in turn hinges on how much of the West Bank is dedicated to settlements.

There is robust data to strongly support the fact that at most this stands at two percent, likely even less. The Israeli NGO B'tselem, itself

extremely critical of Israeli settlement policy in the West Bank, commissioned a detailed survey of the West Bank to determine the degree of settlement activity and control, publishing their highly critical findings in the report "By Hook and By Crook: Israeli Settlement Policy in the West Bank" (2010). The report conceded that the commissioned survey found the "built-up area" of settlements to constitute roughly one percent (0.99 percent, precisely) of the West Bank land. And although B'tselem misleadingly chose to focus publicity on the claim that municipal and regional councils associated with the settlements had theoretical legal jurisdiction over 42 percent of the West Bank (which illegitimately includes roads and adjacent areas, land between settlements and between settlements and roads, essentially unpopulated), an oft-quoted misrepresentation, the 42 percent figure in fact representing municipal jurisdiction, to wit, zoning, planning, and responsibility for local road maintenance, not actual land occupied by

Israeli settlements, and municipal jurisdiction is over mostly empty land that can become part of a future Palestinian state at any time as part of just settlement and negotiation.

This was cross-confirmed by Peace Now, as well as by the self-admittedly critical-of-Israel BBC. The BBC published a detailed "Israelis and Palestinians in Depth" investigative report with an accompanying map series, concluding that "Since 1967...settlements on the West Bank...cover about two percent of the area of the West Bank". The one to two percent maximum figure has in turn been confirmed explicitly by several Palestinians authorities. In an interview last year, chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat confirmed [Radio al-Shams, interview with S. Erekat. 3 Nov 2011; in Arabic] that the settlements constituted approximately 1.1 percent of the West Bank, with data to the same effect from EU-supplied aerial photographs provided to Erekat, further acknowledging that "the exact percentage of the built-up area is insignificant". And PA President Mahmoud

Abbas added additional confirmation in interview, stating "The built-up area of all the settlements was 1.1 percent" [Interview with Prof. Bernard Avishai. NY Times, 7 Feb 2011]. Yet again, despite propaganda to the contrary, even the PLO has long acknowledged these facts [PLO Negotiations Primer. Negotiations Affairs Department. PDF at: www.nad-plo.org], as have the Arabic editions of Palestinian newspapers Al-Quds, the Hamas newspaper Falasteen and a dozen others (the facts are in the Arabic editions; the

English editions are willful propaganda machines, reserved for the gullible "tourists").

This should put into new and critical perspective the oft-cited misrepresentation that the settlements are intrinsic and indisputable proof of Israeli ill-will and its culpability in the perpetuation of the conflict.

Peace will not come to the Israeli/Palestinian conflict while mythic national narratives like these surrounding the settlements continue unchallenged. ■



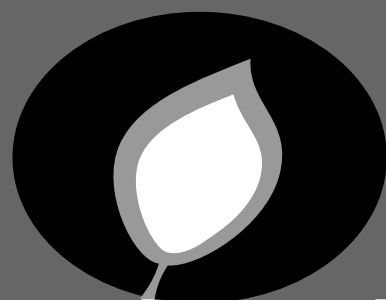
THE GAZETTE INDEXES

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.)



ecokvetch
the environmental
committee blog

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

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

ecokvetch.blogspot.com

RETURN POLICY



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

REQUIRED FOR ANY RETURN

1. The Paid-In-Full receipt MUST be presented.
2. Returns must be handled within 30 days of purchase.

CAN I EXCHANGE MY ITEM?

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

CAN I RETURN MY ITEM?

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

**NEVER
RETURNABLE**

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

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

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

RETURNABLE

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

SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

Plow-to-Plate Movie Series Presents:
Farmageddon

By Adam Rabiner

There is more than one scene in *Farmageddon* of SWAT teams and sheriffs, pistols drawn, searching, seizing, and confiscating goods. But *Farmageddon* is not an action film, crime drama, or documentary about drug cartels or suburbs ravaged by meth labs. The victims of these raids are small-scale farmers and processors selling locally produced fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy products that have run afoul of state and federal food safety regulations. *Farmageddon: the Unseen War on American Family Farms* is an impassioned and personal indictment of American regulation run amuck and a plea for a saner and more rational food safety system.

The real problem is that the

United States has two separate and distinct food systems. The first, a behemoth, is the industrial food system, comprised of factory farms [also known as Concentrated (or Confined) Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs)], processors, and multinational corporations. The other system, about two percent of the total, is comprised of small, local, sustainable, farms. However, both systems operate under a single regulatory structure and set of laws that support large-scale industrial food production but threaten the very existence of family farms.

This one-size-fits-all approach is not working and results in burdensome over-regulation for many of the smaller producers that lack the money, manpower, time, and other resources of their

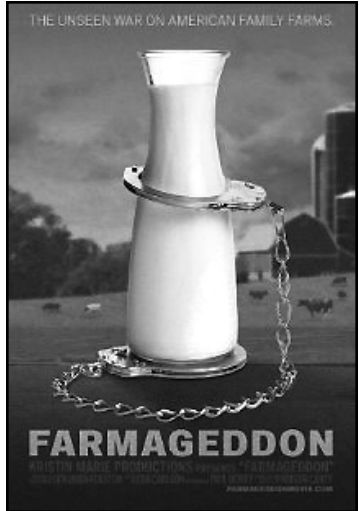
larger competitors. For example, to receive a permit to sell lettuce and other goods at the weekend Union Square Farmers' Market, merchants must fill out three inches of paperwork. But inflicting unnecessary, bureaucratic, obstacles on small producers is the least of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) misdeeds chronicled in this film.

Far more harrowing is the mistreatment of many farmers by federal regulators. A pioneering couple in Warren, Vermont was on the verge of revolutionizing sheep farming in this country when the government stepped in, fearing the spread of Mad Cow Disease. Despite the fact that scientific research had shown that only cows, and not sheep, could have this disease, the

family was spied on, harassed. Eventually their animals were rounded up, carted away and slaughtered, and their equipment was tossed in a local landfill. The couple sued the USDA for damages and the agency was eventually forced to admit that all of the tests for disease came up negative. The USDA finally paid the family \$1,500 per animal rather than the standard \$5,000 because they were angry that the family had chosen to fight.

The USDA's overreaction traumatized the couple's children, who had become deeply attached to the animals, and cost the couple their pioneering entrepreneurial dreams, as well as their livelihood. They now make and sell cow's milk cheese. Yet, what they experienced is not unique. *Farmageddon* profiles numerous individuals who suffered at the hands of the regulators. In the mildest of cases we watch as gallons upon gallons of raw milk are uncereemoniously dumped onto the grass because the seller crossed state lines, which is illegal. In a more egregious case, a woman recounts a raid on her home in which she and her family were rounded up by armed enforcers, confined to their living room for hours while they confiscated her inventory, and were even told not to pick up the phone when her son, stationed abroad in the Army, called home at his normal time.

There's a lot in this film to digest: the pros and possible cons of raw milk, the historical development of the pasteurization process and the underlying scientific, social, and political forces behind the actions of the state. Not



least of these themes, one voiced by libertarian presidential candidate Ron Paul who is featured in the film, as well as members of the Tea Party, is when does government overstep its proper role?

We do not want to return to the age of the Robber Barons when cows were fed nothing but waste from beer distilleries and produced vile and sometimes lethal milk that had to be adulterated with chalk and flour to be made drinkable. We know from all too frequent outbreaks of e-coli from contaminated peanuts, ground beef and spinach, that we need sensible and effective food safety regulations. But we also have to ponder the words of Joel Salatin, owner of Polyface Farm in Swoope, Virginia and a star of the sustainable farm movement (and several documentaries like this one). When asked if he had a single message for the USDA, he answered, "Why do you hate freedom so much?" Why indeed? ■

Watch *Farmageddon* on Tuesday, April 10, 7 p.m. Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd Floor. Refreshments will be served.

Coop Job Openings:

Receiving/Stocking Coordinators—
Two Positions Available

Position #1: Early Morning including Weekends

We are hiring a Receiving/Stocking Coordinator to work morning shifts, as early as 5:30 a.m. The schedule will also include at least one weekend day.

The ideal candidate will be knowledgeable and passionate about produce and food. Previous experience and training in the food industry is a plus. Good math skills are required, and you must be comfortable using MacIntosh computers. This is a high-energy job for a fit candidate as you must be able to lift and to be on your feet for hours. The job will include work in the walk-in coolers and freezers.

You must be a reliable, responsible self-starter who enjoys working with our diverse member-workers, plus be an excellent team player with your co-workers. Excellent communication and organizational skills, patience, the ability to prioritize work and to remain calm under pressure are required.

Position #2: Evenings and Weekends

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

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

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

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

Hours: 38-40 hours per week, schedule to be determined

Wages: \$25.29/hour

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

Application & Hiring Process:

Please provide a cover letter and your résumé as soon as you can. E-mail your letter and résumé to: hc-receivingcoordinator@psfc.coop. All applicants will receive a response. Please do not call the office to check on the status of your application. If you applied previously to another Coop job offering and remain interested, please reapply.

Probation Period:

There will be a six-month probation period.

Prerequisite:

Must be a current member of the Park Slope Food Coop for at least the past 6 months. Applicants must have worked a minimum of three shifts in Receiving within the past year.

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

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!

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Confessions of a Pushover Checkout Girl

By Jen X

I grab my unwieldy, red and yellow sign that tries to scream “Next!” but with my petite stature is sheepish, “Next? Anyone? Can you see my sign from way over there?” We make eye contact as he approaches and without talking,

“Was that your ‘Next’ sign?”

“Yes, it’s me.”

He could’ve used express checkout, I think, mentally counting his items. He seems to have heard and clarifies.

Him: “I want to divide these into two purchases. These,” he pushes a handful of items towards the scanner with his forearm, “are for me. And the rest is for my art opening!” Ah. That explains the ponytail. And the cheese. He has such a sweet demeanor. As an artist, I imagine, people will miss his friendship more than his art after he’s gone. Still...

Me: “I’m sorry, but Coop food is only for working Coop members. Now that you told me these items are for non-members, I can’t let you buy them. In fact, I have to report you to my squad leader and the office. Leslie! Can you come here, please?”

Of course, I didn’t really say any of that. (Also, my squad leader’s name isn’t Leslie.) But the admonition was pretty loud in my head. At my checkout, there are so many similar comments that get thought very loudly between my ears that I’ve given myself a tag, “Pushover Checkout Girl.” Okay, the girl part is pushing it, but the pushover is real. Since I

can’t change my nature, I’ve decided to confess instead.

First confession: I adore doing checkout, especially after working in the office. It’s hard to gauge how many checkout workers are furtive, supermarket cashier wannabes like me, but I’m guessing not many. Interactions with members have gone from, “I’m suspended? What?” to “Am I happy to see you! The line is really long.” Members up in the office aren’t sharing cooking tips, or suppressing guilty smiles when a chocolate bar rings up for \$5. Upstairs, no one forgives you for mistaking shiitake for portobellos. So the tone on Checkout Girl’s line defaults to a peppy, “Hi! How are ya’ today?” Until Gen Xer and her visiting mother-in-law with the “NON-SHOPPING VISITOR” sticker approach.

Her: “I’m great, thanks! I’m showing my mother-in-law the Coop. She’s from [foreign country/U.S. state], and they don’t have this kind of thing there. She’s renting an apartment for a few weeks, just until the baby sleeps a little more.”

Helping out with new grandbaby. Sweet.

Her: “So Mom, [aw, she calls her mother-in-law ‘Mom’] put your groceries up first, ‘cause you’ll have to pay cash over there. I’m gonna do debit for ours.”

Not sweet.

What’s Pushover Checkout Girl to do? YOU’RE the one wearing the sticker. We were so cool with the new baby talk and all, until you downright flouted Coop rules in front of me. In front of the

sticker! I keep quiet, but the smile on my face fades. My poor husband will take the brunt of my suppressed rage later, though I might embellish the story to keep him listening.

Rarer is the ‘Clearly these are the more expensive honeycrisp apples’ episode:

Me: “These are the honeycrisp apples?”

Selfishly Confounding Apples Member: “No, those are minimally treated. I forget the name.”

Me: “Are you sure? They look like honeycrisp...”

SCAM’er: “Yep. Minimally treated.” Glare.

I know those are honeycrisp; I buy them myself. Why, oh why did I ask about the apples? I suppose I could call over my squad leader, though she may relegate me to Walker if she figures me out from this article. I suppose I could confront the shopping member, or “just check” with the worker next belt over. But I move on, whatevs, and hope the scale jiggles a bit to charge a few cents more for the apples. Grr.

One more confession. It’s a busy, I mean Coop-trademark-busy weeknight, and a member sidles up to my belt. I assume she’s going to ask if I need to be relieved. Look closer: apologetic eyebrows, gritted teeth... something’s up.

Member: “Listen, I’m really sorry to bother you, and I know I should wait on line, but the express line is so long, and I only have three items, but my bananas have to be weighed, and if you could just ring me up when you’re finished with her, I’d really appreciate it, I’m so sorry.”

With a half-smile, I scan her things. “Next!” ■

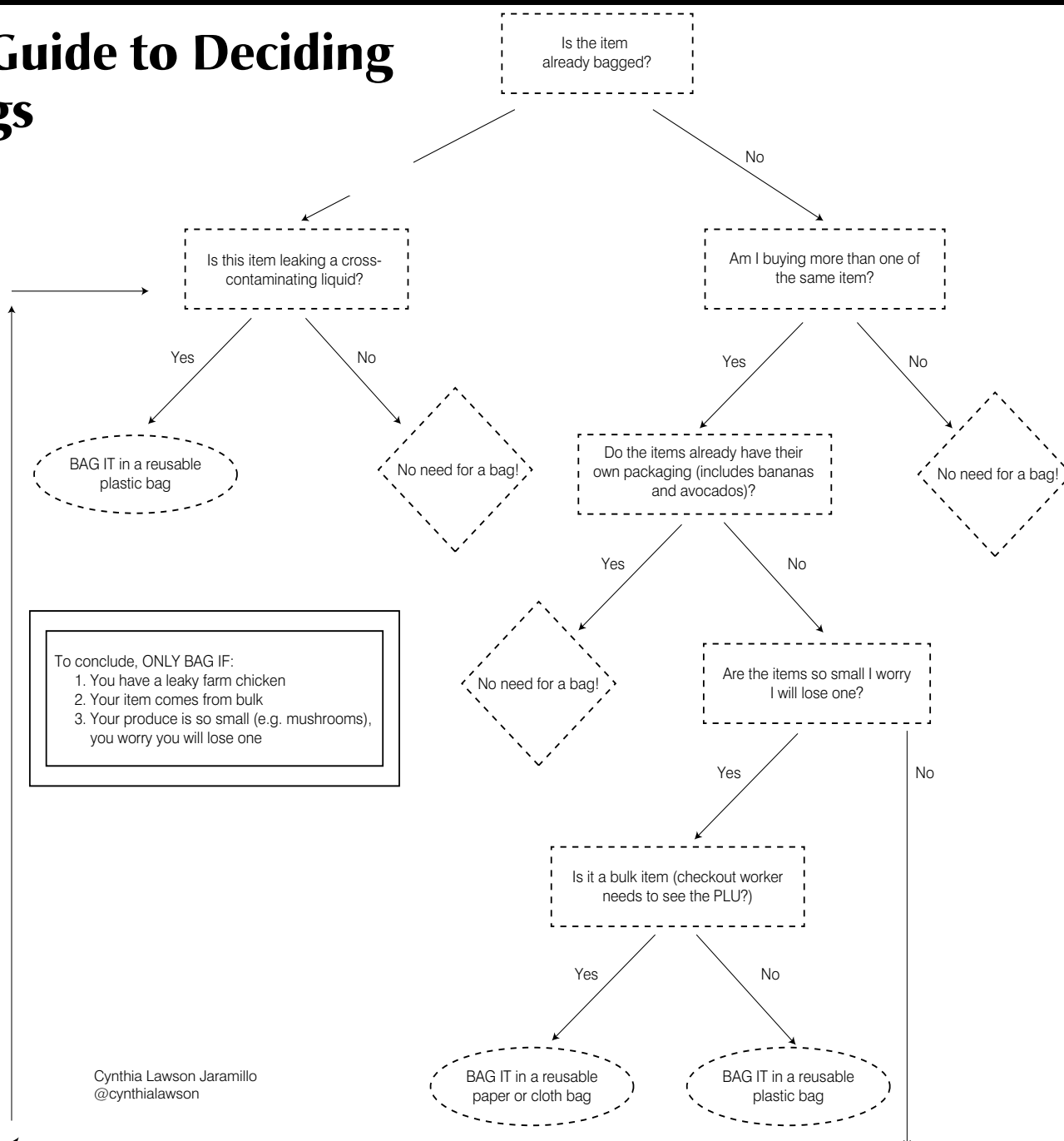
MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

A Food Coop Worker’s Guide to Deciding When to Use Plastic Bags

By Cynthia Lawson

I was recently at a Whole Foods in Boulder, Colorado and noticed a sign in their bulk aisle that read, “Bulk Going Green: we have switched to compostable paper bags.” My immediate thought was that if WF could ban plastic bags, then our Coop should certainly be able to. Then I read the article in the February 23 issue of the *Gazette* by Ann Herpel on behalf of the General Coordinators. In this article, Ann raises a slew of downsides to banning plastic bags that I had not really considered. So I decided to go to my most recent shift as a checkout worker and observe plastic bag usage (and my interactions with the bags) to form my own opinion.

Here, then, is my guide to plastic bag usage at the Coop, as seen by a checkout worker and person who abhors the sight of non-cloth bags. I write this decision tree in support of Ann and the GCs (and of the already-extremely-long lines at the Coop) as well as of those members who agree with me that we should minimize plastic in landfills as much as possible. Each point in the decision tree is based on an actual observations. ■



Follow the Food Coop on

twitter



@foodcoop

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
Apr 20

8:00 p.m.

very
The Good Coffeehouse
COOP CONCERT SERIES

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



Annie Keating

The Village Voice raves, "Keating is a wise mix of Lucinda Williams songwriting, Gillian Welch guitar and a vocal all her own...a cross between Willie Nelson and John Prine and you don't get any better than that." Keating appeared live on the BBC Radio (UK) Bob Harris show and has gone on to perform at leading festivals, playing on the bill with the likes of John Hiatt, Dan Bern, Boris McCutcheon, Shannon McNally. On her fourth (new) album release, *Water Tower View*, Keating is at her best, delivering beautifully crafted songs.

John Mettam & Flying Home

The joint will be jumpin' with Flying Home, a killer-diller band led by drummer John Mettam, performing the music of the Benny Goodman Sextet and other classics from the Swing Era. Cut a rug or sit back and enjoy this finger poppin' jive session with Michael McGinnis (clarinet), Tom Beckham (vibes), Sean Moran (guitar), Brian Drye (trombone), and Jim Whitney (bass), plus special guest singer Toby Williams.



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
APRIL 14
10:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

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

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

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

PLASTICS

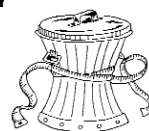
What plastics do we accept?
Until further notice:

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

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

PLASTIC MUST BE COMPLETELY CLEAN & DRY

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



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WORKSLOT NEEDS

Store Equipment Cleaning
Monday, 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.



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.



Check Office Supplies

Monday, 6 to 8:45 a.m.

Thursday, 8:30 to 11 p.m.

This work slot is responsible for restocking supplies at desks in all offices on the Coop's second floor, at checkout lanes, entrance desks and the cashier stations. Some light maintenance, such as light cleaning of desktops and phones, is another task. This is a task- and detail-oriented job, ideal for someone who likes working independently and is pro-active. Please speak to Alex in the Membership Office or contact him at alex_marquez@psfc.coop if you are interested.



COOP CALENDAR

New Member Orientations

Attending an Orientation is the first step toward Coop membership. Pre-registration is required for all of the three 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, APR 24

GENERAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

TUE, MAY 1

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m.

Submissions will be considered for the May 29 General Meeting.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

Apr 19 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 9
May 3 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, Apr 23

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

Apr 19 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 11
May 3 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, Apr 25

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,
April 24, 7:00 p.m.

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

Location

The Temple House of Congregation Beth Elohim (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place.

How to Place an Item
on the Agenda

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

Meeting Format

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

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

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

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

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

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

Attend a GM
and Receive Work Credit

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

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

• Advance Sign-up required:

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

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

• Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

• Certain Squads not eligible:

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

• Attend the entire GM:

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

• Signing in at the Meeting:

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

• Being Absent from the GM:

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

Park Slope Food Coop
Mission Statement

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

park slope
FOOD COOP

calendar of events

apr 5
thu 9:30 am

Training Session for 2012 Brooklyn Food Conference

Here's your chance to be part of the May 12 Brooklyn Food Conference and get FTOP credit as well. Go to one of these training sessions (see times below), then show up at the agreed-upon time and date for the Conference (TBD at the training meeting). When you do your work at the Conference, you'll get FTOP credit for that work as well as for the training meeting. Examples of work: registration, set-up, breakdown, childcare, youth activities, expo and workshop support, building guide, literature distribution, staffing info tables, music performance (we need musicians all day), logistics, and more! Sign-up sheet for this training session is in the Membership Office. The May 12 Conference itself will be at Brooklyn Tech HS in Ft. Greene.

All training sessions will take place in the Coop's second-floor meeting room: Thursday, April 5, 9:30 a.m. ; Tuesday, April 17, 9:30 a.m.; Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 22, 7 p.m.

apr 5
thu 7:30 pm

Food Class: Food for BrainPOWER



Discover how much food controls the speed and precision in which you think. You'll learn how nutrients forge your brainpower. We'll debunk common diet myths that undermine your smarts. And while Chef **Andréa Hammond** explains this food-brain science, she'll show you how to whip up your own mouth-watering 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, squeezezone@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.

apr 14
sat 3-6 pm

Here's Why You're Not Pregnant

This workshop will show how to: resolve mystery infertility; eliminate toxins that impair fertility; make IVF and IUI work the first time; cook meals that help you get pregnant; identify the foods and supplements that boost your fertility; clear blocked tubes; normalize your cycle; dissolve fibroids and cysts; do fertility acupressure at home; prevent miscarriage; and boost men's sperm count and quality. Pre-registration suggested: to register call (646) 483-4571 or e-mail GreenGemHealth@gmail.com. **Rebecca Curtis** M.A., M.F.A., HHC, AADP, is a certified holistic nutritionist and the founder of Green Gem Holistic Health. **Mary Hart**, M.S., L.Ac., is a board-certified acupuncturist and the founder of Healing Hart Acupuncture.

apr 17
tue 9:30 am

Training Session for 2012 Brooklyn Food Conference

Here's your chance to be part of the May 12 Brooklyn Food Conference and get FTOP credit as well. Go to one of these training sessions (see times below), then show up at the agreed-upon time and date for the Conference (TBD at the training meeting). When you do your work at the Conference, you'll get FTOP credit for that work as well as for the training meeting. Examples of work: registration, set-up, breakdown, childcare, youth activities, expo and workshop support, building guide, literature distribution, staffing info tables, music performance (we need musicians all day), logistics, and more! Sign-up sheet for this training session is in the Membership Office. The May 12 Conference itself will be at Brooklyn Tech HS in Ft. Greene.

All training sessions will take place in the Coop's second-floor meeting room: Tuesday, April 17, 9:30 a.m.; Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 22, 7 p.m.

apr 20
fri 7:30 pm

How to Lighten Your Final Carbon Footprint

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

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.**

apr 5–may 5 2012

apr 20
fri 8 pm

Annie Keating and John Mettam & Flying Home



The Village Voice raves about **Annie Keating**, “Keating is a wise mix of Lucinda Williams songwriting, Gillian Welch guitar and a vocal all her own...a cross between Willie Nelson and John Prine and you don’t get any better than that.” Keating appeared live on the BBC Radio (UK) Bob Harris show and has gone on to perform at leading festivals, playing on the bill with the likes of John Hiatt, Dan Bern, Boris McCutcheon, Shannon McNally. On her fourth (new) album release, *Water Tower View*, Keating is at her best, delivering beautifully crafted songs. The joint will be jumpin’ with **Flying Home**, a killer-diller band led by drummer **John Mettam**, performing the music of the Benny Goodman Sextet and other classics from the Swing Era. Cut a rug or sit back and enjoy this finger poppin’ jive session with Michael McGinnis (clarinet), Tom Beckham (vibes), Sean Moran (guitar), Brian Drye (trombone), and Jim Whitney (bass), plus special guest singer Toby Williams.

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.



apr 24
tue 7 pm

PSFC APR General Meeting



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

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

Item #1: Annual Disciplinary Committee Election (30 minutes)

Election: The Disciplinary Committee will present candidates to fill openings. The Disciplinary Committee goes through an extensive interviewing process. There are no nominations from the floor. —submitted by the Disciplinary Committee

Item #2: Board of Directors Candidate Presentations (60 minutes)

Discussion: Presentation by the six candidates for the Board of Directors followed by questions for the candidates from the meeting. —mandated by the General Meeting

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.

apr 21, 22
sat, sun

Training Sessions for 2012 Brooklyn Food Conference

Here’s your chance to be part of the May 12 Brooklyn Food Conference and get FTOP credit as well. Go to one of these training sessions (see times below), then show up at the agreed-upon time and date for the Conference (TBD at the training meeting). When you do your work at the Conference, you’ll get FTOP credit for that work as well as for the training meeting. Examples of work: registration, set-up, breakdown, childcare, youth activities, expo and workshop support, building guide, literature distribution, staffing info tables, music performance (we need musicians all day), logistics, and more! Sign-up sheet for these training sessions are in the Membership Office. The May 12 Conference itself will be at Brooklyn Tech HS in Ft. Greene.

All training sessions will take place in the Coop’s second-floor meeting room: Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 22, 7 p.m.

apr 24
tue 7 pm

Healthy Thyroid

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

apr 26
thu 6:30 pm

Intro to Bicycle Repair—Flat Fix 101



Many things that go wrong with a bicycle can be handled at home or on the road with a few simple tools. Learn the basics of how to adjust, repair, and maintain your bicycle. At the end of the class, we will hold a hands-on session on patching tubes. Participants will take home a newly patched “spare” tube for their own use. Please RSVP to bikecourse@5bbc.org, so we can bring enough materials. Presented by the PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee with the Five Borough Bicycle Club. Coop member **Ed Ravin** has been volunteering for bicycling organizations for the past 25 years. He is a current board member of the Five Borough Bicycle Club and a past board member of Transportation Alternatives.

apr 27
fri 7 pm

Wordsprouts: The Raw Extreme Manifesto



Co-authored with Fred Ho, *Raw Extreme Manifesto* is one man’s journey into raw food extremism. Much more than 25 original recipes and tips about going raw and staying raw, this is an indispensable handbook for everyone who ever wondered if they have what it takes to change their lives and ultimately their society for the better. Enjoy raw food samples from RawLivity. So come join the Raw Food Revolution! **Peter Lew** has been a raw-live vegan for eight years. His catering and lifestyle coaching company, RawLivity, co-founded with Tagenyahu Swao, was recently launched. He is currently working on developing a Farmers Market on the campus of Medgar Evers College and is a community activist supporting health and wellness.

To book a Wordsprouts, contact P.J. Corso, paola_corso@hotmail.com.

still to come

apr 28 Learn How to Volunteer & Make a Difference

apr 28 Experience Healing

apr 28 Do Your Children Ever ‘Push Your Buttons’?

may 1 How to Ride a Bicycle in NYC Traffic

may 1 Agenda Committee Meeting

may 3 Food Class: Culinary Tour Guide

may 4 Film Night: RFK in the Land of Apartheid

may 5 Integrative Bodywork

Park Slope Food Coop Video Squad Workslots Available For FTOP credit

**There are current
workslot openings for:**

- 1. Show Host (preferably a talented chef or cook)**
- 2. Researcher/Storyboarder**
- 3. Post Production: Editing and Compression**

**For more information, contact
videosquad@psfc.coop and include
"PSFC Video Squad" in the subject line.**

The Coop has a regular show on Brooklyn Cable Access Television and will soon be expanding to podcasting via the Internet. The shows features members and issues related to the Coop and the larger Brooklyn community. Past shows include health, improv performance, live music, cooking classes and ideas for living ecologically.



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.

PEOPLE MEETING

NEW GRANDPARENTS - We have a 3-months-old grandson. Would like to meet other grandparents of infants for socializing w/ baby. 718- 499- 4154.

PETS

PET NANNY. Retired social worker, 35yrs. exp. with all breeds, esp. rescues and traumatized

dogs. One dog at a time gets the run of my lrg. apt. Your dog will rarely be alone. Arrange a meet & greet. Unbeatable loving care at unbeatable low rates! Call Jane at 347- 860-2142 or email petnanny01@yahoo.com.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

TOP HAT MOVERS, INC., 145 Park Place, Bklyn. Licensed and Insured Moving Co. moves you stress-free. Full line of boxes & packing materials avail. Free estimates 718- 965-0214. D.O.T. #T-12302. Reliable, courteous, excellent references & always on time. Credit cards accepted. Member Better Business Bureau.

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.

THU, APR 12

6:30-9 p.m. Solar Electric Rooftop Clinic at Rhe Commons Brooklyn, 388 Atlantic Avenue (bet. Hoyt and Bond) \$35 general Admission and \$15 1.5 CEs for USGBC/LEED, AIA PE credit. Installer will be present. Register online at www.citysolar.us/workshop.php. Contact 347-254-0019, info@citysolar.us for more information.

SAT, APR 14

10:30 a.m. Opening day of the Warren Street Community Garden, come join the discussion and lunch. Located on the block bordered by St. Mark's Place, Warren Street, 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue. Membership fees are \$10-\$25 per year. For more information



about becoming a member, please email info@wsgarden.org or find the garden online at www.wsgarden.org.

8-10:30 p.m. Peoples' Voice Cafe. Ray Korona Band, 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.

1:30 p.m. What is the Path from Here to a Progressive Country? A forum sponsored by the Brooklyn Friends of the People's World, www.peoplesworld.org. For information please call: 718-783-4277 Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture at 53 Prospect Park West Park Slope, Brooklyn.

EscapeMaker.com Local Food & Travel Expo at Skylight One Hanson. Tickets: Adults \$13.00, Kids 10 and Under Free. Expo features a Made in Brooklyn Marketplace in the bank vault as well as 75+ weekend getaways, B&B's farms and wineries all within a day's drive or train ride of NYC. Use code EMCOOP12 for \$3.00 OFF ONLINE ONLY at www.escape-maker.com/travelexpo.

SUN, APR 15

11 a.m. Earth Day Celebration - Transitioning to a Low Carbon Future with S.Brooklyn Transition Initiating Group and at 1-4 PM Awakening the Dreamer,

Changing the Dream Symposium: Create an environmentally sustainable, socially just, spiritually fulfilling human presence on earth. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. 53 PPW. Free/donation.

TUE, APR 17

7-9 p.m. Book launch party for Eat With Your Hands; By Zakarary Pelaccio Founder of Fatty Crab and Fatty 'Cue featuring live music by Woods. Refreshments will be served. The powerHouse Arena at 37 Main Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 For more information, please call 718.666.3049 RSVP: rsvp@powerHouseArena.com

11 a.m.-3 p.m. 6th annual seed celebration. The Old Stone House, 5th Ave. & 4th St, Park Slope. This free event explores our seed heritage with art, games, displays, hands-on learning, seed trading and gardening information. A talk by Jude Hobbs of Cascadia Permaculture precedes the event at 9:30 a.m. For info: www.permaculture-exchange.org or permie@earthlink.net.

SUN, MAY 6

4 p.m. at the Central Library Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture; BPL Chamber Players: The Claremont Trio Emily Bruskin, violin; Julia Bruskin, violoncello; Andrea Lam, piano Free Admission.

CLASSIFIEDS

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.tguccionelaw.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.

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.



Puzzle Answers

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nonETHELess

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.

DOES YOUR BODY HURT? Get lasting relief! The Miller System of Integrative Bodywork is a gentle, holistic approach—incorporates breathing techniques, massage, stretches, exercises and more. Customized sessions promote rapid recovery from injuries and reduce mental and physical stress. Call Harriet LMT at 718-788-1864.

MD-SUPERVISED WGT LOSS program to burn fat, save muscle,

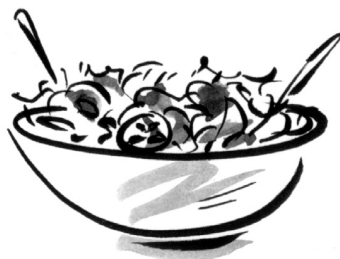
prevent diabetes. Low dose allergen therapy for inhalent, food & chemical allergy. Bio-identical thyroid & hormone replacement. Non-drug treatment for depression, anxiety, insomnia. Call Dr. Ordene @718-258-7882. Insurance reimbursable, Medicare accepted.

VACATION RENTALS

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

WHAT'S FOR FREE

BROOKLYN AUTHORS Jezra Kaye and Ellen Greenfield launch their new novels with a reading at Community Bookstore. Sunday, April 15th, 5-7 PM, 143 Seventh Ave., Brooklyn. Join us for snacks, drinks and some great literature (and celebrate getting your taxes done!).



What Is That? How Do I Use It?

Ask Me Questions About Coop Foods

Friday, April 6, 8 to 10:45 a.m.
Monday, April 9, 12 to 12:45 p.m.
Monday, April 16, 12 to 12:45 p.m.

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

Look for four leaders in produce aisle.

Support Farmworker Justice!

VOICES OF HOPE CONCERT

Tues, Apr 17, 7:30 pm, Riverside Church, NYC
HOSTED BY PETE SEEGER

TICKETS: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/235531

Sponsor & Info: www.ruralmigrantministry.org

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.

To Submit Classified or Display Ads:

Ads may be placed on behalf of Coop members only. Classified ads are prepaid at \$15 per insertion, display ads at \$30. (Classified ads in the "Merchandise-Non-commercial" category are free.) All ads must be written on a submission form. Classified ads may be up to 315 characters and spaces. Display ads must be camera-ready and business card size (2" x 3.5" horizontal).

Submission forms are available in a wallpocket near the elevator in the entrance lobby.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOMETIMES
PLASTIC BAGS ARE
NEEDED

DEAR MEMBERS,

I am writing in support of Ann Herpel's "Banning Plastic-Roll Bags = Environment. Time. Money." I've been a Coop member for close to 20 years. I supported getting rid of the t-shirt bags, and I don't find it burdensome to bring bags with me. If I forget bags at home, there are always boxes, or really inexpensive reusable bags available near the checkout.

While I thoroughly appreciate the concerns behind wanting to eliminate produce bags, I'd like to add to Herpel's points another one, which I experience when I do my work assignment at the checkout. Even with the bags still available, many shoppers now choose not to use them for their produce, instead placing their produce directly onto the counter. The counter becomes wet and sometimes sandy, as well as littered with produce debris. In between shoppers, then, I need to wipe down the counter and dry my hands. Shoppers don't realize that what they're saving by not using plastic bags may be balanced by the paper towels checkout workers need to use to clean up after their produce.

Some shoppers now reuse and re-re-use bags, which is fine except when those bags have bar codes that they haven't covered, so that the checkout worker may charge

them incorrectly, or need to go back into the system to correct errors.

Muslin bags, being opaque, do slow us down as well, especially when shoppers tie them shut to prevent produce from spilling out.

For all these reasons, in addition to the ones Herpel details, I must reluctantly oppose the banning of plastic bags for produce and bulk items.

Martha Livingston

NEED BETTER
DEPLOYMENT OF
LABOR

DEAR MEMBERS,

With the increased number of Coop members, one regularly hears the "observation" that there is a surplus of member labor, and that shifts should therefore be shorter or, more frequently suggested, less frequent. I overheard such a conversation among several "working members" just now, while checking out at the Coop early on Sunday morning.

During my "shop," there were several unstocked or understocked produce bins, even though the items were in the Coop, because the Receiving squad hadn't had the opportunity to re-stock them. Two popular items which I needed from the "dairy cooler" were retrieved at my request from boxes in the cooler because they were not yet on the shelf (there was a worker in there—on many occasions I have had to resort to "self help" in this circumstance).

There were calls over the PA for workers to assume various Receiving tasks.

There appeared to be a checkout worker at every register, some occupied, some not, yet a Squad Leader observed that they were understaffed, in that there was no one working Express.

While the prospect of working at the Coop less frequently during the year does have its appeal, it would seem that what we really need is better deployment of working members, because with more members there is more of a need to restock. We did this better before the Coop divided the workers who staff the store during its open-for-business hours into Shopping and Receiving squads. This is, of course, to the Coop's benefit, because the Coop loses a sale every time someone shrugs and moves on without purchasing what they want.

Janet Gottlieb

TYING DOGS TO
THE BENCH

DEAR EDITOR,

What is the Coop's policy about tying dogs to the bench outside the Coop? And what are the rights of people who are uncomfortable around unknown dogs, but who would like to sit on the bench in quiet? Whatever the answers might be, it might be helpful to have the policies posted prominently, perhaps affixed to the bench.

Thank you,

Robert Matson

A TURN FOR THE
VERSE

Julliard in the 90s,
Majored in Page-Turning,
A subject that has always
Kept my interest burning.
Met a pianist

Turned all musicians' heads,
They listened incredulously,
Dreamed of her in their beds.
Wrote her of my love,
Page after page, went to town,
Then a note in return—
My turn-on turned me down.
Leon Freilich

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

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



LETTERS POLICY

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

The maximum length for letters is 500 words. Letters must include your name and phone number and be typed or very legibly handwritten. Editors will reject letters that are illegible or too long.

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

Anonymity

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

Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, factual coverage:

1. The *Gazette* will not publish hearsay—that is, allegations not based on the author's first-hand observation.
2. Nor will we publish accusations that are not specific or are not substantiated by factual assertions.
3. Copies of submissions that make substantive accusations against specific individuals will be given to those persons to enable them to write a response, and both submissions and response will be published simultaneously. This means that the original submission may not appear until the issue after the one for which it was submitted.

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

Respect

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

LEFFERTS FARM
FOOD COOPERATIVE

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

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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

JOIN OUR PLANNING GROUP

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

GET INVOLVED

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

JOIN US: www.meetup.com/plgfoodcoop

FEW SHIFTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

extended hours for the new shifts, for instance. And, while some of these openings would likely be filled with existing members looking for more convenient work slots, others might have to be opened up to new members.

Zero Population Growth

And large numbers of new members is what we don't want right now. Currently, the Coop is aiming for zero population growth: to have the influx of new members match the attrition of departing ones. For the past several years, the Coop has undertaken several measures to slow our growth: first requiring pre-registration for orientation and limiting the number of seats

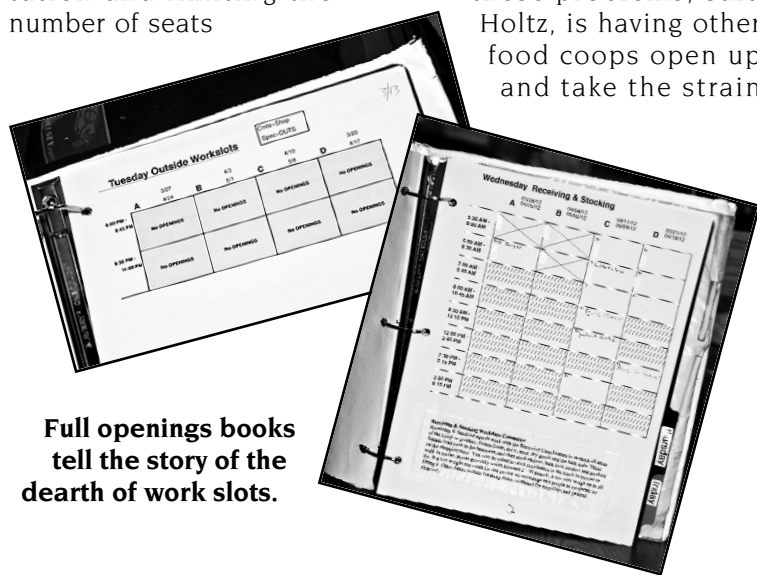
gether. At this point, said Holtz, the number of people allowed per orientation has become so small it didn't make sense to cut that number any more.

At this point, all the Coordinators acknowledge that tinkering with shifts, adding a squad here or there, won't do much to relieve the strain on the Coop. And the larger we get, bigger issues come into play: making sure there's enough room in the basement to store all the food we consume, handling all the trucks that must make deliveries to keep up with our demand, dealing with the congestion we create on the block, particularly when it comes to the Fire Department. The only thing that will really solve these problems, said Holtz, is having other food coops open up and take the strain



PHOTOS BY ANN ROSEN

Attendees at a recent orientation face the challenge of choosing work slots.



Full openings books tell the story of the dearth of work slots.

in orientation. But even with these measures in place, the Coop has grown two percent over the same period last year. So in March, General Coordinators took it a step further and cut the Wednesday night orientation alto-

off of us. Or the PSFC could open a new branch, which would be both a huge financial undertaking and potential risk but is now something that the Coordinators may begin to discuss.

For now, new members

and existing members have to rely on that same combination of patience and perseverance that has become a requirement for being a PSFC member. Member Coordinator Swift advises both new and existing members to get on a wait-list for a favored shift; the wait-lists move quickly, especially coming into the summer season when many members go on leave. And for the time being, she advises new members to be willing to accept their third or fourth or fifth choice for a work slot.

Though that isn't always necessary. Michael Lovaglio, the member who waited two years to nab an orientation slot, chose a 5:30 a.m. Thursday receiving slot. "It works for me," he said. He'll get up early, work, then shop before the Coop gets crowded—already thinking like a seasoned PSFCer. ■

MEETING ROOM

NOTICE

Beginning March 21st, the Coop will NO LONGER hold Wednesday evening (7:30pm) New Member Orientations.

We continue to offer Orientations three times per week:
 Sunday at 4pm
 Monday at 7:30pm
 Wednesday at 10:00am

Pre-registration is required to attend an Orientation.
 See foodcoop.com for details.

If you are already a Coop member and need to fulfill your Orientation requirement, you do NOT need to pre-register.



Winsome Green poses for her Coop I.D.



WELCOME!

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

Kevin Adams	James Carr	Udi Falkson	Aili Jordan	Brendan Matz	Hamid Rahmanian	Makela Spielman
Melissa Adams	Jessica Chayes	David Field	Chaya Katzoff	Christopher McCavitt	Kelsey Rauber	Alanna Stang
Omar Antonio Ba	Chialin Chou	Miriam Friedman	Joanne Kim	Carl Mok	Aaron Reiss	Luke Stern
Marland Backus	Jane Chuang	Ana Gallo	Daniel Krusiewicz	Rosalyn Mok	Laura Robitzek	Alena Svyatova
Juliana Barton	Elizabeth Clayman	Wendy C. Goldberg	Anna Lise Kvan	Grace Moore	Regina Rocke	Andras Szanto
Benjamin Beckley	Heidi Cleven	Blanca Gomez	Andrew Land	Ni Mu	Yehuda Rosenberger	Martina Szarek
Max Berry	Alexander Cohen	Meredith Gran	Batya Lerner	Eric Neuner	Mohit Santram	Grace Tan
Alexis Berthelot	Rose Costello	Winsome Green	Nechama Lerner	Erica Nofi	Andrea Schroder	Joseph Tartaglia-Malter
Hannah Berthelot	Rose Ann Creighton	Rita Gutkovich	Kurt Lindsey	Gregory Nofi	Vilma Serra	Tracy Thuesday
Hannah Blaisdell	Sandra Davila	Katy Hansz	Michael Lovaglio	Siobhan O'Loughlin	Rebecca Short Weiss	Robert Trentacoste
Melani Bolyai	Robert Deacy	Erin Hartigan	Nechama Marcus	Katherine Pence	Raymond Sicam	Eve Turow
Cathy Borck	Valerie Deacy	Brianne Hayes	Manuel(Manolo)	Marcel Pezet	Naila Siddiqui	Thomas Vartanian
Sylvia Brewster	Brice DeReynier	William Hayes	Martinez	Tatiana Pilipovitch	Jessica Silver	Irene Ventura
Robyn Brown	Christian deVietri	Andrew Hughes	Sarah Matari	Pieter-Paul Pothoven	Peter Silver	Anthony Wagenseil
Michael Cantone	Patrick Eager	Chris Jo	Emi Matsuyama	Andrea Powell	Kelley Simons	Agnieszka Zabawa

THANK YOU!

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

Claire Adams	Sonja Boet-Whitaker	Hannah Edmunds	Claudia Gonson	Zoe Larkins	Daniella Polyak	Jack Stroman
Robin Austin	Barbie Brillantes	Eleanor	Jeff Gray	Cynthia Lawson	Kyle Ratner	Lana Thelen
Elizabeth Ayer	Bromberg	Beverly Emmons	Charlie Harris	Susan Leone	Gabriel Rogers	Marc Thompson
Alisha B.	Naomi Brussel	Erika	Elisa Harris	Melody Litwin	Mirele Rosenberger	Christine Tsai
Julie Baez	Johanna Buck	Laura Evans	Annie Hart	Lyda	James Ruschak	Sophia Tu
Tracy Balzano	William Campbell	Amanda F.	Michaela Hayes	Deborah Marland	Sonia Ruschak	James Vasile
Nancy Beck	Yandra Cano	Sammi F.	Adrienne Heald	Darragh Martin	Gregg Schaufeld	Tiffany Wang
Kim Becker	Aoka Carr	Tara Finneran	Claire Hennigan	Elsa Marvel	Dana Schneider	Adam Watson
Korby Benoit	Cathy Carver	Jeremy Frindel	Lloyd Hicks	Carly Monardo	Jeremy Schwartz	Joey Weisenberg
Esther Bernstein	Yvette Choy	Sara Frohlich	Suzanne Hillinger	Johanna Muszbek	Lida Shao	Kimberly White
Shalmon Bernstein	Sam Coleman	Sharon Gamble	Graeme Hunter	Anita Nager	John Shapiro	Esther Wilenkin
Mark Bierman	Amanda Cooper	Dina Garfinkel	Simone Imbert	Jo Ong	Tara Sher	Beverly Wind
Riva Blumenfeld	Shama Davis	Ben Geballe	Peter Kelman	Nataliya Ostrovskaya	Stephanie Sherman	Ray Wofsy
Bob Blumenthal	John Decker	Rachel Geballe	Tanya Kessler	Mara P.	Peter Simon	Vanessa Woog
Gloria Blumenthal	Chana Delfiner	Shana N. Gittens	Benjamin Kligler	Barry Pamer	Alea Skwara	Theresa Xavier
Scott Bodenner	Tressa Eaton	Valerie Goffin	Van Lancaster	David Phillips	Alyson Spurgas	Yoshiko

BAY RIDGE
FOOD CO-OP

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

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

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

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

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

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