

BANANA

◀ PEEL SLOWLY AND SEE Andy Warhol

By Gayle Forman

ou probably don't know this, but the bananas you eat-with your cereal, in your smoothie, straight from the freezer, just plain as your mid-afternoon snack—most likely, every single one of them, are a single type of banana: the Cavendish. If you eat a yellow banana you bought from the Coop, or from your corner store, you are eating a Cavendish. And Americans eat a lot of Cavendishes: On average, we consume around 28 pounds of bananas per person per year. Coop members buy about 275 cases of Cavendish bananas a week.

You probably don't know this either: a century ago, the dominant banana (and, historians and biologists argue, better-tasting one) was the Gros Michel. According to Dan Koppel, author of the exhaustive book

Banana: The Fate of the Fruit That Changed the World, by 1900 Americans were eating fifteen million bunches of Gros Michels every year; by 1910, the number was forty million. But in the 1920s, something started to happen to the Gros Michels, a mysterious fruit blight, known as Panama Disease (the first strain of it, called Race 1) started infecting the Gros Michels. Over the next thirty years, a hundred thousand acres of Gros Michels were wiped out. For a while, there really were no bananas. You know that song, "Yes! We Have No Bananas"? That's why they had no bananas!

When the Gros Michel was essentially wiped out, all was not lost, because fruit producers—by then Chiquita had become a major player in South and Central America, thanks to CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Building *Empires* **Two Filmmakers Take Inspiration** From the Coop, and Seek Its Help

By Thomas Matthews

We live in a world of empires, networks of communication, capital, culture and coercion, that work through and beyond the traditional power structures of tribe, sect and nation. So believe Marc Lafia and Johanna Schiller, filmmakers who are working on a documentary to trace and explore the reach and ramifications of our contemporary empires.

And, they report, the Coop has served them as both an incubator and an inspiration in their work. Now they are hoping Coop members will become participants in their project.

"The stakes are high," Lafia says, sipping a glass of wine at Brookvin on Seventh Avenue. The film's director, he has bright eyes, gray hair, a scruffy beard, and talks enthusiastically with his hands. He's curious, exuberant, thinking fast and speaking faster.

"The film consists of handsomely lit interviews in depth," Lafia explains. "Like a jazz score we come in with different voices at different angles, ricocheting and extending a line of thought, one speaker giving a varied view and angle, then another, then another, all of it performative of the network, a polyphony of voices [and] highly constructed montages," set to a diverse range of music.

"The aesthetic is a highly structured one," he adds. "Careful and formal, not the usual cut cut cut, music, music, music, tell people up front what you are going to say, say it again and then again. It is an aesthetic of form that interrogates the form by asking what are the questions and how are we asking them and how do things take shape."

He pauses for breath, then plunges ahead. "How do we have agency in our CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Next General & Annual Meeting on June 26

The General Meeting of the Park Slope Food Coop is held on the last Tuesday of each month.* The next General & Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Elohim Temple House (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl.

For more information about the GM and about Coop governance, please see the center of this issue.

To receive workslot credit for attending the monthly General Meeting, members must sign up in advance in one of the following three ways: on the Coop's website (www. foodcoop.com); add your name to the sign-up sheet in the ground-floor elevator lobby; or call the Membership Office.

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| | Fri, Jun 1 • Film Night: My Perestroika 7:00 p.m. |
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| Coop Event | Thu, Jun 7 • Food Class: Can It! Home Canning Basics 7:30 p.m. |
| | Tue, Jun 12 • Safe Food Committee Film Night: Fed Up! 7:00 p.m. |
| Highlights | Sat & Sun, Jun 23-24• Food Drive to Benefit CHIPS Soup Kitchen 9:00 a.m7:00 p.m. |
| | Look for additional information about these and other events in this issue. |

BANANAS

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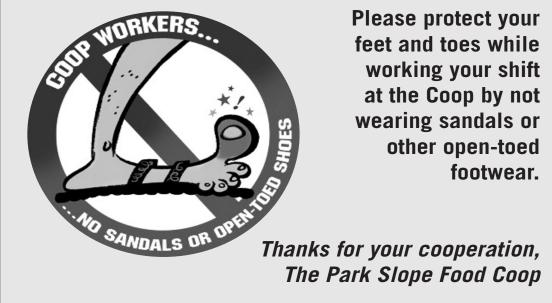
the banana—had another variety in their back pocket, explains Randy Ploetz, a professor of plant pathology at the Tropical Research & Education Center at the University of Florida.

The understudy who would become the star was the Cavendish, a near perfect banana. It had a nice shape, a firm texture, a good flavor. It travelled and ripened well and the color of its skin corresponded to its ripeness. Most important, the Cavendish was resistant to the early strains of Panama Disease.

No more. Now, Panama Disease is back, in a new strain, known as Tropical Race 4. TR4 has shown itself to be particularly stubborn, resistant to known fungicides and poses a potentially devastating threat to the Cavendish. According to Ploetz, TR4 has the capacity to affect 80 percent of the world's bananas. It has already devastated bananas crops in Australia and Southeast Asia. So far, TR4 has not spread to South and Central America-which produce the vast majority of banana exports-or to Africa—where bananas are a staple food. But scientists, farmers, and Coop coordinators alike are all keeping an eye on the disease's march.

"About ten years ago I first learned that Cavendish bananas would be extinct in ten years," says Coop General Coordinator and produce buyer Allen Zimmerman. "That didn't happen. But it isn't a wild speculation that says that this variety will be extinct. The banana that preceded it became extinct itself."

Ploetz is less positive that



he's not that hopeful. Right now, quarantine laws are the only thing that are keeping the TR4 out of South and Central America and Africa. But how long will those hold out? "Based on the way we move around, people are always moving stuff they shouldn't move," he says. But there are still many steps between infection and extinction. "How rapidly is it going to move? How rapidly would it expand? How quickly would it be before we realize we have this problem?" he asks. All of those issues could impact how quickly and effectively TR4 spreads.

the Cavendish will go the way of the Gros Michel, but

But if the TR4 does infect the crops in South Central and South America and Africa the way it has in Australia, the consequences would be huge. For American consumers, it would mean the disappearance of yellow bananas as we know them. Cavendish bananas are a monoculture. There are other varieties of bananas grown—including plantains, and red bananas, which the Coop sells—but the Cavendish is king, which makes it particularly susceptible to disease. If it goes, the export market, for now, collapses. Unlike apples, which have unlimited varietals (scientists can graft different apples together to make ever new kinds) and other plants which can adapt to guard against new threats, bananas like the Cavendish "can't evolve," says Zimmerman. "They don't reproduce from seeds. They only reproduce from clones of original bananas. Scientists trying to breed a new Cavendish had to go through millions of bananas to detect a microscopic seed."

C AND BRIEF The impact on the export market—and our eating on habits—would be extraordinary. But that is nothing compared to what a worldwide blight on the Cavendish would do to local indigenous food supplies. More than twice as many Cavendish bananas are eaten locally as exported. "For us, bananas are a fruit, a snack, something on ice cream or cereal," says Zimmerman. "For the

vast majority in Africa, it's a massive staple, especially when you include plantains in the equation."

When the Gros Michels were obliterated, scientists already had the Cavendish standing by. Today, there is no backup breed in the event that TR4 does make its way into South America or Africa. What there is, however, is genetic modification: modifying the genetic makeup of the Cavendish to make it resistant to Panama Disease. The Cavendish "has this one Achilles' heel," says Ploetz,

referring to its susceptibility to Panama Disease. GM could eliminate that.

For Zimmerman, who is against genetically modified crops (the Coop does carry GM foods), the issue does become less black and white when you are taking into account the possibility of food shortages. Already, Uganda has introduced a genetically modified banana to stave off a different disease known as banana Xanthomonas wilt that was infecting 30 percent of Uganda's banana crops.

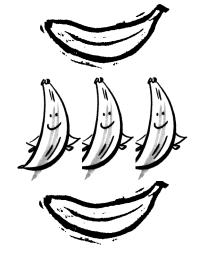
The problem, says Zimmerman, is that perhaps modifying the Cavendish to save the breed does save lives and stave off a food shortage. He fears that this will be the move that will make GM palatable, and will blow the doors wide open for agribusiness.

getting Coop members to think outside the yellow box. Though Cavendish represent the vast majority of bananas you can buy, they are by no means the only bananas out there, or even the only banana for sale. The Coop sells plantains, of course, though those must be cooked, as well as a red banana. Zimmerman says the red variety, which has a reddish purplish skin and is most ripe when it darkens, is sweeter, denser and more moist than a yellow banana, but Coop members so far remain reluctant to try it. During a recent week, the Coop sold 305 cases of yellow bananas-and two cases of reds.

Of course, necessity tends to dictate these things. And depending on how things go with TR4, it may well be that eventually, red is the new yellow. ■

"Right now, there are major races going on," Zimmerman says. "One is to find some cross of bananas that preserves the desirable features of the Cavendish but develops some resistance to its diseases. The other is a race to see who can genetically modify bananas to give them protection to the bananas and preserve those qualities."

At the Coop, Zimmerman is hoping for a third option:



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Is Fair Trade Unfair?

Controversy Surrounds Fair Trade Certification Group

By Danielle Uchitelle

seems like just a matter of time before everything we think we know gets proven to be the exact opposite of what we thought. Medicine that was supposed to help us ends up hurting us; what we thought was financial restraint ends up exposing us to withering risk; and those chocolates I steadfastly said no to could have prevented a heart attack. So it came with a sense of inevitability to learn that America's largest fair trade certification organization had become embroiled in a controversy over how fair, exactly, its fair trade really is.

As the largest fair trade certification organization in America, Fair Trade USA doles out the familiar black and white labels that show up on numerous Coop products, from coffee to chocolate to bananas. Their well-styled website describes fair trade certification as allowing "shoppers to quickly identify products that were produced in an ethical manner," a way for consumers to "reduce poverty through their everyday shopping." So far, so good. The organization defines principles that include fair price, fair labor conditions and community development. The controversy around Fair Trade USA centers on a recent decision to expand the scope of its certification to encompass not just small farms and farm collectives but plantation-style agribusiness establishments as well, a decision that has brought a storm of protest from other parts of the fair trade movement.

The problem stems from the very success of the fair trade movement. Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts and Walmart have all loudly proclaimed their commitment to purchasing fair trade products, and if you're Starbucks you can change the tides of supply and demand simply by deciding to purchase a higher percentage of what a Starbucks corporate press releases calls "ethical coffee." More demand means that traditional farm collectives can't always produce enough coffee or chocolate or bananas to meet the demand—or at least, to meet the demand at a price that Starbucks and Walmart are willing to pay. Enter the plantation owners, who immediately grasped the benefit of being able to sell into this expanding market; and if it means they need to prove their fair treatment of the farm laborers who toil for them, they'll make certain they can prove it.

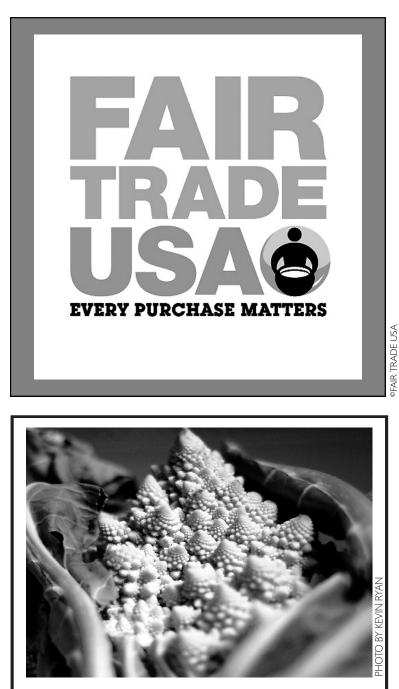
Fair Trade USA says its decision to accommodate plantation farms is simply a way to increase the size of the market

beyond the small farms and collectives that have been the traditional suppliers for these products. But some of those small farmers are fighting back against what they see as a tactic designed to reduce their influence in a growing market. "The decision of Fair Trade USA to include plantations in the system is a serious threat to the organizations," says Santiago Paz López, a representative for a fair trade organization in Peru as quoted in a recent newspaper article. "The small producers cannot compete with the plantations and large companies that have taken control of the market and of the decisions being made by Fair Trade USA."

It isn't only the small farm groups who are protesting; on January 1, Fair Trade USA formally severed its ties with Fairtrade International (FLO), a global association of more than two dozen organizations working with fair trade producers. Stating that "while Fair Trade USA and FLO share the same mission, we have differing perspectives and strategies on how to reach our goals," Fair Trade USA claims that their move will provide "the freedom to innovate and evolve the Fair Trade model with better results for all." This innovation will include, states Fair Trade USA, an expansion of certification services to what they delicately refer to as "coffee estates," large plantations that can help meet the global demand for fair trade products at a price that won't scare off casual shoppers at Starbucks and Walmart.

At the Coop, the Fair Trade USA label shows up on numerous products; however, there are other competing certification labels. It's certainly possible for ethically minded members to pick gingerly through the fair trade political thicket and come up with a satisfying number of chocolate bars. But occasionally we'll carry a product that only comes with Fair Trade USA labels; then you may have a moral dilemma on your hands. Is Fair Trade USA undercutting the traditional small farm cooperatives, using the power of its well-recognized label to strengthen the same plantation system that originally led to the fair trade movement, or are they the victims of their own success in enticing consumers to pur-

chase fair trade labeled foods? As with so much else in life, the answers aren't simple and mostly depend on whether you're growing the coffee, selling it or drinking it. As for me, I've given up coffee altogether; while Starbucks, FLO, and Fair Trade USA battle for the political high ground, I'm switching to soy milk. And please don't tell me it's bad for my health; I know that already. ■



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

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Empires

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

culture? We live in an age of globalization, and the end of the nation state. Our film takes the position that no single actor dominates the global stage, and looks at our networked condition. Where is the self? What is the social? How can we be the larger people that we want to be, instead of the fearful people we are constrained to be?"

Birth of *Empires*

Lafia, 55, has been fascinated by the intersection of art, consciousness and power since adolescence, joking, "I'm a child of the 1970s." Born in Philadelphia, he moved to Los Angeles at 17, where a stint at UCLA in the film school led to a business venture in Silicon Valley, where he rode the dot-com wave, then wiped out. "I was the last guy at the company," he recalls, "vacuuming the floor."

In 2002, the Museum of Modern Art hired him as a consultant, and he reluctantly left San Francisco for Brooklyn, where he had friends. He began making films, built a life, bought a house and, in 2005, joined the Coop. "I moved to Park Slope for PS 321 and the Coop," he says.

In 2010, his wife, Irena Rogovsky, was working a shift at express checkout, and fell into conversation with another checkout worker, Johanna Schiller.

"The Coop is how Marc and I got together," Schiller recalls.

Schiller, 42, the film's producer, is slim, with fine features and neatly trimmed blonde hair. She and her husband, Issa Clubb, a Shopping Squad Leader at the Coop, also live in Park Slope. At Brookvin, Schiller the conversation progressed, she became more animated, and after a while they were challenging each other's ideas and finishing each other's sentences.

first deferred to Lafia, but as

"I had been working as a DVD producer for the Criterion Collection for 12 years," Schiller says. "But I had two small children, and the DVD world was not what it used to be. I needed a change, and I had a goal to produce a feature-length documentary film. Irena said her husband had a documentary in mind, and was looking for a producer. And so our partnership was born."

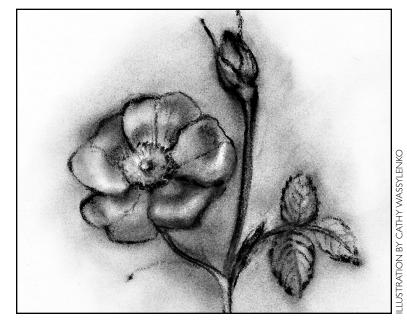
Schiller was born in Lefferts Gardens, but her parents moved to the suburbs when she was small. After degrees at Oberlin and Rutgers, she moved back to Brooklyn in 1996, and soon found work at Criterion, where she worked on films by Ingmar Bergman, Jean Renoir, Roberto Rossellini and others.

"I checked out the Coop in 1996, but didn't join," she recalls. "I took a tour and thought, 'there are way too many rules.' I finally became a member in 2005. Now I couldn't live without it. I guess it just took some maturity before I realized how valuable it is."

The Coop as Empire

Lafia and Schiller owe their partnership to the Coop. But more profoundly, they see the Coop as a model for an ethical empire, an example of a network that can work for good, and not just for profit.

"The Coop is a network," says Lafia. "It brings people together around certain values—food, community, commitment. The Coop moves the subject from 'I' to 'we.' That's a very important thing. When I ask for something in



the store, I don't ask, Do you have it? I ask, Do we have it? The Coop is an idea that is not only utopian, it works. It's a model that we can use in the bigger networks that determine our lives."

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

"The drawback is that membership is empowering, but also cumbersome," says Schiller. "It gets stereotyped as anarchy or fascism."

"That's an even larger issue," Lafia replies. "People want to defer, because it's easier, but then when things don't go their way, they get upset."

"I have hope," counters Schiller. "The Coop fosters a sense of community. It's fragile, but it's real. I believe the Coop model can be extended into the world of empires."

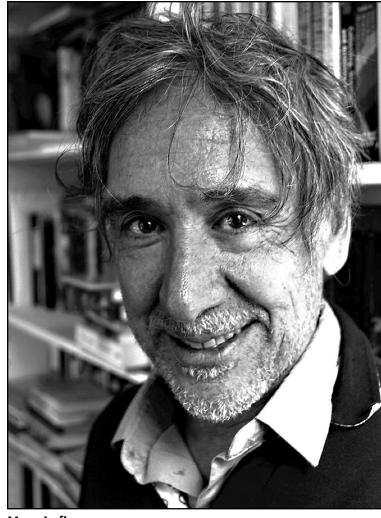
An Empire of Cooperation

Schiller and Lafia have been working on *Empires* for nearly two years now. They have interviewed a wide range of intellectuals and artists around the world. Now they are plunging into the final editing. The problem is money.

"It's a new venture for both of us," admits Schiller. "Neither of us has made a fulllength documentary before and we've done it in a bootstrap fashion, without any outside funding. Anyway, there's very little support for independent projects like ours through foundations or corporations."

Now they have turned to Kickstarter, the Web site that helps creators fund their projects through crowd-sourcing on the Internet. And they hope that Coop members will embrace the project, as a creative venture and as an extension of the values that the Coop embodies.

"It's a way to raise money, but it also fits in with our ideas about participation and empowerment," Schiller says. "We want the film to function like the Coopencouraging people to become engaged. We want to involve people. Their input can become part of our vision." "The project of the film amplifies and extends the ideals and processes of the Coop," adds Lafia. "If we could draw on the kind of energy that went into the BDS debate, for example, our film would be richer. Every donor becomes part of the project and part of the social network of the project's community."



Marc Lafia



Johanna Schiller

"Our film intends to analyze the networks of empires, but we also want to encourage people to build their own networks," Schiller says. "It's about individual consciousness, the decisions to make small changes for the better."

"I'm a strong proponent of local initiatives," agrees Lafia. "That's why I love the Coop. Our film is devoted to the ways in which we can give ourselves the agency to create a world that embodies our own values."

Their goal is to raise \$20,000 for Empires through Kickstarter; the deadline date for donations is June 7. More information about can be found on Kickstarter, at www.kickstarter.com/ projects/1407330738/empire s-the-film?ref=live. ■

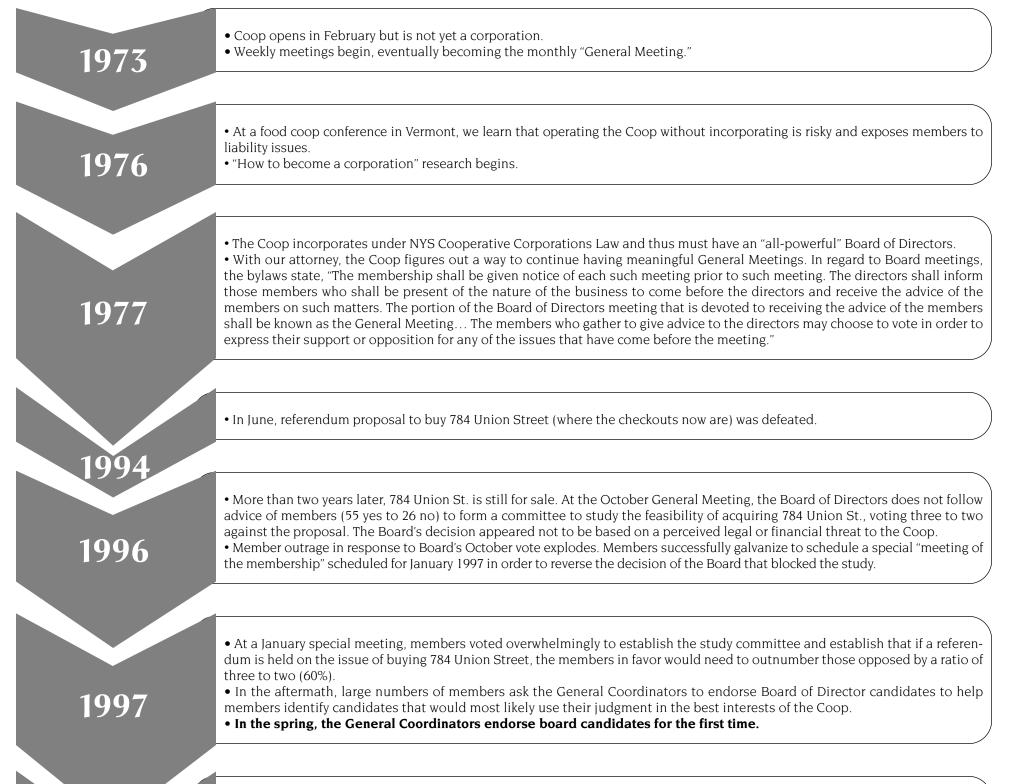
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COORDINATOR'S CORNER

GCs' Board Endorsements: The Now and the WHY Welcome to 11,000 New Members

By Joe Holtz, General Coordinator

This is the 16th consecutive year that the General Coordinators have endorsed candidates. This year we are endorsing Monique Bowen, Eunju Lee and Audrey Miller Komaroff. In two recent issues of the Linewaiters' Gazette (1/12/2012 and 4/19/2012) a member requested that the General Coordinators stop endorsing candidates for the Coop's Board of Directors. What follows is a chronological list of some landmarks of the Coop's history of governance that sheds light on why the General Coordinators endorse candidates for the Board.





2012

• The number of members in the mid- to late-1990s was in the mid-5,000s. The Coop could not have accommodated many more members due to lack of space. The General Coordinators take this opportunity to welcome the 11,000 members whose membership was made possible by the January 1997 special meeting that started the deliberative process resulting in the purchase of 784 Union St., the 2001 renovation and the subsequent influx of new members. These positive events, and the prudent decisions of the decade that followed, could not have happened without a governance process that includes reasonable advice from members followed by our Board of Directors using their good judgment on behalf of the Coop. Help write the next chapter.

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The International Cooperative Alliance Statement of Cooperative Identity

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

Definition:

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

Values:

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

Principles:

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

First Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership

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

Second Principle: Democratic Member Control

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

Third Principle: **Member Economic Participation**

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

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

Fourth Principle: Autonomy and Independence

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

Fifth Principle: Education, Training and Information

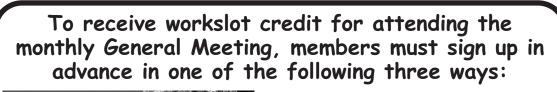
Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public—particularly young people and opinion leaders-about the nature of benefits of cooperation.

Sixth Principle: **Cooperation Among Cooperatives**

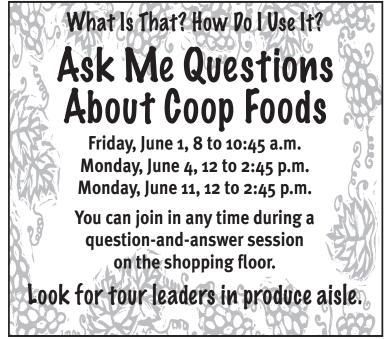
Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Seventh Principle: Concern for the Community

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









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SAFE FOOD COMMITTEE REPORT

FED UP! By Adam Rabiner

After several years of reviewing films about the food production system for this paper, I thought there was little left for me to learn from documentaries of this type. Yet FED UP!, a movie that focuses on genetically modified foods and is brought to us by Wholesome Goodness Productions, served up (often amusingly, using old, archival footage) some information that was new to me-unappetizing morsels that are not so easy to digest.

For example, the film challenges an idea that I had regarded as indisputable that modern industrial farming is more efficient than traditional small farms. It may be true that Concentrated (or Confined) Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) raise animals more cheaply and that farmers have dramatically increased yields for corn, soy and other commodity products. However, sustainable and organic farmers actually enjoy much higher revenues per acre than their industrial counterparts. While a big commodities producer can earn \$20 per acre, a small, sustainable farm can bring in several thousand. The comparatively paltry



earnings-per-acre of the large farms explain why they are so big and require government subsidies.

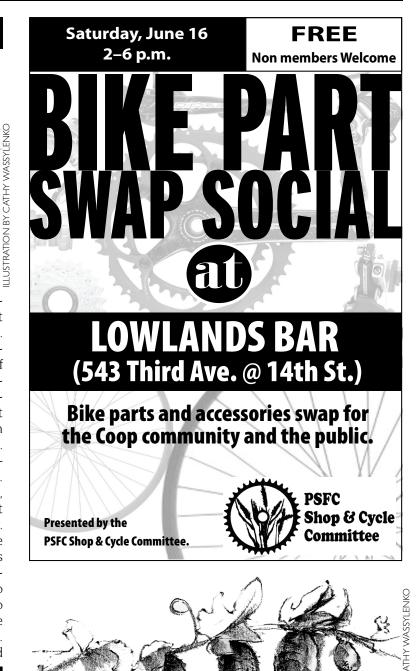
Through interviews with farmers, scientists, government officials and activists, FED UP! explores in great detail the potential harm of genetically modified crops to human health, the collateral damage to bees and butterflies, the contamination of traditional crops, and laments the splintered and weak regulatory oversight by the EPA, USDA, and FDA which does not require GMO labeling and disclosure.

About 70% of food contains genetically modified ingredients and is not labeled. That we know anything at all about the content of the food sold at the Coop is thanks to the painstaking work of the GMO Shelf Labeling Committee whose members literally called hundreds of

manufacturers. Unfortunately, this situation is not about to change any time soon. Many of the industry regulators are former employees of major agribusiness, biotechnology and chemical companies and vice-versa (a fact disturbingly illustrated in the film by a revolving door).

FED UP! leaves you pondering the paradox of plenty. The Green Revolution, meant to feed the world, left a planet hungrier than ever. The film makes a strong case that the answer to this dilemma is not to bioengineer more seeds, but to encourage more people to become farmers who will be able to feed themselves. Now that idea tastes good and is easier to stomach.

Watch FED UP! On Tuesday, June 12, 7 p.m. Park Slope Food Coop, 782 Union St., 2nd floor. Refreshments will be served.





OUR SMALL, UPSTATE NY TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD IS FIGHTING A BEHEMOTH GAS COMPANY OVER FRACKING. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

Middlefield, located near Cooperstown, NY, has only 2,000 residents, yet has many small sustainable farms as well as organic farms such as Raindance Farms. Middlefield Neighbors raised over \$50,000 in 2011 to fight a gas company-funded lawsuit against our town, a suit that tried to quash a ban we enacted on fracking. We won, as noted in press around the world, but the gas company - with its deep pockets - is now back to appeal the loss.

The outcome of the appeal will affect every person in New York state. A loss will be a huge loss for home rule, and will throw open the doors for multinational gas companies to steamroll in. A win on our part will provide case precedent

ILLUSTRATION BY



@foodcoop

that may stop the gas companies, and that will certainly make the DEC,

the NY State Legislature, and Governor Cuomo take notice.

Help defend tiny Middlefield against the voracious frackers before

they destroy upstate NY, our water, our towns, and our agriculture.



Help us reach our goal of \$30,000 by sending a tax-deductible donation, of any size, to: Town of Middlefield, P.O. Box 961, Middlefield NY, 13326, with notation of "Gas Suit Fund." Or call 607-282-0404 and speak with Peg Leon for more info. All donations go directly to the town and are held in a dedicated fund to only fight the appeal. Thank you. **EFIELD NEIGHBORS** *Powered by People, Not Gas* \$\$\$

LEARN MORE AT WWW.SUSTAINABLEOTSEGO.ORG/THE-MIDDLEFIELD-PAPERS. OUR THANKS TO THE PARK SLOPE FOOD COOP FOR GENEROUSLY DONATING THIS AD SPACE.

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Candidates for Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc.

Three spots on the Board are open. Two of the openings are three-year terms. The third spot is a one-year term. To vote you may use a proxy or attend the Food Coop Annual Meeting on June 26, 2012. Every member will receive a proxy package in the mail in late May. You will have the opportunity to meet the candidates at the Annual Meeting. Candidate Statements (unedited and presented in alphabetical order):

MONIQUE BOWEN



Dear Fellow Members: With the support of the General Coordinators, I write to ask for your support of my candidacy for an open seat on the PSFC's Board of Directors.

My family has been Coop members since 2003, and our relationship to the Coop has been an important aspect of our

lives in Brooklyn. Even my children consider that monthly trip to childcare for their father's shift to be their work slot, too! I have had many jobs at the Coop

but mostly identify as a recovering cashier who currently enjoys office work, but I am also trained as a childcare worker, an attendance recorder, and as a member of the Hearing Officers Committee.

I think I make a sensible choice for the Board of Directors as I am 1) a reasonable person who listens well, 2) able to acknowledge the will of the membership without first prefacing my own opinions and perspectives, and 3) clear about the role of a Director at the Coop as voting to approve what the membership has decided as opposed to what my own wishes might be. Generally speaking, I have attended a number of General Meetings over the years and appreciate that those gathered tend to abide by this same working model. That being said I also understand

that Board members must be able to discern when the advice of the membership might endanger the fiscal or legal health of cooperative and thus must be able to make decisions accordingly.

In my life outside of the Coop, I have worked for twenty years at nonprofit and educational institutions in NYC and CT, have earned post-graduate degrees in psychology, and have a great deal of experience working one-on-one and in groups to solve problems, to mediate conflicts, and to counsel others as they make important life and professional decisions. I take a calm, thoughtful, commonsense approach to most things and try to collaborate with others whenever possible. Thank you and I hope to have your support.

AUDREY MILLER KOMAROFF



I'm Audrey Miller Komaroff, I currently sit on the Board of Directors. I've been a Coop member since 1975, and I've happily seen the Coop grow from 400 members to its present size of over 16,000.

I've always gone where I felt the Coop needed me. I

was the first cashier trainer. I was one of the twelve people who excavated and started the "Garden of Union." When the Coop expanded Friday shopping hours, I became a squad leader on the first 8:00 a.m. shift.

I have been a positive and cooperative member through all our changes in the last 37 years. The General Meetings opened my eyes to our policy making procedures, and I've enjoyed them. The Coop is a very unique and successful venture that I love being a part of. Having served on the board

for many years, I would like to continue for another three years.

I value the General Meetings and the expertise of the General, Receiving and Office Coordinators. I wholeheartedly believe in the cooperative spirit where each person gives of themselves for the benefit of the whole. The core beliefs of the Coop have made it strong and prosperous. I'm sure these shared ideals will serve it well in the future. My candidacy is endorsed by the General Coordinators.

EUNJU LEE



I joined the Park Slope Food Coop soon after moving to Park Slope in 1994. It was also the year I became pregnant with my first child and, as every Park Slope mother knows, the Coop is synonymous with healthy child. But, the Coop is more than a place that provides "Good Food at Low Prices." For

18 years, I have had the privilege and delight of membership in a like-minded community. And just as my son has grown to a mature 17 year-old, my relationship with the Coop has deepened and matured. This is why I am seeking a position as a member of the Coop's Board of Directors.

Initially, I was an FTOP worker, doing shifts in shopping, receiving, childcare and the office. In 2000, I joined the staff of the Coop as a Membership Coordinator. I worked in this position for seven years. Five years ago, I left to pursue other passions and am cur-

rently working as a hospice social worker. My current work shift is to haul and process compost from the Coop to the Red Hook Farm. Because of my long and varied relationship with the Coop, I feel I have a breadth and depth of knowledge about the Coop, its mission and values, staff and membership. As a Membership Coordinator, I had many opportunities to hear both praises and profanities about the Coop from the membership. Serving on the Board will again give me access to the voices of the membership and allow me to respond accordingly. This is why I am seeking a position as a member of the Coop's Board of Directors.

The Coop has changed dramatically since 1994. I recall the dust and havoc of construction as we expanded. As the square footage of the shopping floor grew, so has the membership. Despite these changes, the core of the Coop remains a community of people who believe in the values of working for our food, in looking forward seven generations when making consumption choices, and in building inclusive local communities. I am proud to be a part of these wider values. I have reaped the benefits of the Coop and believe it is now time for me to give back. This is why I am seeking a position as a member of the Coop's Board of Directors.

As a member of the Board, my main function will be to listen to the membership and to ensure the Coop's vitality in a manner that is consistent with its founding values. Unlike other boards, our Board of Directors is not and should not be an insulated body of stakeholders. Rather, the Board functions to gather the diverse voices of our members, to thoughtfully weigh differences, to seek cooperation and respectful dissent, and to articulate positions with circumspection and reason. As a social worker, I am often required to suspend my opinions in order to really hear the other person. I have learned how to be comfortable in conflict and the importance of a measured response. I hold a Master's degree in social work and another in organizational development—assets I would bring to my role as a board member.

My candidacy has been endorsed by the General Coordinators of the Coop and I welcome that support. I would be honored to have yours.

TIMOTHY PLATT



and as FTOP, and I continue to do so. I currently work receiving shifts for my wife, am on the GM Why I am running for reelection Chair Committee, and since this past November to the Coop Board. I have been and its special election I have served on the Board

responsibility to my work shifts in receiving, and to my committee participation and I have always brought this to the Food Coop when in any way working with other members.



a member of the Park Slope Food Coop for 18 years and over the course of that time I have come to see this, our shared community as very special and very important in my life. I was first introduced to the Coop by my wife when we first met. She

introduced me to her favorite people and to her favorite places. The Food Coop was one of those special places that she brought me to as she did her own food shopping here. I joined too and have been actively involved ever since.

I have worked in a wide range of jobs at the Coop, and both as a member of regular work shifts

too. I look for ways to be involved and where I can make a positive difference.

That much primarily says something about the What of my being a Food Coop member and a member of its Board. But my purpose in writing this letter to the Gazette is to say something as to Why I am on the Board and why I would seek reelection to it. That is definitely not for work slot credit as I go to every GM anyway, and I am already receiving work credit for my Chair Committee participation there. There are no double credits for both Chair Committee and Board participation. I do this because this gives me greater opportunity to be actively involved in the Coop as a positive, supportive voice.

I bring that same approach and that same sense of

I have served the Food Coop and its members in other ways in the past, to share some more of my history here. I, for example, joined and became deputy chair of the committee that updated and codified the rules for the General Meetings, and with one goal-to insure that those meetings are as representative of member thought and opinion as possible and to give every member as much of a voice in the Coop and its running as they wish to share. That is how I participate in the Coop at our store. It is how I participate in our Coop General Meetings, and both as a Coop member and as a member of the Chair Committee and that is how I function as a Board member. If reelected I will

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

Candidates for Board of Directors of the Park Slope Food Coop, Inc.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

TIMOTHY PLATT, CONTINUED

continue to do so as well.

I will add that I come to this with extensive outside board experience. I have served five years as President of the board at the housing cooperative that my wife and I live at, as well as serving in other board positions. My goal as an officer and board member there has also always been about giving every member a voice and an opportunity to participate.

I ask you for your vote. But perhaps more

importantly I ask that you feel free to walk up and speak with me as I do want to hear about the issues that concern you and I do want to know and understand your perspective and experience as a fellow member of this, our Park Slope Food Coop.

Jesse T. Rosenfeld



My name is Jesse Rosenfeld and I am running for the Board.

A member since 2004, I have worked as cashier, 2nd floor guest registration, cheese and olive bagger, FTOP stock boy, and babysitter for the PSFC. Plus a graphics artist for the Lefferts Food

Coop (work still pending approval). My outside profession is in the IT industry where I am a consultant for the City of New York, and help social workers and directors operate a paperless office system.

I am also secretary for PSFC, I won in a landslide as I was the only one to volunteer my services.

My attendance record is up to date and I am a frequent attendant to GMs without needing them as a make up. I attend because I love the Coop and want it to run as efficiently as possible.

I repeat, I love it here. The Coop is an important part of my life, even more so since I live only three

blocks away. I spend a lot of time here, just as a shopper alone. I like being part of an organization that is a standard-bearer for food and environmental justice.

I have demonstrably worked for our cooperative spirit where everyone gives their efforts towards the benefit of shared success. We're strong and prosperous, and I want to see that continue.

I will stay in touch with membership issues in the following manner: I'll be attending every GM anyway as secretary, I will read the Gazette, I will stay in touch with General Coordinators, and board members, plus of course, stay in touch with the floor membership by listening to fellow members and their concerns. I hope that I would have time during my shopping hours to stop and talk to people who have such concerns. I also intend to be familiar with our monthly financial statements.

I've demonstrated additional concern for the Coop by joining the anti-hydrofracking movement which opposes upstate gas drilling and is proven toxic to water supplies and agriculture that support the businesses from whom we buy our goods, not to mention our own drinking water right here in Brooklyn downstream from the drilling. The issue is not black and white, but it directly affects each and every one of us as a Coop member.

Having worked officially so far with mostly products, I felt a pull this time to involve myself more with people.

The previous Secretary was a member of the Board and I would like to follow in that Coop tradition, to ensure that there will be a Board member and the Secretary at every GM.

I see the need for Board members to be alert to the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of the Coop, and to make these clear to Coordinators and the general membership.

I see the Board's role as one of oversight and financial responsibility rather than one of advocacy.

When the Board of Directors vote, I will always base my decision to the best of my ability on criteria that are no different from any other board member.

Will a proposal ratified by the General Meeting put the financial and legal health of the Coop at risk?

Does the proposal violate the spirit and letter of the Coop's own by-laws or NYS articles of incorporation, and our own mission statement?

Thank you for taking a few minutes and I look forward to your vote.

Albert Solomon



In my letters I've been asking for a shout-out: Do U think I should run for the Board of Directors this year or not? I'm sure that most of my loyal supporters would say Yes, but still I'd soooo appreciate hearing from you—see my EMail and phone below.

Yes, it's been seventeen years and many letters rejected by the Gazette since I first started protesting about our deeply disturbing "government" and I'm certainly tired of it but still I go on . . . How do you feel about the Co-Op (note my own personal spelling)? Do you think a change in government could do anything to help us? If U do, vote for me. If U don't, vote for me anyway as I'm a nice guy. I'll be putting a video statement up on Youtube shortly—just search for "solomonbod" and you should find it. Use the quotation marks. Also if U wanna see a quite lovely piano recital, search for "Tschudy" and look for "Richard Tschudy plays Scriabin." And search for

sion that has been doing a lot of damage to our self-respect as people who expect to participate in decisions of our beloved Co-Op. They think that a town-meeting form of government is appropriate to a large, anonymous, urban, decentralized organization like ours. MMmmmm, yes it is a recognized form of government but if it's so good why isn't it used in cities, states, and nations? Why do we have the City Council when we can all go to a meeting at Madison Square Garden (or the Meadowlands—or both!) once a month for three hours and make all our decisions? Nice idea, huh? And it's SSSssoooo attractive to anarchists becos, of course, there are no representatives. We represent ourselves, right? Isn't that wonderful-what could be wrong with that?

Well I don't mean to burst your bubble but I've even spoken to anarchists who don't think much of this. You see, anarchism isn't just a simple idea that boils down to no representatives, it's really quite well-developed. Look at Occupy Wall Street—we see that one aspect of anarchism is that groups be leaderless. Is our hierarchy of area coordinators and general coordinators and the \$10,000-plus coordinator (Mr. Holtz) leaderless? No. Are all or most of our members knowledgeable and concerned and take an active part in our affairs? No. Do we have different people in different leadership posts at different times? No, in fact we have a near-hereditary corps of top managers,

and that's why I called this piece "Divine Right of Queens and Kings."

Is there a great number of small groups where members can talk together at length and in depth and have spokespeople attend the general meetings with their concerns in mind? Nope. We have a single meeting once a month at 7 p.m. on a Tuesday for three hours only where a very limited number of people can speak who are chosen by the Chair. That seems OK, right?

Well I'm not recommending pure anarcho-syndicalism but I do hope you'll notice something that has some of the same features. It's called representative democracy! Not perfect but a lot better than what we've got. I think people would feel a lot better about the Co-Op if they could elect someone who shared their views, their politics, their race, their religion, their veganism, their kashruth or—whatever they wanted to express as members. And to whom they could talk and about whose votes they would know. Our meetings are anonymous—even though people go to them. How do we do that? It's magic, folks!

You want to know what I would do as a director. I would be a busy bee! I would do everything to oppose the current Deceptarchy and urge representation.

which I'm proud. I'm not approved by the Management and I'm quite proud of that!

Not that the Management are a bunch of scoundrels but they've been supporting a delu-

Luv u. Serving you as always, I remain albert ∎

The Role of the Board

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

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

The Board of Directors conducts a vote at the end of every General Meeting on whether to accept the advice of the members as expressed in their vote(s) during the GM.

THE ELECTION PROCESS

Each year the Coop must, by law, hold an Annual Meeting. This is the only meeting where proxies can be used. Those members who cannot attend the Annual Meeting may be represented, if they wish, by a proxy.

If you submit a proxy but come to the Annual Meeting in person, your proxy will be returned to you when you register. Members who have a current membership as of Saturday, June 16, 2012, are eligible to vote in the election of Directors at the Annual Meeting either in person or by proxy.

Proxy packets are mailed to members in late-May. If you do not receive a packet, pick one up at the entrance desk or outside the Membership Office. ■

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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10 💌 May 31, 2012

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY



Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Shopping Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00* p.m. Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 10:00* p.m. Sunday

6:00 a.m. to 7:30* p.m.

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

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

Telephone: 718-622-0560 Web address: www.foodcoop.com



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

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

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

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

Voluntary Articles: Maximum 750 words. Editors will reject articles that are essentially just advertisements for member businesses and services.

Committee Reports: Maximum 1,000 words.

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





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| Thumbnails: | Saeri Yoo Park |

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.

• #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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Midori Nakamura

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Plastics Recycling

Saturday and Sunday, mornings

Join in the Coop's effort to be a better environmental citizen. Work outside in front of the Coop with other members of the Recycling Squad accepting returned plastic containers, making sure they are clean and meet the Recycling Squad criteria. Stack and pack plastic for recycling. Must be reliable and willing to work outdoors in all kinds of weather.

Office Set-up

Monday, Tuesday or 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 in the Membership Office for more information.

Plastics Recycling Baler Saturday, 1 to 3:45 p.m.

Baler will work as a member of the Environmen-tal Issues Plastic Recycling Committee. Work includes operating the baler machine in the receiving area. NO OPEN-TOED FOOTWEAR SHOULD BE WORN WHILE WORKING IN THIS AREA. Worker must be able work with Receiving Staff to coordinate the use of the baler and shared work space and must be able to follow

detailed safety instructions. Some strength and lifting required. Training will take place on first scheduled shift. You will need to contact Cynthia Pennycooke, Membership Coordinator, via phone Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Membership Office, or e-mail cynthia_pennycooke@psfc.coop prior to being assigned to this shift.

Vitamin Worker Friday and Saturday, 6 to 8:45 p.m.

On this special shift, you will be working with the Receiving Coordinator to check-in vitamin orders, organize vitamin area in the basement and on the shopping floor. You will label products and shelves, and related tasks. If interested contact the Membership Office.

COPCALENDAR **General Meeting Info**

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 guestions 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).

TUE, JUNE 5

TUE, JUNE 26

AGENDA SUBMISSIONS: 8:00 p.m. Submissions will be considered for the July 31 General Meeting.

GENERAL & ANNUAL MEETING: 7:00 p.m.

Gazette Deadlines

LETTERS & VOLUNTARY ARTICLES:

12:00 p.m., Mon, June 4 June 14 issue: June 28 issue: 12:00 p.m., Mon, June 18

CLASSIFIED ADS DEADLINE:

June 14 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, June 6 June 28 issue: 7:00 p.m., Wed, June 20

Attend a GM and Receive Work Credit

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

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

Advance Sign-up required:

To receive workslot credit for attending the monthly General Meeting, members must sign up in advance in one of the following three ways: on the Coop's website (www. foodcoop.com); add your name to the sign-up sheet in the ground-floor elevator lobby; or call the Membership Office. You may sign up 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 paper sign-up sheet is kept in the Membership Office. Some restrictions to this program do apply. Please see below for details.

Two GM attendance credits per year:

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

Park Slope Food Coop Mission Statement

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

ΑΒΟυΤ ALL ТНЕ GENERAL MEETING **Our Governing Structure**

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 26, 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

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

• 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.

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12 💌 May 31, 2012

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

park slope FOOD COOP

calendar of events



Film Night: My Perestroika



My Perestroika follows five ordinary Russians living in extraordinary times—from their sheltered Soviet childhood, to the collapse of the Soviet Union during their teenage years, to the constantly shifting political landscape of post-Soviet Russia. Together, these childhood classmates paint a complex picture of the dreams and disillusionment of those

raised behind the Iron Curtain. **Robin Hessman** received her graduate degree in film directing from the All-Russian State Institute of Cinematography (VGIK) in Moscow. She received an Academy Award[®] in 1994—with co-director James Longley—for their student film, *Portrait of Boy with Dog*. In the U.S., Robin co-produced the Peabody-award–winning documentary *Tupperware!* and later founded Red Square Productions. She was Filmmaker in Residence at WGBH in Boston, where she developed *My Perestroika*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, played in MOMA's New Directors/New Films series and received numerous awards. Robin is an Associate of Harvard University's Davis Center for Russian Studies and a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

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

jun 2 sat 11 am Caregiving 101

The U.S. Census showed the largest population increase was for senior citizens. Almost 288,000 live in Brooklyn. About 70% of 65+ will need long-term care at some point in their lives. An estimated 1 million NYC residents are caregivers to adult friends and family. This session will explain answers to the pressing questions, what is long-term care, who pays for it and where is it? Key information on ways to plan ahead to protect autonomy and authority and reduce the heavy emotional burden decision-making can be on loved ones will also be included. Long-time Coop member **Mary Blanchett**, MSA, is a licensed nursing home administrator who worked in long-term care for 27 years.



FUN

Third Annual Band Nite

Come support fresh talent at the Food Coop's Third Annual Band Nite at Bar Four, 444 Seventh Ave., corner of 15th St., 718-832-9800, www.bar4brooklyn.com. With performances by: The Raytones, Maya Solovey, 13th Floor Klezmer Band, Mappa Mundi. Doors open at 8:00 p.m. Admission is FREE. For more info, check out the FUN Committee blog: psfcfun.wordpress.com.

Band Nite takes place at Bar Four, 444 Seventh Ave., corner of 15th St.



Agenda Committee Meeting

ammittae reviews pending agende items and erector the



Food Class: Can It! Home Canning Basics



Home canning is a great way to preserve an abundant harvest, or simply put up some of the more seasonal gems to eat during the winter months. Canning is easy to do safely, ssano, Coordinator as long as you follow some simple rules. For more than four

years Michaela Hayes has been working with Just Food as a community trainer, facilitating workshops on home canning. As a professional chef, she developed the pickling position while at Gramercy Tavern. You can see Michaela's "One For the Season" food-preservation column quarterly in *Sweet Paul* magazine. Based in Brooklyn, Michaela teaches pickling, canning, and fermentation through her company, Crock & Jar, which sells products at specialty markets. *Menu includes: pickled radishes; canned tomatoes; blueberry jam.*

Materials fee: \$4. Food classes are coordinated by Coop member Susan Baldassano.

jun 8 fri 7 pm

Handling Social Pressures On Teens & 'Tweens

Share stories and hear perspectives that can help you manage the many social pressures on pre-teens and teens. **Sharon C. Peters**, MA, is the director of Parents Helping Parents and a step, birth, and adoptive parent. In her work she meets with individual families and leads workshops at her Park Slope office and for schools and community organizations throughout New York. She is a grateful long-time Coop member.

jun 9 Having Trouble sat 3 pm Getting Pregnant?

Learn 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. 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 nationally board-certified acupuncturist and the founder of Healing Heart Acupuncture.

jun 9 ^{sat 7 pm} Funeral Planning As a Spiritual Exercise

Learn about the latest funeral service trends and get a better inkling of how beautiful a reasonably-priced funeral or memorial service can be. We will discuss new ways to memorialize the deceased, the merits of green burial, home vigils, cremation pros and cons. You'll leave this workshop with a stack of helpful memos and papers, funeral planning information, current prices, thoughts on advance directives, medical durable power of attorney, and a better grip on how you want to be remembered. Coop member **Amy Cunningham** is a graduate of the American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service.

Better Movement



agenda for this month's General Meeting. Drop by and talk with committee members face-to-face between 8 and 8:15 p.m. Before submitting an item, read "How to Develop an Agenda

Item for the General Meeting" and fill out the General Meeting Agenda Item Submission Form, both available from the Membership Office or at foodcoop.com. *The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 7 p.m., at Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.* Come learn about this osteopathically based bodywork that is extremely gentle, yet effective. You will learn how a focus on client comfort and moving away from pain gives the body an opportunity to self-correct without any force. This subtle modality can reduce pain, correct structural imbalances, aid in recovering from injuries and create a better relationship with the body's structure. Coop member **Brenda Varrasso** has been a New York State–licensed massage therapist and student of Ortho-Bionomy[®] for five years. She is currently an Associate-level Ortho-Bionomy[®] practitioner.

With Ortho-Bionomy[®]

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

iun 10

sun 12 pm

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.

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May 31, 2012 🖛 13





Safe Food Committee Film Night: Fed Up!



Seventy percent of the food we eat contains genetically modified ingredients. Millions are spent arguing that technology is to **PLATE** our only hope for feeding the world. Farmers are disappearing as people go hungry. Toxic chemicals continue to poison us. Using hilarious and disturbing archival footage and featuring

interviews with farmers, scientists, government officials and activists, Fed Up! presents an entertaining, informative and compelling overview of our current food production system from the Green to the Biotech Revolution. Fed Up! explores the effects of pesticides, the resistance of biotechnology companies to food labeling and the links between government officials and major biotechnology and chemical companies.

Effective Tools for Rapid iun 16 sat 12 pm Personal Transformation

Want to move on-away from old emotional baggage to new, joyous ways of living? If you are open to transforming your old patterns of fear, worry and anxiety and leave room for joy, happiness and fun, it can be done. And it's easy and fun! The body is like a magnet, and when these experiences are in cellular memory, the body attracts the same experiences. Doctors and other professionals have used these techniques for daily stresses, eating disorders, robbery, rape and emotions such as anger, anxiety, fear and others. These remembrances can destroy the quality of life if not cleared. This unique, life-changing technology will be demonstrated. Coop member Marija Santo-Sarnyai is a Geotran practitioner.



PSFC

Committee

Bike Part Swap Social

Bike parts and accessories swap for the Coop community and the public. Presented by the PSFC Shop & Cycle Committee. Shop & Cycle Event takes place at Lowlands Bar (543 Third Ave. @ 14th St.)



What the Tooth Fairy Never Knew!

This workshop on nutritional, homeopathic, preventive dentistry is geared for those who want to take responsibility for improving or maintaining their dental health; and, to learn about the connection between dental problems and systemic diseases. You will be taught how to analyze oftentimes undiagnosed etiologies of dental diseases, TM joint problems, headaches and loosening teeth. Dental controversies like mercury fillings, root canals and placing nickel on your children's teeth will be included in this symposium. Dr. Stephen R. Goldberg DDS, is a Nationally Certified Clinical Nutritionist (CCN), Acupuncturist and Oral Myofunctional (Swallowing) Therapist.

Bowenwork: Gentle Touch, jun 23 sat 3 pm **Powerful Results**

Bowenwork[®] is a unique, holistic bodywork that stimulates the body's own healing response. Gentle moves across muscle and connective tissue send signals to the body to relax and move toward balance. There will be a demonstration. Bowenwork[®] relieves pain relaxes body and relieves stress, enhances immune system, improves blood circulation, improves joint mobility, improves nutrient absorption, promotes detoxification, increases lymph drainage, and is safe for all ages and conditions. Moraima Suarez is a Coop member, certified Holoenergetic® Healing Practitioner, certified Bowenwork Therapist, Reiki

Practitioner, and Quick Pulse® Practitioner. She has studied and practiced the healing arts for more than 20 years and has her healing practice in the Park Slope vicinity.

jun 23-24 Food Drive to Benefit sat-sun 9 am-7 pm CHIPS Soup Kitchen

CHIPS Soup Kitchen, located at 4th Avenue and Sackett Street, is the recipient of much of our edible but unsaleable perishable food. They also need donations of nonperishable foods. This food will go to CHIPS to help them feed people in the neighborhood who are in need of a nutritious meal. Consider contributing nonperishable foods and commercially packaged foods; canned fish; canned fruits and vegetables; pasta sauce; pasta; pre-packaged rice; pre-packaged beans; canned beans; canned soups; Parmalat milk; dry milk; peanut butter; cooking oil; or boxed raisins. Give donations to the collection table outside the Coop.



Reduce Sugar Cravings

When we eat too much sugar, our digestive organs become overburdened and function poorly. Acupuncture treatment can reduce our desire for sweets and help us make healthier food choices. Learn more about acupuncture for changing our dietary habits. This workshop will include a demonstration of the "reduce sugar cravings treatment." Presented by Ann Reibel-Coyne, a licensed acupuncturist and PSFC member.



PSFC JUNE Annual and General Meeting

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The Annual Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by the GM. Meeting location: Congregation Beth Elohim Social Hall 💹 🌆 (Garfield Temple), 274 Garfield Pl. at Eighth Ave.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Item #1: The audited financial report for the year ended January 29, 2012. Report & Vote: Following a presentation by our outside auditor, Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, members will have the opportunity to pose questions to the auditors. Members will then vote whether to accept the audited statement.

Item #2: Board of Directors Election

Election: Three spots on the Board are open. Two of the openings are three-year terms. The third spot is a one-year term.

Item #3: Ratifying ByLaws Amendment

Proposal: To ratify the following amendment to the Bylaws of the Park Slope Food Coop as originally passed at the September 2011 GM: "Election of officers shall be held at the June meeting of the directors from among those candidates nominated from the floor at such meeting. In the case of an officer position becoming vacant, there shall be an election held at the next directors' meeting to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term." —submitted by the General Coordinators Comment: Bylaws amendments made between Annual Meetings go into immediate effect. They must then be ratified by the following Annual Meeting to become permanent changes to the Bylaws.

General Meeting Agenda

Item #1: Renewing the Services of the Auditor

Proposal: "To retain the services of Cornick, Garber & Sandler, LLP, to perform an audit of the Coop for the fiscal year ending February 3, 2013."

—submitted by the General Coordinators

Item #2: Election of Officers

Election: Following the election of members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting, the General Meeting must elect officers of the corporation—President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The President and Vice-President shall be, at the time of election, members of the Board of Directors. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer can be elected from the membership at large.





Introduction to Infant Massage



ul 13-14 Blood Drive

Safe Food Committee Film Night

jul 15 Are You New to Medicare?



Researching Your Neighborhood

New Animal Welfare Committee: jul 22&24 Animal Welfare Issues at the Coop

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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14 💌 May 31, 2012

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

TO THE EDITOR

HONORED, AGAIN

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TO THE EDITOR:

I have the dubious honor that the Letter to the Editor in the previous issue from Mel Spain was the third time I've been skewered in the Gazette. Even though I was never given the opportunity to respond in the same issue in which criticism appeared (a violation of the Gazette's Fairness guideline, I believe), I'm gratified. Clearly I'm doing something right.

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Mr. Spain's comments might have been far more effective, however, if he had read my letter and responded to what it actually said. While he accused me of trying to suppress free speech and criticism of Israel while at the same time giving praise to Israel, in fact what I advocated was that all letters dealing with the Palestinian-Israel situation stop. I wrote, "Like all countries, Israel certainly can be criticized. I and countless others don't agree with all its policies. Neither do all Israelis." (By the way, if you want to hear some really contentious—but informed—criticism and attacks, read about what goes on in sessions of the Israeli parliament.)

As for the overblown claim that the mythical ogre "The Israel Lobby" suppresses criticism of Israel, reality does not support it. Extremist anti-Israel views are expressed all too freely in the media, on the Internet, and in nearly every university campus around the world. In view of this well-documented rise of virulent anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere, the fabled all-powerful "Israel Lobby " is surely astonishingly ineffectual. In these times the real courage might well be not to view Israel as evil incarnate.

I have no problems with criticism of Israel (or of me, for that matter) provided that it's done fairly—that is, based on facts. But when some pro-BDS letters are simply opprobrium and fabrication aimed at discrediting Israel with no concern for truth or context, a line is crossed from fair to foul.

Ruth Bolletino

BAGS AND JUICES

TO THE EDITOR:

Two issues I would like to raise. Regarding the issue of bags for bulk produce. The alternatives suggested seem unwieldy (e.g., opaque muslin bags) and may not work for items like rice, for example. How about biodegradable, corn-based "plastic" bags? These will rot nicely once discarded. Biobagusa.com has rolls of produce bags, for example, as does Brenmarco. Forgive me if this has already been discussed but it sounds like a reasonable alternative and the prices are comparable, I understand. berry. Now, there's no more Blueberry, Apricot, Peach—all gone. WHY? These are great, delicious and healthful products! It is really depressing and sad and incomprehensible to me. Please bring them back!

I hope these are useful suggestions! George M. Carter

ANOTHER ATTACK ON FREE SPEECH IN THE GAZETTE

TO THE EDITOR:

The letter of Sylvia Lowenthal (Gazette 5/17/12) continues the attack on the freedom of Coop members to communicate their ideas in the Gazette's letters columns. In the May 3rd Gazette, Ruth Bolletino wrote that the newsletter should not accept any further letters regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Now Ms. Lowenthal says the same thing, citing as support for their position the action of the LGBT Community Center in excluding any groups involved in the issue from using its space. It is hard to see any relevance of LGBT's exercise of its real property rights to the suppression of ideas in the press operated by the Gazette.

Both Ms. Bolletino and Ms. Lowenthal were signatories to the series of repetitive letters to the Editor over a period of months opposing the referendum of the Israeli boycott. (May I refer to the group as "the PSFC Israeli Lobby"?) They now appear to be part of a movement to muzzle those who wish to express their views on the conflict. Rather than ignore the letters criticizing Israel and not reading them, as all are free to do, they want to stop them from being printed.

Curiously, another regular signatory to the series of group letters opposing the referendum was Constantine Kaniklidas. He saw fit to send a letter to the Editor published in the same 5/17 issue in which Ms. Lowenthal's letter appears, continuing his attack on the boycott Israel movement. We thus have Ms. Bolletino and Lowenthal advocating that there be no discussion of the Israel-Palestinian conflict in the Gazette while Mr. Kaniklidas disagrees, since he wants to continue the pro Israel argument. It would appear the PSFC Israeli Lobby talks rather inconsistently about free-

"PREDICTABLE CONSE-QUENCES ARE A GOOD MEASURE OF INTENT" – Noam Chomsky

TO THE EDITOR:

We ask the Department Of Education (DOE) to change their plans to assign to the small office building at the residential intersection of Park Place and Underhill Avenue up to 200 high school students suspended from their regular placements.

The following letter from the Park Place Underhill Avenue Block Association went to District 13 Superintendent Barbara Freeman on April 22nd:

"While that building is suitable for and has served for years as offices, we believe that neither the structure nor the environment can properly meet the needs of young people as a school. Placing students in that building could cause unnecessary painful friction with the community."

We met with Superintendent Freeman on May 7th. She told us details handed to her by the Office of Portfolio of the DOE, and then we toured the building. With no kitchen nor cafeteria, no auditorium, nor library nor gym, with inadequate bathroom facilities and small, ill lit and poorly ventilated instructional spaces, it is obvious that the site cannot serve as a school.

Mark Morales of the Daily News got our message wrong when he wrote the piece published on Friday, May 11th, "Prospect scares residents". Fear mongering is easy. Those responsible are the decision makers for setting up a situation whose negative results we already know. We had students in that building last year. They burst out in



the afternoon. Security personnel ordered them to immediately leave the area.

Behind the building is the Underhill Avenue Playground, well equipped for small children. The stoops of historic brownstones ascend to dwellings of the affluent. Imagine being confined all day and then exposed to those privileges! Remember teenagers? I do. I taught at Prospect Heights High School for 21 years. Not kids and not adults. Their feelings are easily hurt, and they know that their future depends on schooling. They get angry at being neglected. Those responsible for provoking those reactions are the Mayor and other decision makers, for setting up a situation whose negative results we already know - friction and conflict with residents and then possibly with authorities.

The DOE is legally and morally responsible to see that young people's educational needs are met. They deserve to have an attractive and appropriate school, not being set up to get into conflicts for which they then continue to be blamed and punished. All of us need their talent and energy. The gift of education from one generation to the next holds a society together. In our opposition to this plan we defend their rights, our tranquility and the future of our community.

The context of school suspensions is documented in a report published in 2011 by the NY Civil Liberties Union and the Student Safety Coalition called EDUCATION INTERRUPTED. www.nyclu.org/files/publications/Suspension_Report_FINAL_noSpreads .pdf

Susan Metz

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.

tual 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.

Second: What happened to the juices??? First it was the Apple/Rasp-

dom of the press in the *Gazette*, when it comes to Israel.

Mel Spain

LEFT, RIGHT

The liberal's open-minded And always ready to spout, But at times the gap's too wide And his brains go tumbling out The conservative hails the past, That's what his favorite sport is; His playing, though's, infected By lingering rigor mortis.

Leon Freilich

Anonymity

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

Fairness

In order to provide fair, comprehensive, fac-

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

Respect

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

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THE MONTH OF "MAY" IN THE PALESTINE-ISRAEL CONFLICT

COOP MEMBERS:

Middle of May

During the middle of May, Israel celebrates an event that they call the War of Independence. The same occasion is observed by Palestinians, who call it Al-Nakba, or the Catastrophe of 1948.

Al-Nakba

By the armistice of 1949, 800,000 or two-thirds of the Palestinians were either displaced internally, killed or forcefully expelled from the 600 Palestinian villages destroyed for the creation of Israel. Professor Naseer Aruri comments: "The fact that Israel was 'born in sin' of the dispossession of another people has never been seriously discussed in public ... despite an abundance of irrefutable facts from Israel's own "revisionist historians."

Palestine 1948, Before the State of Israel

Dr. Hanan Ashrawi sheds light on Palestine up to 1948 that are worth noting:

(1) Under the British mandate, Palestine was one of the important economies.

(2) Dedication to education is deeply rooted in the Palestinian culture and remains so today. By 1914, there were 379 private schools in Palestine. In 1858, the first girls' school, Al Moscobiye opened in Beit Jala. In 1869, the Quakers opened the Friends School which continues to be among the most advanced education institutions in Palestine.

(3) Between 1911-1948, there were 161 newspapers, magazines and publications. An important newspaper, "Falastin" was published in Jaffa by Issa al-Issa.

(4) Dozens of bookstores sold books written by Palestinian and foreign authors. These included: "The Arab Women and the Palestine Problem" by Matiel Moghannam, a feminist leader, and 'The Arab Awakening" by George Antonious. They were popular in Palestine, England and the US.

(5) There was a strong women's movement in the 1920's that lobbied for Palestinian self-determination at the beginning of the British mandate. Women were prominent educators, journalists and writers. West Jerusalem. 50,000 books were removed from homes in Jaffa, Haifa, Tiberias and Nazareth. Khalil Sakakini lost his entire library. Today many of these books are found in the National Library of Israel marked 'AP' meaning "Abandoned Property."

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Israel's Accountability

In the words of Dr. Ashrawi: "Al-Nakba is the collective memory of Palestinians, shap(ing) their identity as a people. It is an in escapable story of loss, dispossession and a great historic injustice. Israel must come to recognize its historic accountability in creating Al-Nakba for neither denial nor distortion can serve the cause of peace."

References:

Naseer Aruri, Chancellor Professor (Emeritus) of Political Science at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth: Counterpunch, 5/21/12, "The Meaning of the Nakba"

Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, PLO Executive Committee member, head of the PLO's Department of Culture and Information, Haaretz, 5/15/12, "Recognizing Nakba, Reaching Peace"

> Mary Buchwald Brooklyn For Peace PSFCmembersforBDS https://psfcbds.wordpress.com

The following letter ran in the May 17th issue with some inadvertent omissions. We print the corrected letter in full below. – The Editors

MORE FALSE AUTHORITIES: EAFORD (CERD/ICERD)

TO THE EDITOR:

[All citations, shown in brackets below, refer to same-numbered sources from the evidence-based report "False Gods: EAFORD (CERD/ICERD)", at http://eaford.evidencewatch.com, part of my site on "The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict: The Evidence" (http://me-evidence.evidencewatch.com)].

Joining already discredited NGOs hiding under the halo of putative "human rights" organizations with outrageous distortions of international law [22-25], EAFORD (International Organization for Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, formerly, CERD and ICERD) is actually (including on their own admission) a Libya-founded anti-Israel extremist propaganda group focused on resurrecting the equation of Zionism with racism and South African apartheid, established in 1976 at the International Symposium on Zionism and Racism (Tripoli, Libya), with close ties to the former Muammar Gaddafi regime, as noted by Anne Bayefsky, distinguished professor of international human rights law with the International Law Association Committee on Human Rights Law and Practice

[1,2,3]. EAFORD continues to promulgate the "Zionism is Racism" slander of UN General Assembly Resolution 3379 despite its revocation in 1991 [6,7,8]. Like many other rejectionist anti-Israel groups, EAFORD—like BDS—was born and shaped out of the hateful and welldocumented racism and virulent anti-Semitism of the first Durban Conference and NGO Forum in 2001 [9,10,20,21].

ТНЕ

This is the same EAFORD that posted the outrageous Agenda Item 7, "Israeli Illegal Trafficking in Organs of Dead and Kidnapped Palestinian Victims" that advances the blood libel that "Israeli physicians remove organs [from Palestinians] they think marketable" [11]. This calumny was based on an article by Donald Bostrom in the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet [12] who subsequently admitted to CNN [13] and The Jerusalem Post [14] that he had absolutely no proof of any of the outrageous insinuations (note: Bostrom won Honest Reporting's "2009 Dishonest Reporter Award" [15]). The charge was supposedly based on allegations from the family of Palestinian victim Bilal Ahmed Ghanem, but the family themselves admitted they never made such claims (they performed no autopsy and could not know) [16].

EDITOR

May 31, 2012 🖛 15

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

The *Linewaiters'* Gazette is revamping its organizational structure and looking for qualified members to fill the new work slots!

The two new positions are: Co-Coordinating Art Director (CAD) and Co-Coordinating Production Manager (CPM).

Both are supervisory positions on the production teams. In total, the *Gazette* will be adding two CADs and four CPMs.

Responsibilities include:

- Supervise the members working in the Art Department or on the weekend Production Teams
- Screen applications for members wanting to join the Art Department or the Production teams
- Develop training tools
- Monitor and assess performance of team members
- Provide feedback to team members
- Have a working knowledge of Quark, InDesign and Photoshop (Co-Coordinating Production Manager only)
- Improve and manage *Gazette* processes in order to produce a quality newspaper

• The Co-Coordinating Production Manager must be available to work on Saturday and Sunday, once every eight weeks.

(6) Palestinian creativity inspired artists throughout the region. Composers like Yehya Al-Lababidi, and famous Arab singers like Farid Al-Atrach, Um Kalthoum and Mohamad Abdel Wahab performed regularly in Haifa, Jaffa and Jerusalem. Cinemas from Gaza to Akka showed the latest films.

(7) Major book collections were lost to their Palestinian owners.30,000 books were collected from

If you have any questions about the positions or the time commitment, or are interested in applying, please contact **ann_herpel@psfc.coop**. Include in your e-mail your relevant experience and skills. Applicants must be members in good standing and have an excellent work history.

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Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Furthermore, experts have found the organ harvesting allegations to be ludicrous and medically impossible, since given the injuries described (including gunshot to chest and abdomen), the organs would not be usable for transplant (as noted by Dr, Andrea Meyerhoff [17], Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine; and by Dr. Francis Delmonico [18], internationally renowned transplant specialist at Harvard).

Yet despite the complete exposure of all these hateful fabrications and despite the call from UN monitoring human rights NGO UN Watch [19] among others for the President of the UN Human Rights Council and the High Commissioner for Human Rights to stop circulating the "anti-Semitic" libel, EAFORD (and UNHRC) has to date failed to respond and remove the slanderous accusations.

This is fitting: BDS supporters endlessly repeating their falsehoods, "backed up" by equally false authorities.

In my next report, I expose another ultra-extremist propaganda machine, Electronic Intifada.

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

THE FALSE AUTHORITY OF ELECTRONIC INTIFADA

TO THE EDITOR:

[All citations, shown in brackets below, refer to same-numbered sources from the full evidence-based report "False Gods: Electronic Intifada)", at www.ei.evidencewatch.com, part of my site on "The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict: The Evidence" (www.meevidence.evidencewatch.com)].

In keeping with BDS supporters' tradition of false authorities we also have equally illicit citations to the "authority" of Electronic Intifada (EI), an extremist, rejectionist anti-Israel propaganda machine.

Launched in February 2001 as a project of the Middle East Cultural and Charitable Society (MECCS) [1], and founded by four activists affiliated with the militant International Solidarity Movement (ISM) [2], Electronic Intifada receives funding from ICCO [3], a Dutch inter-church development organization receiving 95% of its annual budget from the Dutch government [4].

EI Executive Director and cofounder Ali Abunimah, a founding steering committee member of Al Awda, the Palestinian Right of Return Coalition, rejects a two-state solution in favor of a one-state illusion for which "coercion is necessary" [5], acknowledging that in a one-state solution "we couldn't rule out some disastrous situation" for Jews [6]. He has repeatedly confirmed his view that a return for refugees would end Israel's existence as a Jewish state" [7], and so both Abunimah and Electronic Intifada are ferociously opposed to the peace process [8-9].

Electronic Intifada labels PA President Mahmud Abbas and Prime Minister Salam Fayyad as "collaborators", and PA participation in peace talks as "collaboration" [8], reminding readers that collaboration is punishable by death in the Territories. Electronic Intifada extensively contributes to the hate-sponsored war to delegitimize Israel via articles that:

(1) compare Israelis to Nazis claiming that the Nazi Holocaust has "long [been] deployed by Zionists to silence Israel's critics" [10-11],

(2) compare the Israeli press to the odious Nazi tabloid "Der Sturmer" [12],

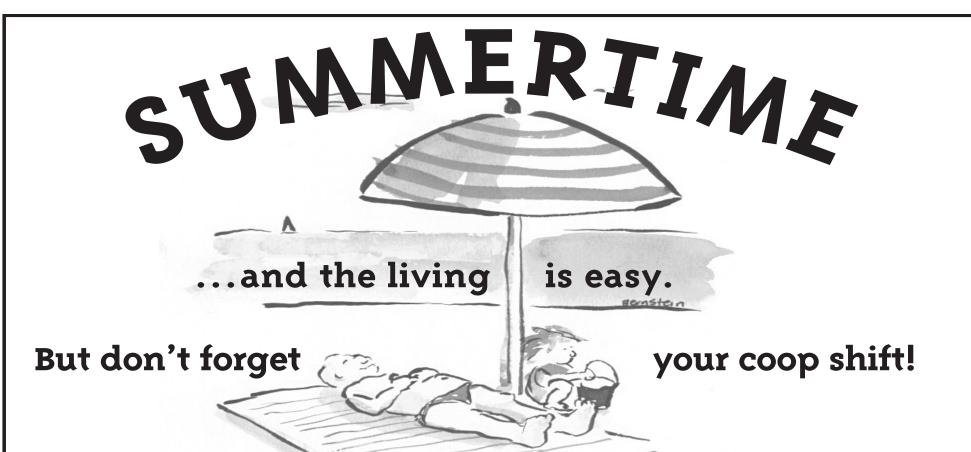
(3) use apartheid rhetoric to accuse Israel of ethnic cleansing [13] and genocide [14,22], and

(4) in true yellow journalism spirit we have regular "commentators" like Daniel McGowan defending Holocaust denial and revisionism [15]. and promotes a culture of anti-Israel violence, blatantly inciting to active bloodshed and assault against Israelis, asking "Isn't it the time for another Palestinian revolution in the form of a third intifada" [16], and justifying terrorism as a form of nationalist resistance [19-21,23,25]. Electronic Intifada cofounder, and frequent contributor to Mondoweiss, Nigel Parry, justifies Palestinian violence against Israeli set-

Palestinian violence against Israeli settlers [19] while drawing an obscene moral equivalency between Palestinian assaults against civilians (a manifest violation of the Law of Armed Conflict/LOAC), and Israeli counter-terrorism initiatives [21], interlaced with extols to the "hope" of Hezbollah and Hamas [23,25], while another cofounder, Laurie King-Irani, odiously charges the "Israel Lobby" with viewing the September 11th atrocity as a "gift" and a "real day of victory and glee" [24].

Electronic Intifada: an extremist, peace-rejectionist, pro-violence and terrorism-apologist anti-Israel hate and propaganda machine. It serves not the cause of Peace, nor the cause of Palestinians, nor of equitable Justice in the Middle East.

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



If you plan on being away during one of your workslots, please make arrangements to have your shift covered. One way to do it is to use the Shift Swap at www.foodcoop.com! If you plan on being away for eight weeks or more, contact the Membership Office to take a leave of absence. Your co-workers will love you for it!

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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.

MERCHANDISE

WANTED SELL IRIS RECORDS your CDs/LPs! Appointments day/night at your home. We pay cash and do the heavy lifting. Collections appraised for estates/divorces. Don't throw away your stoop sale leftovers! Iris will buy and sell/donate LPs, CDs, DVDs, books. Email Stephen at recordriots@gmail.com or call 609-468-

SERVICES

TOP HAT MOVERS, INC., 145 Park

Place, Bklyn. Licensed and Insured

Moving Co. moves you stress-free.

Full line of boxes & packing mate-

rials avail. Free estimates 718-965-

0214. D.O.T. #T-12302. Reliable,

courteous, excellent references &

always on time. Credit cards accepted. Member Better Busi-

EXPRESS MOVES. One flat price

for the entire move! No deceptive

hourly estimates! Careful, experi-

enced mover. Everything quilt

padded. No extra charge for

wardrobes and packing tape. Spe-

cialist in walkups. Thousands of

satisfied customers. Great Coop

ATTORNEY—Personal Injury

Emphasis-33 years experience in

references. 718-670-7071.

0885 for more info.

ness Bureau.

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.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

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.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



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.





lakehuntingtonsummercommunity.com

beyondcare

Call Us Today! 917-463-0399

"Beyond Care" is a socially responsible Childcare Cooperative owned and run by women.
We're trained to educate & engage children in ways that nurture & stimulate their development.
Our professional service is based on
3 principles: Caring, Educating & Engaging www.beyondcare.coop

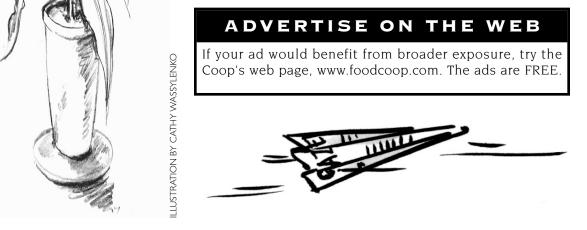
PARK SLOPE • PET NANNY• 1 ON 1 'IN HOME' DOG BOARDING DOG WALKING & CAT CARE Jane White 347.860.2142 parkslopepetnanny@gmail.com www.parkslopepetnanny.com



Show Host (preferably a talented chef or cook)
 Researcher/Storyboarder
 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.



Classified advertising in the Linewaiters' Gazette is available only to Coop members. Publication does not imply endorsement by the Coop.

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

18 🔊 May 31, 2012

Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

CLASSIFIEDS (CONTINUED)

cury fillings, crowns, dentures,

thorough cleanings, non-surgical

gum treatments with minimal X-

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

SERVICES-HEALTH

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

HOLISTIC DENTISTRY in Manhat-

tan (SOHO). Dr. Stephen R. Gold-

berg provides comprehensive

family dental care using non-mer-

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 1995-99 and 2001 to the present,

with article titles, issue dates, and page numbers

(subjects for the year 2000 are being added).

Many of the Gazette issues referenced in these indexes

are available as PDFs on the Coop's website.

VALET BIKE PARKING

IS HERE

- rays. For a free initial exam in a nutrition-oriented practice and for insurance information, please call 212-505-5055.



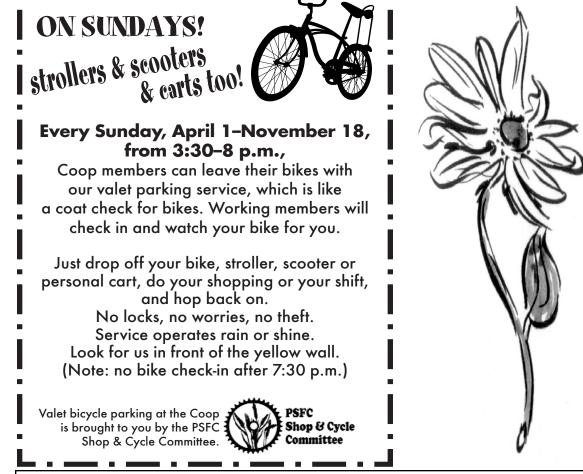
MD-SUPERVISED WGT LOSS program to burn fat, save muscle, prevent diabetes. Low dose allergen therapy for inhalent, food & chemical allergy. Bio-identical thyroid & hormone replacement. Non-drug treatment for depression, anxiety, insomnia. Call Dr. Ordene @718-258-7882. Insurance reimbursable, Medicare accepted.

EMOTIONALLY EXHAUSTED AND STRESSED BY CARING FOR YOUR AGING PARENTS? Get the solutions you need from a licensed professional. Learn your options, how to talk to healthcare professionals and how to plan ahead. Individual and family sessions at \$100/hr. Call 718-809-0313 or email maryblanchettandassociates@gmail.com.

VACATION RENTALS

HAVEN OFF THE HUDSON. Friendly, historic 3-season wooded community in Westchester county. Co-op offers hiking, tennis, pool, wifi cafe, social activities, organic garden. Beautiful Hudson riverfront nearby. Studio, 1-BR cottages, \$35k-\$129k. www.reynoldshills.org/bungalowshop. Tel: 347-307-4642 or melgarfinkel@yahoo.com

NORTH FORK COTTAGE. Bright, cozy 1 bedroom, bath, living room, kitchen apartment on quiet country road in East Marion, close to Sound and Bay beaches. A/C, W/D, Kayak, bicycles. Pets upon approval. June, \$600/week; July, \$750/week; August, \$900/week; Sept/Oct, \$600/week. Security, references. Robin 917-499-6320.





NEED A WORK SHIFT?

Our store is now open! Come visit us at 18 Putnam Ave. At this time, PSFC members will receive FTOP credit in exchange for working with Greene Hill. To receive credit, you should be a PSFC member for at least one year and have an excellent attendance record. Join Greene Hill and you can shop at both stores!



WWW.GREENEHILLFOOD.COOP INFO@GREENEHILLFOOD.COOP 718.208.4778



bay ridge FOOD CO-OP

We're one step closer to opening for business **NOW WE NEED <u>YOU!</u>**

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

FRATION BY CATHY WASSYLEN

product selection and service level.

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

PSFC members receive FTOP credit for their work!

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

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Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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May 31, 2012 🖛 19

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

ILUSTRATION BY CATHY WASSYLENKO



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.

WED, JUN 13

SAT, JUN 2

11 a.m. Saturday mornings, Damo I Jin—a 'tendon-changing' form of Chi Kung ("life-force energy practice")—returns to Prospect Park, weather permitting. Newcomers are welcome to join the class any week. For more information, contact quicksilverdance@yahoo.com or 212-946-1537.

THU, JUN 7

8p.m. June 7th thru June 9th Marie-Christine Giordano Dance premieres In and Out Location: Danspace Project, St. Mark's Church, 131 East 10th Street, NYC 1003, www.mcgiordanodance.org Tickets: \$18 and \$12 for Dancers/ Students/Seniors (866)-811-4111 or online 7-9 p.m. The Power House Arena, Book launch party: People's Pops, 55 recipes for ice pops, shave ice, and boozy pops from Brooklyn's coolest pop shop By Nathalie Jordi, David Carrell, & Joel Horowitz 37 Main Street, Bklyn, NY 11201 For information, call 718-666-3049 Please RSVP: rsvp@power-HouseArena.com

THU, JUN 14

6-9 p.m. Rooftop Solar Electric Workshop For Residential/ Coops/Condos/Commercial.Wh y go solar now? Costs? Savings? Can I? Bring your Con Ed bill, get estimated. At Commons Brooklyn, 388 Atlantic Avenue (bet Hoyt and Bond) \$35, discounts online. Space limited. Register: www.citysolaus/workshopschedule.php.Contact 347-254-0019, info@citysolar.us

WED, JUN 20

7 p.m. Community Bookstore, 143 Seventh Ave. Is Starbucks really green? Is Trader Joe's really organic? Find out when Coop member Fran Hawthorne discusses her newest book, "Ethical Chic: The Inside Story of the Companies We Think We Love" (Beacon Press). Free (Autographed books are for sale).



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

 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 ItemsBooksSpecial OrdersCalendarsRefrigerated SupplementsJuicers& OilsSushi*A buyer is available during the week-
days to discuss your concerns.

Refrigerated Goods (not listed above)



RETURNABLE ONLY IF SPOILED

| Refrigerated Goods (not listed above) Frozen Goods Meat & Fish Bread | | BEFORE EXPIRATION DATE Packaging/label must be present- ed for refund. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Items not listed above that are unoper and unused in re-sellable condition | ned | RETURNABLE |
| The Coop reserves the right to re- case-by-case basis. If you have quest a staff member in the Member | ions, ple | ase contact |

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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Park Slope Food Coop, Brooklyn, NY

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.

- Danna Agmon Walter Andersons David Arkema James Baptiste Derek Baron Matthew Belanger I-Hsuan Chen Gilles Chevalier Christina Ciocca Morell Cutler
- Shymala Dason Fanny Delsol Rachel Dor Thomas Edinger Petra Farinha Daniel Fernandez Maud Frisenfeldt Jonathan Garberg Lucile Gingembre Candice Gorman

Tim Haney Michael Harari Michelle Weiss Harari Denise Hollis Jesse Hollis Cindy Howlett Antony Huchette Assita Huchette Daniel Hyman Anthony Johnson

- Louis Katzman Shai Maestro Solomon Mandaloui Marc Mann Eliyohu Marcus David Moody Yianni Naslas Fiona Noyes Travis Noyes Leticia Palomo-Lopez
- Rui Pereira Alison Peterson Janet Potter Daniel Rhody Doris Richmond William Roberts Elayne Rush Hideshi Sagawa James Schaffer Duann Scott

Fares Shahbain Rebecca Simon Taigi Smith Luciana Solano Amy Stretten Amanda Tseng Quentin Tucker Alexandra Turshen Janet Vitebsky Bernhardt Vogelmann Anna Webber Daniel Weger Joel Wilhelmi Naomi Williamson Sher Wouters Karin Zahavi

THANK YOU!

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

- Elizabeth Abbs Sandra Au Flavia Benedito Barrett Benton Emily Bolevice Melani Bolyai Leonard Brill Rene Brinkley Julianne Carney
- Gisele Castaño Maryanne Chaney Jana Cunningham Paula Curtz Alison Dorfman Iris Edmiston Mark Engler Fiona Amara Foster

Anna Frangos Thomas Gilligan Asya M. Gorokhovsky Sabina Hahn Allison Hornstein David Jones Karen Joseph Nicholas Klein Ian Knauer Patrick Knight Joanna Kotze Nim Lee Lew Nick Lobel-Weiss Bryan Magers Mandy Nechama Marcus Robert Mauksch Alaska McFadden Nicholas Miller Myrah Poppy O'Neill Diane Paxton Phillip Pond Martha Poole Kate Redburn Carolina Rubio-MacWright Jacquelyn Scaduto Ofer Setty Kia Sison Devorah Sreter Nina Statman Derek Steele Mary Sullivan Susie Priscilla Swan

Amy Tai Theressa Therese Tripoli Oded Tzur Daniel Yuhas





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For more info and directions check out the FUN committee blog: psfcfun.wordpress.com

Read the Gazette while you're standing on line OR online at www.foodcoop.com

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